

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great first week back in school. It has been a joy getting to know each child more and I have been incredibly impressed with how quickly they are settling into new routines and adjusting to the expectations of Year 2.

Year 2 Learning Behaviours

We have discussed the changes we think should be made to the Year 2 learning behaviours. You can see these here.

We have recently elected our school council, eco-warriors and arts ambassador representatives for the first part of this year. This was done entirely through a voting system, so very well done to those who were chosen by their peers. In February, there will be another opportunity to be voted in and for children to put forward their case.

Keeping Going	I will keep trying when things get difficult.	
Risk Taker	I will take risks when I am trying something new, and I will try my hardest.	
Respect	I will think about how I treat others (children and adults) and their things.	
Motivated and Engaged	I will listen and take part and be positive about my learning.	
Taking Responsibility	I will look after my things, so they don't get lost and make sure I am focused for learning.	
Team Player	I will talk and listen to my group and stay focused.	
Aiming High	I will try my best and take on a challenge.	
Confident Communicator	I will use sentence stems like 'I agree/disagree' and explain why.	

Cloakroom

The children have made a great start in organising their belongings as they arrive. Sticking to bringing in just the essential items they need for school, will really help them in this and enable them to build their independence. Please could you also ensure that lunch and snack boxes are named so that they can be placed safely for easy access. Water bottles (which must only contain water, no squash or juice) may be brought into the classroom and put on the floor by each desk. As a reminder, snacks may be fruit/vegetables or a small sandwich. Pupils do not need to bring any extra items into school; all equipment needed during the day, will be provided in school. Please do not bring in any pencil cases or stationery.

Homework (Spelling and Maths)

Please hand BOTH in on the Thursday of each week, so these can be handed out on Friday of each week.

➤ Spelling

Spelling homework will be set weekly using Spelling Frame, starting Friday 15th September 2023. Feedback from parents and carers has revealed the desire to have spelling homework written in a book. Therefore, please access spellings from Spelling Frame, and encourage your child to do this in their Spelling Homework book which will be provided prior to Friday 15th September.

➤ Maths

Maths homework will follow the same format as last year. If you have lost a Maths homework book, please let me know at the earliest convenience.

PE

Year 2 will have PE on Tuesday with Mrs Churchill and on Friday with myself.

Named kits need to be brought in on a Monday and kept in school during the week. The children will be coming home in their PE kit on a Friday. As the weather gets colder, you may wish to include a pair of tracksuit or jogging bottoms and a jumper as per our uniform policy.

English

Daily phonics sessions will continue, where children will develop their reading and writing at the right level for them. **Children will bring home their group storybook** that they will have practised reading three times in class to read to you at least twice more. Once they have read it to you a couple of times, it can be sent back into school. The children should be able to read these storybooks confidently by the time they bring them home, so please let me know if this isn't the case so that we can ensure we tackle any issues straight away.

The children will also bring home two further books:

1. Firstly, a **Read Write Inc. book** that they may not have read before, but that they should be able to tackle with minimal help. They should read this book repeatedly as building reading fluency is a vital aspect of the Year 2 reading journey.
2. Secondly, they will bring home a **picture book or chapter book** that they have chosen for you to read to them for enjoyment. This can be changed

each Wednesday, but if it is a chapter book that they are enjoying but haven't finished they are welcome to keep it for longer.

Please send in reading records and book bag books every day: reading records will be checked on a Friday. Please keep an eye out for school council's decision on the reading reward, which will replace the raffle ticket system.



Alongside phonics, the children will encounter many texts on a daily basis. Our first-class reader is Fantastic Mr. Fox by Roald Dahl.

Maths

This term, we will:

- practise counting forwards and backwards to 100.
- practise reading and writing numbers to 100 in numerals and words.
- secure our understanding of the place value of two-digit numbers and work on various ways of partitioning them.
- compare numbers and use the symbols $<$ $>$ $=$ to write number sentences.
- count forwards and backwards in 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s.
- practise adding and subtracting number bonds to 20.
- learn bonds to 100 (tens and ones).
- add and subtract one and two-digit numbers.
- recognise and know the value of coins and notes.
- use problem-solving and reasoning skills to calculate totals, differences and change when using money, including two-step problems.
- recap the basics of multiplication before we cover it in greater depth in spring term.

Please follow these links to the school's calculation policy. The calculation policies are how Maths is delivered at school. Reading these will help you to address Maths at home, in the way your child is being taught.

Addition [Tatworth-ADDITION.pdf](#)

Subtraction [Tatworth-SUBTRACTION.pdf](#)

Multiplication [Tatworth-MULTIPLICATION.pdf](#)

Division [Tatworth-DIVISION.pdf](#)

Science

In Science this half-term, we will be learning about forces before moving onto Biology. We have started to look at: what a force is, and in particular push and pull forces. Can you always push and pull an object? What defines push and pull... With great discussion last week, I am certain you'll hear more scientific thinking at home.

History, Geography and RE

This half-term we will be learning about maps and using them to explore our local area in Geography. This will lead into us considering how the local area has changed over time in History. We will be planning a walk around the village using maps, and will need helpers for the walk, so look out for further information about that. Also, if you have any local maps, either current or historic, that you would be happy for us to borrow, it would be much appreciated.

In RE, we will be learning about religious practices and lifestyle, with a particular focus on Judaism.

Music, DT and Art

In music lessons this half-term, we will be performing through call and response. During the second half-term, we will be exploring orchestral instruments. In art this half term, we will be looking closely at birds and their feathers to create bird sculptures. In the second half of term, we will be doing DT and will be exploring how solid structures are made to be strong and stable; we will be designing, building and evaluating solid structures of our own.

PSHE

In the first half-term, our PSHE topic is 'My Relationships', and we will be thinking about our feelings, relationships and what makes a good friend. We will also talk about what bullying is and what we can do if we see or experience it. In the second half-term, we will be covering 'Valuing Difference', and will be working to recognise and celebrate what makes us each unique and to think about how we can make sure everyone in the class feels included and important. In addition, we will cover relevant PSHE topics as and when any issues arise in class or at playtimes.

Planned Trips

Please look out for information on the planned trips for this year:

1. Map Fieldwork (Tatworth) – Autumn Term 2023.
2. Indian Insects (in school) - January 2024.
3. Lyme Regis Museum – February 2024 (tbc by provider).
4. Sea Life Weymouth – April 2024 (tbc by provider).

Thank you for your cooperation during the first week. Please do not hesitate throughout the year to contact me for further information, or if any issues occur.

All the best,

Mr Park