

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We have had a great start to the new school year with the children quickly settling back into the school routines. In order to promote greater independence and organisational skills in Year 2, we encourage the children to remember their own equipment, homework, reading books, letters to hand in etc. Pencil cases are not needed in Year 2. Here is some information about the systems we operate in Year 2, some of which are different to those in Year 1:

Homework Diaries – These need to be in school **each day**. Homework will be stuck in on Fridays to be completed and handed in by the following Wednesday. Spellings will be stuck in each Monday. PE and Swimming days for each Y2 class have also been stuck at the front of the Homework Diary.

Reading Scheme books - This week, your child will have brought home their new reading book and reading card. When your child has completed a book, please make a comment and sign the card. Children must hand their book in every day (whether it has been read or not) and those which have been read will be changed by Mrs Midgely or Mrs Caine. It is important that books are brought into school each day, even if they don't need changing. We encourage books to be changed between 1-3 times per week, depending on the length of the books. It is often beneficial to keep a book for several nights, giving your child the opportunity to revisit it and ask/answer questions about what they have read.

Star of the week - Our year group motto is '**Reach for the Stars**'. Every Friday, a child in each class will be chosen as the 'Star of the Week'. They will get to take home the Star of the Week trophy to keep at home for the weekend. They will need to return this to school on the Monday so that it can stay on their desk for the week and be given to the next child the following Friday.

Spelling Bee - There will be a Spelling Bee quiz each Monday which will be based on the list of Year 1 and 2 common exception words that are in your child's Homework Diary (cream sheet) as well as a weekly spelling pattern. We will choose between 8 and 10 words each week which will be stuck in their spelling books. The children **must** have these books back in school for the quiz on Monday but during the week, the book can be used to complete a 'Super Speller' activity that can be found on the inside cover (green sheet). Children who work hard each week to practise their spellings may be lucky enough to take home the spelling bee! Your child will bring their book home every Monday so that you can see if there are any words that they still need to practise.

Spelling Bee bag – Each class has a yellow bee bag containing our class bumblebee and a Spelling Bee Journal. One child from each class will take this bag home each week and their challenge is to write as many words as they can that contain the weekly spelling pattern e.g. words with –ed at the end. They will receive it on a Monday to return the following Monday and share their work with the rest of the class.



Launch Day: On Thursday 13th September, we will launch our new CCL topic, '**Let's Celebrate**', with a party! On the day, we invite children to come to school dressed in their party clothes. Activities will include making party hats and decorations, as well as designing and cooking our own pizzas for the party. In the afternoon, we will play games followed by a party tea. Therefore, we would be very grateful for any donations of non-perishable snacks (e.g. crisps, biscuits, buns) which would be enough to feed 2 children. Please remember that we are a nut-free school.

We look forward to an exciting year with lots of fun and great learning!

Thank you,

Miss Fiddler, Miss Freeman, Mrs Caine and Mrs Midgley