

A warm welcome to Year 2!

I have added our new timetable to Teams Elephant Class folder and I will ask the office to send it out electronically. Our History topic is, 'How was school different in the past?' Pupils will learn to use a timeline and to use sources to compare schools in the past and present.

In Science we will learn about Living Things: Habitats. The children will explore consider which things are alive, have never been alive or were once alive using the life processes. They will match plants and animals to their habitats and learn that plants produce their own food for energy.

In Maths we will start with place value starting with understanding that once we have ten items we swap the ten ones for one ten. We start with lots of practical maths using objects known as manipulatives (sticks for 10, small cubes for 1s) , then move to using pictures to represent the tens and ones and then eventually to develop the abstract idea of 21 being two 10s and one 1s.



If you would like to support your child at home, using 1p and 10p coins is helpful. You can start with adding 1p coins up to 9p (you could roll a dice perhaps), then add one more and swap your ten 1p coins for one 10p coin. Move on to making 11p to 19p as one 10p and some 1p coins, gradually building up to making amounts up to 50p and beyond when your child is ready.

We will be learning about Art this term and exploring mark making. Mark making describes the different lines, dots, marks, patterns, and textures we create in an artwork. The children will be using charcoal, artist pencils and pastels.



Van Gogh used mark making to show movement.

In PSHE we will learn about Families and Relationships.

Music lessons will focus on beat, rhythm, melody, echo, call-and-response, tuned and untuned instruments ending with progression snapshot 1 for assessment.

In English we will revise all phonic sounds, letter formation and forming sentences, and we will be writing in response to different texts. There will be a strong focus on building vocabulary and lots of modelling of writing – the co-construction of texts with the children giving their ideas and searching for more effective, powerful word choices. For example, 'big' could become enormous, huge, gigantic, immense or vast. By the end of the year pupils will write at length with varied sentence openers, a range of joining words (and, but, when, because, if), powerful verb choices, precise noun choices and often similes... sometimes metaphors! The sky is the limit and as I'm sure you are aware, English has long been my subject of special interest and I look forward to inviting you in to see the children's writing in due course.

Reading will be individual in Term 1 with each child reading with the Teacher or Teaching Assistants once a week. I hear 5 to 6 children read each day and your child will have his or her books changed on that day. Your child will be practising reading in many other lessons so there are many additional opportunities for reading to be taught and practised. It is vital for reading development and fluency however, that children practise reading by reading aloud to an adult at home as often as possible. Regular short sessions where reading is practised with support, and automatic sounding out of new words, is key to rapid progress. Each book should be re-read to develop fluency and I recommend that the adult models reading a sentence or two fluently at the end of the session, then the child re-reads the same sentence back to the adult.

R.E. begins with the creation story and the story of the seven days it took for God to create the universe and our wonderful world, planet Earth, filled with plants, creatures and the creation of the first human beings.

Rules and routines:

P.E. – 1. Wednesday Premier Sports

2. Daily mile run or Activate exercises in the classroom.

Spellings – Test on Tuesday

New spellings sent home on Wednesday

**Homework** – Daily reading practice at home

Spelling practice

There is no formal homework for KS1. However, if you wish to complete work at home, try the teaching tips above for Maths, or handwriting practice or ICT Games online which has lots of English and Maths games. [ictgames](#) | [Place Value Teaching Resources](#) | [Tell a T-Rex, \(Silly Questions\) - mobile friendly \(ictgames.com\)](#)

**Routines** – reading for pleasure everyday after lunch or reading with an adult

Teacher reading whole class text x4 daily before bedtime or where this fits in in the day.

Quiet entry to classroom, greeting from teaching staff, then morning work - this will be Spelling Bee once I have tested spellings of high frequency words but will change to meet the class' needs and may be Maths work, vocabulary building or handwriting as the year progresses.

Pupils must tell the teacher when they see a parent/carer for collection at the end of the day before going outside the school gate.

I find myself thinking isn't it extraordinary what a very great deal of information children learn in one term! I am always amazed at just how much they can learn between the ages of 6 and 7 and I really look forward to helping each child make progress. I look forward to meeting you all at the Parents' Meeting soon where we can get to know each other and you can ask any questions you have at the ready!

Mrs Delorie