

Fishbourne C E Primary School



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Dear Penguin Class Parents,

A very warm welcome to Year 2 and the Autumn Term. I hope you had a super summer. We are 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 10th 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 Christina Dumitriu and Jenny Taylor who are wonderful learning support assistants. Tessa Allen and Victoria Willavise (new to the school) will be teaching every Thursday afternoon to cover my planning time. Mrs Allen will teach PE and Mrs Willavise will teach French. Mr Servant will be joining us later on in the term to teach music.

Our Learning Experiences – Autumn Term

Super Duper You!	Using this fantastic book by Sophy Henn, we will be getting to know one another. We will be creating a class motto and learning all about how to stretch ourselves this year. At the time of writing this letter, I can tell you our motto was completed today and is: Be bold, be proud, be brilliant, be a super duper you!
Knights, Castles, Dragons, Princesses and Princes!	This Learning Experience will include a trip to Arundel Castle on Tuesday 17 th September, where we will learn all about life at the castle! We will be especially learning all about Queen Victoria's visit to the castle and the two years of preparation for it! At the castle the children will discover that the castle information centre have very few information booklets about the Queen's visit and so they will be tasked with creating booklets which will be available to the public! We will also be given a very special parcel to take home with a letter giving instructions of what to do with this parcel! Watch this space! To celebrate the end of this experience, 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 write for a real purpose, challenge stereotypes and much, much more!
PERFORM!	This whole school learning experience will be a fantastic opportunity to focus on our skills of speaking and listening. Look out for the letter to follow.
The Building Boy' by Ross Montgomery	This experience will be an opportunity to work with our friends in Years 3 and 4. Together we will explore this beautiful text and create our own versions. We will focus on key aspects of grammar and punctuation crafting our sentences carefully. We will be introduced to the art of sentence stacking!
Festivals of Light - Diwali	A week of RE work exploring Diwali! This year DIWALI will be on the 27 TH OCTOBER

	HALF TERM
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.
An RE whole school experience	More details to follow!

Home Learning

By now you will have received your child's home learning book and their first pieces of homework. Home Learning books need to be handed in on a **Monday please**. Spellings, reading and maths are compulsory. There are additional 'optional' activities which would be wonderful to do but these are optional. Please do support our homework policy and encourage your child to do their homework in a quiet space and with pride.

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. Reading is the key to your child's progress this year. It really does make the biggest difference to all

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 celebrated. We have 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. Please do look at our website and talk to your child about these in all aspects of their learning. Are they showing determination in their swimming lessons, were they brave in joining a new group or activity?

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. **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. My email is cwilliams@fishbourneprimary.co.uk which you are most welcome to use if you have any concerns.

Helpful dates:

Date	Please bring in.....
ASAP no later than Tuesday 10th September	A newborn and a current photo please, to be sent by email. This will be used in our class assembly on FRIDAY 27th September.
ASAP	Permission slip for Arundel Castle and payment via parent mail.
By Friday 20th September	1 white pillow case, a pool noddle or foam sword. Two flat cereal boxes.
On TUESDAY 24th September	Please bring in castle themed foods. Ideas could include castle themed cupcakes, fruit, crackers, cheese, drum sticks. A feast fit for a Queen! No NUTS please.
Monday 21 st October	Kitchen towel tubes.
Monday 4 th November	Take Home Task due in: creating a small Tudor house so we are create our own Pudding Lane.

By working together we will achieve the most for your child. Do get in touch with any worries or concerns.

With kind regards

The Year 2 Team

Catherine Williams, Christina Dumitriu and Jenny Taylor