

Class 2 Welcome Letter



To Parents and Carers,

I'd like to welcome you all to the start of the new academic year in Class 2 - we are all so excited to get started! You will be working with me Miss Mann, as well as teaching assistants Miss Claydon (Mon-Weds), Mrs Brain (Mon-Thurs) and Mrs Thomas (Fri). Some of you may have met me or know of me as I completed my teacher training here this year at Hoylandswaine, and was working in Class 3 with Mr Bond from February until June. It will be great to get to know you all better, as well as meeting new parents too! I look forward to working with you all to ensure your children have a happy, healthy school year whilst achieving their full potential.

On a morning I will stand at the doors just outside class 2 where children will say goodbye to parents and go straight into Class 2. Once they have put bags and coats on their pegs, they will either have a morning activity to complete or will read their own reading book independently. The activities will be rotated to suit the needs of the children and will link with learning they have undertaken. This will allow them to start their day in a calm, purposeful manner. Thank you for your support with this.

We will be using a creative thematic approach to our learning in literacy, linking together our knowledge and understanding from our topic with a variety of writing opportunities with exciting reading material to go alongside this. Encouraging children to become independent writers is something that can be supported at home by you. For example if you visit somewhere at the weekend, encouraging the children to write about their experiences so they can show it to the class is a great way to promote a love for writing.

Guided reading sessions will take place throughout the week, where children will be taught by teaching staff to develop their reading strategies and skills. In conjunction with this approach, Read Write Inc phonics sessions will be conducted daily with Year 1 children to help children develop their decoding skills. Year 2's will move onto applying their learnt phonics skills into spelling sessions, whilst also recapping phonics sounds. **Spellings will be sent home on a Friday starting from the 13th of September for every child to practice, and they will be tested the following Friday.** Children will also read individually at least once a week with an adult. The changing of colour bands will be assessed in line with the objectives taught in guided reading and children will be informed when they are ready for their next challenge. The children will also take their reading book home to read with adults alongside a reading record for you to write in. Within

the booklet there are ideas for how to support a love for reading with your child. There are also targets for your child to try and attain this year, as well as questions you can ask your child when reading with them.

In maths we will be focusing upon developing our mental calculation skills, understanding place value, exploring patterns and solving problems. Throughout lessons the importance and relevance of maths in our day to day lives will be linked. You can support at home by helping your child practice number bonds to ten and twenty (two numbers which add together to make a total e.g. $7 + 3 = 10$ is a number bond to ten) and timetable facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. It would also help your child to talk about maths in everyday situations e.g. whilst shopping thinking about payment and change, looking at timetables for transport consolidating their understanding of time, discussing signs whilst on journeys to highlight the need for understanding direction and measure.

Our topic this term is Marvellous Me so we will be developing our understanding of ourselves, the human body, health and fitness. Topic lessons such as Art, Design & Technology, Science, History and Geography will all be tailored around this topic whilst also learning and developing specific key skills in these topic areas too. RE and Computing will be taught weekly, with PSHE and Music being taught every other week for longer sessions. **Our PE days are on Wednesday and Friday, so please ensure your child has appropriate PE kit for these days and that any earrings are removed. PE will begin from week 2, so this will be 11th September and 13th September.** Miss Lockwood will deliver all PE sessions in her role as Sports Coach.

Homework is a great way for you to support your child, and a letter with all the homework activities will be on the website in the first week. I look forward to seeing your child's work!

The autumn term is an important transition period, particularly as Year 1 children move from a play based curriculum to a more formal classroom environment and Year 2 children start the year which culminates in SATs. In the autumn term there will still be opportunities for children to access continuous provision, with a Doctors' Surgery role play area present in the classroom - this will be mixed with a more formal approach to learning to help them achieve the KS1 expectations and prepare Y2's for SATs.

Effort and behaviour is rewarded through the use of Golden time each week. **Golden time will take place on a Friday afternoon, when children can bring in a toy from home to play with. Due to limited storage in school their toy should fit into their book bag so it can be stored there until the appropriate time. Golden time will start in Week 2: Friday 13th September 2019.** Thanks for your support with this.

As you know, learning is not just about writing or maths, but about creating a rounded, well balanced individual, prepared for the challenges of the world. With your support, I know we will be able to help your child develop into a caring, collaborative and creative learner.

I look forward to working with you all, and celebrating your child's successes along this coming year!

Kind regards,

Miss Mann, Miss Claydon, Mrs Brain & Mrs Thomas. 😊