



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you and your children have enjoyed a wonderful summer break. We are very excited to begin the new school year and look forward to working closely with you as we teach and support your children in Class 2.

We thought it would be helpful to share some important information about Class 2, including homework, PE, school routines and communication.

Our Class Team

Mrs Maher will teach the class on Mondays and Tuesdays, while Miss Haworth will teach on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We are also fortunate to have the support of Mrs R Clarke, Mrs Smith and Mrs Goodwin throughout the week. The staff team liaise and plan together regularly to ensure consistency, appropriate curriculum coverage and, most importantly, that your child's individual needs are supported.

Curriculum

Children in both Year 1 and Year 2 will follow a similar lesson structure to last year. During the mornings, they will study maths, reading, English, phonics and spellings. Afternoon lessons will focus on RE and our wider curriculum, including science, history, geography, music, art and design technology, PSHE and PE. Many lessons will include practical continuous provision activities that are closely linked to the topics and learning objectives taught across the curriculum. A topic web will be sent home at the beginning of each term so that you can see what your child will be learning in class.

Homework

Going forwards, we will no longer be setting separate weekly maths and English homework. We hope this will make home learning feel more manageable while still providing children with regular opportunities to practise the key skills that are most important.

We ask that children spend approximately **10 – 15 minutes each day** practising:

- Reading
- Spellings
- Phonics
- Number bonds/times tables

• **Reading:** Reading plays a very important part in every area of your child's development. Regular reading at home is essential for developing your child's fluency, understanding, spelling knowledge and writing skills. We therefore ask that your child reads their school reading book for **5-10 minutes each day**. Please listen to your child read and talk to them about the text to help develop their understanding. Please complete and sign your child's reading record each time you hear them read.

Children will receive team points and a raffle ticket for reading at home. At the end of each half-term, two children from each class will be selected from the raffle to receive a prize. The more frequently children read, the more raffle tickets they will earn and the greater their chance of winning!

Reading and library books will be changed as and when needed. Once your child has finished a book and this has been recorded in their reading record, they simply need to place the book and reading record in the changing pile when they arrive in class.

Children will also have a library book to enjoy alongside their school reading book. Our library day is Friday, and we aim to change library books every other week.

- **Spellings:** The first spelling test will take place on **Friday 25th September**, with the spelling information stuck into reading records the Friday before. You can support your child by practising the words sent home, discussing their meanings and encouraging them to use the words in sentences. The spellings your child is expected to know by the end of the year will also be stuck into the back of their reading record. Regular practice of these words will be very beneficial.
- **Phonics:** Phonics sound sheets are sent home as new sounds are taught and they are best completed on the day they are sent home and returned the following day. Your child will also have a small yellow sounds book in their book bag containing all the sounds they have been taught. Please spend some time 'quizzing' your child on these, aiming for a quick recall of the sound.
- **Number bonds and times tables:** Throughout the year, children in Class 2 will focus on developing quick and confident recall of number bonds to 5, 10 and 20, including the associated subtraction facts. They will also practise their 2, 5 and 10 times tables, together with the related division facts. Regular practice through quick-fire questions, games and songs will help children develop confidence and fluency with their number bonds and times tables.

Uniform, Equipment and Belongings

We have very high standards of uniform at St Peter's, so please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform each day. Our full uniform policy can be found on the school website. If you have any questions about items such as hair accessories or earrings, please refer to the policy or speak to us if you are unsure.

Children should bring their reading book and reading record to school every day in their book bag.

We also ask that each child brings a water bottle at the beginning of every half-term. Bottles will be filled with fresh water each day in school and sent home at the end of the half-term.

We encourage the children to become increasingly independent and to take responsibility for their belongings. However, items will occasionally be misplaced. **Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly labelled** and check the labels regularly, as sticky labels can come off and marker pen can fade over time.

PE and outdoor learning

Please send your child's PE kit into school as soon as possible. It will remain in school for the whole half-term and will be sent home at the end of the half-term to be washed. Your child's indoor PE kit should include black shorts, a white T-shirt and black pumps. Children who wear tights will also need a pair of white socks. For outdoor lessons, children will also need tracksuit bottoms and trainers, particularly during the colder winter months. PE kits will be sent home at the end of each half term. Please use this opportunity to check that all items are present, clearly labelled and still fit your child comfortably.

For Forest School sessions, please ensure that your child has suitable outdoor clothing. We recommend a waterproof suit that can be worn over their school uniform. Wellies are essential, even during the summer months. During colder weather, children may also need warm trousers and a jumper to wear underneath their waterproof clothing. Forest School sessions will usually take place every three weeks. We will send you a text message before each session as a reminder. Children will still take part in Forest School if they arrive without suitable clothing; however, they may have to participate in their school clothes and shoes.

Show and Tell

We love hearing about the children's exciting experiences, achievements and creations from home. Please encourage your child to take part in Show and Tell whenever they have exciting news to share, have accomplished something they are proud of or have made something amazing at home. Children are welcome to bring in an item to show the class or simply tell us about their news. We will aim to make time for Show and Tell at the end of each day.

Entering and Leaving School

Children should enter school through the Class 2 door on the top playground between 8:50am and 9:00am. At the end of the day, children will be dismissed from the same door from 3:15pm. Any child who has not been collected by 3:25pm will be taken to KEYs Club and the appropriate charges will apply.

Communication and Partnership

We are looking forward to working in partnership with you and your children this year. On Thursday 17th September, we will be holding a 'Meet the Teachers' coffee and cake afternoon. This will give you an opportunity to visit the classroom, meet Miss Haworth and see your child's new learning environment.

Letters, text messages and emails are sent out regularly, so please ensure that the contact details held by the school are up to date. If you are not receiving school communications, please let us or the school office know as soon as possible. We also use our school Facebook page to share and celebrate the children's learning. Please remember to check the page regularly and follow it if you are not already doing so. From time to time, we may write messages in your child's reading record. Letters may also be placed in children's book bags, so please check both the record and book bag each day. If you need to send us a message, please write in your child's reading record, send us an email or contact the school office. If you have a question or concern that you would prefer to discuss in person, please do not hesitate to arrange an appointment with us.

Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to a happy, exciting and successful year together in Class 2.

Many Thanks,

Miss L Haworth and Mrs L Maher

(Class 2 teachers)

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