



Welcome to Kingfisher Class

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to everyone and to the start of Year 2! I have been so pleased to see all the children come in with big smiles on their faces and happy to be back with their friends. Year 2 is a wonderful year with lots of learning and fun activities along with the chance to develop further independence and start to take on greater responsibilities.

Teaching staff

I will be teaching Woodpecker Class, with the support of Ms Stanford and Mrs Persson. During my PPA time the class will be led by Mrs Dalglish, with the same support team.

Sport

PE and Games lessons are on **Wednesdays and Fridays**. Children **come to school in PE kits on their PE days**. We will inform you in advance of any changes to our PE days.

Reading

In a change to the Year 1 procedure, in Year 2 the children take responsibility for changing their own reading books, once they have progressed past the phonic readers. As much as possible, they should be heard to read each night and this needs to be recorded in their reading diaries daily, noting the date, page number reached, and a comment on your child's reading or discussions about the text. Shared reading and discussion of the story are very helpful. Please encourage your child to read with expression, and to give opinions about the characters in the story, the plot, and what might happen next. Reading diaries will be checked regularly by myself or a teaching assistant.

In class, we will develop reading skills through group, whole class and 1:1 readings and will focus on fluency, phrasing, retrieval of information and inference.

Spellings

On Mondays, the children will bring home a list of spellings to learn for a test on the following Monday – they will be based on sounds or rules they have been learning in class, high frequency words which they need to practise and Year 2 common exception words or words which will help in other areas of the curriculum. Please help your child to learn their spellings and ensure that they know what they mean. Please check that the children return their **home spelling book** to school every Monday to write in their score and new words.

Maths

Please help your child with their mental recall of numbers to increase their confidence and speed. This could include counting forwards and backwards from a given number, breaking numbers into tens and ones, bonds to 10 and 100 or simple addition and subtraction problems. These are great for long car journeys or bath times! Please also work on telling the time at home, Year 2 is a great time for a first watch! The children can also practise their maths skills on the Mathseeds website. Logins to follow.

Home Learning

Each Friday, your child will receive a piece of English and maths homework, **to be returned by the following Wednesday**. This should take no longer than 30 minutes to complete both tasks. There will also be an independent learning project set in the Autumn term: more details will be provided nearer the time.

Curriculum

The curriculum overview will be available on our class page on the school website. Children are encouraged to bring in any relevant resources from home related to our learning.

Equipment

The children only need a book bag or a small rucksack to carry their belongings otherwise the cloakroom gets very crowded! It is vital come to school with the correct equipment daily.

As explained last year, they should bring in a **small** pencil case with: **a named pencil, rubber, sharpener, glue stick, small selection of colouring pencils and a ruler. Felt tips and gel pens are not required.** Pencil cases should fit in their tray. They certainly **do not** need large pencil cases, novelty stationery or small toys which distract them from their work. Any oversized cases may be put back into bags and sent home. Thank you for your support with this – already it is clear children are coming to school with appropriate resources and I would like to maintain this, ensuring every child is ready to learn with the equipment required for each lesson!

I look forward to working with you and your child this year and seeing you at the Welcome Curriculum Meeting in a few weeks (time to be announced shortly). If you have any worries or queries, please do come and see me, or if easier send an email. I may not be able to respond straight away but I will do my best to read and note any problems ready to deal with the next day.

Mrs Kim Colegate

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2 (Kingfishers) Class Teacher