

## Welcome to Class 2!

I hope you all had a lovely relaxing summer holiday and are now getting back into the swing of things this term. I am looking forward to teaching your child's class for 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 there is anything you wish to discuss, 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 last year. The children will receive a daily phonics lesson to help improve 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. This term we will be looking at a variety 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 daily reading and writing practice. The current National Curriculum puts a much greater 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.

### **Maths**

Maths lessons will also be developed from the National Curriculum. This allows the children to explore maths and deepen their understanding through many different approaches, including investigation and problem solving, and supports 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	Who made the world?
ICT	Typing and basic computer skills
Science	Living things and their habitats
Humanities (1 <sup>st</sup> ½ term)	Britain and the United Kingdom
Humanities (2 <sup>nd</sup> ½ term)	The Great Fire of London
Art (1 <sup>st</sup> ½ term)	Colours
DT (2 <sup>nd</sup> ½ term)	Investigating Materials
PE	Invasion Games and Multi-skills

### **Reading**

Guided reading this year will take place predominately on a Friday where children will discuss a range of different stories and information texts in small groups. 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. We believe that reading at all ages is very important, however it is vital that during Key Stage 1 children have daily opportunities to read and use their new phonics skills. Although we encourage children to read each school night, if your child has read more than 3 times in a 7 day period, they will receive a reward. If children are not reading at least 3 times a week at home, they will need to catch up on a Friday playtime. When your child has completed their book, please indicate this in their yellow reading record and then they will be guided to choose a new book that interests them and is appropriate for their current reading level.

### **P.E.**

PE lessons this year will take place on **Wednesday** afternoon and **Friday** 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 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 writing 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 would be of great help!

### **Stationery**

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, rather than pencil cases, we really appreciate donations from parents for all the children to use, 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.

Thank you for all your support with your child's learning. I look forward to working in partnership with you this year.

Mr Owen, Class 2.