

Year 2 Welcome Information 2020

This is additional information following the Transition Zoom Meeting on Thursday 9th July 2020

We look forward to welcoming you and your child/ren to Year 2 in September. The information below shares with your our normal approach, any changes needed due to the pandemic, will be communicated as necessary.

Independence:

In Year 2 we spend a great deal of time encouraging the children to build on the independence gained in Year 1 which will stand them in good stead for the transition to Junior School at the end of the year.

Please could you help us by encouraging your child to do the following:

- Dress/undress (including shoe laces) quickly and independently;
- Come into the School Building independently and be responsible for their own Book Bag/clothing etc.
- Remember to bring in reading books, library books and things requested from school.

Learning Journeys and Visits:

As in Year 1, we will send Learning Journey information home each term giving brief details about the work we will be covering in each subject area. We will also send home a sheet to gain an insight into what the children already know and would like to learn more about. Please keep an eye on the windows/door where your child comes into school – we will use these areas to appeal for help and give you reminders. In addition, everything will also be available on the School Website or sent home via SchoolPing, so do check it!

We plan to cover the following engaging and exciting Learning Journeys in Year 2:

Autumn 1 – ‘*The Patchwork Quilt*’ (Team Building Day with the Outdoors Project)

Autumn 2 – ‘*Fire Fire!*’ (Rainbow Theatre Great Fire of London Visit)

Spring 1 and 2 – ‘*Around the World in Eighty Days*’

Summer 1 – ‘*Animal Antics*’ (Woods Mill)

Summer 2 – Whole School Learning Journey – TBC

SATS:

As you will probably know children in Year 2 take part in statutory tasks and tests before the end of May. These tasks and tests work alongside teachers’ own assessments to measure children’s achievement in reading, writing and maths, against a national standard. Achievement in the tests is recorded in terms of a level. All tasks and tests are administered in an atmosphere very similar to that of a normal school session. These are just one of the ways that the school reports on how well your child is doing. They are absolutely nothing to worry about and we do not tell the children that they are tests, but special work/quizzes. In fact many children enjoy these activities! We know we don’t need to tell you not to worry about any of this; however please make an appointment with your child’s teacher if you wish to discuss anything further. We are always incredibly proud of all the children and just want them to do the best they can, which we know is all you want to!

Reading:

This remains very much the same as in Year 1; the children read in groups with an adult at least once a week, during ‘Reading Workshop’. There are also many other opportunities for shared and individual reading over the course of the week, including our ‘Top 20 Year 2 Key Texts’ which we want the children to become familiar with and our engaging reading corners which are always accessible. Teachers will be assessing each individual child’s reading level during the first few weeks of term to ensure that your child is bringing home the appropriate level reading book. Again as in Year 1 it remains important that you hear your child read as regularly as possible to back up the work done in school.

Please focus on the skills written on the reading sheet your child brings home. Please do speak to class teachers if you have any queries or would like some advice. Finally please continue to read **to** your child as this helps to enrich their understanding of a range of literature and develops their use of language and vocabulary.

Home Learning:

- To encourage further immersion in our Learning Journeys we have Year 2 Home Learning activities. Each half term children can choose from a grid or 'menu' topic related challenges that will appeal to all learning styles. Children are encouraged to engage with this over the half term and bring them in to show their teachers and celebrate their learning towards the end of the Learning Journey.
- As always we encourage the children to bring in books or items that relate to the current Learning Journey.

Helping Parents/Carers:

If you are available to come into school and help in classes please approach individual teachers as we will need to make sure you are DBS cleared. We spend the first half term getting to know the children and to settle into class routines, and are very appreciative if you are able to help after the first half term break.

Juniors:

The move through to Stanford Junior School **is not automatic**. Brighton and Hove encourages all families to apply online. Applications must be submitted online by the middle of January. If any parents/carers are unable to apply online, please let the school office know. A link to the form can be found on our website.

We will send out reminders by text and on the website! With regard to the transition to Stanford or any other Junior School please rest assured that we do spend a lot of time liaising with all the Junior Schools to ensure an easy and smooth transition for the children.

Recorder Lessons:

Recorder lessons are provided by Mrs Damant at lunchtimes for any children who wish to learn.

Ukulele, keyboard and Violin lessons:

These lessons are arranged by Brighton and Hove Music Service, you will be notified about when lessons will be held via the relevant music teacher.

Buddies:

All Year 2 children will get the chance to be a 'buddy' during the course of the year. The buddies play a key role at play times and lunch times- supporting the younger children, offering advice in the playground and helping out in the dinner hall. The buddies are organised on a rota system by Mrs Edwards. Every week a new set of buddies are introduced in Tuesday morning assembly. There are 3 sets of buddies per class and all Year 2 children will get their first chance during the autumn term.

Doors:

Ocean and Pavilion Class will come into and leave school from the door to the right of the shelter on the bottom playground. Regent Class come into and leave school from their own door. The children know they must tell their class teacher that they are going, and draw their teacher's attention to who they are going with, but if you are not sure that they have done so please can you send them back over!

Reminders:

PE Kit – As we are in a transition period with our School Uniform you may still be sending your child in with a PE kit. Please ensure that if you do, it is in a **named** bag and **all** items inside will also need to be named! The children will be having 2 PE sessions a week and we will let you know which days these are. Please ensure that your child's PE kits are in school all week and we will send them home at the end of each half –term. For health and safety reasons no jewellery should be worn during PE lessons and long hair must be tied back.

Snacks and Drinks – Please make sure that bottles are clearly named and taken home daily to be refilled- water only please. Morning snacks should not be left in lunch boxes but brought into the classroom first thing in the morning. All children continue to be offered a piece of fruit during the morning, as in Year 1.

Bags – Please encourage your child/re to refrain from bringing in large rucksacks and bags. If children don't have a school book bag then any other small bag is fine as long as it is able to fit into your child's drawer. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter. Rucksacks are welcome at the Juniors and it is something the children can look forward to as part of their transition there.

If you have any queries relating to the above or want to ask us about something we haven't mentioned, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

The Year 2 Team

Mrs Walker, Mrs Slater, Miss Holliday, Mrs Hodges, Ms Banbury, Ms Greco, Mrs Miller, Miss Bower