

Parrots!



KEY DATES

Half term

21st October—
25th October 2019

Back to school

28th October 2019

End of Term 2

Wednesday 18th
December 2019

Autumn Parents' Evenings

Wednesday 2nd and
Thursday 3rd October
2019

KS1 Cinema Trip

20th November 2019

NOTES:

Y2 begin Forest School
sessions from Term 1.

If your child is in **Group 1**
please ensure they have
their forest school clothes,
shoes/wellies and a coat on
a Wednesday.

Welcome back!

Welcome back after the summer holidays, I hope that you all had a good break and feel rested and ready for the new school year. We have lots of exciting opportunities coming up over this academic year and we are all looking forward to embarking on these together. My name is Mrs Thompson and I will be teaching in Year 2 Monday—Thursday alongside Mrs McGrath and Mrs Brisley on a Thursday. Mrs Godfrey will be teaching on a Friday. Please feel free to discuss any worries or queries you may have with any member of the Year 2 team at the end of the day make an appointment through the school office.

Into the Woods!

Our first topic will be 'Into the Woods!' This is a great first topic as we have so many opportunities locally to us to give children practical experiences. Visits to the woods will inspire our English and Topic work when back in class and also help give our Science unit this term more meaning and purpose. Over the term, we are also planning to develop art skills through this topic including printing and creating natural sculptures in our school environment.



Parent Consultations These sessions are a great opportunity for you to discuss any concerns you may have about how your child is coping with the transition to their new class. It also provides us the chance to discuss the Year 2 curriculum expectations so that you will be able to help your child at home. Some of the end of year expectations are outlined below:

Maths

- Be able to count up to 100, forwards and backwards
- Recognise and represent numbers to 100—explain the value of each digit e.g. in 56 the 5 is worth 50
- Compare and order numbers within 100
- Adding tens and ones
- Using place value charts
- Revising counting in 2s

Reading

Children in Year 2 need to be able to read a number of sight words in their reading (these will be sent home shortly). Phonics will also be a key to our reading sessions, daily practise with phoneme recognition and encouraging children to look for these 'special friends' when reading across the curriculum. Reading is a fundamental part of all learning, so listening to your child read at home and enjoying books together are really important ways of supporting the skills being taught at school. During this first term, we will also begin weekly comprehension sessions as a group where children will read part of a text and answer a range of questions about it for example, the names of the characters, sequencing the order of events that took place or suggesting why something has happened. These are questions that can be included when hearing your child read.

Writing

Our initial focus for writing is to ensure that children are using capital letters and full stops accurately in all their writing, extending this to recap exclamations and questions and the correct punctuation for these. Spelling will be a big focus this term, lists of 'common exception words', words which do not follow a phonetic pattern, will be sent home and children will work on learning how to spell these accurately a few at a time, showing this in their written work. As part of our woodland topic we will explore a range of types of writing including traditional tales, fact files and poetry. We will also work on handwriting, ensuring that children are forming their letters correctly and for those that are able, begin to join their writing together. We will continue to build on work from last year, developing sentences using Language Through Colour, extending ideas with adverbs of time and place.

Homework

Family Learning will be set on a Friday and is due in the following Tuesday. We enjoy looking at how creative families are at presenting learning and we often share this in class.

Regular reading, three times a week, is also expected; this can be any text not just a school book. Comics, newspapers, magazines etc all count as valuable reading experiences.

PE

Parrots have PE on a Friday afternoon. We will also have short yoga sessions some afternoons once the children are settled into routines to help re-focus and calm after lunch or after learning activities. **Please ensure that children have their PE kits with them and that they are labelled to avoid them getting lost.**

Water Bottles

Children are allowed to bring in plastic water bottles for use in class. Please make sure their names are **clearly labelled** on the bottles to avoid them getting mixed up with others.

