



A very warm welcome to Year 2! This is a very exciting time for your child as they move up the top of the infants and I cannot wait to share it with you all.

We are very lucky to have lots of different adults helping in the classroom this year. Mrs Riseborough will be with our class every morning and Mrs Crow will be coming down from the Juniors to spend time with our class in the afternoons. Mrs Fiddeman will be providing extra support with phonics too.

I would also like to introduce you to a new member of our class - **Owliver** the Owl. Every Friday a child is rewarded for their efforts in school (it could be for excellent progress, concentration, being kind etc) and they will get to take Owliver home for the weekend. On Mondays, we would love to hear what Owliver got up to with your child. It would be great if you could take a photograph of their adventures, or encourage your child to draw a picture so that we can make a display of all the fun Owliver has had with the class.

We try to encourage the children to grow in independence as they progress through the school. In Year 2, we ask that in the morning before registration, the children change their reading books, fill up their water bottles and put their reading records in the treasure chest in the classroom before beginning their morning work at their tables. The children may need your support with this at the beginning of the term.

Topic: We will be learning lots of exciting things in Year 2 this year. We will begin the term by thinking about how to look after pets and even creating our very own. We will also explore different seasons, countries and Science topics throughout the year.

English: As we will be learning about pets, we will be inspired by different animal characters in stories, including Mog the cat and Ziggy the dragon.

Maths: We will begin the year thinking about numbers. We will explore place value, 'special numbers' and number bonds.

P.E: Year 2 will have PE lessons twice a week; on a **Wednesday** and a **Friday**. Please ensure that your child has an indoor and outdoor kit in school on these days. The school's policy does not allow children to wear jewellery, including earrings, during PE lessons. Staff are unable to remove earrings, so please ensure that your child is able to safely remove them themselves, or remove them at home in advance.

Show and Tell.

We love to see and hear about all the special things your child has at home. In Year 2, each week it becomes one tables turn for show and tell. During that week, your child can bring something in to show the class on any day.

Homework.

Homework is handed out on a Friday and is to be returned on Wednesdays. Every time your child brings their homework in on time, they will earn themselves some extra points. The homework set often encourages parents and children working together and it is aimed to be a fun experience to allow them to share their learning with you. How they present their homework is often up to them (such as writing or drawing or taking photographs) and I am happy to receive their work via email (byexley6xr6@nsix.org.uk) or via Class Dojo.

Spellings.

Spellings are taught in the classroom and a list of words will be put your child's planner every **Monday**. They will be tested on them the following Monday. We will be doing lots of fun spelling activities in school that they can use to help them learn their spellings at home. The best way to learn spellings is to practise them little and often and if you can turn it into a fun little game on the way to school or over breakfast, then even better!

How you can help.

Please read with your child as often as possible. Reading to them or letting them read to you or their siblings/friends will help to encourage a love of reading. If you are reading with them, please try to write it in their planner so we can see how well they have been doing at home.

Class Dojo

All the children in year 2 are given their very own virtual Class Dojo monster. These monsters are given points for positive behaviours such as great teamwork, wonderful reading, being kind and helpful and producing super work. Your child will be sent home with a letter with a special code allowing you and your child to log on to Class Dojo at home. Children can change their monsters and check their points, and parents can see all the points their children have earned and why they were awarded. This is a fantastic way to see how well your child is doing at school.



You will also be able to view our 'class story'; a blog of photos and updates of what has been happening in our classroom. This provides a wonderful opportunity for your children to share their learning with you at home. Please note that only year 2 parents who have signed up to Class Dojo can see these posts. Please do not share these photos on social media sites. There is also a messaging service for you to send messages and receive updates. Class Dojo can be accessed from any computer or can be downloaded as a free app on all smart phones/tables.

If you have any questions, please do come and see me.

Many thanks,
Mrs Yexley.