



Emersons Green Primary School
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Yellow Class Newsletter – Term 1 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 2! I hope you all had a wonderful summer break and are ready for another school year.

General Information

I will be teaching the class on a full-time basis, with Mrs Coleman working as a HLTA to support children with their learning in class and through interventions (Tuesday-Friday). Mr Wilson and Mrs White will teach the class on a Thursday afternoon, while Mrs Morson will be teaching on alternate Thursday mornings. Additional adults supporting in class are Miss Duncan (Monday/Tuesday), Mrs Everson (Wednesday-Friday) and Mr Leach (full time).

PE will take place on Thursdays and Fridays; children need to wear full PE kit to school on these days. This term, the Friday PE session will be Forest School – please ensure children are dressed appropriately for an outside session. Children will need Wellies for these sessions – please send these into school as soon as possible; they can be kept on cloakroom pegs for the duration of the term.

We will visit the school library on Thursdays where children will be able to borrow a book – please ensure these are returned each week so children can take a new book home. This book is different from children's phonics/book band book (see below).

Please ensure that your child brings the following to school each day:

- School reading book and reading record
- A named water bottle (please only provide water, not squash or fizzy drinks)
- Waterproof coat

Children are provided with a piece of fruit for their morning snack – you are welcome to provide your own but please ensure this is only fruit or vegetables (no wrapped snacks). If you would like your child to have milk during morning snack time, please pay for this through the dairy. The school office can help with this if needed.

Going home arrangements

Please let us know as soon as possible your child's going home arrangements. We are unable to allow your child go home with grandparents/relatives or another parent without permission. If it is a regular arrangement, please update this on Arbor. Many thanks in advance.

Google Classroom and Twitter

Please ensure you have logged into Google Classroom and can access the 'Yellow Class' page. Google Classroom will be used to share important information and reminders, newsletters, and photos of children's learning. Twitter is also a great place to see what is going on in school so please request to follow us (@EG_Primary) if you have not yet done so.

This term's learning

You will find on the school website and on Google Classroom the following documents that will give you more information about what we will be learning during Term:

1. Newsletter
2. Topic Web
3. Spellings

Reading

Year 2 is a year of transition for children's reading, as they move from accessing fully-decodable phonics books to reading 'book-band' books.

Most children will begin the year on phonics books and these will be changed as in Year 1 – each Friday children will bring home a new phonics book and these will be closely matched to children's phonic knowledge. We assess children's phonic knowledge regularly to ensure they are accessing texts at an appropriate level.

Throughout the year, children may then move on to book-band coloured books, starting with Turquoise. Each Friday, children will be asked whether they would like to change their reading book (it may take them longer than one week to read a book), and they can do this themselves from the school library. Adults will be on hand to help children in making book choices where needed. Please let us know if you find your child is not changing their book when needed and we can prompt them. An assessment tool called 'Benchmarking' will be used 3x per year to identify whether children are ready to move on to a new book-band colour.

Please continue to hear your child read their school reading book aloud (phonics book or book-band book) as often as possible, aiming for 5x per week, and record the reading in their reading record. It is really helpful if you can let us know what is going well with your child's reading or anything you have helped them with. Adults in school will do the same when we hear children read. Thank you for your support with this.

Numbots and TTRS

Children should continue to access Numbots for 10 minutes each week in order to practise and consolidate key number facts and skills. It would be great to see high numbers of participation each week! Certificates are given out during Friday's assembly for various achievements. Please let me know if you need a reminder of your child's login details.

Later in the year, children will move on to using Times Tables Rock Stars instead of Numbots – look out for information about this in future.

Spelling

In Year 2, daily phonics lessons are replaced by spelling lessons. These build on children's phonic knowledge and links to phonics continue to be made. We use ELS: Essential Spelling as our spelling programme, meaning lessons follow a similar structure to the ELS phonic lessons children are familiar with.

The spelling overview document outlines the spelling rules/patterns which will be taught each week, along with some example words. Please support your child's developing spelling knowledge by practising the rules/patterns at home. Children's spelling will be assessed through weekly spelling dictations each Friday, where they are asked to apply the rules/patterns learnt that week.

I hope this provides some useful information about life in Year 2! If you have any questions or concerns, or there is anything in particular you would like me to know about your child, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks,

Mrs G Leech