

CLASS 2 INFORMATION FOR PARENTS 2023-2024

Dear Parents,

It is so nice to welcome the children back to a beautiful new classroom. We have brand new books in the library, new chrome books and ipads... new everything! It will be so lovely for the children to learn in school. Please keep looking at the Class 2 page and subject pages on our school website to find out what we have been learning and come and see us if you have any questions or concerns. We are always here for a quick chat after school or will make time for a meeting.

With best wishes for a fabulous year,
Cathy Paxman, Sorrelle Johnston and Rosie Eaton.

Homework:

The homework we set is always relevant to what we are learning in the classroom. If your child does not understand their homework they should come and ask for help before the day it is due to be handed in. We try really hard to get the balance right with homework and feel it is really important for the children to play, take part in organised activities and learn to be responsible helpers at home too. We have set up logins for various online activities which can be used independently at anytime to support learning in a fun way too. Please allow them time on **Sumdog and TT Rockstars** which track their progress and set suitable questions to help their learning. (Please note that the TT Rockstars subscription is not ready yet.)

Every Friday afternoon the children have 25 minutes of Golden Time dependent upon good behaviour and the completion of homework tasks, including spellings and 3 home comments about their reading. Children can also earn Class Dojos and will receive certificates after 25, 50 and 100 points.

Homework activities will be issued on Mondays to be handed in by the following Monday, (other than the last week of each term - as holidays are very important!)

Y6 - Y6s are very special and often have activities set to help prepare for SATs. We want our Y6s to be happy and healthy and we try hard not to overwhelm them with excessive homework or narrow their curriculum in school. They should have 2 hours of homework a week and therefore if they have tried their best and activities are taking longer, they should stop and play.

Reading homework:

We read daily in Class 2 and will be grateful to volunteers who come and hear readers. By the time children have reached Class 2, they need to spend more time discussing their reading with an adult, rather than just reading the words aloud. Ask the children questions involving their comprehension of and opinions concerning the

text. There is space in the journal for you to comment when you hear your child read during term time. (There are enough pages for each week of term but not the holidays). Those children who read and discuss their reading regularly with a parent at home progress at a much faster rate and we are fortunate that our parents support their children so well. We cannot spend this time with every child individually in school as we wouldn't get any other learning done!

Spellings:

We spend 20 minutes, four times a week learning spelling rules. Spelling tests take place on Fridays and new spellings for the following week's test are glued in to their green homework journals. Children will bring home a 'look, say, cover, write and check' sheet to fill in at home. Please find attached the lists of Y3/4 and Y5/6 statutory spellings to learn and keep revising at home. Please keep revising odd words from old weekly spelling lists too as repetition really helps. The children are encouraged to be independent learners and experiment with learning spellings in different ways in order to help them to decide which methods work best for them.

Maths:

Children find it hard to use analogue clocks these days as we live in a digital world. Please practise telling the time at home as an ongoing skill. Mentally adding and subtracting money and times tables to 12 x 12 can also be practised at home to help reinforce basic skills. Children should know all their tables by end of Spring Term, Y4 and are assessed with an online government required test. Children in Years 5/6 know their tables but still need to keep practising to maintain fluency.

Your child will bring home maths homework activities relating to their learning in the classroom. They will learn more by explaining their thinking and the strategies that they are using. You may wish to give your child some help with reading the instructions.

- If the activity is taking too long, leave it at a suitable point. It is more important that the children have a go than that they struggle on for hours. Half an hour is a suitable amount of time for a homework task.
- Do send back to school any drawings, comments or results which are appropriate to the activity. We shall discuss the homework in class, and what the children have shared at home will inform what we do in the lesson.

P.E.

Children must have their P.E. kits in school every day as we like to take advantage of good weather. Please ensure your child has trainers, a labelled white top and black shorts and warm clothes for colder weather. During the Autumn Term we play netball, football and tag rugby so if your child has their own boots, shin pads and socks, please send them in to school. We do have kit in school so don't buy any unless your child will use them elsewhere!

Topic:

During the second half of the Autumn and Summer Terms, the children are given topic homework. We work towards a project such as our WWII Museum, or the children may be asked to present speeches about a particular subject. Maths and English activities are not given out in addition to topic work other than to Y6 pupils.

Practising Spellings At Home

The children will be given words to learn each Friday which we have been already practising at school during the week. They will be tested the following Friday and will therefore focus on the words for two weeks, (firstly at school, then at home).

We will be learning the Y3/4 and Y5/6 spellings over two years, so that the children repeat the course and focus on the rules and statutory spellings twice. Those children who need to learn the Y2 rules will focus on those first with Mrs Eaton.

The words highlighted in yellow are statutory words which the children are expected to learn, know and use when writing. These are repeated in our spelling scheme. The complete list of these words is attached for additional practise at home.

The words highlighted in pink are extra examples which fit the rule which may be used in school and can be focused upon if children need additional words to learn.

Here are plenty of ideas to make spelling at home more fun!

