

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Welcome back!**

We have had a great start already with the children settling in well and learning the new routines. In order to promote greater independence and organisational skills in Year 2 right from the first week, we encourage the children to remember their own homework diary, reading books, spelling books, letters to hand in etc. Due to limited space in the Year 2 cloakrooms, we would strongly encourage children to bring a book bag or other appropriately sized small bag rather than a large rucksack and appreciate your cooperation with this.

**Homework Diaries** – These need to be in school each day. Home learning activities will be given to children each Friday to be handed in the following Wednesday. Homework diaries are also used to inform parents about a variety of things such as requests to bring in items, changes to dates, etc. Homework diaries replace the Year 1 ‘home school’ books.

**Reading Scheme books** - Your child has now brought home their new reading book and reading diary. When your child has completed a book, please make a comment and sign the reading diary in order for their book to be changed. Children must have their book in school every day (whether it has been read or not) and those which have been read will be changed once signed. We encourage books to be changed 2-3 times per week, depending on the length of the books.

**Star of the week** - 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.

**Spelling quiz** - There will be a spelling quiz each Monday which will be stuck in their yellow spelling books. These will be sent home on Mondays for children to show you their score but need to be in school every day. During the week, the yellow book can be used to complete a ‘Super Speller’ activity that can be found in the front of the book.

**Spelling Bee bag** – Each class has a yellow bee bag containing our class bumblebee and a Spelling Bee Journal. Children who work hard each week to practise their spellings may be lucky enough to be given the spelling bee to take home for the week. Their challenge is to write as many words as they can that contain the weekly spelling pattern. 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 Friday 17<sup>th</sup> 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 some games which will be followed by a small party tea with a few light snacks provided by school.**

Year 2 will start swimming on a Tuesday afternoon from next week (Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September) so please ensure that your child brings their named swimming kit to school with them.

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

Thank you,

Mrs Haigh, Miss Heneghan and the Year 2 Team