



Year 2

Introduction To The Classroom

Notes For Parents - Class H2

Welcome to year 2 here are a few notes to explain a bit about this year and help you support your child.

Weekly Timetable

Literacy and Numeracy sessions usually take place in the mornings. Afternoons are devoted to a much broader and diverse curriculum; Science and I.C.T. lessons are taught alongside History, Geography, P.E, Art, D.T., P.H.S.E. Music, French and Religious Education. Most of these subjects are taught in blocks and children will be asked to bring in things on a Thursday morning to support the teaching and learning of the current topic.

Topic Timetable

<u>Term 1</u> All about Me	Science~ Being healthy Geography ~ Places I have visited/ Neighbouring Countries
<u>Term 2</u> Fire	History~ Great Fire Of London Science~ Changing Materials
<u>Term 3</u> Travelling	Science~ Forces D.T. ~ Vehicles
<u>Term 4</u> Famous People	History~ Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole Science ~ Plants and Animals
<u>Term 5</u> Our Environment	Science ~ Animals in our local environment
<u>Term 6</u> <u>The Seaside</u>	History and Geography ~ The Seaside Science ~ Electricity

Literacy

Every day the children participate in the 'Literacy Hour'. This is an hour which broadly consists of

~15 mins of shared text work

~15 mins of word work

~20 mins of independent or group work

~10 mins plenary

Reading

Now the children are reading confidently we can encourage them to read and reread the text so that they become fluent, respond appropriately to the punctuation and demonstrate good expression.

It would be really beneficial if all the children could read and discuss their book to an adult at home every day. This needs only be for ten minutes each day as the children really do improve with the regular practice. It helps them to develop their confidence and ability to read fluently and with good expression.

Please share with us the pages your child has read and how they have responded to the text in their reading record book.

Fiction Books

Discussing each page after your child has read it will help to check your child understands the storyline, is able to predict what will happen next and make inferences about key characters and their actions.

This is just as important as the actual reading of the book.

Non Fiction Books

These are books which are best investigated alongside an adult. The structure of the book~ contents and index, title headings and captions are all important features of the book. They can discuss as the children dip into these books to find out answers to questions they might have, or you might ask them.

Spelling/ Handwriting Homework

During the Literacy Hour children will be taught new spellings. To help them retain these new words the children will then have them to learn for homework. When helping your child to learn their spellings they should

- 1 Read the word.
- 2 Cover the word up.
3. Say the word (spelling speak) and then the letter names in the word.
4. Write the word (again saying the letter names as they write them)
5. Check their spelling against the original.

(Look, Cover, Say, Write, Check)

Sit with the children as they complete their spelling homework and encourage them to practise writing their spellings joined up, with correct letter formation and letters the correct size.

Spelling homework will be given out on a **Friday** and will be tested at school on the following **Friday**.

Numeracy

Children take part in a daily maths lesson, which broadly consists of

~10 mins oral work and mental calculation

~10 mins whole class teaching input

~20 mins pupil activities

~10 min plenary

Throughout the Numeracy lesson the children are encouraged to develop a range of skills, which will help them to tackle maths questions and problems in their head.

E.g.

Skills such as counting on and backwards in 10's is used to solve questions such as

$$34 + 10 = \quad 34 - 10 =$$

$$34 + 9 = \quad 34 + 19 =$$

$$34 - 11 = \quad 34 - 21 =$$

And then more complex

$$47 + 23 =$$

$$47 + 20 + 3 = \text{ or } 43 + 10 + 10 + 3 =$$

Homework

Most maths homework will be activities and games to complete from the Year 2 Abacus Homework Book. These are designed to consolidate and develop what has been taught at school during that week.

Some of the homework will not produce anything written down so a comment in your child's homework book will be gratefully received to say how they tackled the task.

If you have any problems with the homework please pop in and see me.

Maths homework will be given out on a **Friday** and should be returned to school by the following **Monday**.

P.E.

Children have outdoor games. sessions on a Monday afternoon and an indoor P.E. session on a Wednesday afternoon.

To comply with South Gloucestershire Health and Safety regulations please could you ensure that if your child has long hair it is tied up, and if they wear earrings these are removed or taped over.

Assessment

Formal assessments will take place during October, the last week in February and National Assessments will be during the whole month of May.

We hope that all children will be present in school during May as it will help them undertake these formal tests in a more relaxed and supportive timetable.

Reporting to Parents

Individual appointments with teachers are planned for October and March so we can share children's progress and outline future learning targets. Written reports including the National Assessments will be sent home in July.

I know Year 2 is a year where the children do work hard, yet it is still important for them to have fun and enjoy their time at school. Please pop in to discuss any concerns you or your child may have. I look forward to teaching your children, and with your support making this year a happy and successful one.

Many Thanks
Kirsti Harris