

# Welcome to Class 2



**Class Teacher:** Miss Johnson    **Teaching Assistants:** Mr Smith-Hughes and Mrs Pickstock

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello and welcome back to a new school year! I hope you all had a lovely summer, it has been wonderful having all of the children back in class together again as Year 2's over the last week. They have all settled in so well and have been working hard, rising to the challenge of being in Class 2 and the oldest in the Infants!

In this letter, you will find some useful information about Class 2 and what to expect throughout this school year. Hopefully I will cover most things in the letter, however, if you do have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to get in touch via phone or the admin email where messages can be forwarded to me or just grab me at the end of the school day!



## THE CURRICULUM

Throughout the year we will be covering three key areas of History and three areas of Geography. Our learning and the texts we focus on in our English sessions will also link to these areas of History and Geography. Please see below...

Autumn 1 - The Moon Landing (History Focus)

Autumn 2- Continents and Oceans (Geography Focus)

Spring 1- Scott of the Antarctic (History Focus)

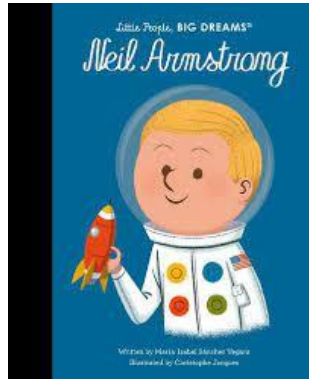
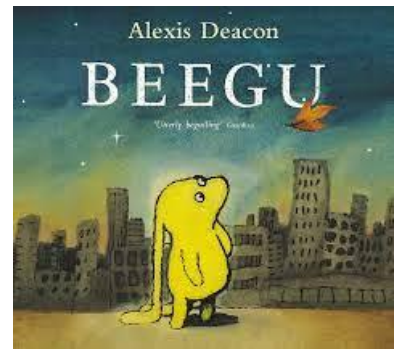
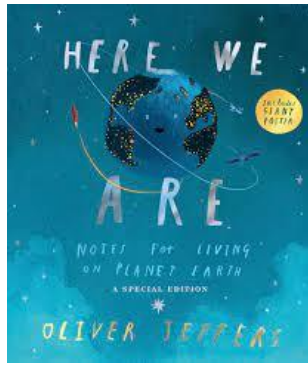
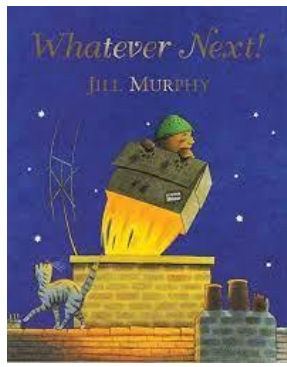
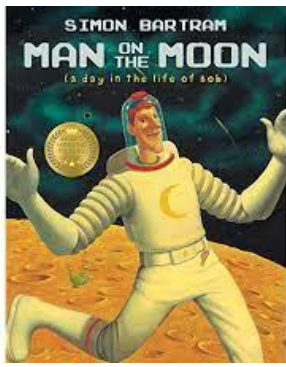
Spring 2- Hot and Cold Places (Geography Focus)

Summer 1- Local History- Our High Street (History Focus)

Summer 2- Mugumareno- Zambia (Geography Focus)

More detailed information about each half term will be sent out at the start of each new half term. Please see below for details about Autumn Term 1.

English - Stories on a Theme- The children will be reading a range of fiction texts with a theme of 'moon landing' and 'space adventure'. They will then write their own moon landing stories. The texts we will be focussing on are;



Mathematics- Place Value - The children will be learning about place value of ones and tens. Following this we will then move onto Addition and Subtraction where the children will use a variety of methods to add and subtract using tens and ones.

Science- Our bodies and keeping healthy

Art- Explore and Draw- The children will become art collectors and discover how they can use what they find in nature to inspire their own artwork. They will be looking closely at the work of Andy Goldsworthy.

R.E- Beginnings - The children will think about new beginnings and learn about Baptism as a new beginning in the church family.



### SCHOOL PLANNERS!

In the same way as last year, each child in school will have a planner. This will act as a home reading record; a diary of dates and other important events; a communication book for home and school and will also contain key information for parents and children about homework, school routines etc. We are very keen that the children get into good habits with their planners right from the start and with this in mind, we are asking parents to ensure that they come into school every day in book bags.

Please sign and comment in the planners to provide updates on the children's reading at home. Let us know how the children have read, whether they enjoyed the book and when the book is completed.

In school, staff will sign against each parent comment. The planners should be a great way for you to share information with us and likewise for school to send messages home. We really hope that this is the case and that everyone feels the benefit. Please also be sure to complete the permissions page and signatures page within the planners as soon as possible. Thank you.



