

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to Year 2. It has been great to have you back. The children have settled happily and are becoming familiar with the new routines of the class.

Topics: In Science, our topic this term is Animals including Humans where we will be delving deeply into animals and their offspring. Through our Living Science we will carry out exciting experiments, where children will be working scientifically by learning to perform simple tests, ask simple questions and gather and record data. We will also be studying ourselves and understanding our basic needs and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. This will link closely with our DT topic 'Healthy Eating'.

Our PE topic: PE will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This half term we will be focused on gymnastics and looking at co-ordination, balance and movement around a space (including leaps, jumps and rolls). Children will be learning to move and use apparatus safely. Children will build on their coordination and balance skills in our second half term focus of games, specifically Football. Forest School and Music sessions will take place each fortnight. 2O will start with Forest School on Thursday 10th September, while 2B will have Music. The following week, 2B will have Forest school, while 2O will have Music. This half term, in Geography, our focus will be on Continents, Oceans and the UK. Children will be using maps to name and locate local places, world continents and oceans, as well as use directions of a compass to help with navigation. During this term in Religious Education, we will explore Hinduism. We will study two main festivals 'Diwali' and 'Raksha Bandhan'. Our PSHE focus is on feelings, building positive relationships and what makes a good friend.

Literacy: This term the children are learning about pirates through the text of 'The Pirates Next Door'. They will be retelling the story in their own words and using non-fiction texts to learn facts about pirates. After half term, Year 2 will be focusing on The Great Fire of London as part of History and Literacy. Children will be given the opportunity to enjoy immersive drama and debates which will aid our diary writing. We will be visiting Pudding Lane and Wren 300 to learn more about the Great Fire of London on Friday 27th November. We will also be using and writing non-fiction texts related to our topic and looking at stories related to The Great Fire. Alongside this, we will practice and work on spelling patterns, common exception words, punctuation and handwriting.

Numeracy: Place Value is a focus for us this term, teaching children to confidently understand, reason and problem solve with numbers in the world around them. This will include recognising tens and ones, partitioning numbers, comparing and ordering amounts and numbers, and counting in steps of twos, fives, tens and threes. We will then use this knowledge of place value to support us with addition and subtraction, where we will use a range of resources and methods to enable us to develop. We will end the term with geometry, delving into 2D and 3D shapes. Alongside this, our multiplication emphasis will be the one- and two-times table.

Uniform: We would like to take this opportunity to stress how important it is for all children to wear the correct school uniform. Your child's PE kit should be in school on **Monday**, they will then return it on Friday. Please remember that all school uniform and equipment should be named (including lunch boxes please!).

Home Learning: Children should continue to read to an adult every night and bring their book bag to school every day. Please sign and comment in your child's reading log when you read with them. Your child will read in an adult-led focus group 3 times a week, here they will focus on their decoding, prosody and comprehension skills. On a Friday, the children will have Maths challenges set on MyMaths and will need to practice the spellings ready for the following Friday for a spelling quiz. We will also set challenges on Times Tables Rockstars so please encourage your child to use the app or visit the Times Table Rockstars website (the log ins will come out in due course). We will set reminders on google classroom so please check it regularly.

Keeping in touch: We are available at the end of the day for any quick queries you may have, otherwise please contact us via **Google Classroom**. We will respond within three working days. If your matter is urgent, please email the school office at deansfield@compassps.uk.

Thank you for your support.

Miss Baylis and Mr Oakley