



Year 2 Booklet

Welcome to Year 2 at Prior Heath

*The purpose of this booklet is to provide you
with information so that you feel able
to support your child at home.*

*We believe that we are in a partnership with you
and that your child will learn best
when they know that we are working together.*

The National Curriculum

All Year 2 children will study the following National Curriculum subjects:

English

Mathematics

Science

Computing

History

Geography

Design Technology

Art

Music

Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education

Physical Education

Religious Education

English

Reading

The children are encouraged to develop reading at their own level. We introduce them to a wide range of literature and aim to increase their enjoyment, independence, accuracy and understanding.

They continue to use a wide variety of books and we listen to them regularly in guided group sessions to monitor their progress. They may also read to other adults in school.



How you can help

1. It is vital that all children, regardless of their phonic book level, read aloud frequently at home to develop their fluency and comprehension. Please encourage them to read to you **each night**. This regular practise will help them to improve their reading skills. **Please record in the reading records when your child reads to you as we need to keep a record of each child's weekly reading.**
2. The phonic reading books allow the children to read independently by applying their phonics that they are secure in and to recognise familiar words. The shared library books allow you to read together, discuss the story and its meaning. During reading, stop at a convenient point in the story and ask your child to tell you what has happened and predict what might happen next. Please help them to understand why events have happened.
3. Remind your child to return their reading record to their book bag after reading at home so that it can also be used in school.

Phonics

During Year 2 children will continue to have phonic lessons in class. Those children who were unable to pass the Phonic Screening Check at the end of Year 1 will have the opportunity to take the check again in the Summer term of Year 2.

Writing

Various opportunities are given to encourage writing and, as children progress as writers, we introduce different skills. We develop the quality of content and use of language together with the technical aspects of writing.

How you can help

1. Read a range of good quality books to your child. This helps to develop your child's vocabulary and also models the development of sentence structure. A child that is a good reader will inevitably become a good writer.
2. Encourage your child to write for pleasure at home. This could be the weekly shopping list, or a diary entry. Please discuss ideas with your child and encourage them to take care with capital letters, full stops and presentation.

Handwriting

At Prior Heath we follow the handwriting scheme from Unlocking Letters and Sounds (ULS). Over the course of Year 2, children are introduced to cursive letter formation. Some children will continue to form letters in print. Emphasis will be placed on regular size and correct formation of the letters.



Spelling

As the children become confident writers, spelling is given greater emphasis. We continue to increase visual awareness of the sounds in words. Each week phonemes (sounds) and alternative graphemes (spelling patterns) will be studied in phonics.

How you can help

1. Draw attention to patterns in words. This can be done through observation, discussion and games, e.g. Scrabble and Wordle.
2. It would be helpful if you introduced your child to a simple dictionary and explained its layout and use.
3. Collect words with the same sound, e.g. **igh** in light, sight, night, bright, **ie** in pie, tie, lied, **i-e** in pile, kite, chime etc.

Speaking and Listening

Children are encouraged to express themselves clearly and listen carefully. There are planned weekly speaking and listening activities as part of the English curriculum.

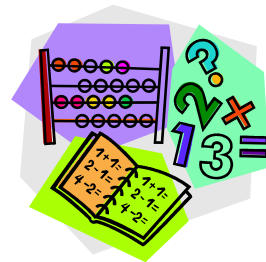
How you can help

1. Encourage your child to enter into conversations, expressing themselves clearly and listening with attention.
2. Help them to learn the skill of taking turns and waiting until others have finished.
3. Encourage your child to give full explanations including details.
4. Expand on verbal answers by encouraging the use of full sentences rather than just 'yes' or 'no'.
5. Take part in the "Talk Homework" which will be detailed on the class weekly letter on Tapestry. The homework activities relate to the learning planned for the following week.

Mathematics

Our aim is to ensure that children have a sound understanding of mathematics and are confident in this subject. Areas of study include:

- ❖ counting and number relationships
- ❖ number facts
- ❖ calculations
- ❖ measures, shape and space
- ❖ using and applying/solving problems



The teaching emphasis will be on mental calculation strategies and the use of these to solve problems. Children will use written recording alongside their oral work to support their developing mental maths skills.

