

## Welcome to Year 2!

As you know, many of our routines have been adapted to support the children returning to school in a safe, positive learning environment. Thank you for your support in making the new drop off and collection arrangements run so smoothly. Some of you have already taken time to speak with me over the fence, please all do so as and when you can so we can support each other and the children the best way possible.

As a whole school, we focus on Maths and English in the mornings, with the afternoons for the foundation subjects. We trialed blocking many subjects (e.g. teaching a series of geography lessons across a week) last year and will continue this for many subjects.

Our PE slot is on Tuesday afternoon, and we ask that children come to school in their PE kits and school jumpers/cardigans on that day. Across the week we will also complete the 'golden mile', lapping the playground. Children will wear their normal uniforms for this. We are keeping our rooms airy and open at all times so I would recommend that children always have jumpers with them!

At break times we will often use the field. As we head into autumn and winter it is a great idea for children to have a change of trainers or wellies kept at school. Fruit is now available for snack time.

## Penguin Class Newsletter

September 2020

Miss Moll & Mrs Sayer

## Home – School learning and links

We know that you worked hard to support your children with their learning at home last year. Hopefully, this year won't be as intense for you in terms of teaching! Support at home makes a huge difference for children in terms of skills, confidence and experience, and we have found that focusing on key phonics, reading and Maths skills at home has a positive impact.

We want to minimise the things passed between home and school, such as letters, spellings, reading records. To support this we will keep our class pages on the website up to date, posting the weekly spellings and our current topics. The reading records will only be checked in class weekly, we ask that they come into school for Thursday and they will be sent home Monday. Please don't think this means we will not be reading at school!

We ask that you aim to listen to your child read daily, ideally from a book that is the correct band for them. This is a time to practise reading skills, which includes decoding and recognising words, making predictions, developing reading pace and fluency and asking and answering questions about the book.

While sharing books to improve understanding and decoding is crucial, so is developing a love of books - sharing great books with your child creates opportunities to develop this love. We are currently sharing *Fantastic Mr Fox* in class.

## Forest School inspired learning

The children will have Forest School inspired learning sessions every other half term, starting after the October break. So, our Forest school will take place during the second half of each term.

## Topic Learning



We would love for you and your child to choose a project to further their learning and curiosity at home and help you to draw out with them some of the learning that takes place in school. You could:

- Find out about an animal that has adapted to a specific environment and habitat, e.g. a tree frog.
- Create a weather report from Zambia or Antarctica.
- Find and retell another journey story.
- Create and follow your own recipe.
- Recreate one of Van Gogh's landscape paintings.
- Design/make clothing or vehicles for Arctic exploration.

Work cannot be brought in, however you could send a PowerPoint, video or photographs via email, by 12.10.2020, so that we can celebrate this work in class.

## Our class page can be found at

<https://oldbuckenham-pri.norfolk.sch.uk/penguin-class-year-2/>



I will not normally send out paper newsletters going forwards. Please get in touch if you do not have online access so that I can make alternate arrangements, and if you are not already signed up with parent mail this would be a great time to do so!

If you have questions or need to speak with me, in person at the end of the day, messages in reading records, messages to the office or emails to [year2@obhomework.co.uk](mailto:year2@obhomework.co.uk) will reach me (please be aware the email account will not be checked daily).