

# Year 2 Parent Information September 2020

## Staff in Year 2

- Miss Fitzpatrick, will be the teacher in Class 7 on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Bishop will be in Class on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
- Miss Simmons will be teaching in Class 8.
- Mrs Grant teaches in Class 9.

• Each class has other adults to support learning throughout the week. We also have Mrs Hopkins who will be covering PPA time for teachers across the Year group.

**The aim of this information is to let you know about the routines and procedures in Year 2. More information about our curriculum will follow later in the term.**

- The first few weeks in year 2 is a settling in time for your child. Although they are now in year 2, we acknowledge that it has been an unprecedented time for some of our children since they were full time in school. Our timetables and focus for the first few weeks reflect this.
- During the day, the children will be asked to work either independently or supported by an adult. They will also have some time to initiate their own learning by choosing in or outside the classroom but this may not be as often as it was in Year 1. We are using our outside spaces as much as possible during these times, this includes PE.
- Children may work in different groups for different activities as appropriate to their needs.
  - Each class has already agreed a set of rules with their teacher such as walking quietly in the corridor and being kind to each other. Reward systems are in place throughout year 2, such as filling a class jar with marbles to earn a class reward.
- We plan and work as a team across Year 2 and follow a topic based approach, similar to Reception and Year 1.
  - You will see the focus we have placed on settling in, mindfulness and well being on our planning outline on the class blogs.
- As an introduction to this term's topic of 'Knights and Castles', we will be having a WOW day on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September**. We are inviting the children to dress up in clothes that are connected to the theme. We ask with our covid guidelines that costumes do not include masks or accessories.

## Daily routines

- The school routines are important to help reassure your child, ensure their safety during these times but above all to make coming to school enjoyable despite all the changes we have had to make.
- Thank you for helping your children to come in independently through their appropriate door and for following the timings for each class. Your help with this is so important and we ask you to leave the site at both ends of the day as quickly and safely as possible.
- We would be extremely grateful if you could ensure that the equipment on the patios is not touched, as it has been set up for specific activities and for groups of children and has been ready washed down for it's safe use.
- The aim in Year 2 is for the children to become more even more independent, so we ask you to encourage your child to hang up their coat, their small bag, keeping their lunch boxes, drinks and drink in their bag on their pegs outside the classroom. Book bags will not be required to be brought in.
- It is very important that they know what they are doing for dinner each day as it helps us get the numbers right. You have now been emailed the chart from Chartwells outlining the meal choices.

- If you would like your child to have milk after playtime, please email the office for details of contacts. There are already some children that have signed up and class teachers have a list. If you have done this recently it can take a little time for your child to be added to the list. If you feel that your child should be receiving milk and are not then please email the office.
- We are trying to encourage children to drink plenty of water and we would appreciate it if you would send your child into school each day with a named bottle of water.
- As in previous years, children may bring a piece of fruit from home to eat at school.
- If your child is ill, please advise the office on their first day of absence as normal. Information has been given about how to tell us about children displaying symptoms of Covid-19 and how this needs to be communicated with the school office.
  - If your child is required to isolate or quarantine, then you are also required to inform the office as soon as possible.

### **Celebration Assembly**

- Star of the Week assembly will continue to be on a Friday morning, when each class chooses a 'star of the week' and after they enjoy a drink and biscuit with Mrs. Fricker. The child's photo will be sent with the other stars to your email and a copy of the certificate stating their reasons for being chosen.
- As you can appreciate, we are unable to invite you to come to our assemblies at present but you will be sent a link to the assembly. Each class will watch the assembly from their classrooms too.
- Each week the class blogs will name their star for that week.

### **PE Kits/Uniform**

- Just a reminder that we have a compulsory school uniform and we would be very grateful if you would please ensure that all clothing is clearly marked with your child's name. We understand that uniform will need to be washed more often due to guidelines. The wearing of PE kits on certain days should help with this issue.
- PE kits – Please make sure that you name your child's PE kit, but remember that on their PE days they will need to wear it to school for the day. PE will be outside when possible. We suggest that children wear a white t-shirt or polo shirt, black shorts or leggings or tracksuit bottoms and their school sweatshirt. Trainers or appropriate shoes will also need to be worn. Here is a reminder of the days for PE for your child's class. For Terms 1 and 2 there will be 2 days each week for each class.

