



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 becoming 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 with the big change.

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 not be undertaking the Year 2 SATS test this year. As a result of these being cancelled, it will allow us to focus on catching the children up on their lost learning and focus more on what we believe the children need based off of our assessments since they have returned

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.

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

English

We will be developing our reading and writing skills through daily spelling lessons and by studying different books and texts over the term. We begin with *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman. The focus areas for English over the term will be to secure noun phrases and conjunctions. We will also be focus on story language when looking at the text *'The Lonely Beast'* by Chris Judge.

Maths

The units we will be covering are; securing fluency to twenty, place value, regrouping 2 two digit numbers, ordering and comparing numbers too 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). We will also have a heavy focus on multiplication and division At home, please support your children with learning the 2, 5 and 10 times table/division facts.

History & Geography

In History, we will be focussing on some of the great explorers of our time. We will be researching about them and discovering new information of the journeys they went on and discussing their importance in modern day society.

We will be looking at where these journeys took place in the world and practicing our map reading skills.

Science

The topics we will be looking at consist of scientists and inventors which links in nicely with our History topic. We will look at the people that change the world and also the experiments that they did.

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 research and record information. This will link into our Great Explorers topic as we will be using computers to research about significant people and world changing findings throughout the term.

RE

We will be learning about Justice and Fairness and Human responsibility and values. We will look at why humans beings are so unique as well as other big questions within different reli-

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: Wheels and Axels

We will be designing, making and evaluating our models that an explorer could use to go on an expedition!

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?

See the separate sheet to help with questioning when reading with your child.

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.