



St Mary's C of E Primary School
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Head Teacher: Miss Sarah Gray

September 2025

Dear Families of Year 2,

The new school year is now well underway, and I am delighted to be teaching Year 2. It has been great to get to know the children already, and I am really looking forward to what I hope will be an exciting year ahead!

Below is some information about the Autumn term in Year 2 that I hope will be helpful.

Finally, thank you to all the parents who were able to come along to the 'Meet the Teacher' session - it was lovely to meet so many of you and to share a little about life in Year 2. For anyone who couldn't make it, the slides from the session are available on the class webpage and on Google Classroom.

STAFFING

I will be teaching Year 2 from Monday to Friday. However, on Thursday morning, Mrs Dobbs will be teaching and for part of Friday morning Mrs Christie will be teaching.

Mrs Evans, Mrs Wootton and Miss Emery will also support the teaching throughout the week.

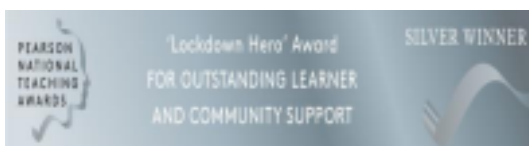
P.E. KITS

P.E. will be taught on **Monday (am)** and **Wednesday (pm)**. Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their full PE kits on these days (NB. black or navy base layers may be worn under PE kit in cold weather).

Please note that earrings and jewellery **cannot** be worn for P.E. Please remove earrings on P.E. days.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be set on a **Thursday** via the Google Classroom, to be handed in on the following **Tuesday**. Please contact me if you require your child's login details via the Year 2 email address (see below).





In addition to this, we encourage children to read at home **daily**, so please continue to hear your child read at home and read to them to model good reading. A note of this should be kept in their reading record book.

Children will change their reading books every **Monday** but please ensure that your child brings their reading book to school each day so we are also able to read with them at school throughout the week.

SPELLINGS

We will be doing daily spelling sessions aiming to build on and improve spelling of both high frequency words and spelling rules and patterns. We will use phonics and spelling rules to do this. Each week the homework will include some spelling based on the spelling patterns we have been practicing.

AUTUMN TERM CURRICULUM OVERVIEW IN YEAR 2

Maths: Counting, place value, addition and subtraction, comparison and measures, mental calculations, and making money combinations.

English: Traditional tales (*Frog and the Stranger/Last stop on Market Street*), instructions (*How to make friends with a ghost*), poetry (*The Puffin book of Fantastic First Poems*) and letters/postcards (*Dragon Post*).

Science: Living things - habitats. Considering the life processes that all living things have in common.

RE: Creation: Who made the world? Pupils learn the sequence of the creation story and know the importance Christians attach to giving thanks to God for his creation.

Geography: Would you prefer to live in a hot or cold place? Introducing climate zones and exploring weather features.

History: Local history - Historical importance of canals in Berkhamsted.

Computing: Logging on, online safety, spreadsheets and effective searching and questioning.

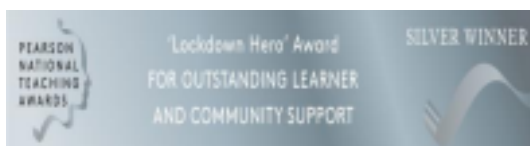
Art: Craft and Design - Map it out.

D&T: Puppet design – Textiles: templates and joining techniques

PSHE: Family and relationships.

Music: Exploring pulse, rhythm and pitch and singing and appraising music.

PE: Ball skills and fundamental skills.





GROWTH MINDSET AND MINDFULNESS

Having a 'Growth Mindset' is a massive asset to learners. We want our children to take risks, accept challenges, think positively and learn from mistakes. Families can support children to develop their Growth Mindsets by sharing positive messages about learning. We will be reinforcing messages such as, "*Mistakes help me learn!*" and "*Small progress is still progress - keep going!*". We will also be helping the children to develop 'Mindfulness' skills, which will involve learning relaxing breathing and visualisation techniques.

NOTICES

Collection: As always, if your child is going home with someone other than yourselves please let me know via the Year 2 email (see below) or via the office.

Forest school: Year 2 are not scheduled to go to Forest School on a weekly basis but we certainly hope to go to Forest School at least once each half-term. When we do I will be sure to give plenty of advance notice to bring in welly boots and any other clothing.

Pebble Jar treats: Year 2 have settled in well and are already earning pebble jar treats! Again, I will be sure to let you know when they have filled the Pebble Jar and what their chosen treat is.

Class Trips: We haven't yet booked any class trips but when we do I will be sure to give plenty of advance notice.

Donation wish list: As we move into the colder months and coughs and colds start up again we would be extremely grateful for any donations of boxes of tissues in Year 2!

COMMUNICATION

If you have any questions about your child or Year 2, or if you want to arrange a conversation with me, please contact me via the Year 2 email - year2@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk. I will be checking this email every day.

I look forward to getting to know both you and your children throughout the upcoming year.

Best wishes,,

Mr Worth

