

Dear Parents,

Welcome to class 2. We hope you had a lovely summer holiday and are ready for the start of year 1. It has been a very strange year so far and I am so proud of how well all of the children have settled into the class already!

Topic

During the first half term we will be learning 'All about Me'. This is a great topic for getting to know each other, linking very well with the start of year 1. The children will think about themselves and their families and will create their own 'fabric faces'. During this topic we will also do some work about emotions and feelings.

After half term our topic will be 'Out and about'. We will look at our local area, looking at the village of Bawdrip as well as Bridgwater and thinking about the wider world that we live in!



Computing

Within computing, the children will learn to use a range of programmes on both the I-pads and laptops. They will look at how to stay safe on the internet as well as beginning to learn how to write and de-bug simple programmes.



Science

Our science topic this term is 'Animals and Humans'. The children will explore the human body, naming and labelling different parts of the body as well as the senses. They will also look at and compare a range of common animals such as fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals. We are also extremely lucky because hopefully this term we will be receiving some eggs that we will be looking after until they hatch into baby chicks! This will be a fantastic experience for the children because they should be able to see them hatch and will have the opportunity to help look after them.



RE

During RE this term we will be looking at the question, 'What do people believe about Jesus?'. We will talk about some of the different stories that were told about Jesus including the Christmas story and begin to learn about some Christian beliefs.



PE, swimming, Forest School

As in class 1, PE is taught on a Tuesday by Mr Irish. We have decided they can **come to school wearing their P.E. kits**. Please ensure they have a white t-shirt, their Kingsmoor cardigan/sweatshirt to keep them warm, and black/navy/grey shorts or joggers if cold outside. They will need daps or trainers which they can also wear to school on these days. **This term the children will swim every Thursday** so please ensure that the children have their swimming kits with them. This half term the children will also take part in Forest School with Mrs Clarke on a Thursday so they also need **suitable outdoor clothes/coat/wellies** that will get wet and muddy! I am happy for them to **come to school in their Forest School clothes on a Thursday morning** because that is their first lesson. However, please also **send in their school uniform in a bag** so they can change afterwards.



Maths

The Maths this term will be heavily focused on ensuring that the children have a secure understanding of the numbers up to 20 and bridging any gaps in their knowledge and understanding from Class 1 in light of the time that was missed in school.



Literacy

In Literacy, phonics and reading will be a real focus this term. However we will also be doing lots of writing and handwriting to practice the skills that were taught in Class 1. Throughout the year we will also be doing a lot of work to build their confidence in performing and speaking in front of their peers and in small groups.

Home Learning- Will be sent home every **Wednesday** and must be back in to be marked by the following **Tuesday**. There is a sheet in the front of your child's home learning book to explain what they need to do. But if you are not sure about anything then please ask! 😊 In the back of the home learning books is a bank of year 1 'tricky words' the children will gradually learn to read and then spell so that they can use these words in their writing. Please begin by helping them to read the words before moving on to helping them spell the words.

Reading – Being able to read and having a good understanding of what has been read has endless benefits to all aspects of a child's learning. We therefore ask you to read with your child at least 4 times a week if not more – reading at home has a huge impact on their accuracy, fluency and reading comprehension. Don't forget to sign their reading record and make a comment about their reading. As well as reading books, encouraging your child to read signs, labels, instructions, comics and other words that are all around us will all benefit to their reading ability. An adult will aim to read with your child 1:1 at least once a week in school. However we stress that this is not the only time we hear them read as we do lots of reading in small groups and as part of lessons.

Reading Incentive- We are pleased to tell you that we are continuing our fantastic reading incentive this year! We saw a huge increase in the amount children were reading when it was introduced last year. Here is a reminder of how it works. Children will get a raffle ticket for 4x weekly reads with an adult at home (this could be a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc). Each read must be written in their reading record and **signed by an adult**. If it is not signed, it may not be counted. If they have read 4x, they will receive two raffle tickets, one will be stuck in their reading record and the other will be put into a pot for the chance of winning a prize at the end of each half term. There will also be a prize for the class that reads the most! Get reading Class 2!

Spellings – Each **Wednesday** the children will also be sent home with a spelling book which will contain about 6 spellings that they will need to learn ready to be **tested on the following Tuesday**. These spellings will be based around what they are being taught in phonics that week, so the children should be familiar with the sounds within the words. The spelling tests will be done in the back of the spelling book so that you are able to see how well they are doing. Please use the spelling booklet I have sent home to help with ideas for different fun ways to learn their spellings.

Tapestry- In class 2 we continue to use Tapestry as a way of making observations and giving you the opportunity of seeing the progress your child is making in school. We are currently in the process of transferring the accounts from class 1 to class 2; therefore please bear with us while this process takes place and we should be up and running again very soon.

I know this is a lot of information and I hope that this all makes sense! Please do not hesitate to call me at school or see me after school if you have any queries or concerns.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Temple