

Welcome to Year 2.

## Snacks and Water

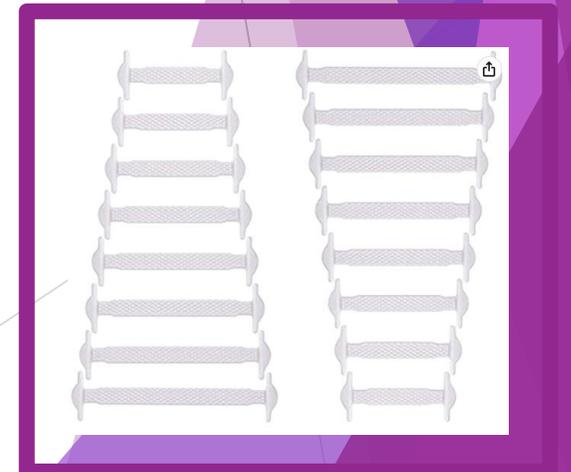
- ▶ As in Year 1, we will provide the children with a piece of fruit mid-morning but if you would prefer your child to bring in a snack, please could you ensure that it is a healthy one (fresh fruit or vegetables, no 'snack' bars etc.). Smoothies & carton of fresh juice are also permitted.
- ▶ In addition, your child should bring in a water bottle. Please could you ensure that the bottle is clearly named and that it contains ONLY WATER and NO SQUASH.

# Uniform

- ▶ In Year 2, we believe that it is extremely important children take responsibility for their own things, including jumpers and cardigans as we do not have time at the end of the day to look for these if they go astray. Please could you ensure that all items of clothing are clearly named and that you speak to your child about being responsible for their own things.
- ▶ If an item of clothing has a name on it, it's much more likely to find its way back!
- ▶ Please make sure that *hair is neat and tidy*; hair length that touches the shoulder means that it should be tied back with a small hair band in school colours of red or grey. *This is also an important safety consideration for PE.*

# PE

- ▶ At the moment our PE days will be **Monday & Wednesdays**.
- ▶ As with their other items of clothing, please could you ensure that all their PE kit (including plimsolls/trainers) are clearly named.
- ▶ Due to health and safety, earrings or any other jewellery items are not permitted on PE days (watches can be worn but will need to be removed).
- ▶ It is also very important that your child can tie his/her own laces. If not, please send them in trainers with Velcro fastenings. Or go to Amazon and get RECKNEY No Tie Shoelaces for Kids and Adults.



# Recorders

- ▶ Ms Hughes will be teaching the children recorders on a Friday. It is very important that the children all have their own recorders as we will not be able to provide them with one. Please make sure it is named (we tend to get a lot of the same make and colour).
- ▶ Recorders can be left in their trays or taken home (you may wish to persuade your child to leave it at school!).

# Home Learning

- ▶ Home Learning will go out every week on **Google Classroom**.
- ▶ It will usually comprise of 10 new spellings to learn, one English task and one maths task.
- ▶ I like to plan an activity that corresponds to something we will be or have been doing in class as a way of **pre-teaching or reinforcing their learning**.
- ▶ It will **benefit your child** to complete the tasks so your support will be greatly appreciated.
- ▶ Work can be uploaded onto **Google Classroom or handed in to me**.
- ▶ **If your child is struggling with the home learning, then please do let me know.**
- ▶ Issues with printing the work can be easily sorted as I can **print the work at school** and sent home with your child.

# Reading

- ▶ At the moment, the children will continue with the same reading scheme as in Year 1. There are 13 levels in total and once a child has reached the top of the scale, they become a *free reader*.
- ▶ If your child do not quite meet the pass mark for the PSC, they will be bringing home different books which corresponds to the phonics learnt that week. They will retake the PSC in June.
- ▶ Assessments ongoing to see if they are ready to move up a stage. We will try to hear each child at least once a fortnight. Please don't worry if your child has not moved up, even if they can read the text without error. We also must take into consideration their **understanding of the text, fluency and accuracy**.

The children will change their reading books at least **twice a week**: on a **Monday**, after the weekend and on a **Friday**.

This is so that the children can spend time reading, re-reading and discussing their book with you as well as fill in their Reading Record book.

When they bring in their books, they must also bring in their Reading Record book because we will be asking them to write the title of their new book in there. In order to make sure your child gets used to this routine, it would be extremely helpful to us if they have their reading book and Reading Record book in their bags every day. Sometimes, we will ask them to read to us and other times we may ask them to take out their books in our small reading group session to discuss what books they have read to you and what books you have shared together.

# Spellings & Rainbow Maths

- ▶ Spelling Tests and our weekly 2, 5- or 10-times table test (Rainbow Maths) will be on Fridays.
- ▶ Children will be given 10 new words to learn each week. During the Autumn term, the children will be asked to write down the spelling word **ONLY**. They will have a spelling book which they will take home on Friday and return to school on **MONDAY**. This allows you to see how well they have done.
- ▶ After Christmas, the children will be asked to write a sentence for each word which will be dictated to them.
- ▶ **RAINBOW MATHS**- everyone starts on **RED**- 20 questions in 10 minutes. They have to get 100% for 3 weeks in a row to move to the next colour.
- ▶ Up to 5 questions that they get wrong will be written on a Post-It and stuck into their spelling book so they can practise them over the week.

# SATS

- ▶ Your children will be taking the End of Key Stage 1 SATs in May 2023. We usually start the week after Year 6 have taken their SATs tests which usually falls in the last 2 weeks before the May half term.
- ▶ Tests:
  - Reading Papers x 2
  - Maths x 2 (Arithmetic and Reasoning)
  - SPAG - Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar (optional but we do it at Gresham)

**\*\*Assessment is not purely on results but overall attainment during the year\*\***

# Booster Groups

- ▶ I will be taking 2 booster groups in the Autumn Term; one on Monday and one on Tuesday. They will take place after school until 4:00pm. These groups will be for those children who would benefit from extra support (in addition to what they receive in class) in **phonics and maths**.
- ▶ I am assessing the children at the moment and will email those parents whose children I think will benefit from attending.
- ▶ Boosters groups for Spring term will be for children who would benefit from being pushed!

# Communication

- ▶ We will continue to use the emailing system for communication between parents and myself. Please use the following email address: [year2@gresham.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:year2@gresham.croydon.sch.uk) (please make sure you have emailed me so I have the most email address that can be used for communication etc.).
- ▶ Please be aware that I will not be able to speak to you at the start of the day when the children are coming in. Should you need to contact me with an urgent issue, either contact the office with a message or email me and I will arrange either a face-to-face meeting or a telephone call as soon as possible. Please do not let things linger; I can only deal with issues if I am aware of them.
- ▶ It takes a little time to build up relationships between their teacher and themselves and I'm fully aware that not all incidents will be reported to me but will be shared with you during that evening. If this is the case, then I urge you to contact me ASAP so it can be dealt with.
- ▶ ***No issue is too small if it is affecting your child's learning!***

# Extras...

- ▶ A comprehensive book list can be found on the website. Click on Curriculum, then Curriculum Info and then Reading. The book list comprises of titles that are recommended the children read or you read to them over the year.
- ▶ It is extremely important that your child reads to you, and you read to them on a regular basis. This ensures that they have access to a wide variety of literature and vocabulary which will help them with their comprehension skills as well as their writing.
- ▶ Even if your child can read independently, it is still important that they have you as role models for reading and be exposed to texts that they would not be able to access themselves.