

Meet the Teacher Year 2

Welcome to Year 2!

Topics

Year 2 is still topic based and this year we will be covering a variety of topics. Our topics this year include: Superheroes, Let's Remember, The Great Fire of London, Australian Adventure, Traditional Tales and Mega structures.

We teach in a cross curricular way and link our English, Art, Humanities and Maths where possible to the topic.

Reading

Reading books will be changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Unlike in Year 1, children will get a different book whenever they have finished reading the previous one. However, it is still beneficial to read books more than once to improve expression and pace when reading. It is really important that you read with your child every day and question them about the book in order to check their understanding of what they have read. If you could make any additional notes about their reading in their reading records, this would be extremely helpful. For example, not just writing that they have read, but if they struggled to read any particular words, if they enjoyed the book or if they could answer questions about what they have read.

Phonics and SPaG

Phonics will be taught daily. We will begin by using Little Wandle revised Letters and Sounds and will then move onto using Essential Spelling which helps children with alternate spelling rules and grammar and punctuation rules.

In Year 2, the curriculum includes knowing different word types, like nouns, adjectives and adverbs; different types of punctuation such as exclamation and question marks and the spelling of common words. The teaching of spelling and grammar (SPaG) will be included as part of all lessons. Within phonics lessons, children will practise spelling common exception words and words which include the focus phonics sounds.

Handwriting

During the course of the year, we will develop the children's cursive (joined up) writing. We will be teaching cursive writing as part of our handwriting sessions and will encourage children, when they are ready, to use this cursive writing on a daily basis in their books.

PE

Year 2 PE will take place on a **Tuesday and Friday** (Green) and **Thursday and Friday** (Yellow). Children should come to school in their school PE kit with a red school jumper/cardigan/fleece on those days ensuring they are wearing plimsolls or trainers. If possible, please cover or remove your child's earrings on these days.

Computing

Children will have computing lessons which will cover the computing curriculum such as; coding using the scratch program, researching information, creating art work and learning how to keep themselves safe online.

Homework

Reading is the focus of our learning at home. Each child should read every night, even if this means re-reading a book. In the spring term, we will start a times tables challenge where children will be asked to learn their times tables at home. If you would like to complete additional work with your child at home, this could be linked to the learning we are doing that we inform you of through Marvellous Me. You may also want to help your child to learn spellings at home, a great place to start are the Year 1 and 2 common exception words.

Show and Tell

Show and tell is continuing in Year 2. We have a list for this half term which you will have seen in your child's book bag. We will ask for your child to bring in their Show and Tell on a Monday and they will have an opportunity to show this during that week. Where possible please try not to bring in toys but something else, maybe a souvenir from a trip or something linking to our topic that your child is happy to talk about.

Additional Responsibilities

Children in Year 2 have additional responsibilities in school. This includes being a buddy at play time. Year 2 children take it in turns to get out play equipment before play and lunchtime and tidy it away at the end. They also keep an eye out for other children in the playground to check that everybody has somebody to play with.

End of Key Stage 1 Assessment

At the end of KS1, children are expected to take part in statutory assessments. These support our final teacher assessments. However, we do not put pressure on the children in the build-up to these and ensure that children are unfazed by these activities.

Marvellous Me

We will send updates about our learning to you every week via *Marvellous Me*. Please make sure you are signed up and check regularly so you can hear about all of our exciting learning. If you need help signing up or have forgotten your login details please speak to the class teacher or contact the school office.

Please feel free to speak to us if you have any questions. If you would like to speak to the class teacher on a one to one basis please call the office, who will be able to arrange a phone call for you or catch us at the end of the day when all children have gone home. Please could we politely ask you that comments are not made on social media and that you speak with us directly if there are any queries or issues.

We look forward to working with you this year,

Miss Smith and Miss Biernacka