

Year 2 Class Information 2023

Curriculum



The curriculum in Year 2 moves onto a more formal way of learning with practical activities interlinked. A creative approach is used to develop the curriculum with children having an input on their learning throughout the year. Foundation subject areas are taught explicitly throughout the week such as PE, RE, Science, History, Geography, Art, Design and Technology, Computing, Spanish and RSHE.

Phonics - Monster Phonics



At Finchale, we follow a scheme called 'Monster phonics'. I have received your child's current phonics data from Miss Johnstone and over the next couple of weeks I will be continuing to assess in line with our Monster Phonics scheme. This will enable me to get the correct starting point for each child, according to which phonics phase and reading level they are currently working at. We will be having a 'Monster Phonics Welcome Meeting' on 11th October 2023.

Phonics screening: If your child does not pass the Phonics Screening check in year 1, they will then retake the check again in the Summer term 2. This will be the week June 10th - 14th.

Assessment

I have received and reviewed your child's data upon where they left Year 1. Through this I now have a clear indication as to where your child is working in the core curriculum subjects, such as, English and Maths, and what each child is capable of achieving and where they need to move on to. Progress is carefully monitored through observations and everyday activities alongside some more formal assessment tasks, which take place throughout the year. From these assessments, I will be able to set personal targets for your child.



Year 2 School Assessment period May 2024



Children will partake in the following assessments:

- Reading Comprehension paper x 2
- Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation Paper x 2
 - Paper 1 - Grammar, Punctuation and Vocabulary test
 - Paper 2 - 20-word Spelling test
- Maths - Paper 1 - Arithmetic
 - Paper 2 - Mathematical Fluency, Problem-Solving and Reasoning

Reading

As we dive into the new school year, I will be spending the first couple of weeks completing reading assessments with all children using our Monster Phonics reading books. From this your child has been put into a 'Reading for Comprehension' group. Each group will take part in a focused Reading for Comprehension session with the class teacher or LSA twice a week. Following this session, your child will bring home TWO books per week: a Monster Phonics and a story comprehension based book. (An additional phonics book may also be sent if required.) These books will be given out every **FRIDAY** and these books **MUST** be returned on the following **WEDNESDAY**. Reading should take place as part of your child's homework each week and this will really help support your child's progress. Your child will receive a comprehension bookmark alongside their reading books which will contain the VIPERS reading skills. A homework task will be linked to this each week and this bookmark should be used with the story-based book. We will be sending out a reading record, please record the date and book title, with a brief comment, in the reading record. I do not sign the reading record unless necessary but during a Reading for Comprehension session I will glance over the reading record to ensure reading is happening frequently at home. (I appreciate it isn't always convenient to write everything in the reading record but even a signature will do). We feel passionate about supporting children's reading skills at Finchale.



Homework

A variety of homework Activities will be sent home in a homework file each **FRIDAY** and should be returned to school by the following **WEDNESDAY**. Homework tends to be based on topic work such as geography, history, science, art etc. Most weeks I will also include some online homework tasks which will be sent out in your child's homework pack on a Friday. This may include online spelling, phonics and maths tasks. I will be able to monitor and see your child's progress on these platforms and target any

★ areas necessary. You will receive the logins required for these educational websites such as Monster
★ Phonics/ EdShed/numbots. Do not worry if homework is not sent every week, some weeks in school will be
★ more demanding for children than others (assessment weeks).
★ Homework will be given on a **Friday** and **MUST** be returned by at least the following **WEDNESDAY**. Please
★ ensure that your child focuses on personal targets when completing homework.

★ Reward System

★ If a child does something to be rewarded, whether it be displaying good manners, behaviour or work,
★ your child will be asked to leap up the 'Lighthouse'. Once the child reaches 10 on the Lighthouse they will
★ be awarded a merit certificate and prize. This will be given in class and then sent home with your child.
★ The progress towards each certificate will be displayed in the classroom so that the children know what
★ they are working towards. It may be good to display these at home to stress the value placed on these
★ rewards.

★ Star Pupil

★ The award of 'Star Pupil' will be given to any child or children who have done something that has
★ impressed an adult within a week. This will involve the presentation of a star award badge and a
★ certificate. This award will not necessarily be given each week unless something outstanding has been
★ noted by myself or other adults in class.

★ PE

★ Year 2 PE sessions will take place every **Thursday** morning (Craig's Coaching) and **Friday** and
★ some additional sessions when possible. There will be extra practice sessions for the dance
★ festival which we will taking part in, in the Spring term. Please ensure your child has their PE kits in
★ school at all times including PE shoes and that long hair is tied back or a bobble is provided for, on these
★ days. If your child has pierced ears, please ensure earrings are removed on PE days or that tape or
★ plasters are provided. Please also ensure your child has a coat on PE days as it is likely that most of our
★ PE sessions are going to be taught outside. Children should bring a coat to school every day.

★ The Zones of Regulation

★ The Zones of Regulation is an internationally renowned intervention which helps children to manage
★ difficult emotions, known as 'self-regulation'. Self-regulation can go by many
★ names such as 'self-control', 'impulse management' and 'self-management'. Self-
★ regulation is best described as the best state of alertness for a situation. For
★ example, when your child takes part in a sports game, they would need to have a
★ higher state of alertness than when, for example, they were working in a
★ library. From time to time, all of us (including adults) find it hard to manage strong feelings such as
★ worry, anger, restlessness, fear or tiredness, and this stops us from getting on with our day effectively.
★ Children who feel these emotions often find it hard to learn and concentrate in school. The Zones of
★ Regulation aims to teach children strategies to help them cope with these feelings so they can get back
★ to feeling calm and ready to learn. These coping strategies are called 'self-regulation'.
★ We have a 'feelings board' in class where children will be able to show how they are feeling at numerous
★ points throughout the day. This is to develop your child's understanding of their own emotions and to aid
★ children with strategies to help support heightened emotional states.

★ Water bottles

★ Water is essential to ensure children are hydrated, stay alert and are ready to learn. Please
★ make sure your child has a water bottle with them in school every day.

★ Clothing

★ Please ensure your child's clothes are clearly labelled, you would not believe the amount of lost property
★ we collect by the end of the year!

★ Medicine

★ Should your child require any medication, please ensure it is clearly labelled and hand it in at the school
★ office where you will be required to fill in a form identifying the details of the medication.

★ I look forward to the year ahead, supporting and helping your child succeed but most of all supporting
★ your child to feel happy and safe at school. We will have lots of fun this year and make many memories
★ for your child to remember. Please feel free to approach me with any questions, worries or queries you
★ may have, I promise I will not bite! Thank you again for your continued support, Mrs Lennox ☺

