

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child into Year 2. Our half-termly newsletters will inform you of our topics and the areas we will be covering, as well as any additional information you need to know.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ❖ Our trip to **Irchester Country Park** takes place on **Thursday 13th September**.
- ❖ Our regular **morning reading** sessions will take place **every Tuesday between 8.50 and 9.00am**.
- ❖ **Reading week** begins on Monday **24th September** when you are welcome to join us in class **from 3 – 3:10pm every day**.



GENERAL INFORMATION

- Please feel free to **come and speak to us** about how your child is settling in, developments you'd like to share or any concerns you have. If this is a quick message, the member of staff on the door in the morning will be happy to pass it on to your child's teacher, or please catch us at the end of the day. If it is something that will need longer, please make an appointment for a more convenient time. As you can appreciate mornings are very busy, but we do want to hear from you. Home/School link books are checked every day, but it is always worth asking your child to let us know if there is a message inside we need to read.
- Please can we remind you to make sure all your child's **items of clothing are named**, particularly jumpers. If your child does come home with clothing that doesn't belong to them, please return it as soon as possible.
- **PE days** are as follows: Tuesday afternoon for Peacocks and Puffins, Wednesday morning for all classes and Friday afternoon for Barn Owls.
- On those days, earrings must be taken out before school unless your child can take them out themselves. If your child goes home in their PE kit after a club, please make sure it is returned to school the next day. **Plimsolls or trainers are required this term** as we will be working outside.
- Children can change their **reading book** on any day if there is evidence in the Home/School link book that it has been **read on two separate occasions**. In Year 2 we encourage the children to take responsibility for changing their own books, so if they are a little forgetful, you may want to remind them on the way into school. Listening to your child read, and talking about the book, for at **least 10 minutes, five times a week**, will have a real impact on their progress. On a practical note, please be advised we do not have room to store large rucksacks so would encourage your child to **continue to use a book bag** throughout the year.
- **Weekend Learning** is set each Thursday with a variety of tasks to complete, all linked to our work in class. In addition, **handwriting practice** will also go home at the same time, please can they be returned to school the following **Tuesday**. Further information on your child's learning in Year 2 and how you can support them at home can be found in the front of the Home School Link book and on the school website <http://www.havelockschools.org.uk/>.
- Your child has already been across to the Junior School to meet their **Year 3 buddy** and we will continue to have joint events each half-term. These activities form a major part of the transition programme we have in place to ensure a smooth move for your children into Year 3 next year.
- If you have a younger sibling in Reception, your Year 2 child is very welcome to enter school through the Reception door and walk unaccompanied through the school to their own classroom. Alternatively, please drop them at their Year 2 door first, before walking round to the Reception entrance.
- If you have any photos of your child taking part in exercise outside of school, this could be football, talking the dog for a walk, swimming lessons, karate etc. that you would be happy to be displayed on our PE board this year, please send them in (named on the back so they can be returned).

Please don't hesitate to call the office if you need any further information, we are grateful for your continued support.

The Year 2 Team



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Maths

In maths we will be reading, writing, counting and ordering numbers to 100 and beyond. We will revise addition and subtraction methods and use Numicon, jottings and number lines to support our thinking. Using inverse relationships we will check calculations and solve problems using mental and written methods.

AT HOME

Practise counting forwards and backwards in 1s, 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s starting from different numbers. Practise addition and subtraction, ask your child to show you how to use jottings to help them add or subtract.



Art

We will be doing observational drawing and colour mixing using poster paints and watercolours.

AT HOME:

Discuss different shades of the same colours we see on trees and bushes around us;

Values, PSHE and Philosophy for Children (P4C)

We will be contemplating **LOVE** this term and considering our hopes and fears for the year.

AT HOME:

Discuss with your child how they are feeling about their new class and what to do if they are unsure of anything.



Science

As scientists we will be learning about living things, their habitats and where they fit in the food chain.

AT HOME:

Look at the ways in which animals, humans and plants are similar and different and how we can be put in groups together according to our similarities.



If you go down to the woods today.....

Come and accompany us on a journey of surprises into a deep, dark wood.

Little Red by Lynn Roberts, will be the stimulus for our work this half term as we explore our locality.



RE

We will be asking the question “What can we learn from Religious Leaders?”.

PE

We will be learning to bat and field in rounders and developing balance, agility and coordination in Real PE.

Music

Our learning is focused around one song: Friendship Song written specially for Year 2 children. The integrated approach to music means games, music, singing and playing instruments are all linked.

Geography

We shall be developing our mapping skills to follow simple routes and drawing our own maps and plans of our school environment.

AT HOME

When going on journeys look at maps together and how to follow a route on a map. Discuss the different geographical features you see as you travel around e.g. streams, hills, forests, paths, buildings.



Literacy

As writers, our work on the story ‘Little Red’ will enable us to write our own twist on the Red Riding Hood story. In the second part of the term we will have fun writing nonsense poems and ‘Silly Stuff’!

AT HOME:

Encourage your child to write or make up short stories about some of the characters in their books, making up new adventures for the characters to go on. Help to use capital letters and full stops in the right places.

ICT

Our ICT work will see us using programming language to control Bee-bots and on-screen sprites in Scratch.

AT HOME:

It would also help your child if you could download the free online programming website Scratch onto your home PC, so they can consolidate their learning in school.