



Year 2 Owls

Parent Information



This letter is to provide you with information on the organisation and routines we have in Owls class. It is replacing our usual meet the teacher session we would normally hold at this time of the year.



Mrs Madders Miss Skinner Mrs Meacock Mrs Dane

The class teachers are **Miss Ella Skinner** Mon - Wed am, **Mrs Gail Meacock** Wed pm - Fri.

If you need to contact us, please email us however small the matter might be.

Our class LSA is **Mrs Ruth Dane** who will be with us every morning while children come into class and some afternoons for booster groups. **Mrs Sonia Madders** is also our class 1:1 and our lunchtime SMSA.

Morning arrival/end of day

The children will arrive in the playground at **8.45am**. The children will say goodbye to their adult before coming to stand on a spot in the playground. Please follow the one-way system around the school. We will go into the classroom together and the children will wash their hands and begin their morning activities e.g. handwriting.

At the end of the day, we will bring the children back out to the playground at **2.55pm**. The children will wait on their spot and we will release the children when we see you.

Any important messages can be passed on to us when you drop your child off in the morning in the form of a note. Alternately, please email us or the office with any other messages.

Water bottles/fruit/lunch boxes

Please make sure all items are **named** (fruit pots/lunchboxes/water bottles/clothing). Lost property will be put outside on the playground table on a Friday.

Milk needs to be paid for as in Year 1 - the dairy forms are available from the office.

All lunches are now in the classroom so please make sure your child's lunch box is clearly named. Year 2 lunch is currently at 12.30 so it is important that children have fruit or vegetables at breaktime to keep them going! Please provide your child with a small piece of fruit or vegetable in a named pot.

PE Kit

Our PE days are Tuesday and Friday. An indoor and outdoor P.E kit is required all year. We do not have a specific P.E kit but we ask for Trainers with velcro (no shoe laces). Children are no longer allowed to wear black daps due to health and safety. A small PE bag (drawstring) is preferable to large rucksacks as we have very limited space in the cloakroom.

Class notices

These will be sent to you via email or the school's communication system. Please check book bags weekly as important letters may still be on paper.

Curriculum info will be sent out once a term. Our topics are Dinosaurs, Fire and Ice (Great Fire of London/Polar Lands), Christmas, India, Marvellous Medicine (Florence Nightingale/Healthy living), Portishead and Castles.

Reading Folders/book bags

In Year 2 we give children the responsibility to change their reading books when needed. Please bring reading folders everyday and remind your child to change their books when you drop them off! Reading records are looked at every Monday and a stamp given for reading at home (every 5 stamps = a PRIZE! from the treasure box). Children are expected to read at least 2-3 times a week.

A member of staff will hear your child read in school as often as possible. We also have a guided reading session once a week focusing on comprehension, reading skills, reading aloud etc which is not always recorded in reading records. Longer books can be read at home silently and fluent readers encouraged to record own reading in their records.

Classroom lesson organisation

In accordance with government guidance around Covid-19, the tables in the classroom are positioned in forward facing rows. The organisation of the classroom may change depending on government guidance and the children's places will change as the year goes on. Other grouping will be used depending on the nature of the subject/activity.

Martina Jones will also be working alongside the Year 2 team for extra support on a Monday morning (we will inform you separately if your child is working with her).

Spelling and Grammar Homework (SPAG)

Booklets will be given out Friday 18th Sept. As they are new to the children, we will complete first page in class and children will bring them home to practise spellings. First check will be on Friday 25th- from then on booklets will be completed week by week at home. There are 3 levels based on the children's current phonic and spelling knowledge.

Stickers / Stamps will be given for completing each week and a certificate for completing all 5 weeks.

A separate guide for parents will be sent home to help you help your child with new terminology.

Handwriting

We have a big focus on presentation. Children **MAY** be given extra practise at home if we feel this is beneficial - this could be practising presentation or new joins. All children will be introduced to joins but will not necessarily join in written work. Joined handwriting is started only once they can produce a neat script to an acceptable standard.

Maths homework

We are currently using Education City and will provide children with games to play shortly. These will practise maths objectives they have learnt in class. There will be a number of games that the children will be expected to complete over the term and we monitor their progress online.

Very occasionally, when we feel the children need extra practise in an area of mathematics, we may send home a worksheet to complete or a maths challenge - please keep an eye out for these in your child's book bag.

SATs

Phonics screening usually takes place at the end of Year 1. We will now be completing the children's phonics screening in the Autumn term of Year 2.

We are unsure of how and when SATs will be implemented under the current circumstances. Usually Term 4 is preparation and in Term 5 the tests are carried out. We will give out more details nearer the time. Please avoid taking children away in these terms. Children are very unfazed by them so please don't worry!

Parent Help

Unfortunately, we are currently unable to have additional adults on site during the school day due to Covid-19. We hope in time this will change as we are very appreciative of any help parents are able to offer.

Data on your child

Please make sure we have an up to date address and phone numbers. Also family circumstances that may have changed since reception. We want your child to be happy and well-motivated to reach their potential. We have an open door policy but due to current Covid restrictions, any messages will need to come via e-mail or by requesting a phone call after school.

Any Questions?

We are aware this year is very different to previous years and we are unable to meet face to face. With this in mind we are asking that you email us with any questions you may have. Please get these to us by Friday 18th September. We will then put together an information sheet based on commonly asked questions for all parents in Year 2.

Ella Skinner

ella.skinner@highdownschools.org

Gail Meacock

gail.meacock@highdownschools.org

