



Hérons Way, Thatcham,  
 Berkshire RG19 3SR  
 Tel: 01635 866700  
 Email: office@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk  
 Web: www.pdp.w-berks.sch.uk

Thursday 7th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Y2 Welcome Letter

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to Year 2 and the Woodpecker class. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with information about routines and expectations in Year 2.

#### **This term's curriculum.**

Our overarching topics this term will be **Our Local Environment** followed by **The Great Fire of London**.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>Science</b>	Animals including humans/Everyday Materials
<b>History</b>	History of Canals/The Great Fire of London
<b>Geography</b>	Skills and Fieldwork/UK Countries and Capital Cities
<b>Art</b>	3D Nature Sculpture
<b>D.T</b>	Structures
<b>R.E</b>	Special – The Hindu Story of Ganesh/Symbols - Light as a Symbol
<b>PSHE</b>	Me and My Relationships/Valuing Difference
<b>Music</b>	Seasons and Weather/Our Land and Number
<b>Computing</b>	Creating Pictures/Online Safety and Spreadsheets
<b>P.E</b>	Netball/Tag Rugby

#### **Homework**

Your child will soon be issued with a reading book and their reading record. We will be reading with your child at school and recording any comments in their reading record as a way of communicating their reading successes, and sometimes words or sounds to practise at home. When your child comes home with their book, please spend time looking at the cover of the book together and discussing what you both think might happen by using the title, pictures and blurb. When reading the book, please encourage your child to use their phonic knowledge to solve any unknown words. The books will also contain some common exception words which are words we just need to learn by sight. We would encourage you to ask your child to re-read each book as there are lots of benefits to this; they build understanding of the story, start to remember tricky words by sight and they can become more fluent at blending new words thus hearing themselves as readers and gaining confidence. It would be fantastic if you could listen to your child read daily, however we do realise that sometimes this is not possible! As before, children will be receiving sapphire gems for reading at home. Please do also continue to use the comments section in their reading record to communicate any success or concerns at home.

We will continue to set maths homework through the Numbots program, with an expectation that your child completes 10 minutes a week. Learning Gems will be awarded for completing this. Your child's Numbots login details will be in the back of their reading record. This program is well designed to consolidate instant recall of number facts and pictorial representations which are the foundations for future problem solving and link-making.



Hérons Way, Thatcham,  
Berkshire RG19 3SR  
Tel: 01635 866700  
Email: [office@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:office@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk)  
Web: [www.pdp.w-berks.sch.uk](http://www.pdp.w-berks.sch.uk)

### **Library**

The children will have a weekly visit to the school library to select a book to bring home. This will be every Thursday afternoon. Please make sure that your child returns their library book each week so that they can be issued with a new one.

### **P.E./Outdoor Learning**

In Year 2 PE will be taught twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays and will be indoors and outdoors. Children need to wear their PE kit to school on these days and they will remain in their PE kit for the whole day. PE kit should be a plain white T-shirt, black shorts/joggers, school jumper/cardigan and plimsolls/trainers. We will not have a designated outdoor learning session but do still plan to offer outdoor learning opportunities throughout our topics. Therefore, please provide your child with named wellies and waterproof trousers, if possible, to be kept at school. If any of these sessions are to take place off site, we will let you know beforehand.

### **Additional Equipment**

We still provide Year 2 children with the stationery that they will need for their learning at school. Therefore, your child does not need to bring their own stationery nor pencil case into school. If your child still has their red school book bag, please feel free to continue using this in Year 2, as your child only needs to bring their named water bottle, reading book and reading record into school on a daily basis. Please do not send in large rucksacks as we do not have space for them.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Alcock and Mrs. Hawkins

[Year2@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:Year2@pdp.w-berks.sch.uk)