

8th September 2016



Dear Parents,

I hope that you have all been able to enjoy the holidays and that your children are looking forward to the start of their time in Year 2.

I will spend the first few days easing them into the routine of Year 2 and explaining any new things to them that may be slightly different from Year 1. We will also do a few 'getting to know you' activities. Although I was only next door I appreciate that Year 2 can feel like a big step for them and they need to settle in.

There are lots of fun activities to take part in during Year 2 and I will always try to give you as much notice as I possibly can, however please be aware that now and again this is not always possible. A date for your diary is a visit to the church with the children to learn about special places in our community which will take place on Friday 23rd September. We may ask for a parent volunteer nearer the time to come with us. The children will also be visiting Pizza Express to make their own pizza as part of our cookery lesson. Once the date is confirmed we will ask for a donation towards the cost of the coach as the actual trip is free.

The children will be given spellings to bring home on Friday this week to learn ready for a spelling test the following Friday. Not all children have the same spellings and I will move them around as and when I feel they are ready. This is also the case with times tables. They will bring a grid home that shows you the ones they need to focus on learning section by section. Once they are confident we will notify you in their contact books when they move onto the next part which will involve division using the same section.

I may set a small homework project now and again but I feel that with reading, tables and spellings it can be quite a lot for them.

You will receive a login and password for your child to enable them to access 'My Maths.' This is a great maths tool to support their class learning. Each week I will set an activity that will be linked to learning in class, however, this is optional and not marked by me, it's purely a useful support tool. The activity generally starts at an easier level and can occasionally become rather challenging. Your child can finish at any point they wish and have help if necessary.

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They will continue to have school books to read, although I appreciate that it is also of benefit for them to still be read to. It also supports their learning to read other texts that appeal to them to keep reading fun. We will move them further along the reading scheme when they have read a book and we feel they have a good comprehension of the story. I will aim to read with them as often as possible but we also have parent helpers and other members of staff hearing them read. I will assess their reading at a variety of opportunities and in many different ways.

PE will take place on a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. Once the weather starts to get a little colder please ensure they have tracksuit bottoms and a jacket as I will endeavour to get them outside as often as possible for PE. It also is much appreciated if everything is labelled (you would be surprised with 30 children where PE kits can end up!)

One of the class reward systems is to receive star of the day if they have shown particular motivation or perseverance in any area of their learning, or if they have demonstrated our core Christian values of love, trust, compassion and respect. I now have badges they may wear home that day but need to bring back the next day.

I am looking forward to teaching your children and if you have any concerns at all please do not hesitate to book a convenient time to come and speak to me.

Kind regards,

Mrs Wardle and Mrs Patterson.