

Welcome to Class 2!

I hope you all had a lovely relaxing summer holiday and are refreshed ready to start the new school year. I am excited to have joined Curzon School and 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 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 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. Our Literacy lessons will involve lots of speaking and listening opportunities as well as reading and writing practice daily. This term will be looking at a range of different fiction and non-fiction texts with a focus on the use of spelling, punctuation and grammar which will also have a link to our lessons in humanities. We will be practising writing sentences, for example with words from the spelling lists, using correct punctuation and in neat joined handwriting (another key focus) which in turn will really help your child's progress this year.

Maths

Maths 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.

Measurement: Money.

Multiplication and Division.

Other Curriculum Areas:

RE	What makes our world so special?
ICT	Typing and basic computer skills
Science (1 st ½ term)	Animals including humans
Science (2 nd ½ term)	Seasonal changes
Humanities (1 st ½ term)	George Stephenson and vehicles
Humanities (2 nd ½ term)	The local area and safety
Art (1 st ½ term)	Colours
DT (2 nd ½ term)	Investigating materials
PE	Invasion games and multi-skills

Reading

The children will have the opportunity to exchange their weekly 'home' reading books every Monday. Every time your child reads to an adult it is important that this is recorded in their orange reading records. We believe, 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 house point.** If children are not reading at least 3 times a week at home, they may need to catch up on a Friday playtime. When your child has completed their book, then please indicate this in their orange reading record and then they will be guided to choose a new book that interests them and is appropriate for their current reading level.

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!

PE

PE lessons this year will take place on Wednesday afternoon and Friday afternoons. Please ensure that your child has their correct PE 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 Monday 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. 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 may miss their golden time on Friday mornings to do so.

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

Reading Eggs link: <https://app.readingeggs.com/login>

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 as a class, 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 the kind donations we have already received.

Thank you for all of your support this term and I look forward to working in partnership with you,

Miss Croft, Class 2.

This is the recommended reading list for children in Year 2:

Alien Alby by Kaye Umansky
All Join in by Quentin Blake
Amelia Jane series by Enid Blyton
Arise, Our Rita by Hilda Offen
Baggy Brown by Mick Inkpen
Berenstain Bears by Stan Berenstain
Blossom's Revenge by Adel Geras
Cat Tales by Linda Newbery
Charlie and the Cat flap by Hilary McKay
Cup Run by Martin Waddell
Diary of a Killer Cat by Anne fine
Dilly the Dinosaur by Tony Bradman
Dinosaur Cove by Rex Stone
Dog's New Coat by Margaret Nash
Doughnut Danger by Anthony Masters
Dr Seuss books
Eat Your Peas by Kes Gray
Edwardo, the Horriblest Boy in the World by John Burningham
Eric and the Pimple Potion by Barbara Mitchelhill
Explorer Trauma by Sue Mongredian
Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl
Fat Lawrence by Dick King-Smith
Fergus, the Farmyard Dog by Tony Maddox
Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown
Flora McQuack by Penny Dolan
Fungus the Bogeyman by Raymond Briggs
Funnybones by Allan Ahlberg
Gobbolino, the Witch's Cat by Ursula Moray Williams
Gorilla by Anthony Browne
Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne
Happy Families Series by Allan Ahlberg
Hopscotch Fairy tales
Horrid Henry series by Francesca Simon
How to Teach a Dragon Manners by Hilary Robinson
I Love You Blue Kangaroo, by Emma Chichester Clarke
Just a bit of Wind by Jeremy Strong
Legend of Spud Murphy by Eoin Colfer
Little Wolf's Book of Badness by Ian Whybrow
Littlest Dragon series by Margaret Ryan
Magic Lemonade by Joyce Dunbar
Marvin Redpost by Louis Sachar
Marvin's Funny Dance by Sarah McConnell
Matty Mouse by Jenny Nimmo
Measuring Angels by Polly Dunbar
Mr Majeika by Humphrey Carpenter
Muddlepuddle Farm series by Michael Morpurgo
My Naughty Little Sister by Dorothy Edwards
My Unwilling Witch series by Hiawyn Oram
Ogre Outrage by Shoo Rayner
Oliver's Milk Shake by Vivien French
One Smart Fish by Chris Wormell

Pirate Patch or Titchy Witch series by Rose Impey
Poppy & Max series by Susan Grindley
Rainbow Magic series by Daisy Meadows

Rascal in Danger by Paul Jennings
Recycled by Jillian Powell
Robot Dog by Mark Oliver
Rumply Crumply Stinky Pin Anholt, Laurence
Septimouse, Big Cheese! by Ann Jungman
Sir Otto by Mick Gowar
Smelly Bill's Wiffy Weekend by Daniel Postgate
Stickie Vicky by Enid Richemont
Story of Bear by Hilary McKay
The Boy Who Climbed to the Moon by David Almond
The Cow That Laid an Egg by Andy Cutbill
The Dumb Bunnies by Dav Pilkey
The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson
The Magic Backpack by Julia Jarman
The Man whose Mother was a Pirate by Margaret Mahy
The Naughty Fairy series by Nick Ward
The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson
The Rabbit Problem by Emily Gravett
The Witch's Dog series by Frank Rodgers
This Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown by Cressida Cowell
Three by the Sea by Mini Grey
Tommy Niner and the Moon of Doom, by Tony Bradman
Traction Man is here! by Minnie Gray
Trixie the Witch's Cat by Nick Butterworth
We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen
Wicked Catch by Rob Childs
Winnie the Witch series by Valerie Thomas

Tadpoles & Leapfrog series both provide a range of titles with appealing stories and illustrations. Most of the above authors produce a wealth of titles and series for this age group.