



# Welcome to Year 2



September 2023

## Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome to Year 2. We hope that you have had a wonderful break and are rested and excited for a new year. The Year 2 team have been so impressed with how well the children have settled and we have had a wonderful time getting to know them. The children have enjoyed getting to know their classroom and starting some work on The Rainbow Fish. We have also shared with the children our "Take Care Values" and it has been so lovely to see how seriously they have been taking them - using them in class and in the playground.

## Drop off and collection of pupils:

Many thanks for following the school guidelines for the drop off and collection of pupils. All children to be dropped off at the Year 2 door opposite the KS1 block.

Drop off: 8.40-8.50                      Collection: 3.30

**Please, email the office ([office@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk)) or speak to a member of Y2 staff, to confirm who your child will be going with on a regular basis.**

## Messages

As you can appreciate, there will be many children coming into school around the same time, so mornings can be quite busy! We stand outside to welcome the children each morning, so we are able to take quick messages but we do appreciate written messages to prevent large gatherings of people outside the classrooms. Alternatively, you can call or email the office ([office@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk)), or email us at [year2@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk](mailto:year2@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk).

## Fruit:

Fruit is provided in school for all Year 2 pupils. If you wish to provide an alternative snack, we ask that it is a healthy option.

## PE:

Usually, PE will take place on a Tuesday afternoon with a second session with Mr Atkins on a Thursday afternoon. All children are required to attend school in their PE kit on these days. So, **please can your child come to school in their PE kit on a Tuesday and a Thursday.**

PE kit: plain white t-shirt (or navy Abbey Road t-shirt), navy or black shorts or joggers, plain navy or black jumper or hoodie, trainers.

**Earrings:** Children **must not** wear earrings for PE lessons. We recommend they are taken out at home as any child who is wearing them will not be permitted to take part in the lesson, unless they can remove them independently.

## Cloakroom

The children will only be storing their coats in the cloakroom, therefore they only need a water bottle, packed lunch (if providing your own), coat and book bag.

## Homework:

### Reading:

Reading and reading at home in our homework guidance as learning to read, both word decoding and language comprehension strategies, are vital to ensuring success at school. Children will have the opportunity to change their school reading book at least twice a week and, as specified in our reading diaries, we ask that children aim to read at home EVERY day. We ask you read with your child whenever possible as this encourages reading aloud, which helps with text comprehension and also allows parents to model fluent reading by sharing a book together.

Reading (recorded in the reading diary) at least **four times** each week (from Friday-Friday) will help your child to contribute to our whole-class reading reward system. We call this 'We Love Reading' and the aim is to work together to get 100 stickers on our chart. Once this has been achieved, the children will be involved in choosing a new class book, which will then be purchased and shared with the class. Every child who has read at least four times will earn one sticker for our chart each week.

Children also take part in daily whole-class guided reading sessions in Year 2. These will focus on comprehension and understanding. When you are reading at home, we also ask that you talk to your child about what they are reading, to check for understanding. Some example 'question prompts' can be found in the back of their reading diaries.

### Worm Words

We will continue to send home Worm words for those children who have not yet finished the programme.

### Maths Fluency

Basic addition and subtraction facts are so important in ensuring fluency in maths and will support all maths learning in school. Number bonds to ten and twenty are included at the back of the children's reading diaries, but we would also recommend a free app called 'One Minute Maths', to support with fluent recall. We recommend accessing this at least 4 times per week to practise subitising and basic addition and subtraction skills.

### Spellings

Spelling patterns will be taught daily at school. This half term, we will focus on revising the phonic sounds before moving onto the Year 2 spelling patterns after half term. At this point we will introduce ED-Shed as a platform to support your child at home and logins will be added to their reading diaries.

Children working at a Year 2 standard are expected to be able to read and write Common Exception Words accurately. A copy of these words can be found in your child's reading diary. We ask that you practise these words regularly, to ensure your child is able to **read** and **spell** them confidently.

### Homework Expectations for Year 2

Reading	4 times a week minimum
Worm Words (30 lists to complete)	4 times a week minimum
One Minute Maths	Daily 4 times a week minimum

	<b>(we will introduce Times Tables Rockstars in the Spring term, after multiplication has been taught in maths lessons)</b>
<b>Ed - Shed spelling</b>	<b>From Oct half term 4 times a week minimum</b>

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We are looking forward to a happy and busy year ahead!

The Year 2 Team

**(Mrs Marshall, Mrs Lever, Mrs Worton, Mrs Flemming, Miss Angel, Mrs Rogers, Mrs Plant)**