

Year 2 Newsletter – Autumn 1 2026

Welcome to year 2! We are sending out our Autumn term 1 newsletter early during our transition day, so you have information about your child's new class ahead of the summer break. A copy of the newsletter will be sent out as normal via Arbor after the summer holidays. We hope you have a lovely summer break and look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Welcome

Welcome to Hendra class! We have had a wonderful transition morning, which I hope has left your child as excited as we are for September!

I am really looking forward to working with your child. This year, we have Miss Nelson and Miss McKillop working in our classroom.

We have lots of exciting learning opportunities to look forward to in the Autumn. I have put together some information that will be useful for you and will enable you to support your child's education this term.

I look forward to meeting you, in person, at our Year 2 Parent meeting on 10th September.

Drop-off and Collection

Morning Drop-Off:

Children in Year 2 should be dropped off on the Key Stage 1 playground, where staff will be present to welcome them. From there, your child will walk independently through the shelter and into school.

End of the Day Collection:

At the end of the school day, children will be brought out in a line onto the Key Stage 1 playground. The Year 2 class will line up furthest from the shelter. A member of staff will dismiss each child individually.

To keep the area safe and organised, please wait on the opposite side of the playground.

We kindly ask that parents/ carers and siblings do not enter the shelter at any time, as it will already be set up for learning. **Arrangements remain the same in all weathers.**

In the morning, the Key Stage 1 staff will be here to greet your child.



At the end of the day, we will line up here, and I will dismiss each child one at a time.

We ask that parents/ siblings remain on this side of the playground.

Reading



In reading, we will be consolidating our phonic knowledge with a focus on developing fluency and increasing our reading mileage.

Our Phonics scheme is Little Wandle Phonics. Your child may continue to receive daily phonic lessons as we carefully monitor their reading progress before moving onto reading fluency lessons.

As a class, we will be working on developing a positive attitude towards books through story time, whole class reading and library time.

Your child will receive two books this year: a reading scheme book that closely matches their phoneme (sound) knowledge and a 'reading for pleasure' book. Please note, for the first week, your child will take home a 'reading for pleasure' book only as we will be completing assessments to ensure your child makes a strong start to their Year 2 reading journey.

YOUR CHILD WILL RECEIVE A READING FOLDER WHICH WILL CONTAIN THEIR READING BOOK. READING FOR PLEASURE BOOK AND READING RECORD INSIDE. THEY MUST BRING THEIR FOLDER INTO SCHOOL DAILY.

Recommended reads:

Quest – Aaron Becker

Martha maps it out – Leigh Hodgkinson

Writing



In writing this half term, your child will have the opportunity to write fiction and non-fiction pieces. We will begin with writing a fantasy story -focussing on how sentences combine to form short paragraphs and how to use description effectively. We will also revisit learning on the use of capital letters and full stops. Later, your child will write a non-fiction piece based on the five senses which they learnt about in Year 1.

Alongside this, your child will have daily handwriting lessons. It is essential your child forms their letters correctly to support their writing fluency. Additionally, we will continue to learn spelling rules and apply this in class through our spelling lessons. You can support your child to learn their spellings by practising their weekly spellings on Spelling Shed or practising on their weekly paper copy of their spellings.

Maths: Place Value



In maths, your child will focus on their recall of number facts and will participate in a daily maths lesson. The term will begin with place value, where your child will learn how to recognise the value of each digit in a two-digit number through a variety of representations enabling them to compare numbers. We will also be counting forwards and backwards daily to develop accurate, fluent counting.

Science: The Human Body



In science, your child will learn about the parts of the human body and what we as humans need to survive. Additionally, your child will work scientifically by answering and asking questions.

Computing



In this unit, your child will be introduced to early coding skills. They will learn how to create simple algorithms by giving instructions to move a screen “turtle” along different routes. As they explore, they will think carefully about direction and distance, and begin to create and sequence commands to achieve their goals.

Art & Design: Colour

In Art, we will be working with paint. Your child will learn how to mix primary colours to make secondary colours. They will develop their mixing skills further to make tints and tones and deepen their reasoning by making conscious choices about the colours they select. Our artwork will focus on the work of Kandinsky.

Geography: Spatial Sense



In Geography, we will be focussing on map work. Your child will learn compass directions and explore our school grounds to learn how to make their own maps. Later, in the term, your child will use ordinate maps of the local area to map routes around town.

Music



In this unit, your child will explore music through Ravel’s *Boléro*, learning about rhythmic ostinato (a short, repeating pattern) using body percussion and a steady pulse. They will also discover how music can change in volume (dynamics), including the “crescendo” effect, and compare this with *In the Hall of the Mountain King* by Grieg. Through listening and active participation, they will develop their understanding of beat, tempo, and metre while practising and performing simple rhythms.

PE:



PE will take place on **Tuesday - indoors and Thursday – outdoor**, so please remember to send your child to school dressed in school PE kit on those days.

Children may stay in PE kit all day.

Appropriate footwear must be worn, **long hair needs to be tied up and no jewellery please.**

PSHE Unit: Being Me In My World



In PSHE, we will explore our feelings, learn to ask for help, and understand how our choices affect others. We will also learn about belonging, responsibility, and how to help create a safe and positive classroom community.

RE Unit: Christianity



Key question: Is it possible to be kind to everyone all of the time?

RE teaching is a 4-step process involving: engagement, investigation, evaluation, and expression.

Homework



Weekly homework:

- Read school reading book every day. Please record that your child has read in their reading record and the pages numbers, as we collate and record all reads every Friday.

READING FOLDERS MUST BE SENT IN TO SCHOOL DAILY IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO COMPLETE THEIR DAILY READING PRACTICE.



- Spellings – A paper copy will be sent home every Monday. Children can collect more copies if they would like to throughout the week. Spellings can also be practised on



- Numbots
- Times table rockstars



Homework project

In Year 2 we love to discuss and display the learning your child has completed at home in our classroom.

Your project could be linked to our next Geography Unit, 'Spatial Sense'.

Your child could:

- Draw a map of their house.
- Locate the seven continents on a world map.
- Visit Corby Town Centre and locate: The Cube, Swimming pool and Cinema – can they locate any other shops – your child could write a list or draw a map of the route they have taken.

Your project could be linked to our next Science Unit, 'The Human Body'.

Your child could:

- Research and create a fact file on Edward Jenner/ Louis Pasteur.
- Create a model of a human skeleton.
- Draw and label the human skeleton.
- Create a healthy eating poster.

Dojos will be awarded for completed projects!



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities.



Rewards

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



Class information

Class Teachers: Mr Bradley/Miss Nelson

Teaching Assistant: Miss McKillop

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle, appropriate coat and sun hat to school every day as the weather may still be warm.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



Dates for the diary!

Autumn 1

Tuesday 1st September - Teacher Training Day 1

Wednesday 2nd September - Teacher Training Day 2

Thursday 3rd September - School reopens for pupils

Thursday 10th September – Year 2 Parent Welcome Meeting

Tuesday 6th October - Individual and sibling photos

Wednesday 14th October - Parents Consultation Evening 3pm – 6.30pm

Thursday 15th October - Parents Consultation Evening 3pm – 5.30pm

Friday 23rd October - School closes to pupils for Half Term

