

Welcome to Year 2



We hope you are looking forward to Year 2. We have an exciting year planned, with lots of work, lots of fun and hopefully lots of laughs.

Topics

In the course of the year we will study the following topics:-

- Fire and Ice – when we will be looking at contrasting hot and cold countries. Towards half term we learn about the Great Fire of London and learn about fire safety and investigate the fire triangle and ice balloons in Science, which is great fun.
- Scales and Tales - In Spring we learn about castles and dragons including other reptiles!
- Splish, Splash, Splosh - Summer Term sees us finding out about sea creatures and making our own lighthouses.

On-going throughout the year

Meta-cognition and Mindfulness

Throughout the year we will be threading through elements of meta-cognition (thinking about thinking) and encouraging the children to develop a positive mindset and strategies for mindfulness and relaxation .

English

Reading and writing permeate every aspect of our life. In Year 2 we endeavour to make the most of cross curricular links wherever possible and therefore the work may be an extension of a foundation subject e.g. History, Geography. Importance is also placed on the process of writing; the children will be spending time planning, drafting and editing their work as well as mastering discrete skills such as :-

Grammar and punctuation

Handwriting practise

Vocabulary extension (through word and topic collections etc.)

Spelling strategies

Phonological awareness

Word recognition

Reading comprehension

Understanding of 'the way texts are written' (including Non-fiction)

Reading

Reading underpins our curriculum. The children are given opportunities to read a variety of texts throughout their work, as well as during reading workshops or group reading. We will be encouraging the children to change their books three times a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday). The aim is that they should be able to do this independently and take responsibility for this. Please may we ask you to record your child's reading in the home-school reading record, which we would like to travel back and forth to school. These will be officially monitored on Fridays.

Oxford Owl is a useful website to allow you to access interactive books <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>
The user name is Chooseday club and the password is Lindfield1.

Read Write Inc./ Phonics

Phonological awareness is taught using a programme called Read Write Inc (RWI). This programme helps children learn to read whilst also developing a wide range of vocabulary and encouraging a love of stories. Key Stage One children attend their Read Write Inc. groups for half an hour each day. Owing to the children missing their Year 1 phonics review due to the COVID pandemic, the Government has now moved this assessment to after Autumn half-term. The following link allows you to see previous papers <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-practice-materials>

Should you wish to familiarise yourself with the stage two sounds please follow the link below <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p7hRbrpq5Bo>, alternatively the website Phonics Play is currently free to access.

Maths

This year we encourage the children to build on their number knowledge, encouraging fluency, accuracy and flexibility. The children learn about place value, number patterns and sequences and the use of appropriate number operations and estimation. Children are also encouraged to explain their reasoning when tackling problem. We will also be working on practising multiplication tables – initially the 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s. The children will receive logins for Times Table Rockstars which allows them to practise their skills in a fun way.

To help your child, aim to incorporate 5 minutes of maths into the day, perhaps chanting numbers as you walk along the road or by using maths when cooking, or painting questions in water on the patio or encouraging them to buy 1 item in the sweet shop and calculate the change.

Computing

Currently in computing we will be looking at e-safety and the importance of children staying safe on line and keeping their passwords secure. We will also be encouraging the children to work at home on their number recognition through Numbots, children's passwords are stuck in the back of their reading record and you should have received the parental letter last Friday.

Passwords will also be coming out for Purple Mash and MyMaths, to allow the children to access homework challenges and again will be stuck at the back of the reading record.

PE

The children experience a range of PE lessons throughout the year (gym, dance, invasive games, athletics), we are also currently breaking our learning up with bite-size segments of exercise, or our regular run.

About the SATs

These assessments take place during May and are statutory for Reading and Mathematics. We will be familiarising the children with these skills and the correct grammatical terminology from the beginning of term. This will ensure that the children feel at ease and are comfortable when taking these assessments. However, please note that the SATS tasks are only used to support teachers' ongoing assessments, throughout the year. More information on these will be given later in the academic year, however, should you wish to know further information please see the following video link. https://www.youtube.com/watch?annotation_id=annotation_3477324577&feature=iv&src_vid=M8MjPFWRQs0&v=dVlrdqh_J6Y

Homework

Homework in Year 2 will focus on Spelling/Grammar and Mathematics as well as regular reading, all of which are quite informal.

Spelling: Your child will be given weekly spellings (based on a specific spelling strategy) and will need to practise these at home. They will be tested the following week. You can further support your child at home with activities such as encouraging your child to use the words in sentences, creating anagrams of the words, or finding them in a dictionary.

Reading: Children are encouraged to take home a book to share with parents/carers for about ten minutes each evening. As an alternative, children can research and read information relating to topic work. Please record your child's reading in the diary and ensure this is in school each Friday.

Mathematics: Homework will be given out each Friday (either set on MyMaths or as a worksheet), to be completed by the next Thursday. These tasks relate to the maths work that is ongoing within the class.

PPA

Our weekly Planning, Preparation and Assessment Time will be on Thursday afternoon, during this time the classes will be led by Mrs King (Maple), Mrs Russell (Holly) and Mrs Amuzu (Rowan).

On-line Learning in the event you are self isolating

Please note that in the unfortunate case of you or your child having to isolate, they will be able to access their learning via the VLE, which you will find on <https://brightonacademiestrust.org.uk/home-learning/lindfield-home-learning>. The children's e-mails for MyMaths and Numbots will be found in the back of their reading journals.

Top Tips for the Year

Please may we encourage you to ensure all your child's clothing and belongings are clearly marked with their name.

Could we also ask that if your child wears shoes with laces, could you tie them in a double knot, to minimise, at present, the need for us re-tying shoe laces.

To assist us with dismissal at the end of each day, it would help if you could stand in roughly the same place on the playground so that we can try to learn faces and pair you with the correct child!

We have an open door policy in Year 2 and whilst we are unable to stop and chat on the playground, should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us for a telephone conversation and we will be happy to help.

We look forward to a wonderful year and working with you and your children.
Best wishes

Miss Crosbie/ Mrs Scott

Miss Gorringe

Miss O'Brien

Maple

Rowan

Holly