How you can help

1. Encourage your child to apply skills in practical situations, e.g.
 - cooking - weighing out ingredients
 - shopping - handling money, checking change
 - practical measuring activities
 - simple games involving dice
2. Take the opportunity in spare moments to do mental calculations, e.g. count on/back in 2's, 5's and 10's bridging over 100, halves and doubles to 20, number bonds to 10 and 20.
3. Encourage your child to form and orientate their numbers correctly.
4. Help your child to learn to tell the time –may we request that only a plain analogue watch may be worn in school to avoid distractions.
5. Don't forget to look at the weekly letter (on Tapestry) which details the aspects taught that week and the strategies that are used in school.

Science

There are four areas in the science curriculum:

- ❖ living things and their habitats
- ❖ plants
- ❖ animals including humans
- ❖ uses of every day materials



We encourage the children to use the basic skills of science to find out about themselves and the world around them.

How you can help

1. The desire to find out is within all of us. You can help by letting your child make their own discoveries as much as possible.

2. Encourage your child to ask questions. This is an important way for children to learn about the world.

Computing

Children are encouraged to use the Internet and search engines as well as a wide range of software to access information and research topics. They are taught the importance of keeping safe while on the Internet.



The children will continue to build upon their programming skills using bee bots and other programmable devices.

History

History involves an awareness of the past. We study similarities and differences between the past and present to develop children's awareness of chronology.

How you can help

1. Our surroundings provide a wealth of material for observation - your own house, Camberley, Farnham. Stories told by grandparents of how things used to be. Visit museums and encourage questioning.
2. Visit the library to find books linked to our topics and research using the internet.

Geography

Geography involves the development of an awareness of place. We try to increase children's knowledge of the wider world.

How you can help

Although we give the children first-hand experience of other environments through our trips, when you visit other areas you have an ideal opportunity to raise your child's awareness of different places through observation and

discussion. Encourage the use of geographical vocabulary when describing a place such as hill, bridge and coast. Help your child to find out where you are going by using a map and searching for more information on the internet. Discuss lengths of journeys, etc.

Design Technology

This involves designing, making and evaluating DT projects. Further skills are developed and the children are introduced to different tools and materials. The children will also have regular opportunities to cook in our new kitchen area.

Art

The children will explore a range of materials, tools and techniques and will be encouraged to develop further skills. They will use various medium - paint, pastels, collage, drawing, etc. Evaluation of their own work and a study of works of art by famous painters will develop their skills.

How you can help in both these subjects

Let your child have experience of using tools and materials at home when designing and making, e.g. painting, construction – recycled materials, kits, e.g. Lego.

Music

The children will participate in singing a variety of songs from different genres, including part-songs. They will learn to play a variety of percussion instruments. They will continue to develop rhythmic skills and learn to read, write and appreciate music.

How you can help

Provide opportunities to listen carefully and appreciate different types of music. Make singing an everyday activity at home.



Physical Education

Our programme includes:

- ❖ Gymnastics
- ❖ Dance
- ❖ Games



How you can help

1. For safety reasons, no jewellery may be worn during physical activities. This includes pierced earrings so please ensure your child is able to take them out and put them back in themselves. We do not allow children to cover earrings with tape during P.E. lessons
2. In line with our school policy, jewellery of religious significance can be worn to school. Please speak with your child's class teacher if this impacts your child so that appropriate health and safety measures can be put in place to keep them safe during physical activity.
3. Please ensure that long hair is tied back on PE days.
4. Children come to school in their PE kit on PE days. School jumpers, hoodies or cardigans should be worn over PE kit on colder days.

Religious Education

The children will learn about different religions through stories, customs and beliefs. They will continue to study Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education (PSHE)

PSHE is taught following the Surrey PSHE Education Guidance. It is a National Curriculum subject which contains the following 6 specialist areas:

- Relationships and Health Education (RHE)
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing
- Staying Safe

- Healthy Eating / Healthy Lifestyles
- Drug Education
- Economic Well-being and Financial Capability

In PSHE the children learn about themselves as developing individuals and as members of their community, building on their own previous experiences. They learn the basic rules and skills for keeping themselves healthy and safe and for behaving well. Throughout the year, the children will be reminded about the 'PANTS' rule. PSHE provides opportunities for children to develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviour which will enable them to become successful learners both within and beyond school.

