

# Welcome to Year 2!



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 2! We hope that you have had a wonderful summer and had lots of fun wherever you were and whatever you did! We cannot wait to get to know you and your child over the coming year and are really looking forward to getting stuck into the exciting learning activities that we have planned.

## Curriculum

We will be following a two week timetable this academic year. Children will receive Maths, English, Phonics, Memory Maths and Handwriting sessions **daily**. Below is a table with details of the topics planned for other subjects in the autumn term.

Subject	Description
History <i>The Great Fire of London</i>	As historians, the children will have the opportunity to increase their awareness of the past; looking at what life was like and how it was different in the 17th century. They will also be comparing and contrasting past and present-day London and its houses.
Geography <i>Our Wonderful World</i>	As geographers, the children begin this unit by locating the 7 continents and 5 oceans of the world using a variety of maps, atlases and globes, developing their understanding of the world in which they live. They will then be investigating how we find out about the Earth. Children will begin to deepen their understanding of each continent, understanding what makes it special. They will answer the question – Which continent would I like to live in and why?
Science <i>Animals including humans</i>	As scientists, the children will discuss the basic needs humans have and compare these to the wants humans have. Children will then focus on the one aspect of food and nutrition and develop an understanding of the main food groups and the quantities needed of each food group to stay healthy. Children will then move on to exercise and the link between exercise and good health. Finally, children will conclude this unit by learning about the importance of good hygiene through the key question - Why is hygiene important?
Art <i>Megan Coyle – Tone and Collage</i>	As artists, the children will develop their knowledge and skills of creating a picture using different collaging techniques. The unit begins by looking at the artist Megan Coyle, an artist who creates collages entirely from recycled papers and magazine strips with a process that she calls 'painting with paper'. Pupils will investigate a range of collaging techniques including cutting, tearing, folding, scrunching and twisting.
DT <i>Glove Puppets</i>	As technicians, the children will explore puppets. What they are? Who they are used for? How they are made? How do they move? Children will be taught to thread a needle and to execute a basic running stitch to join two fabric pieces together and how to applique embellishments onto the front of their puppets using a variety of media.
Computing <i>Fundamentals in Coding</i>	As digital creators, the children will recap and be introduced to the key computing concepts of sequence and repetition through 'unplugged' (without a computer) activities. It focuses on using problem solving skills to overcome problems using computational thinking concepts. Children will then use Scratch Jnr and Beebots to predict, run and modify code.
Music <i>The Nutcracker by Tchaikovsky</i>	As musicians, the children will be looking at the world of classical music through related films and accessible musical arrangements. The unit introduces the pupils to the type of music that they will be studying throughout this year and also gives the opportunity to make links to the music and musical vocabulary learnt in previous years.
PE <i>Movement Games and Health and Fitness</i>	Movement Games – During this unit, as sportspeople, the pupils will be able to balance, run, change direction, jump, hop and skip using a range of equipment and playing a variety of fun and exciting games. Health and Fitness – This unit is all about promoting a healthy lifestyle and a lifelong enjoyment of exercise.
RE	As theologians, the children will be celebrating Harvest and learning about the creation story as part of their studies into Christianity. As the autumn term progresses, they will then explore Christmas and why this time of year matters to Christians.
My Life <i>Different types of families</i>	In My Life lessons, the children will learn how families are important for children growing up, they will discuss that families sometimes look different but that they should respect those differences. Children will share stories of how the people in their families spend time with each other.

## Teachers and Teaching Assistants

Just a reminder of the teaching staff in Year 2.

2H		2P	
Teacher	Mr Hopes	Teachers	Mrs Pates (M, T, W) Mrs Bidwell (Th, F)
Teaching Assistants	Mrs Clewitt	Teaching Assistant	Mrs Waldron Miss Reid

### Reading

To ensure your child is receiving a book exactly matched to their phonetical ability we are trialling a new way of providing reading materials for use at home. As you may know, at Burlish we use the RWInc phonic scheme to teach our children to read. In great news, we can now provide you with access to digital versions of the reading books the children are studying in class. This means the children can practice the same letters and sounds at home, allowing them to consolidate and make even better progress. We would therefore like you to make these digital books the priority when reading at home. We appreciate that these books can only be accessed via a device such as an iPad but do hope your child will enjoy reading in this way and the positives outweigh the negatives of using a device to read. We will be sharing more information about how to use the eBooks during the Meet the Teacher session on **Monday 11th September**. Student Logins will then be provided in diaries following this session.



Priority reading	Other reading materials to provide additional options.
RWInc phonic Ebook  <i>Login to be provided in Sept New book assigned each Thursday</i>	Choose book – The book with the coloured band Library book- silver or brown label.

### Accelerated Reading

Once your child has finished the RWInc phonic program the children then move to receiving an Accelerated Reading book! This then replaces the RWInc phonic Ebook as the priority. We will provide you with further information on how to use these books once your child has got to this stage.

Please read with your child each day and record this reading in your child's Reading and Homework Diary. Throughout the year, sponsored reads and reading challenges will take place so please check book bags, Seesaw and diaries for letters and further details. *Daily reading at home is essential to your child's progression. We understand that family life can be very busy but please remember to read with your child every day!*

Please ensure that your child's Reading and Homework Diary is always in their book bag every day.

### Library books

Your child will also be given the opportunity to choose a book from the library on a **Monday**. This will be of their own choosing and they may need help to read it! These books are distinguishable by the barcode stuck on the inside of the front cover.



### Spellings

We will soon be handing out spellings on a Wednesday to be learnt for a Spelling Quiz the following Wednesday. The words will be sent home as an activity on Seesaw. As in Year 1, the spellings will be linked to the sounds that they have been learning in Phonics. If they have finished the phonic programme they will follow the national curriculum spelling programme of study for Year 2.



### Seesaw

In Year 2, we frequently use Seesaw for messages, reminders, homework, spellings, help videos and information about what we have been up to in school so please ensure you check it regularly. If you would like to contact your class teacher, please ensure you use the message function rather than posting a comment in your child's journal. This means that we receive an email alert and can respond more promptly. You will soon receive a new Year 2 QR code to be able to connect with us!

### Homework

The children will be receiving English and Maths homework each week via an activity on Seesaw. It would be hugely beneficial if you discuss this work with your child and support if necessary. Homework will be sent out on a Friday and expected to be returned by the following Friday.

### P.E.

All children will have PE with their class teacher on a **Monday** and with Mr Lindley on a **Tuesday**.

Please ensure that your child has the appropriate kit, including trainers that fit and outdoor clothes for the colder weather.

Please label all PE kits clearly. If your child has long hair, it should be tied up for safety reasons. Earrings should be removed before coming to school or your child will be asked to remove them before participating in the lesson. If this is not possible, please provide your child with medical tape to cover the earrings. We will send all PE kits home on a Wednesday to be washed ready for the following week.



### Pencil Cases

The children are welcome to bring in pencils, rubbers, a pencil sharpener, colouring pencils, felt tips and a glue stick in a named pencil case if they wish.

If you have any queries regarding the information in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to having a fantastic year!

Yours sincerely,

Mr Hopes, Mrs Pates and Mrs Bidwell