

Dear Y2 Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new academic year! All the Y2 staff are excited for the year ahead. We are sure it will be filled with lots of learning, laughter and hope to help the children make lasting memories. Our class name this year is *The Elms* and the staff in Y2 are Miss Bradbury and Mrs Law.

Below is information which we hope will be helpful to you.

## PE

Our PE days are **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. Our Wednesday PE lessons will be indoor and led by Miss Whittaker (Molly) who will be teaching ball skills up until Christmas. Our Thursday PE lessons will be outdoor and led by Miss Bradbury where we will be learning Fundamental skills such as running, throwing and catching. Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school on these days and that if your child is unable to remove their own earrings that these are taken out before coming to school.

## Outdoor learning

At The Ellis, we love to learn outside and we are so lucky to have our KS1 area straight outside our classroom (a luxury many other KS1 classes do not have). We will be using this area and other wider school environments as much as possible. This means that your child will need appropriate footwear and coats every day. Indoor pumps will be needed in school to protect our classrooms from the inevitable mud! Thank you if you have already provided these. The wellies are kept on our Y2 trolley and the pumps will stay in school.

## Reading Books

Your child will bring home two reading books and a reading letter explaining the purpose of the different books. Please record in their reading diary when they have read to an adult or maybe an older sibling. We ask that reading diaries are in your child's book bag every day. If reading diaries are filled then we will send home a second diary free of charge, however if it is lost then we ask that a new one is bought from the office. We will change Read Write Inc books on a **Monday** and the children will have the opportunity to change their 'recommended read library book' on a **Friday**. Children should aim to read at home at least 3 times per week and reading raffle tickets will be awarded for reading.

## Spelling books

The children will be bringing home spelling books. They will have their new spelling list stuck in on a Tuesday and bring their book home to practise. Please support your child in learning their spellings. They will be regularly assessed in their spellings. Their spelling books need to be in school every **Tuesday**. The spellings are also on Spelling Shed each week.

## Homework

Once we have settled all the children into the new routines and they have been introduced to their reading books and spellings, we will send home an email informing you of the short weekly homework tasks so please check your emails regularly. The homework will be set on Seesaw and the new logins are stuck in your child's reading diary.

## Show and Tell

We do love to see what our children have achieved outside school, so please do send in any certificates (such as swimming, football, dancing, reading etc) as we would love to share these with the rest of the class. Whilst we love to chat to our children at playtimes and lunchtimes about things they have been doing outside school (places they have visited etc), we do not have a designated 'show and tell' slot in Y2 due to the many subjects we have to fit into our timetable. Please be reassured that we love chatting with our children at social times however! Could we please remind parents not to allow their children to bring in any toys or games as we have everything they need in school and children can become very upset if they are lost or get damaged.

## Book Bags

Please can children bring their book bag to school every day so that we can change reading books, check reading diaries and ensure any letters etc are put inside.

## Home time Collection

Thank you for your patience and help at home time. We are sure you can appreciate there are a lot of new adult faces for us to learn so whilst we are a little slower at the moment dismissing the children, we will get faster in the coming weeks. If there is an adult picking up who does not regularly collect your child, please just let the staff know or if there is a last minute change, ring the office. Similarly, if you need to mention something to the staff in the morning, if you have not had chance to do so in the playground, please could you just wait a moment until we have got all the children through the cloakroom door and then the staff can give you their full attention. Safety is of course paramount and during these busy times, staff need to be watching all the children into school safely. Thank you for your help in this matter, it is greatly appreciated.

We will be sharing your child's learning via ClassDojo this year. Information on how to join will be sent out separately.

We are really looking forwards to getting to know both the children and their families over the coming weeks and helping them to take their next step in their learning journey at The Ellis.

## Autumn 1 learning overview

### English

We will continue to follow the Read Write Inc programme which will teach the mechanics of reading and writing. The children will work in groups for 1 hour every day with their Read Write Inc leader learning their phonic sounds, decoding words, increasing fluency and learning to write simple sentences. As well as this, we will have 20 minutes story time every day led by Miss Bradbury. We will look at a different book weekly and will become immersed in the stories. This half term our books are centred on friendships, family, food and growth.

### Maths

We will learn about place value and comparing and ordering numbers to 100 during the first weeks of Y2. We will then begin learning about addition and subtraction, using a range of apparatus and simple pictorial methods.

### Science

Our science learning will focus on *Growth and Survival* this half term. We will be learning about the different babies that animals have and how humans can lead healthy lifestyles.

### History

In History, we will be exploring the question '*How was school different in the past?*'

### Re

In RE, we will be exploring the question '*What did Jesus teach?*'

### PE

We will be focusing on fundamentals of movement. We are very lucky to have Miss Whittaker (Molly) to be taking our PE sessions on a Wednesday where we will learn key skills.

### Art

In Art, we will be learning about craft and design and how we can use different techniques to create art such as rolling, layers and adapting.

## Computing

How is information technology (IT) being used for good in our lives? With an initial focus on IT in the home, learners explore how IT benefits society in places such as shops, libraries, and hospitals. Whilst discussing the responsible use of technology, and how to make smart choices when using it.

## Music

We will be exploring the song 'Once a Man Fell in a Well', playing it using tuned percussion and reading simple symbols representing pitch.

## PSHE

We will be looking at Feelings and Emotions and Being Responsible.

Kind Regards

The Y2 Team