

Welcome to Class 2!

I hope you all had a lovely relaxing summer holiday and are refreshed ready to start again this term. I am looking forward to teaching your child's class and hope that we all have an enjoyable, yet hard working year! In this letter I will give you a brief overview of what we will be covering this term and other information about the day to day running of Class 2 that I feel will help you to guide your child smoothly through the year ahead. If you have any questions or anything you wish to discuss with me, please feel free to approach me on the playground at the end of the day or arrange a time to pop in and see me.

Phonics

Phonics will continue very similarly to how it did last year. The children will be told their phonics groups this week and will receive a daily phonics lesson, to help improve both their reading, spelling and writing. Spellings for the year will correspond with the sounds that your child has been learning in phonic sessions, so don't worry if your child has different spellings to somebody else in the class.

Literacy

In Literacy we will be following the National Curriculum, which covers a wide range of topics and genres for the children to learn about. This term will be looking at a range of fiction and non-fiction texts through the areas of stories with familiar settings and organising and writing instructions. Our Literacy lessons will involve lots of speaking and listening opportunities as well as reading and writing practice daily. The new national curriculum puts a much bigger emphasis on Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, so practising writing sentences, for example with words from their spelling lists, using correct punctuation and in neat joined handwriting (another key focus) will really help your child's progress this year. I will be sending home a list of all the words children in KS1 are expected to know, please practise these with your children so they are able to use them regularly and confidently in their writing.

Numeracy

Numeracy lessons will also be developed from the National Curriculum. This allows the children to explore maths through many different approaches, including investigation and problem solving, supporting the wide variety of learning styles in our class.

This term your child will be learning:

Number and Place Value.

Addition and Subtraction.

Multiplication and Division.

Measurement.

Geometry.

Afternoon lessons

RE	What's different when you believe in God?
ICT	Typing and basic computer skills
Science	Living things
Humanities (1 st ½ term)	Our local area
Humanities (2 nd ½ term)	The Great Fire of London
Art (1 st ½ term)	Picture this
DT (2 nd ½ term)	Eat Fruit and Vegetables!
PE	Gymnastics and Hockey

Guided Reading

Guided reading this year will take place predominately on a Monday. This will be an opportunity for children to exchange their weekly 'home' reading books. Every time your child reads to an adult it is important that this is recorded in their yellow reading records. If your child has read more than 3 times in a 7 day period they will receive a reward. **If your child is reading more than their 4 books in a week it is their responsibility to change the home reading books more frequently, they do not have to wait till Monday.**

P.E.

PE lessons this year will take place on **Wednesday** mornings and **Thursday** afternoons. Please ensure that your child has their correct P.E. kit in school for these days. Curzon does not accept any sick notes for children to be absent from PE lessons as we attempt to involve each child in some form of exercise to maintain a healthy school life.

Homework

Maths and Spelling Homework will be given every Monday and is to be returned by the following Monday. Homework this year will include spellings, a short numeracy activity on Mathletics and Bug Books, which focus on your child's comprehension skills. Children will have two weeks to complete Bug Books so these will be given on a **Tuesday** and expected to be returned on the **Monday** 2 weeks later. Spellings will go home in a spelling book where children **must** 'look cover write check' 3 times to practise throughout the week as well as right their spellings into sentences each week. Children should spend around 15 minutes writing their sentences and should practise their spellings on separate occasions, either in their book or on spellodrome. Spelling books must be returned to school every Monday for homework to be marked and for the children to complete their weekly spelling test.

If homework is not completed, children will miss their golden time on Tuesday afternoon to do so.

Mathletics & Spellodrome link: <http://uk.mathletics.com/signin/>

Reading Eggs link: <http://readingeggs.co.uk/login/>

Reading Helpers needed please

If there any parents who have any spare time to come in and hear children read I would greatly appreciate any offers as the children benefit significantly from reading aloud to an adult on a 1 to 1 basis. Please just let me know if you are available, anything from 15 minutes to an hour will be of great help!

Our Class Mascot

Our class mascot (who the children are yet to name!) is an incentive to encourage children's passion for writing and want to do homework. This year it will be a toy cat that will come home with a different child every week to spend the weekend with your family. Your child is then expected to write and draw/photograph what they have been done with the cat during the weekend in their own special diary. It will go home on a **Friday** and needs to come back to school with the diary on **Monday**.

Stationary

In Class 2, due to the nature of their work and the speed in which they use resources, children predominately share stationery. This means that as a class, rather than pencil cases, we really appreciate donations from parents, for example extra glue sticks, whiteboard pens or rubbers so if you happen to see any going cheap in the supermarkets or have any spare at home please send them in with your child at any point throughout the year. We will be asking children for any stationery they have brought in during the few first weeks and collating this together into a shared resource for the class.

Miss Neale, Class 2.