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 Headteacher: Mrs N Day MA (Ed)

Dear Koala Class Parents,

A very warm welcome to Year 2 and the Autumn Term. I hope you had a super summer. I'm really excited about the term ahead and wanted to give you an insight into what's to come. Our 'Welcome Meeting' will be on **Tuesday 11th September at 2:30pm**. In this meeting, I will be able to give more details and answer any questions but, for now, here are some important highlights!

The Year 2 team consist of myself, alongside Cathy Huxtable and Margret Carter (mornings) who are experienced learning support assistants. Mrs Allen will be teaching every other Friday to cover my planning time.

Our Learning Experiences – Autumn Term

Knights, Castles, Dragons, Princesses and Princes!	This Literacy focus will start with a trip to Arundel Castle where we will learn all about life at the castle! Back at school we will take part in a Knights Training Academy where we will learn to ride a horse, take part in medieval dance and joust! If we pass our training, we will be knighted. This unit of work will enable us to perform and write narratives, challenge stereotypes and much, much more!
Superheroes	A PSHCE and Literacy focus where we will discover how fantastic we are! We will be considering what makes us and others 'super' and we will set personal goals. We will be meeting Traction Man and his special friend 'Scrubbing Brush'. They will be taking us on adventures and helping us to write character descriptions.
Where in the world	Our first whole school learning experience of the year! More details to follow.
HALF TERM	
Festivals of Light - Diwali	A week of RE work exploring Diwali!
Fizz, Bang, Boom!	A week focusing on traditional British celebrations.
The Great Fire of London.	This learning will begin with a visit from the fire service who will talk to us about fire safety. We will then start to find out about this fascinating period of history through role play and diary reading/writing. Watch out for a really lovely take home task at half term, which will prepare the children for this really interesting learning experience.
Nativity!	More details to follow!

Home Learning

By now you will have received your child's home learning book. Inside the front cover are my expectations for home learning. Please do ask if you have any questions. Home Learning books need to be handed in on a **Monday please**. It would be a good idea to keep these in your child's bag so that they are always handy.

Reading

Reading beautiful, engaging and high quality books is so important for children and so it is my aim to really promote the children's reading this year. We will be rewarding reading at home and in school as we know that the more children read, the better they are able to access all areas of learning.

Now that the children are in Year 2, they will take part in Book Talk sessions each week, They will also be heard read individually at least once a week. Please record your child's home reading in your child's diary and keep this in their school bag so that we always have access to it.

Rewards

The children thrive from positive praise and hard work should be rewarded. After discussion with the children, Koala class has two reward systems in class.

The first is a point collecting card which rewards children for their positive learning behaviours. We are looking for, reflective, courageous, positive, collaborative and determined learning! When the children fill their card then will receive a certificate and a small prize. We will be modelling these learning behaviours and encouraging children to spot them in their peers.

Reading – we will total up the number of reads at home that your child completes. The children will receive bronze, silver and gold level certificates before gaining a small trophy!

Weekly Golden Learner Certificates - Each week we will be looking for children who have demonstrated 'golden learning' either at school or through home learning. These are given out in a very special assembly on a Monday morning. Please also remember that this is an opportunity to share achievements outside of school. The treasure chest in the entrance hall should be used to look after any certificates, trophies, photos etc to share.

A plea!

Please name everything! We will try our very best to look after belongings but named items really help.

Our coat area is a very small space! Once PE kits are on pegs, only additional coats can really fit.

Children should put their book bags in their tray and lunchboxes outside on the trolley. Please carefully consider if your child needs anything else as space is very limited.

Please remember that the door is always open to discuss any concerns or worries. Your child's progress and wellbeing are very important to me. Together we will work to ensure your child thrives. If you are not able to see me in person to make an appointment, please do so via the school office or class email.

Helpful dates:

Date	Please bring in.....
ASAP – we go on Friday!	Permission slip for Arundel Castle and payment.
By Friday 14th September	1 white pillow case, a pool noodle or foam sword. Two flat cereal boxes.
Monday 29 th October	Kitchen towel tubes.
Monday 12 th November	Take Home Task due in: creating a small Tudor house so we are create Pudding Lane.

Our class email address is: koalaclass@fishbourneprimary.co.uk

Please use this email address to contact me. By working together we will achieve the most for your child.
Do get in touch with any worries or concerns.

With kind regards

Catherine Williams, Mrs Carter, Mrs Huxtable