

Welcome to Year 2



Mrs Cox – Class teacher.

Year 2 is a year full of new challenges and this year we have some great topics to inspire and motivate the children to achieve and exceed the expected outcomes by the end of the year.

Our first topic is called 'All about me' In this topic we will be learning all about ourselves and our local environment. In our topic called 'Fire, Fire!' we will look at our Capital City of London and discuss The Great Fire of London. Then we will cover our topic called Marvellous mixtures. In this topic we will be learning about healthy lifestyles and the role of medical professionals. We will learn about heroes from the past including Florence Nightingale

In the Summer term we will be 'going wild' and learning all about plants and a different continent.

Please see the separate topic plans and knowledge organisers for more details of what the children will be learning.

What to expect in Year 2

Arriving at school and the morning routine

In Year 2 we expect the children to show independence by coming into school on their own, organising and looking after their belongings.

The children will be greeted at the classroom door and they will be expected to put their book bag away in their personal drawer. Their water bottle needs to go in the water bottle tray. Next they will hang up any coats on their peg and come and sit down on the carpet with a white board and pen ready to complete the 'Early morning challenge'.

It is important that the children arrive on time to register and that they don't miss the *Early Work* that has been set for them to do.

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Mrs Cox or Mrs Prouse will be standing at the classroom door from 8.40am so if you have any messages that you wish to pass on do so then alternatively you can catch her at the end of the day. If you wish to discuss something in greater depth please make an appointment at the school office.

Lunches

It is really important that the children know what they are having for lunch each day; packed lunch, school dinner or the option of a baked potato with cheese/beans/tuna. Please discuss this with your child and pre-order online.

Uniform and other items

Please ensure all uniform (including, coats and shoes) plus water bottles and book bags, is labelled clearly with your child's name.

Please check that your child has all the required PE kit – light blue T-shirt with school logo, black shorts, plain black hooded sweatshirt, optional plain black track suit trousers for cold weather, trainers/plimsolls, a pair of socks.

P.E bags can be left in school and will be sent home each half term unless we have got particularly muddy or soaking wet during a lesson.



Reading

In Year 2 the children will choose a reading book appropriate to their ability. This might be a reading scheme book, a picture book from the book corner or a chapter book that they will bring home. At St Lawrence we do not have one set reading scheme to follow; we use a variety of books from a range of schemes and non-scheme books. We will help your child to choose a book appropriate to their reading ability. They can change their book whenever they have finished reading it but we ask that you record this in their reading diary and write a short comment.

In Year 2 each child reads at least once a fortnight to an adult.

How you can support your child's reading at home

- Please hear your child read as often as possible.
- Record a short comment in their reading diary.
- Read to your child daily; a variety of stories as well as non-fiction.
- Read the list of 'tricky' words often (they must be able to spell these by the end of Year 2) so that the children are really familiar with them and this will help their spelling.

Guided Reading

Guided reading will take place every day except Friday from 1pm. They will be in small groups with an adult and will read a section of a text (fiction or non-fiction) and will answer questions based on what has been read. This will help their retrieval and inference skills. On other days when they are not with an adult they will carry out other reading skills activities.

Library

The children can choose a book from the library to take home. Our library day is **Wednesday**.



Writing

The children will continue to practise correct letter formation and how to correctly form their letters. To reach the expected level for writing by the end of Year 2 the children need to have correctly formed, regular sized letters. Please encourage this whenever your child practises their writing at home.

Spelling

In year 2 we use the Sir Link a lot website. The children will be tested every two weeks and we will share the videos with them in class as well as expecting them to view at home. They will be told which set of spellings we are covering.

Maths

We aim to make maths as fun and as practical as possible. The National Curriculum is challenging so we appreciate your support in reinforcing and practising concepts at home.

Areas you can practise at home are:

- Telling the time
- Using money – adding, finding change.
- Naming and describing 2d and 3d shapes – sides, edges, vertices, faces, right angles.
- Counting up to 100 and beyond
- Writing numbers to 100 and beyond in words and figures.
- Counting in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s
- Reciting times tables – expected to know 2s, 3s, 5s, 10s by end of Year 2
- Measure height. Use scales to weigh cooking ingredients. Discuss different units of measure e.g. centimetres, millimetres, grams, litres.



Homework

English / maths

Once a week for each subject

Reading

Please read regularly with your child – 10 minutes every school night is ideal.

Spelling

Practise weekly spellings

Times tables

Recite 2s, 3s, 5s, 10s

What does a typical day in Year 2 look like?

The mornings usually follow the same timetable of maths and English activities. The afternoon sessions vary from day to day and half term to half term. We take on a half termly topic so our science, history or geography, design technology, art and music usually relate to the topic. Other subject areas including computing, R.E, Personal Social, Health, Emotional and Citizenship education (PSHE&C) and P.E. are taught every week as discrete subjects.

All sessions include focused, adult-led tasks and independent tasks.

Here is an example of a day in Year 2:

8.40am – Classroom doors open. Registration and Early Morning work.

9.00am Collective Worship

9.30am – English / phonics

10.15am – Playtime

10.30am - Maths

12.00 – 1.00pm - Lunchtime

1.00pm – Register

1.10pm – Guided Reading

1.40pm Topic lesson (which might be science, history, geography, art or DT based).

2.45pm – Story time

3.15pm – Hometime



I hope this information is useful. Please ask if you are unsure of anything.

Year 2 common exception words

The children are expected to be able to spell these by the end of the year.

door	climb	after	improve
floor	most	last	sure
poor	only	fast	sugar
because	both	past	eye
find	old	father	could
mind	cold	class	should
kind	hold	grass	would
behind	told	pass	who
child	gold	plant	whole
children	every	path	any
wild	everybody	bath	many
even	steak	hour	clothes
great	pretty	move	busy
break	beautiful	prove	people
water	again	half	money
Mr	Mrs	parents	Christmas

All other end of year expectations can be found on the school website.