

Year 2 Newsletter No. 1

September 2016

We are delighted by the way the children have already settled in Year 2 and are both looking forward to an exciting and happy time with them. This is your child's last year as an infant and we hope to ensure that they continue to enjoy their time at school. Their happiness is our prime concern. It is however a step up from year one and the pupils will be expected to work more independently for longer periods. We are very aware of differences in pupils' abilities and will therefore plan to accommodate those needs whilst helping the children to work to their full potential. If you have any concerns about your child please let us know straight away so that any minor difficulties can be ironed out before they become too big. We are always available on the door at the end of the day should you need us.

This term's topic is "Healthy Us"

The children will be finding out how to live a healthy lifestyle and look after their bodies. In history they will be learning about some famous people from the past and the influence they have had on the way things are done today.

Labelling

Please make sure everything, especially coats and sweaters are clearly named so that they can be returned to their owners quickly and efficiently. Don't forget lunch boxes and drinks bottles too.

Independence

Most of the children are already coming in independently as they were last year. We expect them all to be able to do so by the end of the week. Any messages can be passed on via the door duty staff as we start work with the children at 8.30. The end of the day is usually a better time to 'have a quick word'

Reading

The Reading Challenge is up and running again this year with all the children on Challenge One of their journey around the world. This has been designed to support their learning of the continents and the oceans. Please listen to your child read as often as you can and get them to colour in the smiley chart in their reading book. Also it is helpful if you make a comment and a note of the page they are on next.

Reading Roundabout still happens from Monday to Thursday and we are always grateful for as many of you as possible to support us then. Don't worry if you can't make a regular commitment – we like to see you whenever it suits you 😊

Homework

We rarely set any formal homework in Year 2 as we believe the single most important thing for you to do to support your child is to listen to them read every night. On top of this we will send weekly spellings to learn and a bit later in the term the children will start to learn their times tables.

In preparation for this it would be helpful if you could reinforce counting on in 2s, 5s and 10 using some of the activities suggested on the other side of this newsletter.

PE Days

2AB and 2GB - Tuesdays and Thursdays but subject to change on occasions. Black shorts, a white T Shirt and black plimsolls should be in school at all times.

Ideas to support learning times tables

- count in 2s 5s or 10s when going up or down the stairs
- count 2p coins in 2s, 5ps in 5s and 10ps in 10s
- use household items or food (e.g. dried pasta) put a handful into groups of 2s, 5s or 10s and count
- read door numbers as you are going along the street to see if they go up in 2s
- chant the numbers on car journeys
- sing if you have a times tables CD!
- talk about the number patterns e.g. counting in 5s all numbers end with a 0 or a 5
- make a numberline and stick it on the fridge or the breakfast cereal packet

The bottom line is make it fun and a part of everyday life without any stress 😊