

Welcome to Year 2!

Mrs Humphrey and Mr Palmer hope you had a great summer and we look forward to a happy and exciting year.

Here is some important information for the year ahead.

PE Kits

We will have PE on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**.

There are sometimes other opportunities during the week so the children need to have their PE kit here all week. The children will need a t-shirt and shorts (any colour). If the weather is fine they may have PE outside and therefore, will need a tracksuit or jogging bottoms and hoodie/sweatshirt. Please **name** all items. It is very easy to get clothes muddled up. Please label school uniform too. They will also need trainers. PE bags can also be used for spare socks/underwear. A hair bobble is needed for children with long hair. It is best that earrings are not worn on PE days. We can cover them with tape but many children do not like this.

Reading Diary

This needs to be brought in **each day** in your child's book bag with your child's reading book. Please can we stress the importance of reading regularly with your child, it makes such a difference! Please tell us if they enjoyed it; which words they sounded out really well; or if they struggled. Please try to read 3 times a week. The children can choose a book within their colour band but only if there is a comment to show they have read at home. If you have nothing particular to comment on please sign the diary.

They will also be bringing home a 'library book' from our library. They can choose fiction or non-fiction and they might choose a book for you to read to them.

These will be changed once a week.

Library Book changing days are: **Monday - Llamas** **Thursday - Koalas**

Water bottles

These will be kept in the classroom for children to have access to them during the day. Please try to remember them as the children do get upset when they realise they have not got them.

Curriculum

In Maths we will build on the learning in Year 1 often using 'Numicon' to help children learn about abstract concepts in a practical way. They will be encouraged to apply their learning in problem-solving activities.

In English we will be covering a variety of genres starting with dragon themed stories. Having learned to blend and segment phonemes in Year 1, the children will look at phoneme families and spelling in Year 2. The children will be learning about grammar in reading and writing tasks.

As children develop their reading skills, they also need to develop their comprehension skills. They will be asked questions to develop their understanding of inference and to think about the author's intention.

We are using the inspiration of *Go Go Dragons* initially and our main cross-curricular project this term will be based on 'Vehicles' which we will start after a couple of weeks. Our question is '*How will we travel in the future?*' At the end of the project the children will do a presentation to answer this question. We will be looking at the history of cars and how they have changed within living memory and beyond. We will be finding out about significant people who had an impact on the development of means of transport. We will be learning about forces and materials in Science, linking this with Design Technology where we will be making moving vehicles. We will learn about maps and environmental issues. In music we will be learning how to accompany songs with voices and tuned percussion. We will be writing our own programmes in computing. In RE we will be discussing the question: *Is it possible to be kind to everyone all of the time?* In Art we will be focussing on drawing, making marks in response to different stimuli. More details in our weekly newsletter.

Homework

As well as reading, the children will have words for spelling or reading and they may also have maths facts to learn or have a maths activity. We will introduce these gradually.

Independence

We feel it is important to develop independence and the children have already learnt the morning routine and know where to put their book bag, water bottle etc. A member of staff will be available at the door in the morning for any urgent messages or if you need to tell us that your child is being collected by somebody else.

Communication

Mornings are very busy and we need to make a prompt start. We are available at the end of the day if you need to talk to us and also remember that you can make an appointment with Michelle Bellamy if you have any questions or concerns of a pastoral nature.

We will be sending home a weekly newsletter. Also remember our school website!

We have had a lovely first couple of days. The children have settled in really well. Thank you for your support

Amanda Humphrey and Andy Palmer