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**Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn**



11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Year 2 Parents



Thank you to everybody for the work that you did at home with your child last term; having listened to all of your children read I can see that some of you have been very busy!

Welcome to Year 2 - your children have settled into the new year group excellently with a great sense of class community. We have already seen many "Go for it Gorillas" and children displaying positive body language (a school focus last year).

The whole school is following a positive relationship policy based on mutual respect, warmth and care. We are looking out for children showing behaviours that help to build a safe and encouraging environment where everyone feels able to "Have a go" and express themselves. Your children have already earned themselves a marble and every child has been on the congratulations board.

Accompanying this letter is our Autumn term topic web with the outline of some of the things your child will be learning. Many of our lessons link across the curriculum as we find children learn better this way.

In Year 2 our ongoing daily sessions will include:

#### Early bird Activities

When children first arrive in the classroom they are given an activity to undertake. This is an important part of the day as it settles the class quickly so that they are ready to learn, it provides a steady routine at the start of the day and it provides an opportunity for

small independent pieces of work that reinforce what we have either taught the previous week/s or what we are doing at present.

### Reading

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of sharing books with your child at home and the positive impact this has on their imagination, vocabulary and understanding of the world. In the present climate children's books on return will stay in a box for 3 days where they are wiped clean and put back into our library. Please start/carry on listening to your child read daily as it will enable them to access the rest of the curriculum more confidently and is an essential lifelong skill to have. To help you with the writing of comments in the reading journals I will be shortly sending home examples of comments that are helpful to us at school. All comments help in our assessment of your child and their reading ability. The variety of texts they read is also important so please encourage your child to read short stories, non-fiction, poetry and plays.

### Library

Year 2 have a library session every Thursday where they have the opportunity to change their library book. Please remind your child to bring their library book back to school each Thursday. Sadly we have lost many books over the last few years which as you can imagine is a costly affair.

### Spellings

Your child will bring home spellings to learn every Friday - starting this week. The spellings will relate to either the national curriculum list of spellings for his/her age group or to a topic that we are learning about. Please encourage and support your child in the learning of these spelling - see our school website for ideas on how to help your child learn. Each Friday morning there will be a dictation lesson where children put some of these spellings learned into sentences, a requirement for Year 2 children. Your child will then be given new spellings to learn for the following week. The new spellings are given out on a Friday.

### Home Learning

Next week your child will be given their first piece of home learning. This is set on a Tuesday and we will be using Purple Mash and Google classroom. Passwords and other information will be sent to you regarding this. Please encourage your child to complete home learning set by the completion date given.

### PE

Mr Mason, our specialist PE teacher, teaches PE to Year 2 on a Wednesday afternoon. Please ensure that your child comes dressed in their PE kit every Wednesday. They will stay in this all day and come home in it, so no need for uniform on this day. As the days get colder your child can wear dark coloured jogging bottoms/leggings and a dark coloured tracksuit top/sweatshirt.

### Water bottles

Just a reminder please that your child needs to have a water bottle in school each day. This is kept in the classroom so that they can drink when they need to.

### Labelling clothing

We have already had a few children say that they have “lost” their school jumper and it is much easier to find it if it is named. Please remember to label all of your child’s school clothing as we understand how expensive it is to replace.

### Bags

Children keep their bags under their table, alongside their water bottle and book bags. It is much better if the bag is small so that your child has more room and it is safer for those who are needing to walk around the classroom. Thank you for your understanding.

Many Thanks for a super start and for your support

Jo Bourne and the Year 2 Team