

Welcome to Year 2

What is the same and what will be different?

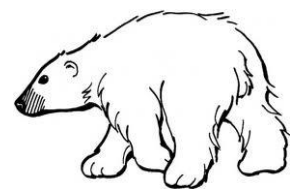




Meet the Year 2 Team



- Miss Grime will be Polar Bears class teacher.



- Miss McGroary will be Arctic Foxes class teacher.



- Miss Gregory will be Penguins class teacher and joint Team Leader for Year 1 and Year 2 with Mr Stafford (Year 1 teacher, Meerkats).
- There will be some Teaching Assistant support in the mornings and some afternoons.





Location of Classes

Penguins, Polar Bears and Arctic Foxes are in the classes indicated on the map.

KS1 Playground

Map of the school KS1 (main building):





Start and End of the Day Arrangements 8.45 – 3.15

- An adult will greet the children at the white door at the end of the corridor from the Year 2 classrooms to the Key Stage 1 playground at 8.40. Your child will put their belongings on their pegs and enter their classroom. You should not enter the cloakrooms with your child.
- Arctic Foxes' pegs are based in their classroom so the children will head straight to the class to hang their belongings up.
- As in Year 1, parents are asked not to seek unplanned meetings with the teachers during this period as it is a very busy time and the teachers will be occupied welcoming and dismissing the children and starting the day's teaching.
- However, if you do need to speak to your child's class teacher, please **book an appointment at the office or email** the teacher/team leader and this will be dealt with promptly.
- At the **end** of the day (15:15), the teachers will bring the Penguins and Polar Bears children out of the white doors at the end of the corridor. The Arctic Foxes children will come out of the gate onto the KS1 playground between the two buildings. Teachers will match each child to the adult that is collecting them. Children attending after school clubs will be taken to the appropriate room.
- Please let us know in plenty of time if your child will be collected by another adult on any day.



Communication

- We aim to have open communication channels to keep you informed about everything that is going on in school and to give easy access to speak to us if needed.

Ways we can communicate:

- **School/team letters** –all letters are sent via email. Please make sure your details are up to date with the school office so that you do not miss things.
- **Weekly learning sharing newsletter** – every Friday an email is sent out to give you an overview of what the children will be learning about the following week and how you can help your child, this may also have important notices on. Please make sure you read this and let us know if you don't receive it.
- **Website** – we hope the website is a good reference source, if there are things that you would like to see included please let us know.
- **Email** – you can send emails to your child's class teacher or team leader. The protocol is that teachers will respond within 3 working days. If you need a more urgent response then you can leave a message with the school office.
- Arctic Foxes Class teacher: Miss McGroary – rmcgroary@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk
- Polar Bears Class teacher: Miss Grime - sgrime@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk
- Penguins Class teacher and Joint Team Leader: Miss Gregory–
cgregory@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk
- Joint Team Leader: Mr Stafford - astafford@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk
- **Appointments** – if you would like to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher please contact them via email, school office or letter to arrange a suitable time.



Play time and Lunchtime

- Children will have a morning break and an afternoon break set by the teacher.
- Free fruit will be provided.
- Children should always have a **named water bottle** with water only in school.
- Children will continue to be entitled to a free school meal, where they have a choice of a cooked meal or sandwich. Please help your child to make their choice for school lunches by sharing the menu with them before school. The [school lunch menu can be found here.](#)



Behaviour

- We continue to expect very good behaviour.
- There will be the same expectation to follow the school **Golden Rules**:



- Lots of positive praise is used - stickers, tokens, Deputy Headteacher's awards and Head teacher's stars.
- We use a warning system – children are given sanctions as appropriate e.g. missing minutes of break or lunch and having reflection time. They may go to talk to a senior leader if appropriate.
- The [behaviour policy](#) can be found on the school website.



Year 2 Curriculum

- The Year 2 curriculum builds upon the Year 1 curriculum and becomes more challenging.
- The [curriculum overview](#) is available on the school website. Please look out for detailed **curriculum captures** which will be uploaded in the Autumn Term.
- The learning expectations for Maths and English are available [here](#).
- During the Autumn Term there will be parent consultation evenings to give you more of an idea on how your child has settled and how you can support your child in their learning.

