**Willow Class**

**Welcome to Year 2**

with

Mrs Clark – Class teacher

Mrs Harris – full time teaching assistant

Year 2 is full of new challenges and 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 famous people, past and present, who are celebrated for doing something special. We will be learning about the food we eat and how to keep fit and healthy. In the Spring term our topic is called ‘The Toymaker’. We will be finding out about toys played with in the past by our parents and grandparents. In the Summer term we will be discovering ‘The Secret Garden’ where we will learn all about plants and animals living in our local area and school grounds.

Detailed termly topic plans will be put on Willow class page of the school website.

**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 gates open at 8.40am, the children will be greeted at the classroom 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 table ready to start their Early bird tasks.

Mrs Clark will be at the classroom door at 8.45am so if you have any messages that you wish to pass on, do so then. 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.

**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.

![C:\Users\nclark\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\NGKS3G84\children_pic3[1].gif]()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. Hearing your child read for 10 minutes or more each school night is expected at Year 2.
* 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. Print them out and put them on the fridge or cut up a cereal box and make flashcards.

**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**

![C:\Users\nclark\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\L0GB7VX3\children-cartoon-abc-alphabet-illustration-39149829[1].jpg]()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. The list can also be found on the Willow Class page of the website and on ***Google Classroom***.

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.
* **![C:\Users\nclark\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\6Y392OJV\scaterpillar-numbers[1].gif]()**Naming and describing 2-D and 3-D shape; practise shape vocabulary - 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**

Weekly homework tasks will be sent home on a Friday or set on ***Google Classroom.***

**Creative Homework 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.

**Spelling**

Practise weekly spellings

**Times tables**

Recite2s, 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:

8.45am – Gate opens. Registration/ Quick maths

9.00am – Guided Reading

9.25am – English

10.25am – Collective Worship

**10.40am – Playtime**

11am - Maths

**12.00 – 1pm – Lunchtime**

1.05pm – phonics & spelling

1.00pm – Topic lesson (which might be history, geography, art or DT based).

**2.30pm – Playtime**

2.40pm – Music /RE / PSHE

3.15pm - story

**3.30pm – Hometime**

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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.