



Dear Parents and Carers,

Neptune Learning Letter Autumn 2024

Welcome to Year 2! We hope you have had a lovely summer break. The children are settling well into class and we have enjoyed hearing all about their holiday adventures.

Mrs Walton teaches Mondays and Tuesdays and Miss James teaches Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Please feel free to message either of us on our respective days if you have anything to let us know. Please do share with us anything your child achieves out of school as we enjoy learning about their hobbies and interests as well! Mrs Mac is our teaching assistant each morning, as well as on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoon until 2.30pm and Miss Smith helps us on the other afternoons.

Drop off and collection

We would very much appreciate you dropping your child off outside the cloakroom as it is a tight squeeze with 30 children! Thank you so much for your patience last week in the rain at the end of each day as we became familiar with your faces. 😊

Please note that we ask that you send a message *via the school office* if there is a last minute change to who is collecting your child on a particular day, due to traffic or unexpected circumstances. We will not release children to other parents or to unfamiliar people, without the express permission of the child's parent via the office

Routines

Please ensure your child has their book bag in school every day. The children have all been listened to read and they will read both individually and in a group over the course of a week. Most children will read their book at least twice to help build fluency. In year 2 we start reading comprehension by learning to 'retrieve' answers from the text and to make predictions about it. When you listen to your child read, please ask simple questions about characters and what is happening or might

happen. If they are reluctant to read, please try 'paired reading' (see below for details) as this doesn't feel so daunting or tiring! There will be rewards for children who regularly read at home.

Spelling and reading targets will be sent out soon, following on from the lists in year 1. We recommend using spelling apps such as 'Hairy Letters', 'Squeebles' and 'Spelling Shed'. Children have a small yellow book in their reading folders to practise in.

Curriculum

Year 2 is a very busy year for the children and can feel like a big step up for them. There is general information about what to expect in year 2 [here](#).

In maths, we will spend most of the first term looking at place value and learning about the value of different numbers using the vocabulary 'tens' and 'ones' finding different ways to partition, compare and order these numbers, in readiness to add and subtract.

In English, we will be exploring a text called 'A River' by Marc Martin, which is about a little boy called Tom whose imagination takes him all around the world in a boat. We have a role play area in class linked to the story, with a boat, binoculars and a monkey called Martin, which the children already love! This story links to our geography this term, which focuses on the UK, its surrounding seas and oceans of the world.

Our Science is exploring the uses of everyday materials, considering the properties of different materials and how their properties make them suitable for different purposes. Later in the term we will use junk materials to make our own boats for a river journey like Tom, the character in our story (and hope that they stay afloat!)

In Art, the children have already been introduced to a new artist, Yayoi Kusama, whose signature style is painting, sculpture and fashion design using polka dots. We will be exploring her art and installations and imitating her style using paint and clay. If you have an old shirt your child could use as a messy cover-up, we would be very grateful.

Our PE days this term will be on a Monday and Wednesday. Sometimes we may go outside if the weather allows so please ensure they have appropriate clothing for cooler weather. Our units are 'fundamentals' and 'dance' this term.

We hope the children will have a lovely first term in year 2, as we establish our rules and routines. Please do let us know if you have any questions, queries or concerns.

Yours sincerely

Miss James and Mrs Walton

