

Elephant Parent Letter - Term 1 2026

Dear Parents/carers,

A very warm welcome to Year 2!

I am pleased to share with you an overview of what we will be learning this term should you wish to discuss at home as often they did 'nothing' at school. This can also be found on the Elephant Class link on the school website.

English: We will use '*The Bear and the Piano*' as our core text to develop key writing skills. They will learn to write detailed descriptions using nouns, adjectives to bring characters and settings to life. Pupils will practise using subordination and coordination to join ideas and add detail to their sentences. They will also explore story structure, identifying the beginning, middle, and end, before planning and writing their own narratives inspired by the book. We will also review letter formation, and sentence construction, focusing on building vocabulary and effective word choice.

Phonics: Following Little Wandle and reviewing all Phase 5 sounds.

Maths: Our focus will begin with place value. We will start by understanding tens and ones. Practical activities will involve using manipulatives such as dienes and cubes. We will gradually progress to using pictures to represent tens and ones, eventually introducing the concept of numbers such as 23, consisting of two tens and three ones.

To support your child at home, practicing with 1p and 10p coins is beneficial. For example 2 x 10p coins and 3 x 1p coins would represent the number 23. There is also a year 2 white rose handbook which you can purchase to work through as it follows the learning we will be doing in school. '**White Rose Maths Practice Journals Year 2 Workbook**'

Science: This term, we will explore "Living Things: Habitats." The children will investigate which things are alive, have never been alive, or were once alive by examining various life processes. They will match plants and animals to their respective habitats and learn how plants produce their own food for energy.

R.E.: Our R.E. lessons will start with the creation story (Christianity) and the seven days it took for God to create the universe, emphasising the beauty and diversity of our planet Earth.

Geography: Our topic for this term is, "Would you prefer to live in a hot or cold place?" This term, children will learn to identify the seven continents, the equator, and the North and South Poles on a world map. They will explore the differences between the UK and Kenya, investigate weather, and understand the features of hot and cold places by locating countries with different climates.

Art: This term, children will explore maps through art by sorting and drawing maps, then using them as inspiration for creative projects. They will experiment with different materials and techniques, including, stained glass effects with cellophane, and printing from polystyrene tiles. Pupils will make choices about design and composition, evaluate their work, and take part in curating a class gallery to showcase their favourite pieces.

PSHE: Our topic for PSHE is "My Healthy Self: How can we look after our bodies."

PE: PE will be on Monday and Wednesday afternoon. Please ensure all children have the correct PE kit.

Music: Children will be learning the song 'Tony Chestnut'. The lessons will cover beat, rhythm, melody, echo, call-and-response, and use of different instruments. Assessment will be based on progression snapshots of videos of the children.

IT - Technology around us - Learners will develop their understanding of what information technology (IT) is and will begin to identify examples. They will discuss where they have seen IT in school and beyond, in settings such as shops, hospitals, and libraries. Learners will then investigate how IT improves our world, and they will learn about the importance of using IT responsibly.

Reading: Each child will have group reading sessions with a teacher or teaching assistant every week. They will be encouraged to read regularly at home to develop fluency. Regular, short reading sessions, where adults model reading and children re-read sentences, are crucial for progress. Books will be changed on a Friday.
Please try and read with your child every day.

Spellings:

New spellings will be sent home every Friday for children to practise at home. These spellings follow the Little Wandle scheme and will review the previous week's phonics learning. The first set of spellings will be sent home on Friday 11th September, based on the phonics taught during the first week.

Homework:

- Daily reading
- Spellings
- Maths - Numbots
- No formal homework for KS1. Optional activities include, handwriting practice, or online ICT games.

KEY DATES for the diary

Tuesday 8th September - Meet the teacher 3:20 – 4:00

Friday 11th September - Non- uniform day (Flower Show)

Tuesday 17th September – Author Visit

Thursday 24th September - Church for Harvest 9:00 – 10:00

Wednesday 30th September – Scooter Workshop Day

Wednesday 14th October – Year 2 Assembly

Friday 16th October - FOSS Disco

Thursday 22nd October – Last day of term

I am continuously amazed by how much children learn within a term. I look forward to meeting you at the 'meet the teacher' event soon, where we can get to know each other and address any questions you may have.

Kind Regards
Mrs. Kidd