



Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful summer break and are as excited as we are about the start of a brand new school year. Year 2 is an exciting time as children become the 'role models' in Key Stage 1 and start to develop their independence whilst embarking on an exciting learning journey. We can't wait to see what they are all ready to achieve.

New Project - WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BELONG?

This year, our curriculum will be split into three projects:

- Autumn Term - Explore (geography-based)
- Spring Term - Discover (history-based)
- Summer Term - Create (arts-based)



This term we will be focussing on our **EXPLORE** project.

We will start by exploring the concept of what it means to belong, both to a place and to a community. Through our 'explorer of the week' challenges, children will explore human and physical features of different places and name the continents and oceans of the world. We will practise reading maps (before creating our own!) and learn about compass directions. After half term we will extend our learning and compare where we live to life in a Non-European country.

To support our project, we have also booked a visit to the 'Aerozone' at East Midlands Airport on Thursday 10th November. A letter will be sent out with more details later in the half term.

More information can be found in this term's project placemat which can be found on the Year 2 class page on the school website. We can't wait to invite you in at the end of this term to share all of this learning with you during our open afternoon.

English

In English, we will be immersing ourselves in the texts 'The Day the Crayons Quit!' and 'The Day the Crayons Came Home' by Drew Daywalt and Oliver Jeffers. Children will explore the text before responding to it through writing in a range of different genres (such as a re-tell of one of the letters from the crayons, an advert to 'sell' a new magical multi-coloured crayon and, of course, lots of persuasive letter writing).

We will also be getting creative through poetry as we prepare for another Abbey Gates poetry book...watch out for more details coming soon. Throughout the Autumn Term, there will also be a big focus on our handwriting/letter formation skills. You can support with this by continuing to work through the pack which was sent home before the start of the Summer break.

Reading

You will soon receive your login details to the 'Go Read' app. Please use this to log any reading that children do at home. In Year 2 there will be a slight shift away from I-to-I reading towards whole-class reading and developing our comprehension skills through the Reading Vipers.



We will be sending new reading books home soon and children can change their books in school whenever they are ready to do so.

Maths

In maths, we will be following the White Rose programme of work. We start by exploring our knowledge of place value before moving onto addition and subtraction. We will also be exploring what we know about 2D and 3D shapes. In addition, there will be an ongoing focus on our times tables throughout the year. By the end of Year 2, children should know their 2s, 5s and 10s confidently and be able to count in 3s. You can support your child at home by practising these.

Other Curriculum Areas

- Science: Living Things and their Habitats
- DT: Cooking and Nutrition - A Balanced Diet
- Computing: Presenting Media
- PE: Gymnastics/Agility and Balance
- RE: What makes some people inspiring to others?
- Music: Exploring Simple Patterns

Talking Points / RSHE

RSHE lessons will be taught through a range of 'Talking Points' picture books, a list of which you can find on the RSHE page on our school website. We start with questions such as 'Why should I exercise?', 'What if I don't like vegetables?' and 'Are medicines always good?'. [Click here to see the Y2 texts.](#)

PE

PE will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays and children should come into school in their PE kits on these days. Please also ensure that long hair is tied back on these days and that children are not wearing any jewellery (especially earrings).



Phonics and Spellings

In phonics/spelling sessions, we will start the first half term by revisiting and recapping our Phase 5 phonics skills (both in reading and writing). After half term, our learning will be focussed around the words/spelling rules within the Y2 National Curriculum. You can support your child by practising these Y2 spellings at home ([available here on the Y2 Class Page](#)). Occasionally, we may also send home spelling investigations for you to get involved with.

Homework

Information on homework will be discussed at the Year 2 Parents' Information Evening. For now, homework is as follows:

- Reading - 10-20 mins daily.
- Sticky questions - to be discussed every Friday in class.
- Pick and Mix Homework Menu
 - The "Pick and Mix" homework menu is for the whole half term.
 - Please try to complete the activities that are in a coloured grey box at least once a week
 - Please bring any completed activities you wish to share by Monday 10th October.

Home Time

At the end of the day, please do give us a wave when your child is ready to be handed over! Please also remember to let us know if you have made any different arrangements for your child to be collected (e.g. a different parent or after-school club). In order to ensure the children's safety, we will not let children leave unless we have been notified by parents beforehand. You can do this by emailing or calling the school office or by letting us know at the start of the school day.

CAN YOU HELP?

Are you able to help with any of the topics above? Do you have any skills/talents linked to the things we are learning? Perhaps you know somebody who has a Geography-based career who might be able to come in and inspire us...please let us know! We would love to invite you in.

We look forward to a very exciting first term with Year 2! Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

YEAR 2 TEAM

(Miss Taylor, Mrs Slater-Davison and Mrs Goss)