

LET
NEW
adventures
BEGIN



Welcome to Year 2!

This is the year to say, 'I WILL'!

STOP SAYING
'I WISH'
START SAYING
'I WILL'

Key Dates:

- 10th September: Swimming Starts
- 13th September: Whole School Mass
- 9th October: Parent Consultations
4-7pm
- 10th October: Parent Consultations
1:30-3:30pm
- 19th October: Inset Day
- 25th October: Whole School Mass/
International Evening 6pm
- 14th November: KS1 Disco
- 22nd November: Yrs 1 & 2 Class Mass
- 11th December: Yr 2 Christmas
Celebration
- 19th December: Christmas Jumper
Day
- 20th December: Whole School Mass
- 7th January: School Starts Back

A very warm welcome back to all Year 2 pupils and families! I hope you had an enjoyable and restful summer. I am really looking forward to getting to know your children and helping them to learn and grow. As your children are now the oldest children in KS1, I am sure they are eager to take on the new responsibilities and challenges that come with it. Throughout this year, I hope to work with you to stimulate your children's imagination, ambitions, hopes and help them to have the confidence to say 'I WILL'!

As always, our RE topics will form a big part of our journey together. Our topics are:

- **Beginnings:** we will explore the children's experiences of beginnings and the creation of the world.
- **Signs & Symbols:** The children will learn about the signs and symbols we see in daily life then will discover how to make links to signs and symbols of baptism.
- **Preparations:** the children will learn that Advent is a time for preparing for Jesus. We will think about how we prepare for celebrations in our daily life.

Handwriting Champions!



Having legible handwriting is a key life skill and we will be encouraging all children develop their handwriting and to take pride in the presentation of their work. All of Year 2 will have a handwriting book to take home. When writing, please encourage your child to have both feet on the floor; have a relaxed pen-grip; have enough elbow space; use their non-writing hand to rest on the paper and have their paper tilted slightly.

Be Strong,
Be Brave,
Be Fearless.
You are never alone.
Joshua 1.9

Escape to Wonderland: What will you wonder?



Our topic this term will be based on Alice in Wonderland and her adventures with the Mad Hatter and the White Rabbit. In English, we will be exploring Wonderland through literature and film in order to inspire the children to write with enjoyment and flare. Our Maths lessons will focus on deepening the children's understanding of Number, the four operations and Money. Throughout our lessons we will explore real-life problem-solving strategies to ensure the children can apply their Mathematical knowledge to everyday-life.

As the author of Alice in Wonderland (Lewis Carroll) was born in the Victorian era, our History lessons will focus on exploring the Victorians, Queen Victoria herself and Victorian children. We will continue to learn about the Victorians in our Art lessons, as we will be learning about the work of William Morris (a Victorian textile designer). Year 2 will use outdoor materials to help design and create their own masterpieces. Our map-making skills will be tested in Geography when we create our own map of Wonderland; whilst our cooking skills will be broadened in DT when we prepare our own Mad Hatter's Tea Party! In Science, the children will learn about Forces and how forces can impact on the way objects travel. They will also explore the changing seasons and create Weather reports. Year 2 will also enjoy singing songs with Mr Wheat and dancing with Mrs Bathgate.

*don't ever lose
your sense
of wonder*

I am so looking forward to getting to know all the children in Year 2 and helping them to investigate, discover and learn through making 'marvellous mistakes'. Strong home-school links are key to ensuring that your children gain the best support from both school and home so, if you do have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch so we can discuss them further. Thank you in advance for your support over the coming term, it is very much appreciated.

Miss Cotter

As part of their PE sessions, Year 2 will be taking part in swimming lessons in the Autumn and Summer terms.

The children will have a full induction and begin developing their water confidence from the first session. The children will visit Clifton Leisure Centre on Monday afternoons.

Please ensure your child has a swimming costume or swimming shorts (these must be above the knee, without pockets for children to swim safely) and a towel.

For those with long hair, they will need to have it tied back in preparation for the water! Children are welcome to wear goggles, please send them with a note of consent. However, children are not permitted to swim with earrings in. In the Summer term, swimming will take place on Wednesdays.

Ways to help at Home!

Swimming: We are still searching for parent helpers to assist with the sessions. If you are available on Monday afternoons to help, please let the office know, thank you.

Reading: Please read every evening with your child. Sign your child's reading record in their diary so we can keep up-to-date with their successes at home.

PE: Earrings: due to health and safety reasons, earrings must be removed before all PE sessions. Please remove them before school if your child is not able to do this independently. Please help your child to make sure their Swimming kit is in school on a Monday and that they have their indoor PE kit (white t-shirt/ black shorts) with them in school at all times.

Homework: Year 2 will be given homework on a Tuesday. Please check your child's diary for more information.

Science: please bring in a 'Science lab coat' (this could be an old white shirt) for your child to wear over their uniform during Science investigations.