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Year 2 Welcome Information

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope your child has had a positive start in Year 2. Below, I would like to outline the necessary information which you will need for this year of your child's education.

Expectations

Attendance

Good school attendance is essential to achieving well at school. Any absence from school will disrupt your child's learning. It is important that this is minimised as much as realistically possible. Pupils with 100% attendance will be rewarded termly. Those pupils who have achieved 100% attendance across the whole school year will receive a very special reward at the beginning of the next academic year.

Punctuality

It is vital that pupils arrive at school on time. When pupils are late to school, it can feel very unsettling for pupils as they walk into a classroom after their lesson has started. Pupils who miss the start of lessons, can miss vital content necessary to their learning. Pupils **must** be in school by 8:55am.

Uniform

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform daily. We believe that the children should all look smart and wear the same uniform. Uniform helps pupils to prepare for when they leave school and may have to dress smartly or wear a uniform. Uniforms can raise expectations of themselves; when dressed neatly, pupils tend to behave appropriately as they are taking pride in themselves. One of our core Christian values is community; wearing a uniform helps pupils gain a sense of belonging within a community with equality. Parents will receive a written notice of the incorrect item that the pupil was wearing and given a time period to correct it for any child not wearing the correct school uniform. If this has not been corrected within the stated timescale, parents will be asked to meet with the Head of School to discuss this further.

Please ensure that your child is wearing school uniform **as stated in our school uniform policy.**

Daily reading

Learning to read is crucial within Year 2. The more quickly children learn to read, the more they want to read and the more they understand; and the less they struggle with spelling, the more capacity they have for writing what they want to say. Reading is a gateway to learning **anything about everything**. It helps you discover new things and educate yourself in any area of life you are interested in. You can find a book on just about any subject you can imagine, dive in and start learning. In order for your child to progress with learning to read and become a fluent reader, which is required in order to access the rest of the curriculum, pupils must practise their reading **daily** at home. Each time a child gets their reading record signed, they will be awarded with a house point which will contribute towards our rainbow award system; children who receive 400 house points by the end of the year will be awarded a Gold certificate and a very special reward at the beginning of the next academic year.

Homework

In Year 2, pupils will be expected to read daily, practise their mental maths daily, practise their weekly spellings at home and complete a maths or English task. They will also have a weekly quiz to complete which reinforces their prior learning. This homework will be set on Microsoft Teams each Friday and is due in the following Wednesday. If pupils fail to complete homework, parents will be invited into school for a meeting to discuss the reasons for this. Each time a child submits the correct homework, they will be awarded a house point. They may be awarded 2 house points for an exceptional piece of homework.

Significant events

Key Stage 1 Nativity

In December, pupils in Years 1 and 2 will perform their Nativity in a theatre to give the pupils the musical theatre experience. On the day of the nativity, parents are asked to drop their child off to the theatre for rehearsals and parents are invited for the afternoon performance. There will be a subsequent letter providing further details. Any parental support with set and costumes would be greatly appreciated.

Key Stage 1 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs)

During the month of May, pupils in Year 2 across the country will sit SATs tests. The purpose of these tests is for the government to measure progress of pupils between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Additionally, it allows a judgement to be made as to whether each pupil has met or exceeded the expected standard for the end of Key Stage 1. Pupils will complete two reading papers, a mental arithmetic paper and a mathematics reasoning paper. This is conducted in small groups with an adult who is familiar to the children, usually one of the Year 2 class teachers. Children are not put under any pressure when they are sitting the tests and pupils will be used to the format as it will be similar to our internal assessment procedures. You will receive a report at the end of the academic year, informing you of whether or not your child met the expected Key Stage 1 standard.

Curriculum Information

In Year 2, pupils will have many exciting learning experiences. Some of which will include learning:

- About food chains and how animals obtain their food
- What pitch, rhythm and dynamics are and how to include these features when composing music using an instrument
- Key singing skills in order to sing and perform confidently
- How to manipulate, join and shape objects and materials for sculpture
- Further design skills in order to make something for a particular use
- What habitats and microhabitats are
- The name and function of different parts of a plant and what plants need to stay healthy
- How to draw basic shapes, showing space between objects and how pressure can be used to create dark and light
- What their local area is including the key physical and human features
- A key historical event which has taken place within their locality and outside of their locality beyond their living memory
- How to use websites and present information using software
- What a computer programme is, how to write an algorithm using code, what input and output are
- The basic needs of a human for survival and how a human keeps healthy
- The 5 food groups and how to prepare a healthy snack
- What climate is and what the climate is like in different areas
- Different songs and colours in French
- Ball skills, gymnastics, dance, netball, rounders and athletics

In English and mathematics, pupils will learn a range of content including how to:

- make plausible predictions using what has happened in the text
- infer a character's feelings
- re-tell and sequence events from a story
- Discuss new meanings of words and link them to words they already know
- Use subordinating and co-ordinating conjunctions in their writing
- Use expanded noun phrases to describe and specify
- Use the possessive and omissive apostrophe
- Use cursive handwriting
- Recognise the value of each digit in a two-digit number
- Compare and order numbers from 0-100
- Recall and use addition and subtraction facts fluently to 20 and derive and use related facts to 100.
- Add and subtract two-digit numbers mentally
- Recall the 2-, 5- and 10-times table
- Tell and write the time to the nearest 5 minutes
- Find different combinations of coins that equal the same amount of money

In addition, forest school will continue once a week.

Please note – there is much more content in the Year 2 English and mathematics curriculum. The above list gives a few items which may be useful for you to talk to your child about and support them at home. You will find further details on what your child is learning on the subsequent experience newsletters.

We hope your child thoroughly enjoys their Year 2 learning experiences and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

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Best wishes,

Mrs Jones