

Year 2 Newsletter – Autumn 2017

Dear Parents,

Miss Webster and I (Mrs Wootton) would like to welcome you back to the start of another new year at Academy at St James. We hope that you have had a lovely summer break. Thank you so much to those of you who have helped your children to complete the summer reading challenge.

In Resilient Rhinos the teaching assistants are Mrs Nash and Mrs Carter. The Mighty Meerkats will be supported by Miss Mawson.

Now that your children have made the transition up into Year 2, there will be a lot of change in both the pace and the challenge of the work. Expectations will be much higher, and the children will be expected to complete more class work than last year. The expectations are outlined below.

Community: The whole school theme for assemblies this half term is 'community'. We will be thinking about what it is to be a community and which communities we belong to. Do you have any community links that you could tell us about?

Reading: The children will be heard read during guided reading and where possible on a 1:1 basis in school. As well as this, they will be required to read daily (for ten minutes) at home to an adult so reading books will be sent home. Please take the time every day to listen to your child read and to discuss the books with them. Their reading record should also be signed and dated in the school planner. This plays a crucial role in their learning and gives them quality time with you too. We will change books on Monday and Friday. The children will be rewarded by putting a sticker on a chart each time they have read and had their reading record signed by an adult at home. Once their chart is full they will receive a prize.

Spellings: The children will have opportunities to learn new spelling rules at school so will therefore need to practice spelling words which follow these patterns at home. The children will receive spellings to learn each week on a

Friday, and will be tested on these the following Friday. These will be stuck into their school planner. Please encourage your child to learn them orally.

Learn by heart Maths Facts: The National Curriculum states that all children must know some of their times tables, number bonds, doubles and halves by the time they leave Year 2. This means that all children in year 2 need to learn their 2, 5, and 10 times tables thoroughly this year. Please practice these skills at home regularly using quick fire questions, writing them out, drawing diagrams to represent them, or singing them in songs. Once the children secure their times tables, everything else taught in maths falls into place and is easier for them to understand.

PE: PE lessons with Miss Canning will take place on a Monday and with the class teacher on Wednesday, but please ensure that your child has their kit in school every day in case we have other opportunities to make the most of the weather and to do additional lessons outside.

Our overall theme for this half term is "Buckets of Fun". Please see the attached overview to see the learning which will be covered through this topic.

Should you have any other questions about the routines and learning in Year 2, please do not hesitate to contact us. Miss Webster and I will be there at the start and end of each day to welcome the children and to see them home safely. We are always here to support you as well as the children.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Wootton and Miss Webster

Year 2 teachers