## **HOMEWORK**

Homework will be given each week on a Tuesday. The homework will consist of a set of 'Words of the week', spellings to learn and also a mathematics based task. In the front of the homework books you will find a spelling menu. The children may use this to choose the activity they would like to complete to practise their words each week. The children must complete this part of their homework in their homework books and return it to school on a Monday morning, this will allow for the homework to then be marked ready for new homework to be given out the next day on the Tuesday.



## **SPELLINGS**

Your child will receive 'words of the week' to practise each week, these will be a mixture of our phonics focus words and also common exception words. The children will then have a week to complete a spelling menu task of their choice using these words and learn them for the spelling test the following week. We will complete the spelling test in the children's planners so that you are able to see how they do at home.



## **PHONICS**

In Year 2 we will still be doing a daily phonics lesson as the children did in Year 1. Over the next few months, leading up to December, we will be focussing on Phase 5 phonics, we will be thoroughly embedding all of the alternative spelling patterns. Following this, the children will be starting Phase 6 after Christmas.



## **JOINED HANDWRITING**

In Year 2, the children will begin to be taught how to join their handwriting. To begin with, the children will still be using a printed style, however, after Christmas, we will begin our joined writing sessions where we will learn and practise all of the different joins.



## **HOME READING**

Your child will take part in guided reading sessions in school, however, the children's home reading is vitally important in their reading development. This year, the children in Class 2 will have the opportunity to change their home reading books twice weekly, on Tuesday and Friday. We will monitor the children's home reading through the school planners so if you could use those to record every time you read at home, which page you are up to, how they are finding the book and when the book has been fully read and is ready to be changed. We ask that the children do 5/6 minutes of reading per night.

Year 2 is a time of transition for the children in terms of their home reading as, during the course of the year, the children will gradually move away from using the 'coloured book band' home reading books and will begin to use the 'Accelerated Reader' system instead. The Accelerated Reader programme has a reading assessment tool attached to it which provides the children with a reading age. The children will complete the reading assessment in school and when they achieve a reading age of 7 or above on the assessment, they will they begin to choose their own home readers from the Accelerated Reader books. This could end up being at different times throughout the year for each child so when the time comes for your child to start on Accelerated Reader, I will send out a separate letter to explain this and how it all works.



## **P.E DAYS/RUNNING TRACK**

Our P.E days in Class 2 this year are Monday and Wednesday. As you know, the children must come to school dressed in their full P.E kits on these days. In addition to this, we will be regularly using the running track in school throughout the week also. As the children wear their trainers for P.E days and then take them home again, this means that they will not have any trainers left in school for use on the running track. The children may access the running track in their school shoes, however, if you would prefer, if they have a second pair of

trainers that they could leave in school at all times then they could wear these for the running track instead.



### **PROMISE BOARD/TABLE POINTS**

In Class 2 this year, the children have a Promise Board which features values, skills and behaviours that we are all aiming for each day in school. We will all work together as table teams in class to achieve our aims and goals each day.



### **WEEKLY CERTIFICATES**

Each week, on a Friday, our weekly celebration certificates will be awarded. The whole school certificates have changed slightly this year and will be a little different. They will include, 2 school value certificates and 3 curriculum based certificates.



### **PROUD POST**

Keep an eye out in the children's bookbags for any 'Proud Post'! When the children complete amazing work in school to be proud of, Ming Ming and Oreo get very excited about it and love to send it home in a special envelope so that it can be shared and celebrated! Sometimes they even love to send it via email as well!



## OUR CLASS TWITTER PAGE

Please, please follow our class Twitter page for lots of exciting Class 2 updates! Year 2 with Miss J...the class of the proud pandas! There will be many photos, videos and posts about all of the exciting things we get up to in class each week. You may want to have a look with your child so that you can share and discuss their learning with them. Our page is as follows...

@Year2withMissJ1 You can find us by searching for this or clicking on this link









<https://twitter.com/Year2withMissJ1> or if you already follow our whole school Twitter you will be able to find the Class 2 page in the followers of that account!



I hope this all makes sense, however, as I have said, if you do have any questions/queries please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you, from Miss D Johnson and the Class 2 team

P.S I have just attached below a little quick reference timetable just to clearly show what is due to come in/go out on each day of school.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
IN	Planner and Reading Book  Homework Books  P.E. KITS	Planner and Reading Book  Home Readers changed	Planner and Reading Book  P.E. KITS	Planner and Reading Book	Planner and Reading Book  Home Readers changed 
OUT		New Homework  New Home Readers			New Home Readers  Certificates