How we teach Phonics at Waterbeach Community Primary School

We're teaching every
child to read with
Little Wandle Letters
and Sounds Revised

A complete SSP validated by
the Department for Education



- Phonics is the name given to the process of learning the sounds, names and shapes of the letters that make up the English language. There are 44 different sounds, made up of singular or groups of letters. Some of these sounds then have a variety of ways of writing them down.
- From September, all children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 will be taught phonics daily following the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised progression. We will also be using decodable texts to embed the learning of phonics into reading development through regular reading practice sessions.
- More information about the scheme can be found on the Little Wandle website: *For parents - Letters and Sounds* (littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)
- There is some key vocabulary that both children and adults use:
 - **Phoneme** – the smallest unit of sound a letter, or group of letters makes.
 - **Grapheme** – the written shape of a phoneme
 - **Digraphs** and **Trigraphs** – two or three letters making one sound
 - **Blend** – two or more sounds said closely together to read a word e.g. f-r-o-g = frog
- Children will be taught handwriting and letter formation alongside their phonic learning and will be taught the Little Wandle Rhymes to support the correct letter formation.
- **Spelling at Waterbeach Community Primary School:**
- As the children move from using phonetic decoding, we use spelling programs, including Spelling Shed, as a basis for teaching the variety of spelling rules that the English language follows, and often does not follow!



Home Learning

Reading and Spelling

- Your child will bring home a book that suits their reading ability every week.
- Please **read** with your child daily. It makes an enormous impact on **all** of their learning.
- Please sign your child's reading record when they read.
- The **reading record** contains useful information on Y2 learning including **comprehension questions** to ask your child when reading: for these we use the acronym **VIPERS** to include all reading skills. VIPERS/Reading Comprehension questions can be found [here](#).
- In the reading records is a list of **spelling words** from the National Curriculum that your child will be expected to learn to read and write; they will learn these words and be tested on these words in class. These are the **Year 1 and Year 2 Common Exception words**. You will find useful word cards of these words [here](#) which you may wish to use at home.

Spelling activity ideas are available [here](#).
- Your child will begin using **Accelerated Reader** during the year. Once they have read a book matched to their reading age, they will complete a comprehension quiz online in school.



Home Learning

Maths and Topic

- There will be a **Home Learning Passport** where children can choose an activity to complete each week which we ask you to share with us via their **Teams account**.
- Your child will continue to have their **Mathletics** username and password to complete various maths activities.
- Later on in the year your child will have access to **TimesTable Rockstars** where they can practise their times tables. In Year 2 this will primarily be their 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
- **Tapestry** – We will not continue to use Tapestry in Year 2. We would welcome you to share any learning or activities the children do at home on **Teams**





Phonics Screening Check

June 2024

- The children have taken a phonics screening check at the end of Year 1, for those that didn't reach the required level they will retake the check in June 2024 (in Year 2).
- They will be tested on their ability to read 40 words, 20 real and 20 alien (nonsense words).
- You can support your child by reading daily.



Assessment

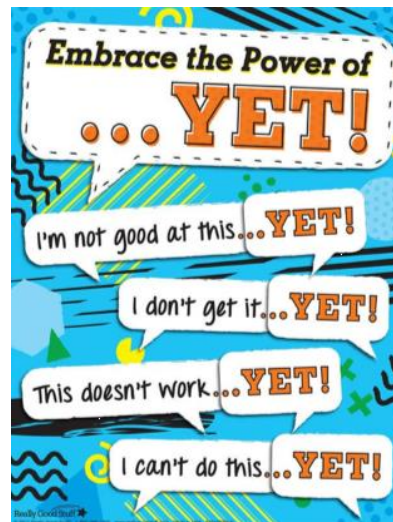
- Assessments inform teachers of gaps in learning which we can then address to support progress.
- We assess the children daily. Some of this is done through their class work and responses to questions.
- The Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) for all KS1 children in Year 2 will not take place from next year.
- The school will continue to use our own assessments throughout the year include NTS Reading (assessing reading), NTS Maths (assessing maths) and GPS (assessing grammar, punctuation and spelling).



