

Year 2 Curriculum Letter - Autumn 1

Friday 15th September 2023

Dear families

Welcome back! We have been delighted with the children's calm and settled start to the year and to see all the children so enthusiastic, confident and happy to meet old friends in their Year 2 classes. We have a very committed and enthusiastic Year 2 team who will work together to achieve the best for your child. We would like to introduce you to the Year 2 team:

Fox Class:

Class Teacher: Mrs Lubbock-Smith and Mrs Bailey

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Eastwood

Badger Class:

Class Teacher: Mrs Longman

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Durman

Woodpecker Class:

Class Teacher: Mr Simmonds

Teaching Assistant: Mr Segun

We will be hosting a virtual Year 2 curriculum evening. More details about this event will follow.

This half term's topic is **Let it Grow**, which is taught through an integrated curriculum. We will be looking at the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and growing seeds and bulbs in Science. We will also be taking the children to The Common to consolidate our mapping skills and to identify human and physical features as part of our geography unit.

English

In English, the children will be writing stories based on Jack and the Beanstalk and instructions to grow a plant. We will be continuing to build on the skills the children learnt in Year 1: capital letters, full stops, finger spaces, hearing sounds in a word and common exception words. To support your child at home, try to read them lots of traditional tales as bedtime stories. Remember to ask them lots of questions e.g. Who is your favourite character and why? How do you think this character is feeling and what tells you this? Can you predict what will happen next?



Phonics

In phonics, the children will be looking at alternative spellings and recapping phase 5. We will be reading words, writing words and applying this, using these sounds. They will continue to be taught sight words (formally known as tricky words). We will send home a half termly list of words. Please ensure you practice these with your child as they need to be able to spell these correctly in their writing. This half term we will be recapping some of the year 1 words. If your child can already spell these words, please encourage them to write them in sentences using a range of conjunctions. Each week, we will award a child from each class with the Spelling Bee trophy for showing great effort with their spellings.



Handwriting

In Year 2, the children will learn to write their letters in cursive. This means each lower case letter starts with a lead in. We will send home the letters we are learning in class, each week, so you can practice them at home.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, the children will be consolidating and building on their knowledge of place value by partitioning two digit numbers in different ways. They will apply this to solve a variety of number related problems. They will be developing their mental strategies to add and subtract 1 and 10 from any number to 100. You may wish to support your child with this skill at home to help develop their speed.



Wider curriculum

In science, the children will be looking at plants and learning about what they need to grow. We will be carrying out experiments with plants to discover what the best conditions for them to grow are. In computing the children will be building on their learning of algorithms and making sequences. They will be inputting this information on programmable toys and evaluating and editing their algorithms. In PE this half term the children will be focusing on coordination and balance. In art, the children will be focusing on observational drawings and drawing techniques.



Home learning

- Spelling lists
- Reading *Please continue to read with your child 4 times per week and record this in their reading diary*
- Mental arithmetic practice of adding/ subtracting 1 from a 2 digit number.
- Handwriting letters per week

Other

Your child will need a full PE kit in school **at all times**.

Our PE days will be:

Badgers: Mondays

Foxes: Friday

Woodpeckers: Thursday



Reading and Library

Your child will be given a colour banded reading book which will be changed once a week. This book will be matched to your child's ability and will have suitable words in for them to develop fluency and be offered suitable challenge. Please can your child bring their book back in on a **Thursday**. This book will be changed on a **Friday** each week. Please be aware that if your child does not bring their book back in, we will not be able to give them another one.



Children will also visit the library every week to choose their library book. Please ensure your child has their library book in their book bag on their day so that they can change it. This is a book they have chosen themselves, and this is likely to be one they'd like to share reading with you (rather than specifically pitched at their reading level).

Our library day will be on a **Friday** each week. Please ensure their library book is in their book bag in the morning.

Many thanks for your continuing support, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Lubbock-Smith and the Year 2 Team