

# Year 2 Newsletter Spring 2024



## Welcome back!

This newsletter aims to give you an insight into the work that we will be doing over the next term and provides some ideas as to how you can support your child at home. It will also give you a better idea of some of the ways in which we do things in Year 2 so that you and your child feels best prepared for the next term.

We have been talking to the children about the importance of 'practice.' Many of the key ideas that we teach the children need regular practice to enable the children to become 'fluent.' An easy example of this is reading and learning phonics, but we are trying to extend this to other areas of the curriculum. This means lots of repetition of the most important parts of our teaching.

## English

The children will continue to be taught in phonic groups using the Read, Write Inc. phonics programme. This programme places a high level of focus on becoming a fluent reader and the children will spend lots of time working on this at school.

## Reading



The success of the Read, Write Inc phonics scheme relies in part on the support that your child gets at home to practice their reading skills. Each week the children will bring home a phonetically decodable book – this means that it contains the sounds that they have been taught in school and therefore should be able to read fluently. We are hoping that you read every night with your child and record this in the reading diary. Obviously there will be some occasions when this is not possible, but we would like reading to become a daily habit – much like brushing your teeth! You also have access to an additional book using the online portal. The log in details for this are found in the back of the children's reading diaries. If you have any issue logging on, please let us know ASAP. The children also bring home a 'book to share' which is a book that you may need to read with them. They are allowed to change this book every morning as they arrive at school. It is really important that the children have reading books and diaries in school every day. As children become more confident readers they will need to rely less on the phonic scheme and at this point we would encourage the children to read more widely and to choose longer texts. These books may need to be read with an adult and it is important that there is still lots of 'reading out loud' to an adult taking place.

### Spelling

Each week the children will bring home a spelling list that will be in their reading diary. This list will be issued on a Monday and the words will follow a spelling pattern. We will look at this spelling pattern in school and also give the children a chance to practise each day. They will have a spelling test on a Friday. Please also remember that in the back of the reading diaries there is a list of common exception words for year 1 and year 2. It would be useful for the children to practice reading and spelling these words also.

### Maths

Maths is an area of the curriculum where regular practice of key number facts can help children to be more successful in other areas of the subject. This term we are trying to become fluent in doubles and halves (up to  $10 + 10$  and half of 20) and multiplication and division facts for the 2- and 10-times table. Some children will already know these, but we would encourage you to keep practicing so that they become 'permanent' knowledge that they will know forever!

We will also apply our understanding of number to other topics this term. Our first unit will cover money, then multiplication and division. We will finish the term by looking at measurement – length, height, mass and temperature.

### Homework

We have been using Century for our homework for the last term. This has been used in Years 3-6 for the past two years and has proved successful. We have had some feedback on how this has been received by children and parents but would like to take the opportunity to ask you all your thoughts and ideas. At the end of this paragraph there is a simple Microsoft form to complete. If you would like to share your experience of using Century, then this would be very useful in helping us to decide the next steps. It will, of course, be very difficult to meet everyone's ideal needs, but we will aim for a best fit to support the homework in the Spring Term.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2s8TOK9SpUy44yMVeXcKukO7b27TNF1JtYD17Vdp6kZUOUdLWk5ZNjczQTI2SEYxVDFIRUVYSDg1WS4u>

### P.E

Children in Year 2 do PE on a Monday, Tuesday and a Wednesday. It makes more sense for them to come home in their kits and bring their uniform home in their PE bag. Their kit can then be washed and returned to school the following Monday. Lots of children forget their PE kit on a Monday morning, so please make sure these are packed in bags ready for the school week.



### Water Bottles and other possessions.

Please make sure that the children have a water bottle in school each day. We try to discourage the children from bringing in toys and trinkets as they often get lost or broken. As the children are getting a bit older, we do not really do show and tell in Year 2. Book Club has proved really successful, and we have loved hearing the children talk about their favourite books. We intend to repeat the timetable from last half term, and I have attached a list of dates to this newsletter.

### Other Subjects

Subject	Topic	Things you could do at home
Geography	Weather Patterns	Look at the daily weather forecast and notice patterns or trends.
History (taught after half term)	Transport	
Science	Materials and their properties	Look around your house at what things are made from. Talk about why different materials have been used for different objects.
RE (religious education)	Symbols	
RHE (relationships and health education)	Dreams and Goals Healthy Me	Talk about a time when you have had to work hard at something to achieve a goal. Look at healthy lifestyles and habits you could try as a family.
DT (design and technology) (taught after half term)	Making a Moving Monster	
Music	Using your voice	Listen to music by our artist of the half term - The Beatles
Computing	Computing systems and networks Word Processing Programming  e-safety	Talk about e-safety with your child. Talk as a family about how to use the internet safely.
Art	Painting	

We are really pleased that the children are now settling well into life in Year 2. We are all looking forward to the Spring Term and working hard with the children in class.

Please bear in mind it is much easier to chat to us after school rather than in the morning. Please try and keep morning messages to a minimum as it can be hard for teachers to leave the classroom at this time.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask.

Best wishes

Mrs Hill and Mrs Freeman-Evans

23 <sup>rd</sup> January	HS O VS FH
30 <sup>th</sup> January	SM ZH
6 <sup>th</sup> February	IW GB SL D
20 <sup>th</sup> February	OT TA
27 <sup>th</sup> February	TC EA RA
5 <sup>th</sup> March	SS JG
12 <sup>th</sup> March	AG CH LJ
19 <sup>th</sup> March	CS OS
9 <sup>th</sup> April	HH HS
16 <sup>th</sup> April	JS DM H OH
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	FT LT
30 <sup>th</sup> April	EC JJ ES

Spring Term – Book Club Rota