

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope that you have all been able to enjoy the holidays. It's been lovely to welcome all the children back to school today (although we are still getting used to not walking back into Year 1 – myself included)!

We will spend the first few days this week easing the children into the routines of Year 2. They will have a chance to discuss any worries, to play some games to give them a chance to get to know our new TA's and to make our newest member of the class, Chloe, feel welcome into Year 2.

Each Friday in the newsletter, I will give the children ten spellings to learn ready for a spelling test the following Friday. Their times tables test will also begin next Friday. The children will all begin by learning their 10x tables ready to be tested next week. When they get all of their 10x tables correct for two consecutive weeks, you will be informed in your child's contact book that they are ready to learn their 5x tables.

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.

When it has been set up, you will receive a login and password for your child to enable them to access 'My Maths.' This is a great online 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 myself: 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.

They will continue to have school books to read, although I appreciate that it is also beneficial for them to still be read to. It also supports their learning to read other texts that appeal to them, which keeps 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 Thursday 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!)

I am so excited to be teaching your children again and I'm sure we will have a fantastic year. If you have any concerns at all please do not hesitate to book a convenient time to come and speak to me.

Kind regards,

Miss Hutchings, Mrs Preston-Plunkett and Mrs Sallnow