



Dear Year 2 Parents/Guardians,

10th September 2021

Welcome back! We are so happy to have you back 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!

You are invited to a 'Meet the Teacher' meeting in the hall on **Wednesday, 15th September at 3.30pm.** (One parent per family and please wear a mask.)

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. We will also be making booklets about African animals as part of our non-fiction focus.

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 be looking at different types of plants, the parts of plants and what they need to grow. Year 2 will also be taking part in a Canal project with the Canal trust, where we will help redesign a part of the canal and go on a boat trip.

In **Art** we will be looking carefully at art from different African cultures using this to inspire us to make masks, patterns and weaving.

In **Music** we will be learning songs from different African countries, focusing on rhythm and listening to inspiring musicians from around the African continent.

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 Tuesdays and on Fridays outside (weather permitting). 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:

- 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 **Thursdays**.

### **Guided Reading:**

Your child will read to a member of staff at least three times a week. Your child will receive a book to take home. Please ensure you read this book with your child at least 3 times in the week. Make sure your child brings back this book and the reading diary on their reading day.

**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. Our school day starts at 8.55 and ends at 3.20 please do your utmost to be punctual so the school day can run smoothly for everyone.

These are the trips/workshops currently planned for Year 2:

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September- Virtual Fire Safety talk in school

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September- Canal Project workshop in school

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September- Visit the Canal

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October- Canal Boat Trip

Africa related trip- Date tbc

CLC trip- Date tbc

These staff are currently timetabled to work with Year 2:

<b>Isolde and Olga</b>	<b>Class teachers</b>
<b>Marion</b>	<b>Teaching assistant</b>
<b>Clare</b>	<b>Reading support</b>

Yours sincerely,

Isolde Summerscale and Olga Baron