***Class 7: Tuesday and Thursday***

***Class 8: Tuesday and Friday***

***Class 9: Tuesday and Thursday***

### **Change of Clothes**

- **As new routines are established, there have been a few children across the school who have had toilet accidents. If you feel that your child would benefit from a change of their own clothes in their bag could you please provide some. This can often be something which phases out but please talk to your child's teacher if you have concerns. All children are able to visit the bathroom if needed and all are regularly reminded to go at intervals during the day. As toilet use is a little more restricted than in normal circumstances, they may have to wait at busy times.**

### **Home Reading Support.**

- Your child will already have been given a reading logbook and for now we are continuing with the Pearson online provision for home reading. This logbook should stay at home and not be taken back and forth between home and school.
  - Over the next week, each child will be read with individually and we will move children's levels accordingly. We will change them on the site to their new level.
  - Please feel reassured that your child's teacher knows the right time to move each child up to the next box based on their reading of a wide range of texts and key word and sound knowledge. Assessments will be carried out over these next 2 weeks so please bear with us. Email the class email if you are unsure.
- Please try to read with your child every day and write a positive comment in their logbook. We do ask, that even when your child is reading more fluently... you continue to read regularly even if the focus is different and make a note in the logbook.
  - As we are not going to see the logbooks, we are going to suspend our reading band incentive scheme. It is also not currently appropriate to give out the bands either. We will review this over the coming weeks.

### **School Reading Support.**

- As the children did in Year 1, in school your child will read in a group each week. This is when we read with 4-6 children of similar ability, focussing on developing skills and talking about the book together. Lots of other reading related activities are undertaken in the classroom daily, including whole class reading. Each week children will be given a few books to keep in their tray from their level for reading individually too in school. We will have a day when each group changes these books. As we move through the term and it is decided that we can send books home we will give children 3 books for a week and keep the day a week to change them in school. Books can be then quarantined before going back into boxes. We will manage this in school first so the children can learn the routine.

### **Parent Notice Boards, Learning boards and Class Blogs**

- As the guidance issued has stated that parents can't enter the building as we once did, classroom noticeboards will no longer have purpose! We have referred already to the class blog to find information. You will find here the things that would have been posted on those noticeboards. Updates for the following week's activities and learning and star of the week will be made by 4pm on a Friday. Please check it regularly. Our general school website, whole school blog, parent coms and newsletters will also be used regularly to tell you things that are going on.
  - From Week 3 the learning will also include a link to plans and resources for each week. This is intended for you to use if individuals need to isolate or quarantine for any reason. If a class or larger group is required to isolate then this will also be the place to find the learning which will be presented more like the home learning was before the summer.
- If you have a message for your child's teacher, please speak at pick up or quickly in the morning as usual. Your class email can be used for information about pick ups etc. For information that changes suddenly during the school day regarding this please phone or email the school office as normal. Teaching staff will not be able to check emails throughout the school day. The office will then pass on relevant information to the class teacher.
- We are always happy to meet with parents for whatever reason but we would ask that this is done after school as in the mornings it not as easy to facilitate. During these times we are unable to run such an open doors policy as we would wish. After school phone calls or conversations from the patio door at a social distance when appropriate, otherwise the class email could again be used for this.

Other dates for the diary include:

- **Wow day – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September**
- ***There will be a KS 1 Curriculum Information Sharing Powerpoint that will be sent out, replacing the evening in school that we would usually offer. This will be followed with a live zoom invite from the KS1 Team for answers and questions that you may have. We will communicate about this nearer the time with the details of how this will run.***

***We would normally give information now about open mornings and the first parent's consultation of the year but we are still finalising how these will look so will post that information later.***

We appreciate that we have given you a lot of information, but hope that it will be useful in settling your child into year 2. Thank you for your support, especially during these difficult times. We are having to start new procedures and new ways of doing things and really appreciate your patience and support during this as we all learn to change our ways of living and working.

- If you have any questions now or at a later date, please do let us know, via your class email.

Thank you

Year 2 Team