

Welcome to Year 2



Welcome back to Parsonage Farm and Welcome to Year 2! We have enjoyed getting to know your children over the last few days and we are really looking forward to the year ahead. We are aware that children will be in very different places with their learning due to Covid. Please do not worry. Over the first few weeks of term we will be getting to know where your child is in their learning and then we will move them on.

We hope you will find the following information useful as your child joins us in Year 2. If you have any questions or problems please email or phone the office and we will get back to you.

Morning Routine

Please bring your child to the playground and wait for the class teacher to collect them. Please arrive at these times:

Daffodils- 8:40am

Bluebells- 8:50am

Reading in School

Children participate in Guided Reading activities for 20 minutes every day. Over the course of the week they undertake a range of activities to enhance their reading skills. As part of this, each child will read with an adult in a guided group once a week. It will not be the same book that they bring home. The focus will be placed on developing skills in expression, comprehension and text inference. We aim to encourage the children to think for themselves and have the confidence to discuss and express their ideas. Of course, our main aim is to develop enjoyment and an interest in reading.



Reading at Home



Please continue to read as frequently as possible, even if only for a short time, both to and with your child to ensure their continued progress. Please encourage them to discuss the story, predict what might happen, and say how they might change the story, and why. Please record non-school books as well as school reading books in the Reading Record. There are many useful tips for parents in the front and back of your child's reading record so please do take a look.

Changing books

In Year 2, children are encouraged to change their books independently. Please encourage your child to change their book as often as they need to within their current Book Band. Please ensure your child can read their book confidently and fluently before they change it. It is also important that they have a good understanding of the story and can talk about it and answer questions. This may mean that they read the same book more than once. When your child is competently reading within a Book Band the teacher will move your child to a different level and record this in the Reading Record. The decision to move band is made according to a number of developmental factors - not simply that they find the words easy or read it really quickly!





Homework

Homework to support teaching in class is sent home every Friday and we ask that it is returned by the following Wednesday. We recommend spending no longer than 20 minutes completing the homework. We value your support and hope you will continue to play a major part in supporting your child's learning at home. We aim to make the topics as relevant as possible to what we are learning in class.

Phonics

Children will participate in daily phonics activities. The key focus is to improve reading and spelling by learning key words and standard spelling patterns. Again, please look in the Reading Record for some key phonic information.



Spelling

A list of spellings is attached to this leaflet. These are the words that the children are expected to be able to spell by the end of Year 2. The words in each group have similar spelling patterns. It would be great if you could practise reading and spelling these at home. You may even want to highlight them once your child can spell them. There won't be a weekly spelling test at school. Instead, we look to see if the children are consistently spelling the words correctly in their writing.

Writing

We will spend the first half term reinforcing basic writing skills including capital letters, full stops, careful spelling and letter formation. Children will also begin to develop and improve their writing by adding interesting vocabulary such as adjectives, adverbs and conjunctions (and, so, but, because). Throughout Year 2, children will have opportunities to write for different audiences and a range of different purposes for example stories, letters, diary entries, non-fiction, posters.



Writing at Home

Some of the ways in which parents can support the teaching of writing at home are:

- Parents reading a range of high-quality stories to children in order to give stimulation for ideas, story structure, character-building strategies etc
- Taking time to tell each other imaginative stories (in the car, at bedtime etc)
- A parent typing the child's story onto a computer/ writing it down as the child tells it
- Keeping a diary, making lists, writing letters to friends, family members, favourite authors, sports personalities etc
- Reading to younger brothers and sisters
- Encouraging your child to write short stories and illustrate them



Maths

Year 2 will begin with a focus on place value. Once children are secure with their understanding of place value they will be encouraged to apply their knowledge to help

them solve and explain mathematical problems. Throughout Year 2, children will develop their mathematical understanding, problem solving and reasoning skills in these key areas:

- Place value
- Addition and subtraction- including money
- Multiplication and division- 2,5,10 times tables, counting in steps of 3, money
- Shape and space- properties of 2D and 3D shapes
- Measure- telling the time to o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past, measuring length, capacity, weight

The emphasis in Year 2 moves to developing confidence in selecting, using and applying the skills they have been taught. Please encourage your child to apply their mathematical knowledge in as many different areas as possible, for example, telling the time, measuring in centimetres, using money and finding change, cooking and weighing. Please remember to be positive at all times. Don't pursue any area where your child is clearly uncomfortable, but do let us know of these 'problem areas' so that we can pick up on them in school.

Other Areas of Learning

Please take a look at the Topic Web to see what we will be learning in the Foundation subjects.

Our PE days are as follows:

Daffodils and Bluebells: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Please see separate letter with further information about PE.

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle into school every day. Please make sure they only have water in these bottles- no squash!

Names

Please write/sew your child's name CLEARLY on sweatshirts, PE kit, water bottles and all other property.



Holidays



It is your legal responsibility to ensure that your child attends school regularly. Please do not take holidays during term time as missing school does affect your child's education.

Collection

Please pick your child up from the playground at the following times:

Daffodils- 2:50pm

Bluebells- 3:00pm

Please be prompt ☺



Finally, many thanks for your continued support - it is the quality of the learning partnership that enables the children at Parsonage Farm to do so well.



Please Remember

- ✓ To be positive with the children at all times and give praise in large quantities!
- ✓ To talk to us about any concerns/problem areas etc - by phone call or email.
- ✓ The children are very young - they need time to relax and play and enjoy being 6 (or 7)!
- ✓ Every child is an individual and learns at different rates and in different ways - we want them to enjoy learning as a lifetime skill.