

Willow Class
**Welcome to
Year 2**

with

Mrs Clark – Class teacher,
Mrs Harris – full time teaching assistant
Miss Shiner – Tuesday and Friday
afternoons

Year 2 is a year full of new challenges and this year we have some great topics to inspire and motivate the children to achieve and exceed the expected outcomes by the end of the year.

Our first topic is called 'Hooray for heroes!' In this topic we will be learning all about ourselves and other animals. We will be learning about healthy lifestyles and the role of medical professionals. We will learn about heroes from the past including Florence Nightingale. In the Spring term our topic is 'The Little Wooden Horse' which will be all about toys and games, past and present.

In the Summer term we will find our way into 'The Secret Garden' and learn all about plant and animal habitats.

Please see the separate topic plans for more details of what the children will be learning.

What to expect in Year 2

Arriving at school and the morning routine

In Year 2 we expect the children to show independence by coming into school on their own, organising and looking after their belongings.

When the bell rings at 8.50am the children will be greeted at the door and they will be expected to take their reading book and reading diary out of their book bag, put it away in their personal drawer and then put their book bag in the correct book box (labelled *Year 2*). Their water bottle needs to go in the water bottle tray. Next they will hang up any coats on their peg and sit down at their reading group table.

It is important that the children arrive on time to register as we will be starting guided reading at 9am.

Mrs Clark will be outside the classroom at 8.45am so if you have any messages that you wish to pass on do so then rather than after the bell has been rung. If you wish to discuss something in greater depth please make an appointment at the office, contact Mrs Clark by email or see Mrs Clark after the children have been dismissed at the end of the day.

Lunches

It is really important that the children know what they are having for lunch each day; packed lunch, school dinner or the option of a baked potato with cheese/beans/tuna. Please discuss this with your child.

Uniform and other items

Please ensure **all uniform** (including, coats, shoes and wellies) plus water bottles and book bags, is labelled clearly with your child's name.

Please check that your child has all the required PE kit – green T-shirt with school logo, navy shorts, navy school hooded sweatshirt, optional navy track suit trousers for cold weather, trainers/plimsolls, a pair of socks.

P.E bags can be left in school and will be sent home each half term unless they get particularly muddy or soaking wet.

Wellies should be named and left in school too.



Reading

In Year 2 the children will choose a reading book appropriate to their ability. This might be a reading scheme book, a picture book from the book corner or a chapter book that they will bring home. At Christopher Reeves we do not have one set reading scheme to follow; we use a variety of books from a range of

schemes and non-scheme books. We will help your child to choose a book appropriate to their reading ability. They can change their book whenever they have finished reading it but we ask that you record this in their reading diary and write a short comment.

In Year 2 each child reads at least once a week to an adult.

How you can support your child's reading at home

- Please hear your child read as often as possible.
- Record a short comment in their reading diary.
- Read to your child daily; a variety of stories as well as non-fiction.
- Read the list of 'tricky' words often (they must be able to spell these by the end of Year 2) so that the children are really familiar with them and this will help their spelling.

Reading Raffle

Each time your child has read at home and you have recorded this/ signed their reading diary, they can enter their name into the *Reading Raffle* box. The raffle will be drawn every week and some lucky people be rewarded with stars.

Library

The children can choose a book from the library to take home. Our library day is **Friday**.



Writing

The children will continue to practise correct letter formation and how to correctly join their letters. To reach the expected level for writing by the end of Year 2 the children need to have correctly formed, regular sized letters.

Spelling

In Year 2 the children will take home a list of spellings to learn. These will be tested every **Thursday**. Please make sure they have their spelling book in school every Thursday.

With this information sheet you will also find a list of common exception words that all Year 2 children are expected to be able to spell by the end of the year.

Maths

We aim to make maths as fun and as practical as possible. The National Curriculum is challenging so we appreciate your support in reinforcing and practising concepts at home.

Areas you can practise at home are:

- Telling the time
- Using money – adding, finding change.
- Naming and describing 2d and 3d shapes – sides, edges, vertices, faces, right angles.
- Counting up to 100 and beyond
- Writing numbers to 100 and beyond in words and figures.
- Counting in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s
- Reciting times tables – expected to know 2s, 3s, 5s, 10s by end of Year 2
- Measure height. Use scales to weigh cooking ingredients. Discuss different units of measure e.g. centimetres, millimetres, grams, litres.



Homework

Lots of parents ask us how they can help their child at home and with this in mind we now use some published materials which will help you to do this.

As the National Curriculum expectations for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) are high we would like to suggest homework which reinforces concepts taught during grammar lessons. We follow the Schofield and Sims scheme and give you the option to support your child's learning by purchasing the grammar workbook from school. The children will be given a specific page to complete at home which will reinforce and practise skills taught during the lesson at school.

Creative Tasks

Each term a list of different creative activities or projects, relating to our topic, will be put on the school website, for the children to choose from. These can be presented in any way you like. If you want to email photos or video clips of your child's work send them to Mrs Clark at the email address below.

Reading

Please read regularly with your child – 10 minutes each school night is ideal.

Spelling

Practise weekly spellings

Times tables

Recite 2s, 3s, 5s, 10s

What does a typical day in Willow Class look like?

The mornings usually follow the same timetable of maths and English activities. The afternoon sessions vary from day to day and half term to half term. We take on a termly topic so our science, history or geography, design technology, art and music usually relate to the topic. Other subject areas including computing, R.E, Personal Social, Health, Emotional and Citizenship education (PSHE&C) and P.E. are taught every week as discrete subjects.

All sessions include focused, adult-led tasks and independent tasks.

Here is an example of a day in Willow Class:

8.50am – Bell rings. Registration

9.00am – Guided Reading

9.25am – English

10.25am – Collective Worship

10.40am – Playtime

10.55am - Maths

11.55am – phonics, story/ poetry time

12.15 – 1.15pm - Lunchtime

1.15pm – Topic lesson (which might be history, geography, art or DT based).

2.25pm – Playtime

2.35pm – Music /RE / PSHE

3.15pm - story

3.30pm – Hometime



I hope this information is useful. Please ask if you are unsure of anything. You are welcome to contact me by email anytime. Please be aware that I generally only check my emails in the evening so if it is an urgent matter please contact the office.

nclark@crls.org.uk

Year 2 common exception words

The children are expected to be able to spell these by the end of the year.

door	climb	after	improve
floor	most	last	sure
poor	only	fast	sugar
because	both	past	eye
find	old	father	could
mind	cold	class	should
kind	hold	grass	would
behind	told	pass	who
child	gold	plant	whole
children	every	path	any
wild	everybody	bath	many
even	steak	hour	clothes
great	pretty	move	busy
break	beautiful	prove	people
water	again	half	money
Mr	Mrs	parents	Christmas

All other end of year expectations can be found on the school website.