

# Welcome To Year 2

We have a fun filled year ahead of us and would like to take this opportunity to share key information with you.



Meet the Year 2 team:  
Mrs Munro, Mrs McCarthy, Miss Paul and Mrs McTaggart.

One of the most important ways to help support your child is hearing them read regularly and reading to them. The best approach is little and often, just 10 minutes each day makes a difference including rereading their practice books. Reading for pleasure is just as important as practising the skills. Not only does reading for pleasure increase stamina and fluency, it is fun!  
**Reading books will only be changed on a Monday** so please make sure they are returned on this day.

## Homework

Homework will be given out on a Friday and needs to be handed in by the following Wednesday.

It will be a piece of maths, English or topic work and should take about 20 minutes to complete.

The homework set will give the children a chance to revisit and consolidate skills taught in class, as well as share their recent work with you.

Remember – if you have any queries or questions, please feel free to contact us using the email addresses below and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Miss Paul—[miss.paul@greattotham.essex.sch.uk](mailto:miss.paul@greattotham.essex.sch.uk)

Mrs McCarthy—[mrs.mccarthy@greattotham.essex.sch.uk](mailto:mrs.mccarthy@greattotham.essex.sch.uk)

## PE days are Monday and Wednesday.

Please send your child into school wearing their PE kit on these days.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL UNIFORM IS LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME AND IS IN LINE WITH THE SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY, WHICH IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE.



# Come fly with me

## English

In our first term the children will be sharing a variety of books linked to our topic about aeroplanes. We will continue to develop reading for pleasure by listening to, discussing and expressing views about these stories and non-fiction texts.

The focus in writing will be to consistently apply punctuation including capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks. We will also begin to use 'because' to expand sentences. We will apply this through writing character descriptions, diaries, letters and rewriting part of a story.

## Music

In groups and whole class activities, the children will explore the basic components of music including pitch, duration and tempo. They will use tuned and un-tuned instruments to create a piece of music to represent a plane taking off.

## Phonics

Phonics and spelling sessions continue daily. The cancellation of the phonics screening check in June 2021 means your child did not take the check in year 1. Currently, the government has stated that it is a statutory requirement that we administer a past version of the check during the second half of the autumn term. If your child does not meet the expected standard in the autumn term they will be required to take the check in June 2022. Please do not worry about this, we will prepare the children and the test itself is very low key.

## Maths

In Year 2, our aim is for the children to become fluent in using the four calculations. This term we will start to develop the children's confidence in ordering and comparing numbers up to 100. As we progress through the term the children will be using addition and subtraction to solve a variety of problems.

During Year 2 we will be learning our 2, 5 and 10 times tables, through games, activities and lots of practise! Your support at home will be invaluable.

## Science

In the first half term the children will learn about animals, including humans, having offspring and the different stages of growth. We will study the life cycle of a butterfly, chicken and frog.  
In the second half term we will explore the properties of materials. The children will investigate how they can change the shape of different objects.

## Computing

During the term the children will be given the opportunity to improve their touch typing skills. They will be using the program Paint. The focus will be on saving and editing work.

## R.E.

This term we will be looking at 'special things in nature.' We will examine Christian beliefs about 'God as Creator'.  
In the second half term we will examine the importance of nature in Judaism.

## History

This term the children will be learning about the Wright brothers. They will be asking and answering questions about how the brothers developed the first successful aeroplane. The children will also be learning to create timelines and order important events.

In the second half term we will be learning about the importance of Stow Maries Aerodrome during the First World War. This may be a place you would like to visit.

## Design & Technology

In the first half term, children will be designing their own aeroplane. They will then add wheels and axles to their product, choosing the materials they believe to be the most suitable.

## Art

As part of our topic the children will be weaving with different materials. They will create a country landscape and think about adding texture, colour and pattern within the weave.

## P.E.

In P.E, the children will be focusing on games' skills including; hitting, kicking, catching and tactical awareness to start encouraging competitiveness.

In our indoor P.E . lessons we will be dancing. We will learn about moving in time with the music and complete simple movements in a sequence.