



CLASS LETTER FOR YEAR TWO

This letter introduces you to the expectations and procedures for the new academic year, together with an overview of the activities and topics to be covered during this half term.

General Procedures

In Year 2, we work on developing your child's independence and confidence. The children are expected to take on more responsibilities. They need to look after their own property, take home their homework, letters and verbal messages from school, return letters and money from parents and remember their PE kits and reading diaries. The children will always receive encouragement and support to achieve these goals.

Activity Timetable

Monday – Homework is expected in.

Tuesday – English homework is set.

Thursday – Maths homework is set.

The children only need to come to school with **book bags**, coats and sandwich boxes. No other bags or pencil cases are needed. This will help with congestion in the cloakroom and keep lost property to a minimum. Fruit will be available every day and children are welcome to bring their own fruit snack as an alternative. Please bring a bottle of water to sip during the day. Other fruit drinks should be kept for lunchtimes.

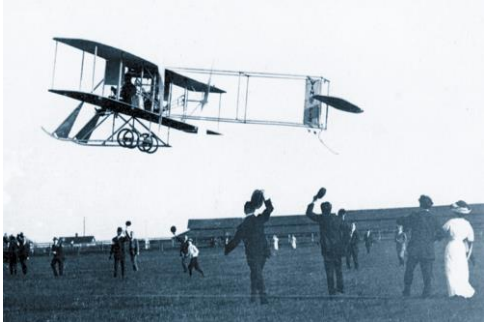
PE – Tuesday and Friday

On PE days, children should come to school in their PE kit and trainers. School PE kit expectations are as follows:

- Maroon P.E. shorts / plain black or burgundy track-suit bottoms
- White polo shirt, plain or with school crest
- Sweatshirt, plain or with school crest
- White socks
- No jewellery
- **No earrings** are to be worn on PE days. Children will not be allowed to take part if earrings are still in, even if they are covered.
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Homework Procedures

Year 2 children are encouraged to change their book band reading book whenever they need a new one. This should be done when they arrive in the morning or just before home time. Please take the time to write in your child's reading diary and encourage your child to make their own short comments about what they have read. If the children read at least three times each week and have recorded this in their reading record, they will progress along our class reading chart and receive a reward. Home reading can include stories, information books, recipes, instructions, newspapers, etc.

Theme	Flying High – How did we learn to fly?
During this topic, the children will discover the history of flight! From the first flying machines to manned missions to the Moon. They will see just how far humans have come!	
Subject/Topic	Description of the work to be covered
English	We start our year with author studies of Mini Grey and Roald Dahl. Children will read and compare different stories by Mini Grey and use her stories as a stimulus for writing a range creative writing pieces. As part of our theme, we will then read George's Marvellous Medicine, focusing on the characters of the book as well as thinking about what our own marvellous medicines would be like! Children will become confident at completing book reviews and will have the opportunity to talk about their own favourite author. Within our theme work, children will have the opportunity to look at and write postcards, stories, recipes, instructions and setting/character descriptions. Children will consolidate the spelling patterns from Year 1 and continue to develop sentence structure, punctuation and grammar. Daily phonics lessons will recap all sounds taught in Year 1 before moving onto Phase 6. Guided and independent reading will continue on a weekly basis allowing the children to develop their comprehension skills as well as learning to read with fluency and expression, taking note of the punctuation as appropriate.
Mathematics	We will begin the term by consolidating and building on the children's knowledge of place value by ordering, representing, comparing and partitioning numbers to 100. The children will also begin to work on counting in 2s, 5s, 3s and 10s. The children will work on becoming fluent in their recall of number facts within 20 and related facts to 100. In the latter part of the half-term, we will start work on addition and subtraction, developing a range of strategies to add and subtract tens and ones. Reasoning and problem solving will continue to be a focus in our Maths lessons and the children will be given guidance and support to develop these vital skills.
Art	Children will be introduced to the idea that artists can be collectors and explorers as they develop drawing and composition skills.
Computing	Children will learn all about how information technology is being used for good in our lives. They will explore how IT is used in the home, in shops, libraries and hospitals.
Music	Using the theme of Toys as inspiration, pupils will be learning to perform on tuned instruments, developing their ability to perform together as an ensemble from dot notation. Pupils will perform with an awareness of a steady pulse and have the opportunity to improvise on both tuned and untuned percussion instruments as well as compose simple melodies recording their ideas using dot notation.
Physical Education	Children will have two units this half term: fitness and yoga. They will look to build their stamina and agility in our fitness topic and learn to build strength, both physical and mental, in our Yoga unit.

Subject/Topic	In topic, Year 2 will discover all about the history of manned flight. They will learn all about important historical figures including the Wright brothers, Bessie Coleman and Amelia Earhart. The children will gather information from different sources and begin to understand the important of primary sources.
PSHE	'Being me in my World' - the children will begin to understand rights and responsibilities. They will think about and develop our class charter and consider and discuss what makes a good class member and member of our school community.
Religious Education	Children will learn the Christian Creation story, about the importance of harvest to some Christians and Jews by learning about harvest festivals and Sukkot. Children then go on to hear stories from Buddhism and Islam which highlight the importance of looking after nature. They then go on to think about how the messages in these stories can help them in their everyday lives.
Science	Children will be looking at materials and their properties. They will be investigating the suitability of various materials for different purposes and explore how the shapes of solid objects can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. They will perform simple tests and learn how to record their predictions, method and results.

Mr C Swain
Year 2 Teacher