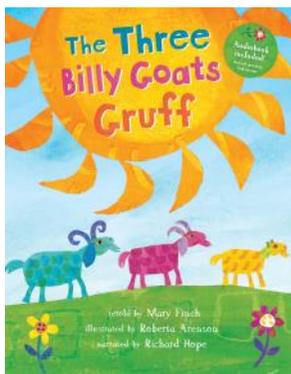


Welcome to Year 2



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Autumn 2!

We hope that by working together we can make this half term a happy and very productive one for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences to ensure that they make the best possible progress with their learning.

Coming up this half term we will be learning lots of interesting facts and important skills in a range of different subjects. Our new class text in English for this half term is *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. This half term we will also be designing and making structures in D&T and learning all about continents and oceans in Geography.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch in for a chat. We will be happy to speak to you and/or make an appointment for a more lengthy discussion.

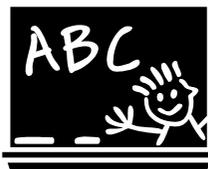
Yours sincerely,

Mrs Roberts and Miss Barker



Please look inside...

Some Important Reminders



Start of the day. We would be grateful if you would ensure that your child arrives on time for school. We ring the bell at 8.50. Children who arrive late are missing out on important information and instructions for the day and miss the first part of our phonics and Spelling teaching.

End of the day. School finishes at 3.15 pm. Children must be collected by an adult from the allocated door. **Please inform us if someone new is collecting your child - if they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them.**

Uniforms and Coats. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please also label items of PE kit. Our uniform policy states that children must wear black shoes for school. Please ensure children bring a coat to school everyday, even if the weather is warm and sunny that morning. The weather can soon change so we like to be prepared!

PE. This terms P.E. lessons will be on a **Friday**. Please ensure that your child has a full P.E. kit including trainers/plimsolls. No jewellery should be worn on P.E. days and long hair should be tied back.

Reading. Your child has a guided reading session twice a week with their class teacher. They also have an opportunity to read their new reading book on a 1:1 basis with an adult in class each week. It is therefore vital that reading books are returned **everyday**. All children have a reading diary - please ensure that this is returned to school everyday even if their reading book does not need changing. This is an excellent communication tool between home and school and we would value your support in this area. Comments and messages can be written in the appropriate week.

Learning and Home: As per our new learning at home agreement, children are expected to read at home at least 3 times a week for 10-15 minutes. Children should also be practising their times tables and counting multiple times per week. Doing this in a fun and enjoyable way will help children to remember this vital knowledge. Homework will be sent out on a **Friday** and needs to be completed and returned to school no later than the following **Thursday**. Please encourage your child to complete and return homework as this is a chance for them to further develop skills which have been taught in class.

This half terms 'Learning Theme' in Year 2 is 'Traditional Tales'. We will be looking at a range of traditional tales within English and Guided Reading, and our D&T project and animation links to this.

English.

This term we will focus on the skills needed to make our sentences more interesting using a variety of conjunctions and adjectives. We will be exploring a range of traditional tales in both English and Guided Reading sessions. We will be then focusing on the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff in English. We will be delving into the different types of characters within traditional tales and writing our own character descriptions before writing our own narrative. Alongside our English sessions children will be taught daily phonics and spelling. In these sessions we focus on reading and spelling words as well as grammar and punctuation. The children will continue to practise their handwriting and will be beginning to use the Y2 pre cursive style.

Maths.

This half term our focus will be addition and subtraction. We will be learning to how to solve calculations using concrete resources and pictures. The children will mainly use two digit numbers to do this. We will also look at how we can solve problems using the calculation methods we have learned. Alongside this the children will apply their knowledge when using money.

Computing.

This half term we will be creating our own animation using an iPad and a PC. We will learn how to import our own characters, add backdrops and voiceovers as well as how to animate the characters. We will create our own animation based upon a traditional tale.

French.

This half term the children will be working on the topic named 'Bon Voyage'. This includes basic greetings and saying what your name is, learning where France is in comparison to Sunderland. How they would get there. The names of modes of transport in French and what they could do if they went to Paris for a day.

P.E.

This half term we will be looking at various games, we will be using throwing and catching Techniques within a game. Children will learn to choose the best space to be in within a game and follow rules of a game.

Personal, Social, Health Education.

We will be celebrating our differences this half term. This will involve talking about how we can make someone else feel happy by giving compliments, trying to understand things from someone else's point of view and know that sometimes you can feel overwhelmed by emotions. We will think about what is right and wrong and how to look after ourselves. This also links into Anti-bullying week in November.

Spiritual Moral Social and Cultural development.

We will learn to empathise and consider the viewpoints of others through debates, drama activities and discussions. We will discuss our beliefs, feelings, values and responses to personal experiences.

Religious Education.

This half term will we look at the Christmas story. We will understand how and why light is important to Christians at Christmas. We will learn about Advent and how it is celebrated. We will learn about how Christmas is celebrated around the world in particular in Germany.

Geography.

We will be learning about the seven continents and what the difference between a continent a country is. We will be using maps, atlases and globes to locate the oceans and continents.

Design Technology.

We will be looking at a range of simple mechanisms as well as structures and bridges. We will consider the materials and process of making our own bridge using recycled materials and what we will need, as well as how we will join the different materials together.

Science.

This half term we will be learning all about animals and their young (offspring) We will find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival. We will also Describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene

Ideas for activities to complete at home



- Try to listen to your child read regularly. 10-15 minutes three times a week is much better than a longer sessions once a week.
- A big part of reading is talking about the book. Ask a variety of questions, such as 'Tell me what has happened so far? How is the character feeling? What do you think is going to happen next?' This will encourage your child to give their own opinions about events and characters in the book.
- Practise their times tables, every day! Children in Year 2 are expected to know their 2, 5 and 10 times tables fluently and be able to count in 3s.
- Ask your children about their topics in school and what they have been learning about. What experience do you have in these areas amongst your family and friends?
- Encourage your child to become more independent. Ask them to pack their own school bag and to check that they have everything that they need
- Encourage them to prepare their bag for school the night before.

Attendance and Punctuality



Please ensure your child is on-time for school every day. There is a staff member 'on duty', on the playground, from 8.45. Doors to classrooms open at 8.50/ 12.15. Good attendance is important, as it has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We award certificates and prizes for good attendance. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target.