



Dear Year 2 Parents/ Guardians,

11th September 2020

Welcome back! We are so happy to have you back in these challenging times and we hope that you and your families are doing well. This letter is to inform you about all the exciting learning that will be taking place in Year 2 this term!

We are very excited to be sharing a class. Isolde will be taking the class on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays and Olga will continue the week on Thursdays and Fridays.

Our topic for this half term is 'Africa'. Whenever possible, this topic will be taught in a cross-curricular way - linking subjects together to provide a rounded and interesting experience for the children.

We will also develop the skills required to becoming a fantastic learner, concentrating on the 5 Hawley Habits. This will be done through exciting science experiments which require collaboration, imagination, curiosity, discipline and resilience.

In **Literacy** we will be looking at the story of Lila and the Secret of Rain with the aim of writing our own version. As our grammar focus, we will be looking at adjectives, nouns and verbs. Once again we will be learning poems off by heart as part of our focus on animal poetry.

In **Maths** we will be comparing numbers using the signs greater than and smaller than (< >). We will work on adding and subtracting 1-digit and 2-digit numbers, understanding place value in 3-digit numbers and finding change from £1. We will continue with our maths investigations to develop our problem solving skills. We will be starting to learn our 2x and 10x tables off by heart.

In **Science** Year 2 will be gardening/ harvesting with Clare and begin to cook our produce with Oonagh every Friday. Alongside this we will looking at different types of plants, the parts of plants and what they need to grow.

In **Art** we will be looking carefully at African masks and making them out of cardboard. We will also learn how to make a coil pot out of clay.

In **Geography** we will study the globe to recognize the seven continents of the world. We will also be exploring the different countries in Africa and comparing them to life in Camden.

In **History** we will be finding out about the life and achievements of Nelson Mandela.

In **Computing** we will be researching African animals using the internet safely.

In **PSHE** we will be setting goals for the New Year and looking at how to manage emotions and mental health.

In **RE** we will be learning about the Nativity.

This term **PE** sessions will be in the hall on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please make sure your child wears suitable clothes to school (i.e. trainers and tracksuit bottoms) as they will not be able to get changed in school.

## Home Learning

Each **Friday** your child will bring homework activity to share with you.

Homework is a time in the week when your child can share with you some of his/her school learning. Please participate in their homework by following this simple advice:

- Do pick a good time to do the homework – preferably not in a rush, and **NOT** when their favourite programme is on television.
- Allow the child to take the lead, only assisting if they are unsure or need something reading or explaining.
- Read the notes on the sheet – often the activity is focused on one specific skill and other skills are less important, and do not need to be fussed over!
- Be positive! Praise is much more effective as a stimulus to hard work and good learning than criticism.

### **The home learning is due in the following Friday.**

We will also be sending home a list of spellings to learn over the week. We will be practicing these spellings on Fridays.

### **Guided Reading:**

Your child will read to a member of staff at least three times a week. We are currently looking at how children might be able to take reading books home to practice.

**Water bottles:** Children must bring a water bottle to school and put it in the box for use during the day. Due to current restrictions the children will not be able to use the water fountain.

**Punctuality:** Because of current restrictions, it is even more important that your child is on time for school each day. There is a 10 minute window before the next class enters. Our school day starts at 8.45 and ends at 3.10 please do your utmost to be punctual so the school day can run smoothly for everyone.

These staff are currently timetabled to work with Year 2:

Isolde and Olga	Class teachers
Marion	Teaching assistant
Florence	Learning support assistant

Yours sincerely,

Isolde Summerscale and Olga Baron