



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS 2020 YEAR 2

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome your child into Year 2 and to inform you of some of the curriculum issues, procedures and other items of interest which are relevant this year.

Class 1

Teacher Mrs Dearle
Learning Support Assistant Miss Cross

Class 2

Teacher Miss Bright
Learning Support Assistants Mrs Tate, Mrs Cruse & Mrs Davies

School Uniform

Please ensure that every item of clothing, (including hats, gloves, scarves, coats and PE kit) is **clearly labelled with your child's name**, as much time can be wasted trying to identify owners of lost property. Any items of lost property are kept in the school office.

Absence

If your child is absent from school, please phone the office on the first morning of the absence. When your child returns to school, please send a letter confirming the reason for absence. If children are persistently absent, the Attendance Officer may ask for a doctor's note to confirm illness. Absences due to holidays taken in term time will be unauthorised by the Headteacher unless in **exceptional** circumstances.

Punctuality

Our school aim is to prepare children to be responsible citizens and we strive to encourage a positive attitude to learning. Please make every effort to ensure your child is in school by 8.45am, as arriving after this time can be distressing for them and is also disruptive to the rest of the class.

Year 2 Curriculum

Autumn Term

Fire, Fire

Spring Term

Incredible Islands

Summer Term

Radical Rainforests

The topics will be addressed via a cross-curricular approach, where links are made with National Curriculum subjects wherever possible.

Mathematics

Children are taught mathematics with differentiated activities in their own class. The mathematics curriculum covers the following units: Number, Measurement, Geometry and Statistics. Wherever possible we try to relate mathematics to real life situations and encourage problem solving at every opportunity.

English:

We teach English skills through Read, Write, Inc., a systematic, multi-sensory, phonic based approach to learning. It aims to stimulate, and challenge children's thinking and create enthusiastic, life-long readers and writers. Children are ability grouped and have three, one-hour sessions per week. There is also a lesson specifically aimed at the skills of spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPAG) and a Friday lesson focusing on writing, where children are encouraged to apply the skills they have learned.

Reading

Children are taught to read through RWI and have opportunities to read every day. Each child has an individual reading turn with an adult each week and some children may have additional reading turns. **However, it is vital that you listen to your child read at home daily.** Oxford Reading Tree books will be sent home along with a home/school reading record. The ORT books will be changed once a week and if your child has successfully read them, please supplement this with home or library books as well as using Reading Buddy online (see over). This will enable your child to apply the skills learnt in school to a wider variety of texts. It is **essential** that you make a note in the home/school book when your child reads, so we are able to change their books and note your comments. Children are rewarded for reading at home through our Reading Ladder Challenge, but only if parents/carers confirm that they have read at home.

***Please note, due to the current Covid-19 situation, all books that are sent home with you child will have been quarantined for at least 72 hours before being issued.**

Oxford Reading Buddy

This is a digital reading programme that is designed to support children's reading development at home as well as at school. The sign-in card your child was given in year 1 is still valid. Please let your child's class teacher know if you no longer have this as it will enable them to access the programme and collect 'badges' as a reward for their progress.

Library books

These books are for you to share to enhance your child's enjoyment of reading. A new book may only be chosen on return of the previous one. A charge will be made for any lost or damaged books.

***Please see note above.**

Jewellery

Please do not allow your child to wear jewellery of any description to school. Essex County Council Guidelines state that jewellery must not be worn for any PE lessons or physical activity. As the children take part in physical activity on a daily basis, it is not appropriate to wear jewellery **at any time**. Furthermore, any child wearing earrings to school will not be allowed to take part in PE or other physical activity including play times, where a range of play equipment is used and could result in injury. We are sure you will understand that we do not wish any child to suffer any injuries and will support us in our decision to enforce the **NO JEWELLERY** rule.

Cooking

Children may be involved in cooking activities during the year. A contribution of 50p towards the cost of ingredients each time your child participates will be appreciated.

PE

Children participate in physical activities daily and have 2 timetabled sessions of PE each week (Wednesday and Friday). Guidance has directed us to teach PE lessons outdoors, where possible. To help prevent any confusion with clothes being swapped as the children get changed, on the days your child has PE, we would like them to **come to school** in something suitable for outdoor activities. E.g. Jogging bottoms, leggings, t-shirt, fleece and trainers. We would like to maintain high standards regarding uniform, so school colours are preferable, **if you can please**. They will still require a **named** PE kit to remain in school in a clearly marked PE bag, that can be used when it is not appropriate to be outside. Children will bring their kit home each half term to be washed. Please check all items of clothing fit and names are still visible after washing. For health and safety reasons long hair must be tied back with a **soft** hair tie and jewellery is not permitted.

Book bags

Children should carry their books in **named** waterproof book bags which can be purchased from the school office. Please ensure that your child brings in their **reading books everyday**. As storage space is limited, we are not able to accommodate any bags, other than school book bags. **Please do not put water bottles in book bags.**

Home Learning

Your child will usually be given activities to complete at home on Friday each week. This will be either online learning, an activity to complete on paper or a project that can be completed at home. We ask that the home learning folder is returned by the following **Friday**. The home learning activities will mainly focus on Mathematics, Spelling Punctuation & Grammar (SPAG) and Comprehension. We respectfully request that you do not complete any home learning activities for your child, but support them as required. Please make any notes on the work to give the class teacher an idea of the amount of support given and encourage your child to complete the task to the best of their ability and return the work in the folder provided.

The children will also be given spellings to learn on a Monday, ready for a weekly spelling check on Friday. Please encourage your child to use the look, cover, write check method and practise these daily.

Water

To help maintain a healthy lifestyle, children are encouraged to drink water frequently throughout the day. We encourage children to bring a **named** water bottle to school every day so that they have free access to a drink at any time. Please ensure that the bottles are clear, leak-proof and have a **sports cap** so as to avoid spillage onto the children's work. Water bottles are available from the school office. It is the school's policy that the bottles contain only **plain unflavoured water**.

Snacks

Children are provided with a snack of fresh fruit or vegetables daily. No other snacks are allowed, although you can send your child in to school with some fruit of their choice if you wish. **Please remember that grapes should be cut in half as these are a potential choking hazard.**

Additional information

Your child may bring in a **named** colouring or puzzle book to use during wet playtimes. When completed we will return it and ask that it be replaced.

Children should not bring toys or any other personal belongings into school unless specifically asked by the child's class teacher. Please check with the class teacher if you have something at home you feel will be relevant to the topic.

Finally, we hope your child has started to settle into Year 2 with the many changes we have all had to make. However, if you have any worries or concerns at all please come and talk to us so they do not develop into big problems.

Our staff are always happy to help and appreciate respect from all our visitors.