



Welcome to Year 2

Welcome:

Welcome to Year 2! We are very much looking forward to working in partnership with you this year and sharing your child's learning journey. As a team, we have been so impressed with how well the children have quickly settled in their new environments and how well they have adapted to new routines. We hope you find this information useful. You will also find lots of useful information and resources on our year group page of the school website which will be updated half-terminally throughout the year.

Partnership with Parents:

The most important person in a child's life is you! Parents and carers have a fundamental role to play in their child's education and I am sure that together, as partners, we can make their Year 2 experience a huge success. Should you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning, social or emotional needs throughout the year, then please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. This can be arranged at drop off or collection if appropriate, or alternatively you can arrange a telephone call or meeting through the school office.

Hiltingbury Heroes - A Learner for Life:

As you are aware, we encourage children to develop and apply the skills of our Hiltingbury Heroes which we believe are essential in order for them to become 'successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens'. Each week, teachers will choose two children in each class who have been displaying the skills of one of our Hiltingbury Heroes. They will be awarded 'learner of the week' and will be given a sticker and certificate.

Alongside this, the children's efforts for displaying the skills within lessons will continue to be recognised in class. Children have been given a new passport which they will strive to complete to be awarded a gold Hiltingbury Heroes award. The children complete their passport by demonstrating the skills of each of our Hiltingbury Heroes three times. Children really enjoy working towards achieving their Hiltingbury Hero award.

Year 2 Curriculum and Topics:

Throughout Year 2, children will experience a broad and balanced curriculum which develops the whole child and brings to life our motto of 'Learning, Caring and Achieving Together'. We see our curriculum like a tree with our curriculum drivers - 'Possibilities, Creativity, Diversity and Community' as the roots which brings the aims and values of our school to life and meets the needs of all children. You can find out more about how our curriculum is implemented on our website. The topics are engaging and opportunities have been planned throughout the year for you as parents and carers to join us. Each half term you will receive a curriculum overview which will provide you with the curriculum coverage for that half term, as well as suggestions of how you can help your child at home. Please ensure you read this carefully as key dates and events will also be shared on this overview.

Independence:

In Year 2, children are encouraged to become even more independent and are given more responsibility within the classroom and around school. For example, changing their own reading books every morning, handing in letters, looking after their belongings and quickly settling to their morning activity. We will always help your child if they struggle with any of these aspects, however, should you be aware that your child finds any of these things difficult, please try to help them at home. Please ensure all your child's belongings are named as this supports their independence.

Reading Raffle:

Please try to read daily with your child and record this with an initial so we can see how they are progressing at home. Statistics have shown that if you read with your child for 10 minutes a day you will help progress their reading age by a whole year. Children should change their 'sharing book' as frequently as needed. You will also have access to Collins Hub to review your child's phonetically matched book. You will find that as the difficulty and length of books increase, your child will need to keep the book for longer. We also recommend re-reading books a few times so that children become more fluent and develop a large repertoire of books they know. Our expectation is that you read with your child at least three times each week. This will be monitored and on Friday, if children have read three times they will receive a raffle ticket to be entered into a reading raffle. If their ticket is selected they will be able to choose a book from the prizes to bring home and enjoy. Please ensure they have their reading record diary with them daily.

When reading at home, please ensure you are asking a range of reading comprehension questions to support the comprehension and understanding. You will find examples of reading comprehension question types in the 'reading' area of our school website. Children will also bring home a book of their choice to read for pleasure and a library book. Please try to look after these books and ensure they are returned as we are charged from the Hampshire School's Library Service for any damaged or unreturned books.

Seesaw

Seesaw will continue to be used as a secure online learning journal to record photos, observations and comments, in line with the Key Stage 1 curriculum, to build up a record of your child's learning across the curriculum during their time with us. This platform allows us to work with parents and carers to share information and record your child's learning in the classroom and beyond! We encourage parents to be actively involved in your child's learning and welcome home observations detailing what your child has accomplished at home.

SATs

The SATs testing procedure is now optional for schools and we decided to continue the SATs process as this is a beneficial assessment process .

Home Learning

As well as reading at home daily, the curriculum news will share ways in which you can support you child's learning in all areas of the curriculum. We want children to build on their learning and make connections with prior learning. Discussions with your child are the best way to build on their learning and support knowledge going into their long term memory. Building on our phonics scheme, Little Wandle have developed a spelling scheme. Children are ready to begin this once they exit the main programme which for most will be in Autumn 2. For the first few weeks, please practice the Year 2 high frequency and common exception words with your child. Further details about the spelling programme will we provided once we begin the programme.

PE

Our PE days have now been shared and children will come to school in their PE kit. We will let you know if there are any changes to the timetable throughout the year. As the weather gets colder, please ensure that all children have a warm jacket that is suitable for physical activity.

Hiltingbury Helpers

We provide opportunities for children to become 'confident individuals and responsible citizens' through our 'Hiltingbury Helpers' award. Each half term, three children will have the chance to apply to become a 'HH' at lunchtimes, supporting the younger children within the school. Selected children will be available to support purposeful play, assist with routines in the hall and remind the younger children of our rules such as 'good walking' throughout school. We are currently reviewing this role to enable children to interview for the position. They will receive coaching to model play to younger children and be a leader within play.

Lunches

The menu will be updated termly and shared with you. Please continue to discuss the lunch options with your child to ensure they choose a meal they like.

Book Bags

Your child will be given letters that are not sent out electronically so please check your child's book bag regularly. Please also remind your child to hand in any letter that needs to be returned to school. Please can we remind you not to put water bottles inside book bags as any leakages can cause damage to the contents including your child's books. Your child's reading diary should also be kept in their book bag so they have this with them to be checked. Please ensure they only have one small keyring on their book bag to help them identify it. Thank you for your support.

School Day

Please try to ensure you drop your child to school as close to 8:45 as possible. The gate will be closed at 8:55 when learning commences.

Regular Volunteers/Trips

We welcome volunteers in school to enhance the range of role models children have. If you are able to regularly volunteer; please contact the school office. This could include reading, completing library visits, cooking or group work. If you cannot help regularly but can help on a trip, please let the class teacher know so you can be added to a list.

If you have any further questions then please speak to your child's class teacher. They are available daily and will be more than happy to help. Thank you for your continued support.