Relationships and Health Education (RHE) is a compulsory part of our PSHE curriculum. A copy of our RHE policy is available on our school website and parents have an annual opportunity to provide feedback on it. Further information is available under the curriculum tab on our school website.

Assessment

Children's work is kept in school for monitoring and assessment purposes. We will contact you if we feel there is cause for concern at any time. If you are worried about your child's progress, please make an appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss it as soon as possible.

Children will be assessed throughout Year 2 and the end of year assessments will be shared with you in the Summer Term.

Home Learning Expectations

In Year 2 the expectations are:

Reading: Read every night with an adult. There will be reading challenges during the holidays.

Maths and Phonics: The current maths and phonics focus is identified in the weekly parent letter sent via Tapestry on Fridays.

Handwriting: Children will bring their handwriting folder home on a Friday to practise what we have been learning at school that week. They should be returned the following Wednesday.

Projects: Projects and challenges related to the class topics are sent home as appropriate e.g. The Rainforest project.

Snacks & Milk

Children are encouraged to bring **water** in a named bottle to drink throughout the day. Children can refill their bottles from a water cooler in school. The school provides children with a healthy snack (e.g. fruit and vegetables) each day but if your child prefers a specific fruit or vegetable please send this in with them. A mid-morning snack for your child is beneficial as it keeps their energy levels up until lunchtime.

We have a school milk scheme which is run by Cool Milk. Milk is completely free for all children aged under five and for some children who receive pupil premium funding. It is subsidised for children aged five or older. If you would like your child to receive a carton of semi-skimmed milk every day, simply register at www.coolmilk.com or complete a registration form available from the school office.

Transfer

This is your child's last school year at Prior Heath. Any details regarding your child's transfer to junior school will be forwarded to you as we receive them. We will do all we can to prepare your child for this transfer, socially, emotionally and academically.

Throughout the school, we encourage the children to gain confidence and independence. There are many ways that we do this. For example, in Year 2 we will be asking them to come into school on their own - to say their goodbyes to you outside the classroom and take responsibility for their own possessions. Do encourage them to do this now, while they are in a situation that is familiar. They will be expected to do this next year.

Help

We hope that the information we have given you will be helpful. There are several ways in which you can help us, and we would be so grateful for support in these areas:

1. Please ensure your child arrives on time in the mornings as lateness has an effect on children's learning. If a child is late they may miss a crucial introduction to a session which could significantly impact on their learning.
2. Clearly named clothes and water bottles save our time and your child's.
3. If you need to change your normal collection arrangements, please notify the class teacher or school office.

We look forward to working with you and hope this is a successful year for everyone.

Home School Agreement

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of our Home School Agreement:

The School

We will:

- Provide a high quality learning environment in which all pupils are cared for and valued.
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all children within the guidelines of the EYFS and National Curriculum.
- Maintain high standards of behaviour, encouraging sensitivity for others and respect for all.
- Ensure the safeguarding and welfare of all children.
- Keep you informed about general school matters and your child's progress.
- Offer opportunities for you to support the life of the school.
- Inform you about any concerns or problems that affect your child's work or behaviour.
- Contact you in an emergency using given contact details.
- Encourage children to do their best at all times.
- Encourage children to take care of their surroundings and others around them.

Parents/Carers

We will:

- Ensure that our child goes to school regularly and punctually and inform the school promptly when our child is sick.
- Inform the school of any concerns or problems that might affect our child's work or behaviour.

- Support the school's uniform policy by dressing our child in the agreed school uniform.
- Make sure our child arrives for school on time, between 8.40 and 8.50am, and is collected promptly at the end of the school day at 2.50pm.
- Ensure our child is not taken out of school for holidays during term time.
- Support the school's policies and guidelines on behaviour.
- Support all opportunities for home learning.
- Name all items of school clothing and equipment.
- Provide the school with emergency contacts and keep them updated.

We will encourage our child to:

- Demonstrate our school values of: independence, kindness, perseverance, responsibility and teamwork.
- Speak to a member of staff if something is worrying them.
- Always try their best.