

Beer C of E (VA) Primary School

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Executive Headteacher – Miss Rebecca Porter

Chair of Governors – Mrs Jean Smith

8th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the start of a new year in Class 2. The children seem to have had a lovely summer break and it is great to have them back in school.

In Class 2 all the children are part of Key stage 1 and will be working from the National Curriculum. They will cover Science, History, Geography, Art, Design and Technology and Music over the course of each term. These subjects will be covered through topic work, with R.E. and P.E. being taught discretely, but linked to topics whenever appropriate. Phonics will be taught daily to year 1 and year 2 will undertake their phonic work through learning spelling rules and grammar. ICT is incorporated within all subjects. Literacy and Numeracy remains important and will be taught through topic work as well as discretely.

We are very excited about our learning in Class 2 and we are using a new system of working which is explained below.

The emphasis will be on learning through investigation; encouraging the children to be curious, inspiring them with a love of learning and providing them with the opportunity to move their learning forward at a level that is appropriate for them. We aspire to tailor learning to the children's interests and learning needs in order to maintain motivation and engagement. We are extending the children's independent learning into the outdoors to ensure that children are provided with every opportunity to achieve every day.

Year 1 children will have 4 'Got to do jobs' during the week which are set up in Classes 1 and 2. In Year 2, we call these activities 'Quests'. The expectation is that these jobs/quests must be completed during the course of the week and that children take pride in what they do to complete them to the best of their ability. In addition, there are up to 8 outdoor activities and the same number of indoor activities that are related to all areas of the curriculum and the objectives for the termly topic theme. The children will be moving independently from one work station to another. In addition to this there will be daily Maths and English work, following the learning objectives from the National Curriculum.

There is a 'Snack Stop' outside the classroom, where children are able to have their drinks and snacks during the course of the morning. They can choose when they have their snack time, but we do remind the children regularly to have their snacks. The children will not be having a designated playtime as they are taking part in physical exercise as part of their 'outdoor activities'.

The children will read in weekly guided reading sessions, with some children having more regular independent reading slots during the week. We would ask that all children bring their reading folders



every day as there will be opportunities for them to read in school on any day. Please ask your child to tell the teacher when they have finished their reading book so that we can change it promptly. The children will be having one reading book at a time so that we can ensure that they fully explore all aspects of each book. We ask that you do not change your child's reading book as this causes confusion for the children and teacher. It is vital that you support your child by hearing them read regularly at home.

Along with the expectation that the children read on a daily basis, they will also have a weekly home learning task which will be given out on a Friday and will need to be returned the following Wednesday. These will generally be tasks that are open-ended and support/extend the work undertaken during the week in class or they may be specific worksheets linked to a particular skill.

Mrs Hawtin teaches on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, Mrs Timmins teaches on Thursday. We are generally available briefly before or after school for informal chats or can arrange a longer after school meeting if necessary, as before school can be very busy for us!

We hope this information helps to explain what happens. We would encourage you to talk to us regarding any queries as it is through the teamwork of school and home that your children learn and flourish.

Many thanks for your support; we look forward to working with your child and yourself.

Mrs A Hawtin and Mrs R Timmins

Class 2 Teachers