It is really important that parents and caregivers are involved in helping children to learn spellings. Confidence in spelling allows us to write more freely and imaginatively. Please practise spellings EVERY school night. Here are some games or ideas you could use. Remember we learn by: Doing it, seeing it, saying it, writing/drawing it, listening to it so making sure you have variety of games and tasks is a great way to ensure the learning sticks! Our older children know which strategies work best for them individually.

1. Word Search:

Create your own word searches using spelling words. Or use this link to get your computer to do it for you. <http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/WordSearchSetupForm.asp>

2. Air spelling:

Choose a spelling word. With your index finger write the word in the air slowly, say each letter. Your parent needs to remind you that you need to be able to 'see' the letters you have written in the air. When you have finished writing the word underline it and say the word again. Now get your parents to ask you questions the about the word. For example they could ask 'What is the first letter?' 'What is the last letter?' 'How many letters are there?' etc.

3. Rice Tray Spelling:

Ask your parents pour rice into a shallow box or tray (about 1cm deep) and then practice writing you spellings in it with your finger.

4. Scrabble Spelling:

Find the letters you need to spell you words and then mix them up in the bag. Get your parents to time you unscrambling your letters.

5. **Pyramid Power:**
Sort your words into a list from easiest to hardest. Write the easiest word at the top of the page near the middle. Write the next easiest word twice underneath. Write the third word three times underneath again until you have built your pyramid
6. **Design A Word:**
Pick one word and write it in bubble letters. Colour in each letter in a different pattern.
7. **Sign Your Word:**
Practice spelling your words by signing each letter. <http://www.british-sign.co.uk/bsl-british-sign-language/fingerspelling-alphabet-charts/>
8. **Water wash:**
Use a paintbrush and water to write your words outside on concrete or pavements.
9. **ABC Order:**
Write your words out in alphabetical order. Then write them in reverse alphabetical order.
10. **Story Time:**
Write a short story using all your words. Don't forget to check your punctuation!
11. **Simple Sentence:**
Write a sentence for each of your words.
12. **Colourful Words:**
Use two different coloured pens to write your words. One to write the consonants and one to write the vowels. Do this a couple of times then write the whole word in one colour.
13. **Finger Tracing:**
Use your finger to spell out each of your words on your mum or dad's back. Then it's their turn to write the words on your back for your to feel and spell.
14. **X-Words:**
Find two of your spelling words with the same letter in and write them so they criss-cross.
15. **Ambidextrous:**
Swap your pen into the hand that you don't normally write with. Now try writing out your spellings with that hand.
16. **Look, say, cover, write, check.**
17. **Missing Letters:**
Ask your mum or dad to write out one of your words loads of times on piece of paper, but each time they have to miss out a letter or two. Then you have to fill in the missing letters. After you have checked them all try it again with another word.
18. **Listen Carefully:**
Ask your parents to spell out one of your words then you have to say what the word is they've spelt out.
19. **Catch/skipping:**
Throw a ball against the wall or to a partner and spell out each word as you catch the ball. Say each letter as you skip.

Word list - years 3 and 4... practise at any time!

accident(ally)	February	ordinary
actual(ly)	forward(s)	particular
address	fruit	peculiar
answer	grammar	perhaps
breath	group	popular
breathe	guard	position
build	guide	possess(ion)
busy/business	heard	possible
calendar	heart	potatoes
caught	height	pressure
centre	history	probably
century	imagine	promise
certain	increase	purpose
circle	important	quarter
complete	interest	question
consider	island	recent
continue	knowledge	regular
decide	learn	reign
describe	length	remember
different	library	sentence
difficult	material	separate
disappear	medicine	special
early	mention	straight
earth	minute	strange
eight/eighth	natural	strength
enough	naughty	suppose
exercise	notice	surprise
experience	occasion(ally)	therefore
experiment	often	though/although
extreme	opposite	thought
famous		through
favourite		various
		weight
		woman/women

Word list - years 5 and 6

accommodate	disastrous	parliament
accompany	embarrass	persuade
according	environment	physical
achieve	equip (-ped, -ment)	prejudice
aggressive	especially	privilege
amateur	exaggerate	profession
ancient	excellent	programme
apparent	existence	pronunciation
appreciate	explanation	queue
attached	familiar	recognise
available	foreign	recommend
average	forty	relevant
awkward	frequently	restaurant
bargain	government	rhyme
bruise	guarantee	rhythm
category	harass	sacrifice
cemetery	hindrance	secretary
committee	identity	shoulder
communicate	immediate(ly)	signature
community	individual	sincere(ly)
competition	interfere	soldier
conscience*	interrupt	stomach
conscious*	language	sufficient
controversy	leisure	suggest
convenience	lightning	symbol
correspond	marvellous	system
criticise (critic + ise)	mischievous	temperature
curiosity	muscle	thorough
definite	necessary	twelfth
desperate	neighbour	variety
determined	nuisance	vegetable
develop	occupy	vehicle
dictionary	occur	yacht
	opportunity	

