

WELCOME TO YEAR 2

We hope that you have all had a great summer break and are looking forward to the new school year! We are really looking forward to getting to know you and working together to ensure that your child has a brilliant year. Although it may be a little different to normal, as always, the autumn term will be very busy and there will be lots of activities happening which we will keep you informed of. We will do this through text messages, the contact board outside the Year 2 classrooms and when appropriate a letter home.

Miss Allen's class name is **Colombia** and Mrs Webster and Mrs Austerfield's class name is **Puerto Rico**. The wonderful TAs supporting in year 2 are Miss Richmond and Mrs Watts.

Our Curriculum for the Autumn Term

Our topic for Autumn 1 is **Marvellous Medicines**. In history, we will learn all about the life of Jesse Boot and investigate why he was an important person in Nottingham, studying some amazing historical artefacts and developing our chronological understanding by creating timelines. We will read *George's Marvellous Medicine* by Roald Dahl and create our own weird and wonderful medicines to inspire our writing!

In Autumn 2, our Geography topic is **Our Environment**. We will explore our local area and consider our own impact on the environment around us, becoming Nottingham City Clean Champions! As geographers, we will devise simple maps with symbols in a key. We will use geographical vocabulary to refer to our local environment and use aerial photographs to recognise local landmarks and make comparisons with other areas of the UK.

In Maths, we will build our knowledge and understanding of the key areas of place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and money this term. We will use practical resources to develop our skills and help us to independently tackle challenges with confidence, such as tens frames, Base 10 equipment, place value counters and part-whole models. In Science, we will be learning all about materials and their uses.

Applying what we have learnt, we will design a boat to sail down the River Trent using the most appropriate materials.

Reading

It is vital that your child is reading regularly at home to continue to develop and practise the skills that they are taught in school and become fluent, confident readers. Please try to read for a short time every day and record this in their Home School Diary. The diary should be in school every day.

We have now read with every child and selected a new reading book for them. In their diary you will find a letter explaining our new reading tracker. This is designed to celebrate reading and encourage your child to read with you every day.

We will change your child's reading books every week on a Thursday.

Spelling

We will continue to test the children on their individual spelling bookmarks on Wednesdays. Please practise these at home and write in your child's Home School Diary if they are ready to be tested.

The **MORE** that you
READ, the more things
you will **KNOW**.
The **MORE** that you
Learn, the more places
you'll **GO**.
Dr. Seuss

Water bottles

Whether your child has milk or not, they will also need a water bottle in school every day so they can have a drink when needed. Children will keep their bottles on the table so it is important that they have a spill proof cap (sports cap) to protect work. For this reason, we ask that bottles only contain water as spilt squash/flavoured water is very sticky. As we work to reduce plastic waste, please ensure that your child's bottle is reusable rather than a single use plastic.

Attendance

Please make sure that your child comes to school on time every day to ensure that they do not miss vital learning.

Please note, we will be opening the classroom doors from 8.40 - 9.10am. A good level of attendance is above 96% but we are always aiming for 100%. We would love to win the Attendance Cup this term!

Uniform

Please ensure that your child is dressed in the correct uniform and double check that your child's name is on all items of clothing to enable us to identify any lost property and return to you. Thanks!

Please be aware that:

- Rise Park has a **no nail varnish** policy.
- Small ear studs are the only jewellery items permitted in school - no hoops or dangly earrings please.
- Trainers are not permitted.

PE kit

This term, year 2 will have PE on **Tuesday afternoons**. For this half term, your child must wear their PE kit on this day. They do not need to bring school uniform, as they will wear their kit all day. Please ensure your child wears a full PE kit, including **plimsolls/trainers, long joggers/shorts (weather dependent), a plain white t-shirt and a blue hoody/school jumper** and that all items are clearly labelled with their name. If your child wears earrings, and they are unable to remove them independently, they must be removed before school on PE days, otherwise they will not be able to take part and we really don't want the children to miss out!

Lunches

In year 2, the children can choose between three lunch options or bring a packed lunch from home. To help with this, we will display the weekly menu in the window and would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes each morning helping your child to read the menu and make their choice. Paper copies of the menu can be provided on request.

Thank you for your support,

The Year 2 Team