



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Year 2 information letter - September 2023

Dear Parents -Welcome to Year 2. It has been wonderful to welcome your children back after the summer break and we have been very impressed with how they have adjusted to starting Year 2!

The aim of this letter is to provide a broad overview of the work we will be covering in our classes this term. We hope this information will enable you to prepare, support and reinforce your child's understanding in your discussions at home.

<u>English</u>	<u>Maths</u>	<u>Science and Topic</u>
<p>On going throughout the term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Children will be encouraged to use cursive handwriting in KS1.To learn and use high frequency words.To learn common blends.To continue to develop basic sentence structure - Capital letters, finger spaces and full stops, and begin to use more adventurous punctuation.The children will have regular phonics and reading sessions. <p>Children will be taught phonics daily. This will involve consolidating and learning new phonemes to be used in reading and writing. During this term the children will also be expected to re-read and edit own writing to ensure it makes sense as well as checking their punctuation.</p> <hr/> <p>This term we are using a new and innovative way of approaching English which comes from Herts for Learning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Explore and Engage The children will be reading Floella Benjamin's journey from Trinidad to England. The children will look at how to structure a story and how to make their writing meaningful for their audience.Narratives - 'The Frog and the Stranger'. Children will develop their knowledge and understanding of stories. They will look at inference and empathy for characters. They will retell the story through drama, diary entries and story writing.Instructions The children will explore the story of 'How to make friends with a ghost'. We will look at the features of instructions and the use of imperative verbs (bossy words!)We will then have a week to consolidate all our learning and the children will have the opportunity to complete some free choice story writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Estimate and count a number of objects up to 100.Locate numbers between 1 -100 on a number line and square.Order and compare 2 digit numbers and find a number in between. Begin to use < and > signs to compare numbersRevise number bonds to 10 and learn number bonds to 20 and begin to understand related subtraction facts.Know multiples of 2,3, 5 and 10.Double numbers to 15.Find 1 more and 10 more or less using a 100 square.Find 10 more and 10 less than any 2 digit number.Identify and sort 2D shapes based on their properties.Understanding 2 digit numbers are made up on tens and ones.Understand place value using 10p and 1p coins.Find and record all possible amounts using coins.Find 10p more and less than any 2 digit numbers.Add and subtract a multiple of 10 to a 2 digit number.Solve addition and subtraction number sentences.Begin to measure lengths and understand different units measurements.Count in 2s, 5s and 10s from zero.Make total amounts of money in different ways.To know the number names and words to at least 100.Know common number patterns to 100.To begin to choose and use the 4 basic number operations to solve mental and word problems.	<p>Our topics will be:</p> <p>History Why do we remember the fifth of November? In this unit, the children will explore the history behind, and the significance of, Bonfire Night on 5th November.</p> <p>Art and DT We are lucky enough to have a specialist to work with the children on Art and DT. The units include Colour Art Fundamentals (Wassily Kandinsky) and The Nature of Art Working with natural materials.</p> <p>Computing We are photographers In this unit, the children will review photos online, practice using a digital camera, take photos to fit a given theme, edit their photos, and then select their best images to include in a shared portfolio.</p> <p>Science Healthy Me In this unit, the children will learn about how to keep their bodies and minds healthy. We will be doing lots of practical investigations to show the importance of hygiene.</p> <p>Geography What are seasons? In this unit, the children will learn about weather and seasons. This unit has a focus on the local area as well as looking at the wider perspective of the UK. They will observe, spot seasonal patterns and talk about changes by using weather-related vocabulary.</p> <p>PSHE This term, the children will be learning about themselves and their relationship s and how they can be the best version of themselves.</p> <p>French Our specialist French teacher will be covering colours, numbers, greetings.</p>

Year 2 Team

Elm Class - Mrs McLaughlin and Mrs Whittington

Fir Class - Miss King and Mrs Blackburn

Homework

Weekly homework will be uploaded to Seesaw each Friday. The homework activities will alternate between English, Maths and a Foundation Subject. Once this has been completed at home, you will then need to upload a photo of your child's work by the following Thursday; this will enable it to be acknowledged and feedback given.

Spellings

Weekly spellings will also be uploaded to Seesaw each Friday. They will follow either the phonic sounds (not the letter names) taught in school that week, or the Year 2 Common Exception Word list. Don't forget, 5 minutes spelling practice every night is much better than half an hour on the night before the test!

Seesaw Communication

Seesaw is an online platform used that is used in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

It allows children to upload their learning to their own digital portfolio. This work can be viewed by their teacher who can provide targeted feedback. Children can upload documents or photographs of homework given. This work can only be viewed by the teacher and the child who uploaded it. Seesaw is a great tool to allow the children to showcase their home learning and to communicate with their class teacher.

However, it is important to stress that it *is not* to be used for everyday home/school communication between parents and teachers. For messages such as this, the school office email system must be used:

admin@stjosephs207.herts.sch.uk

Reading

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home. There are two types of reading book that your child will bring home on a Friday.

- A reading practice book. This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently.
- A sharing book. Your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

Reading practice book

This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy - your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise - celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

Sharing book

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

Please return your child's reading practice book and reading record, signed by an adult, by the following Wednesday. The sharing book can be returned the same day if you have finished reading it at home, if not, please continue to enjoy reading this book at home until you are ready to change it. If you would like

further information on our new reading and phonics scheme, please visit <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk>

P.E

P.E will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays this term. Please have all long hair tied back and earrings removed. Any changes to these dates are usually posted on Seesaw!

Reminders

Year 2 Expectations

- Please send **only water** in a **small**, named **plastic** bottle with a **sport spout**.
- All children must have a pair of soft named indoor shoes which will remain in school.
- The children will be provided with fruit/ vegetables each day therefore they do not need to bring in anything from home for snack.
- Please label **all** of your child's school uniform, including their outer wear, to avoid confusion.
- We do not permit toys from home in school.
- Please ensure your child has a named school approved PE kit in order to participate fully in the twice-weekly lessons. This will be sent home each half term for washing. Full details of our school PE kit is available on the school website.
- Some of the children have a substantial number of keyrings on their bookbags. These can be rather cumbersome to store in the bag boxes, and quite dangerous. Please restrict these to one keyring only.
- We are unable to store wellies in our cloakroom. If your child wears wellies to school on a rainy day, please ensure they also bring in their outdoor school shoes.
- Girls will need to have a pair of socks in their PE bags if they wear tights for school.
- Headbands, clips or hairbands must be small and in line with our school colour.
- Children are **not** permitted to wear any electronic devices such as watches and fitbits.
- Please ensure your child's reading book and reading record are in their school bag **every day**.

We are delighted to be teaching your children and look forward to working with you this year.
With kind regards,

Mrs McLaughlin
Elm Class Teacher / Assistant Headteacher

Miss King
Fir Class Teacher