



Year 2 Sparrow Class: Information for Parents and Carers

September 2020

‘Learning together through love, friendship forgiveness and faith’

Welcome to Year 2 Sparrow Class

Year 2 Staff Information

Assistant Headteacher & Year 2 Teacher	Mrs P. Banerji
Year 2 Teacher	Mrs R. Guy
Teaching Partner	Ms E. McDonald

Year 2 Curriculum

The Key Stage 1 curriculum is broad, balanced and creative. Over Key Stage 1 (Milestone 1), the children will experience a range of activities providing them with the experiences, knowledge and skills they need to move on into Key Stage 2 (Milestone 2)

Phonics

All children in Reception and Key Stage 1 take part in daily phonics sessions. At St. Michaels, we follow the Read, Write, Inc. Comprehensive Phonics Programme. At the end of Year 1, the children complete a National Phonics Screening Assessment. The Phonics Screening Check is designed to confirm whether pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. It will identify pupils who need extra help to improve their decoding skills.

Please note: However, this academic year, Year 2 pupils will be completing the Phonics Screening Check (PSC) during Autumn Term. More information regarding the Year 2 PSC will follow.

Reading

Children in Year 2 read on a daily basis. They take part in 1-1 Reading, Guided Reading and Class Reading. Daily RWI sessions also include reading skills. It is very important that children read a range of texts and fully understand what they read. Rushing through reading levels is of no benefit to children when they struggle to understand what they are reading. The children will be assessed termly to ensure they are reading the correct level of book.

Writing

Children in Year 2 start daily writing tasks which often link to a class text. We encourage the children to use their phonic knowledge to sound out and write words/sentences. By the end of Year 2 the children should be able to write simple paragraphs using their own ideas. Basic grammar, spellings and punctuation are also covered in English writing lessons. Handwriting and presentation of work is sustained, as children gain confidence in their abilities.

Mathematics (Maths): 'Maths Mastery'

In Key Stage 1, we follow the Maths Mastery scheme. Please note the following information from The Maths Mastery site:-

A NEW WAY OF THINKING AND TEACHING **WHOLE CLASS MOVES THROUGH CONTENT AT THE SAME PACE**

When teaching maths for mastery, the whole class moves through topics at broadly the same pace. Each topic is studied in depth and the teacher does not move to the next stage until all children demonstrate that they have a secure understanding of mathematical concepts.

TIME TO THINK DEEPLY ABOUT THE MATHS - Students are given time to think deeply about the maths and really understand concepts at a relational level rather than as a set of rules or procedures. This slower pace leads to greater progress because it ensures that students are secure in their understanding and teachers don't need to revisit topics once they've been covered in depth.

BUILDS SELF-CONFIDENCE IN LEARNERS - In a traditional primary school maths lesson, children are put in different groups and given different content based on their anticipated ability. This means that from an early age children are classed as those who can and can't "do maths". Teaching maths for mastery is different because it offers all pupils access to the full maths curriculum. This inclusive approach, and its emphasis on promoting multiple methods of solving a problem, builds self-confidence and resilience in pupils.

DIFFERENTIATES THROUGH DEPTH RATHER THAN ACCELERATION - Though the whole class goes through the same content at the same pace, there is still plenty of opportunity for differentiation. Unlike the old model, where advanced learners are accelerated through new content, those pupils who grasp concepts quickly are challenged with rich and sophisticated problems within the topic. Those children who are not sufficiently fluent are provided additional support to consolidate their understanding before moving on.

BASIS FOR THE 2014 NATIONAL CURRICULUM FOR MATHS - Teaching maths for mastery is a key plank of the Government's education reforms and is reflected in the 2014 English national curriculum for mathematics. The NCETM, Department for Education and OFSTED have all endorsed this evidence-based approach which is a key part of the work within the Maths Hubs Programme.

Maths Meetings

Alongside the Maths Mastery scheme, the children have daily Maths Meetings where they have the opportunity to learn and to practise basic Mathematical concepts.

Key Stage 1 Assessments

More information will follow regarding the 2020/2021 Key Stage 1 end-of-year assessments. Please note that we refer to the assessments as 'Year 2 Quizzes'.

School Website: Class Page

Please keep an eye on the Class Page. There is some pertinent information here linked to Year 2 learning. Homework, Notices and Weekly Learning updates will be added on a regular basis.

- **Uniform** – It is very important for the children to be wearing the correct school uniform. Please clearly label **all items** of school uniform.
- **Morning snacks/milk/water bottles** – Children can bring a healthy snack to school for morning break. If possible, please pack the snack separate to the child's lunch-box for easy access. **NO NUTS PLEASE.** Fruit will be provided daily, from week beginning 7th September 2020.
- **Lunches** – The children are familiar with the lunch time routine. Menus are sent home on a regular basis. Please talk to your child about daily choices.#
- **PE** – Year 2 PE days are **Tuesdays and Thursdays**. It is easier if school PE kits are kept in school at all times. Unfortunately, if a child does not have their PE kit in school, they cannot take part in PE lessons.
- **Homework**
 - **Reading** – Please read on a regular basis with your child at home and sign their Reading Record Book. Children may choose to read other books from home; please also record this in their record book. Reading should be an enjoyable experience for both parents and children. If your child is tired and refuses to read, please don't worry, just make a note in the record book. School days are very busy!
 - **Spellings** – Spellings will be sent home on Fridays. Spellings will link to the Year 2 guidance as stipulated by the Government's publication 'English Appendix 1: Spelling' for Year 2. Children take part in spelling quizzes each Friday. Spelling sheets can be kept at home.
 - **Consolidation tasks: Maths/English/Topic/Science** – One or two tasks will be sent home on **Wednesdays**, to be returned by the following **Wednesday**. Homework will always be related to children's learning in class. Children may need a little support with some of the set tasks. If a reading comprehension task is sent home, please encourage your child to have a go at reading and to complete these tasks by themselves.
 - **Brain Builders** – Half termly (Topic/Science link). Brain builder tasks will be sent home each half term with separate information.

We want the children to always feel happy and secure in school and have 'Fun in Year 2'. If you have any concerns about your child or feel they are struggling with any homework, please feel free to email Mrs Banerji via the Office email address, with the subject heading '**FAO: Mrs Banerji – Sparrow Class**'.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs P. Banerji & The KS1 Team