



Welcome to Year 2.



A very warm welcome to Year 2 from Mr O'Callaghan. Should you wish to contact us please email TOCallaghan@reddings.herts.sch.uk. You can also make an appointment to speak with us over the phone by calling the school office.

This term all about adjusting to the new standards of being in Year 2 and starting to become more responsible and I am pleased to inform you the children have made a fantastic start! Children have moved into their new classroom which can be quite daunting but all children have adapted very well.

Myself and Miss Collier will be in class everyday. Every second Wednesday Mrs Patel will be teaching in Year 2 and Mrs McAleer is in class Monday—Thursday with Mrs Jorge being in class on Fridays. Your children will be undertaking the Year 2 SATS test this year which is an opportunity to assess your child's attainment and progress. We will make sure children are as fully prepared as they can be, in a pressure free environment. These will be happening in May. This term we children will be undergoing their phonics screening they should have had in Year 1. Once again this will be done in a pressure free environment where the children will be able to show us what they know. Each morning your children are shown the daily timetable of activities and begin their day with handwriting & phonics. English and Maths then follow, with break time in between. After lunch the children will have a guided reading session before an afternoon session of either Art, Science, History, Geography, RE, PE, Music, Computing or Jigsaw. We will finish everyday with our class reader. We are currently reading Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl.

As you can see, we are very busy learners in Year 2.

English

We will be developing our reading and writing skills through daily phonics lessons and by studying different books and texts over the term. We begin with Tuesday—a book by David Wiesner. The focus areas for English over the term will be to secure full stops and capital letters, using conjunctions (and, because, so) to link sentences together and also looking at using a wide range of interesting vocabulary.

Maths

The units we will be covering are; securing fluency to twenty, place value, regrouping 2 two digit numbers, ordering and comparing numbers to 100, mental addition and subtraction, finding complements of 10 and 100 including measures, finding change and making combinations using money and making comparisons (difference, more, less, fewer). At home, please support your children with learning the 2, 5 and 10 times table. You will be able to use times table rockstars as a very useful resource for this which is an interactive game based online which encourages children to learn their times tables.

History

In history lessons we will be looking at China and how it has changed through the years from the building of the Great wall to modern day China.

Geography

We will be learning all about China. We will learn where in the world China is, the skills of using an atlas and how to read a map. We will also learn about Chinese culture, Chinese ways of life and famous Chinese landmarks.

Science The topics we will be looking at consist of animals including humans and everyday materials. We will work on identifying, comparing and grouping using our scientific knowledge.

Computing:

Initially we will learn the skills we need to be able to log onto our computers and use a mouse correctly. We will use technology to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content as well as beginning to understand how to use computers to publish our work. We will also learn how to be safe online.

RE

We will be learning about the symbols and actions within all religions. We will also be looking at different beliefs and practices of all religions.

Music

In Music children will learn to use their voices expressively and creatively speaking chants and rhymes and play tuned and untuned instruments. Children will be developing their listening and appraising skills too.

DT: Structures

We will be designing, making and evaluating our models of the Great wall of China. The children will learn the processes of researching, designing, creating and evaluating a product.

Art: Drawing and Painting

We will be learning a variety of ways we can draw. We will also be looking at different techniques we can use when painting.

Home Learning

Reading—Regular reading is essential in order to ensure your child has many opportunities to rehearse and secure phonics learning. If you could aim to read with your child 4 or 5 times a week, this will ensure they have lots of practice and reinforcement and help to improve their confidence too. When reading a book with your child, ask them some questions about what they are reading, talk about the pictures with them and try getting them to retell you the story, including their favourite parts!

Some questions you might ask are :

What happens at the beginning of the story?

How do you think character X is feeling and why?

What does (a word for the text) mean?

What do you think might happen next in the story?

Ready to Learn All children need indoor shoes and reading books and in school every day.

It is important they are also at school on time.

PE should be worn to school on a Thursday.

Please ensure your children also have a water bottle in school every day.