



Head Teacher:

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. We hope you all had a very enjoyable summer holiday.

We have two Year 2 classes; Mrs Brown (London 2AB) and Mr Robinson (Edinburgh 2NR). The children will also benefit from the support of the teaching assistants based in Year 1 and 2. The children may complete various activities with the support of Mrs Cullinan, Miss Ward, Miss Ruecroft and Mrs Heap. Mrs Coverdale and Mrs Saint will be teaching the classes on a Thursday afternoon to enable teachers to have their PPA (Planning, Preparation and Assessment) time.

Thank you for your support in making the beginning of the school year run so smoothly and calmly. The children have settled in well and appear keen and eager to learn! They all look very smart in their school uniforms! **Please would you make sure that all clothes and belongings are clearly marked with the children's names to avoid mix-ups - especially coats.** It is also beneficial if your child brings a named bottle of water to school daily. Thank you.

As usual we will be continuing English and Maths on a daily basis.

In **English** our main focuses up to Christmas will be stories with significant authors, poetry and non-fiction explanations and instructions. There will be a focus on Julia Donaldson as an author. Within the class the children will work individually, in pairs or in groups and one group per day will participate in a guided reading session with the teacher. This provides an opportunity to hear children read, discuss the texts and answer comprehension questions about the text. We will also be working on handwriting as we now use a cursive script to ensure children can join the letters.

Reading packets will be sent home twice weekly as usual, on Tuesdays and Fridays. We do ask for the books to be returned on a Monday and by a Thursday to ensure we have enough time to change them and talk to the children about them. We value your continued support and would ask that when you hear your child read at home, you comment on how your child has coped with the book. Any children that did not complete their keywords in Year 1 will continue to bring these home.

The focus in **Maths** this term will be number and place value. We will be working on learning multiplication tables starting with x2 facts, progressing onto x10 and x5.

Homework goes home every Friday and needs to be returned by the following Tuesday at the latest, so the teacher can check it and make preparations for the next week's homework. Maths homework is intended as reinforcement of concepts covered in the lessons. If you or your child are anxious about the work, or the methods used, please do not hesitate to write a note in their book, and we will be pleased to help. Spellings will also form part of the homework. The children will be given a set of words incorporating a specific blend. It would be beneficial if the children could think of additional words containing the same blend to practise.



Our topic is based around the book '**The Gruffalo**' by Julia Donaldson. We will also be looking at other books by the same author as the term progresses. In **Computing** we will improve our keyboard skills as well as looking at text, fonts and graphics. **Art** this term is all about experimenting with pattern and printing techniques linked to nature.

In **P.E.** we will be doing basic skills and outdoor games every week (weather permitting). Children will need an indoor kit comprising of a white T-shirt and blue shorts. For outdoor P.E. the children will need jogging bottoms, a sweatshirt and **trainers**, preferably not plimsolls as we have found that children often slip outside when wearing these. Please send P.E. kits into school as soon as possible if they are not already here and ensure that all kit is named. Due to space constraints, we ask that both PE kits are kept in one bag. We also ask that if your child wears earrings you remove them on P.E. days or cover them up with plasters provided from home. Long hair needs to be tied up on these days.

All of Year 2 have P.E. on a **Monday** and a **Tuesday**.

In **Music** we are looking forward to creating new rhythms and doing lots of singing. We will be linking this to some Julia Donaldson songs as she is also a musician as well as an author. Our **R.E.** topic this term is called Special Books and Special Celebrations. Our **Science** topic is Habitats. We will also be continuing with the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) and this term our topics are New Beginnings, Say No to Bullying and Getting on and Falling Out.

Wow! We have so much to cover before the Christmas holidays. As you can see, the children will be very busy!

Diary Dates

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| TBC | Trip to Gruffalo Wood |
| Tuesday 19 th September - 3:15 - 3:45 | Meet and greet for parents |
| Monday 30 th October / Wednesday 1 st November | Parents Consultation Evenings |
| October 23 rd - October 27 th | Half Term |
| Monday 30 th October | Back to school |
| Friday 22 nd December | End of term |

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to **Marvellous Me**. It is a great way for us to keep you informed on the progress your child is making and to let you know any important information and special news. Keep Hi5ing us!

The Year 2 staff would **greatly** appreciate any help in the classroom. All new helpers need to have Criminal Records Bureau (DBS) clearance, so if interested please see your child's teacher to find out what to do.

Thank you.

Mrs Brown Mr Robinson