



Y2 Foxes Class Newsletter Term 1

Hello and welcome to Year 2!

I hope you have all enjoyed a fantastic summer and were able to take advantage of the limited amount of British sunshine we have had! Hopefully everyone is feeling refreshed and ready for a brand new year.

I hope that I will get to see many of you next week during our 'Meet the Teacher' session. I really appreciate you taking the time to attend but if you are unable to be there and would like to introduce yourself, please do come and say hello at some point.

The high expectations we promote across the whole school is always a key focus in the classroom with the main aim to nurture, encourage and push the children to achieve the best they can during their time with us. We are really looking forward to working with you and your children, taking on the challenges ahead and seeing the children succeed and develop as the year goes on.

If there is any support I can offer throughout the year, please do not hesitate to ask or get in touch. I'm here to help your children in every way that I can, so please feel free to come and speak to me briefly before school or after school - if you need more time, please let me know and we can arrange a meeting. Alternatively, you can email me at daniel.warner@bad.kent.sch.uk.

We look forward to working with you all this year and hope it is a positive, rewarding and memorable year!

Mr Warner (Miss Jordan & Mrs Coles)

Key Dates



- Tuesday 17th September** - Year 2's Meet the Teacher
- Monday 23rd September** - Individual/Family School Photos
- Friday 27th September** - BUB Fruit Run
- Tuesday 22nd - Thursday 24th October** - Parent Consultations (3.30pm-6pm)
- Thursday 24th October** - Last day of Term 1
- Friday 25th October** - Staff Development Day
- Monday 4th November** - Staff Development Day
- Tuesday 5th November** - Start of Term 2



Topics Overview

English - We will start the term with some non-fiction work all about foxes, giving the children the opportunity to produce some early writing. We will then focus on stories with familiar settings and themes, such as 'The Tiger who came to Tea', 'Dogger' and 'Peace at Last'. The children will listen to stories, retell them in their own words, explore narratives through role play and drama and engage in a range of fictional writing for different purposes. Within the literacy curriculum, we will teach daily phonics to support reading and I will hear your child read at least once a week through daily guided reading sessions. We will also practise spellings and maintain a focus on spelling, punctuation, grammar and handwriting within English lessons.

Maths - This term will revolve mainly around aspects of number, including place value; partitioning; counting, reading and writing numbers; comparing and ordering numbers; addition; subtraction and calculations involving money. We will encourage the children to practise and secure their two and ten times tables, and we will have regular informal arithmetic tests/sessions to support the children's ongoing learning.

Science - We will be looking at a wide variety of topics this term including; work on common plants; deciduous and evergreen trees; animal groups; light and sound; and materials.

R.E - This term, we will be completing a unit of work focussed on Methodism within Christianity. This is an important topic in our school, as we are a Methodist school, and the work will consider who Methodists are and what they believe in. The children will learn about John Wesley and the beginning of Methodism, and they will consider the core values at the heart of Methodism, exploring how they apply to our own lives. The nature of the RE curriculum allows the children many opportunities to ask questions, engage in discussions and reflect on their own beliefs in relation to religion.

P.E - This term the children will have PE on a **Monday** and **Wednesday**. The sessions will be focused on rugby, multi-skills and wake and shake. Please ensure that your child has a named PE Kit in school every day. Please also ensure that any long hair is tied back and earrings are removed for your children's safety.

Computing - The children will have a go at using the iPads and Chromebooks to develop some very basic independent skills, such as logging on, navigating around Google Classroom by themselves, and using various tools for completing tasks on the computer. This will be followed by a focus on photography and how to create and manipulate digital content. The children will also have lessons on aspects of online safety.

Art/D.T. - This term we will make links with our work in history. The children will explore vehicles and mechanisms in order to design, make and evaluate their own fire engines that could have been used at the Great Fire of London. We will also produce artwork around the same theme.

History/Geography - Our topic this term is 'The Great Fire of London'. The children will learn about how this significant event in history began and how the fire spread, as well as finding out about Samuel Pepys and his famous diary. There will be many opportunities for cross-curricular writing, as well as making links with our art and DT.

PSHE - This term our topic is 'What makes a good friend?' and explores ideas about friendship, kindness and overcoming disagreements between friends. We will use some lovely stories as a way of initiating discussions around these themes, and make relevant links to the children's own experiences.

Music - The children will learn, practise and perform simple rhymes and songs in large and small groups. We will explore elements of music such as rhythm and tempo when singing, and work together to write new verses for simple songs. We will make links with our work on the Great Fire of London by learning to play 'London's Burning' and 'London Bridge is falling down' on the glockenspiel, giving a basic introduction to playing a tuned instrument



Home Learning

Home learning this year will continue to be focused on developing key skills that are both manageable at home and important in supporting children's progress - mainly reading, spellings and arithmetic (number bonds and times tables).

Home learning tasks will be:

Spellings

Your child will bring home a list of 5-10 spellings every **Thursday** to learn, which will be tested the following **Tuesday**. They can practise these spellings in whichever way works best for them. The words they are given should generally be familiar, as they will link to the work completed during spelling/phonics sessions.

Times tables

The expectation for Year Two pupils is that by the end of the year they will confidently recall the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables. Working on these times tables at home (starting with the 2s) will greatly support their maths in school. Tasks will be set on Maths Shed on a **Thursday** and should be completed by **Tuesday**. In the early tasks, the children will focus on improving their recall speed of the number bonds to 10 and 20.

Some other useful websites for maths:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

Reading

I really cannot over-emphasise the importance of daily reading practice for children at home. Please try to read with your child regularly each week and, if possible, make a comment in their reading record book when you have listened to them read. Some key areas they should be developing when reading are greater fluency when reading aloud, accurate comprehension when discussing the book and expression. We will be changing reading books on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** and we will encourage the children to develop independence in handing their books in for changing on these days. If your child finishes their book before the next changing day, please encourage them to read anything else at home, or alternatively have a look for books that match their colour band on the Oxford Owl e-book library, using the link below:

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

Additional tasks

Any children wishing to do some additional work at home are always more than welcome to. Research around our history topic 'The Great Fire of London' would also support their learning at school. Additional work of this kind will always be praised and celebrated in class for the effort and enthusiasm shown.

Thank you in advance for your support with all aspects of the home learning - it is always really appreciated.

Please Help - In order to complete our fire engines project later this term, every child will need a shoebox. Please can I ask that your child brings one in over the next couple of weeks if possible. If anyone has additional spare shoeboxes, these would be hugely appreciated. Thank you so much in advance!