Growth Mindset

Learning Partners

- **Growth mindset** strategies will continue to be taught and modelled to the children.
- **Learning partners** will continue to be used in Year 2 as it has been seen to extend and improve children's ability in 'talk for learning'.
- The learning partners will change each week.
- Talking and listening to different members of the class widens the children's social network and helps the children improve on polite and productive conversation. It also extends children's vocabulary - whether they are learning from or explaining their ideas to other children.





Wellbeing

- The children's **wellbeing** is paramount. We have a dedicated Wellbeing Team in school to support children where the class teacher sees a need, in addition to strategies in the classroom.
- Please encourage your child to raise any issues that concern them straight away with an **adult**. The sooner these are raised, the sooner they can be sorted.
- **Lolly sticks** – the children will have their own named lolly stick to keep in their tray. If they wish to speak to the teacher quietly they will be encouraged to place their lolly stick on the teacher's desk. The teacher will then make time to speak to the child/ren. Please encourage your child to use their lolly stick where needed. This strategy will be explained to the children when they return in September.



Responsibility and Independence

- As the children progress through the school, they need to increase their own level of **independence** and responsibility and small steps help with this.
- Each child will have a named peg for their coats and bags. We discourage you from sending large rucksacks as we do not have space for them with everything else on pegs and keeping the corridors clear as fire escape routes.
- Lunch boxes and water bottles need to be put on the year group trolley.
- Please help children to know what belongs to them by getting them to help pack their bag.
- Please ensure that **everything is named** so your child can find their things.
- Eating – please help to teach your children to use a knife and fork and cut their own food.
- Coats/laces – children must be able to do their own coat and shoes up.



Physical Education

- The children are asked to have a school P.E. kit in school at all times. Each class will be given specific P.E. days, however, occasionally this needs to be changed and children do often choose to change into their P.E. kits for the Golden Mile.
- Outdoor kit will be needed with jogging bottoms, trainers and a warm jumper/zip up top.
- Again, PLEASE MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS NAMED.
- T-shirts in house colours are now available to [order online using this link](#). Alternatively, a plain coloured t-shirt without the school logo can be used.
- No jewellery should be worn during Physical Education lessons including swimming. It is also not safe to cover earrings / studs / sleepers with tape. If children wear earrings to school they need to be able to remove them themselves for PE lessons. If your child is unable to do so, earrings should be removed before coming to school. We advise that if you are going to allow your child to have their ears pierced, that this is done at the start of the summer holidays so that their PE entitlement is not compromised.
- Long hair should be tied back.



Forest School

- Children will continue to visit the forest on a regular basis (this may not be weekly)
- Please make sure that your child comes to school with:
 - **named** wellies in a **named** carrier bag
 - wearing appropriate clothing (legs and arms covered, raincoat, sun hat and sun cream and no skirts or dresses as these get in the way when climbing trees)
- Named wellies in a named carrier bag can be left at school.



Summer Holidays

- Naturally we do not expect the children to be working throughout their summer holidays, however, its is very important that they do not completely stop, especially with the challenges this year.
- **Regular reading and maths work** (particularly thoroughly knowing their number bonds) would be expected so that the children can start September in the best possible position to continue their learning.
- A wide variety of learning is available online. Find information on this here:
<https://www.waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk/page/?title=Online+Learning&pid=1422>
- We will be sending out the **Newsletter** so you will know the **new topic** we will be covering - you may be keen to explore this during the holidays.
- **Summer Home Learning**

This year we would like all children to **focus on reading** for their home learning. There are so many ways that you could do this such as sharing a book together, reading to your child or joining the library Summer Reading Challenge.

Any Questions?

You may still have questions, we may or may not know the answers! As we know more about what school will look like in September we will inform you.

If you have urgent queries, please email us:

Miss Grime: sgrime@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Miss McGroary: rmcgroary@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Mr Stafford: astafford@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Miss Gregory: cgregory@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

