

Year 2 Curriculum Meeting
Friday 11th September 2015

In case you were unable to attend the curriculum meeting the details discussed were as follows:

To ensure smooth transition from year 1 to year 2 the children will find that the subjects we are teaching remain the same, however, the structure of the week has been changed slightly to enable more whole class teaching whilst still giving the children plenty of opportunities to enhance their own learning. 'COOL time', although continuing, is now known as 'Investigation Time' and will become increasingly focussed to further embed learning taking place in the classroom. As the year progresses and we further increase your child's independence ready for year 3 the level of whole class teaching will rise.

We have an open door policy and if you need to speak to your child's teacher or adult in the year group after school is often best as the mornings tend to be busy. If your concern is urgent you may need to wait until the children are settled when we will endeavour to see you.

PE takes place at least twice a week. Plimsolls that fit and warm clothing for the winter is needed as are socks for children who normally wear tights.. All children with pierced ears should have tape in school to cover their earrings if they are unable to remove and replace them independently. The alternative is to remove and leave earrings at home on PE days. Long hair should be tied back.

Your child has already been invited to join the choir which is fully inclusive. If after a couple of trial sessions they decide to join there is an expectation that they will show commitment for the whole term.

On a daily basis your child will work across the year group for phonics. They will have the opportunity to work with all adults within the year group not just their class teacher. As in year one regular reading forms part of the childrens' homework however, the teaching of spelling is addressed in school as part of our literacy and phonics sessions and is specific to your child.

Children will be given the opportunity to change their colour band book on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. As part of their daily reading activities all the children will be given the opportunity to use the library and to change their library books weekly if they so wish. As this is done in small groups library book change will not be the same day for all children. Could you please ensure that colour band books come into school every day. Please remember the yellow reading records are a means of communication between home and school and will be reviewed weekly on a Wednesday.

As in year one, some individual interventions to support learning will be taking place throughout the year and if this involves your child you will be notified. We may also contact you directly if there is any specific area in which your child could be further supported at home.

As part of their PSHE programme the children will all have the opportunity to be 'Star of the Week' where they are able to share items of special interest to them with their peers. When it is their turn they will bring a letter home. This replaces 'Show & Tell'.

This year sees the introduction of an exciting new experience for the children and staff - a weekly session of outdoor learning as part of our 'Forest Schools' initiative. In year 2 this will be on a Monday afternoon and the children will be outside for the whole afternoon irrespective of the weather and therefore we would like them to come to school in warm clothing, preferably layers, and have wet weather outdoor clothing and wellington boots if it's wet or muddy. On this day your child can come to school in non-uniform trousers or jogging bottoms but should still wear a school jumper or cardigan. As we have less space in the classrooms, unlike year R, we will not be storing wet weather gear in school.

In order to keep you updated about what learning is taking place within the year group we will be posting a short Blog on our school website on a regular basis. We will let you know as soon as our first blog has gone 'live'.

As some of you may be aware, this year will see the introduction of a different way of assessing children in the light of the new national curriculum and the higher expectations at the end of each year group. We are planning to hold an information evening later in the term when these changes will be shared with you in more detail - date to follow.

We would welcome any help from parents, particularly in the afternoon, either on a regular or ad hoc basis. If you can spare any time please contact your class teacher.