



Welcome Back

Welcome back to school and a dramatic relocation of the Year 2 classroom... the stage! What an unusual start to the new academic year we've had!

We hope that you have a fun-filled summer holiday and that you're ready for some exciting and challenging learning in Year Two. We have had a fantastic first week back and we are so proud of how all of the children have settled in and adjusted to our new home.

Mr Ward will be teaching the class on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Parry will be teaching on a Thursday and Friday.

Franciscan Values

As a school, we continue to celebrate our Franciscan heritage through our seven values - based on the Franciscan values. The seven values are: Joy, Forgiveness, Faith, Respect, Service, Peace and Stewardship. These underpin all that we do as a school. We will all strive to live out these values on a daily basis but each class will pay close attention to their own value. In Year 2, our value is **faith**. Take some time to think. What is faith? Do you know any Bible stories about faith? How can we show faith in our lives?



Come and See

Our first topic in RE this term is 'Beginnings'. In this topic we will explore how God is with us at every beginning and how we can celebrate the many beginnings each day offers. We will be learning about the story of Creation and

some of the Psalms that tell us about how God knows and loves each one of us. Look out for our 'Knowledge Organiser', which we will upload to the school website to support your learning in RE.

Our second topic this half term is 'Signs and Symbols', in which we will be thinking about the symbols of infant Baptism. We will be learning how the Church family welcomes a new baby. Another 'Knowledge Organiser' will be sent home when we start this topic.

Prayer and worship remain an integral part of each day and the children are very welcome to bring in and share any prayers or books on our class prayer table.

English

In Read, Write Inc and Phonics, children will be assessed regularly and placed into groups to support their early reading, spelling and writing. During these Read, Write Inc lessons, we explicitly teach phonics, reading, writing, grammar and spelling.

In our Talk 4 Writing lessons, we will be creating our own version of the story 'Fussy Freda'! This is the story of a girl who was so fussy that she refused to eat anything that was cooked for her. However, Freda's fussy eating soon has disastrous consequences! We will be using the Talk 4 Writing model to learn the story and eventually write our own! We will be focussing on using basic sentence punctuation, how to use commas in a list, conjunctions and adjectives. Following this we will be learning how to write instructions - using imperative verbs and adverbs.

Mathematics

As a school we use Power Maths for the teaching of Mathematics. Our first unit is all about Numbers to 100. We will be learning to count numbers to 100, use different ways to show numbers to 100, use place value grids to make and compare numbers, compare and order numbers to 100 and count in 2s, 5s and 10s. Following this we will be developing our understanding of Addition and Subtraction. We will learn how to use related number facts, compare number sentences, make number bonds to 100, add and subtract ones and tens, add 2-digit numbers and 1-digit numbers and subtract.

Science

In Science, our topic is 'Animals, Including Humans'. We will be sorting and grouping different types of animals and their offspring. Then we will be considering how our bodies change as we grow up and how we can stay fit and healthy. We will be exploring the importance of a healthy, balanced diet and regular exercise.

History

In History we will be learning about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. We will be comparing nursing from different periods and exploring how each of these significant individuals made the world a better place today.

Geography

In Geography, we'll be revisiting and consolidating our learning from Year 1 about maps of the world and then we will be learning about the capital cities of the UK, identifying physical and human features of these locations.

Art

In Art the children will be exploring the work of Giuseppe Arcimboldo, who created imaginative portraits made entirely of fruit, vegetables, flowers, fish etc. We will be drawing our own self-portraits using pencil, charcoal and pastels and then creating collages inspired by Arcimboldo.

PE

This half term our PE days will be Mondays and Wednesdays. On Mondays we will have yoga and on Wednesdays we will be developing our skills in net and wall games.

Music

In Music, our topic is about exploring simple patterns. We will be thinking about how music can help us to make friends. We will learn to sing, accompany and perform songs with a 'soul' rhythm.

Reading at Home

Children are expected to read for 10 minutes every day and the more often they read the better! This includes reading to an adult. Children will change their own books during our Phonics lessons. For most children this will be on a Wednesday. They are encouraged to read the same book multiple times to develop fluency, expression and comprehension. Our Read, Write Inc Book-Bag Books contain lots of questions and activities to support reading at home. Of course, children should also be encouraged to read more widely too, reading books they have at home or from the library with an adult or independently.

Spellings

In addition to Read, Write Inc Phonics, we will also be introducing Read, Write Inc Spelling programme later this year. This approach will be consistent with our teaching and learning in Phonics and progress into Key Stage Two. The programme helps children to learn methods for working out how to spell words with regular patterns and also has a focus on irregular spelling patterns that need to be memorised. We will keep you informed and let you know when we begin this programme so that you can support with the practise of spellings at home.

Water Bottles

Children are asked to ensure they bring a water bottle to school each day. They are encouraged to drink water throughout the day to aid concentration. Water bottles should be taken home each night for washing.

P.E. Kit

The children will have two P.E. lessons each week – taught by external coaches. Please make sure that your child comes to school wearing their 'active uniform'/PE kit on Mondays and Wednesdays (this is likely to change each half term). Outdoor kit should include: plain black tracksuit bottoms, yellow polo shirt, yellow sweatshirt and outdoor trainers.

Class Twitter

You can follow us on Twitter (@stlizclass21) to see what we are getting up to in class each week and keep up to date with any class notices. A detailed letter about this has been sent out by Mrs Acton. We will endeavour to keep you updated with lots of lovely pictures of our learning in Year 2.

If you have any quick questions please feel free to speak to us at the end of the school day once all of the children have been dismissed. If, at that point, you feel you require a longer appointment, we can arrange a meeting via the school office (01773822278).

We are really looking forward to an exciting half term and a fun-filled year.

Mr T Ward and Mrs D Parry

Reminders	
Monday	PE (Come to school in 'active' uniform/PE kit)
Tuesday	
Wednesday	PE (Come to school in 'active' uniform/PE kit)
Thursday	
Friday	

Dates For Your Diary		
20.09.23	15:45 – 16:15	Meet the Teacher Event (Session 1)
	16:30 – 17:00	Meet the Teacher Event (Session 2) You are invited to come and meet us in the classroom to find out about the curriculum and routines in Year 2. You need only attend one of the above sessions. We will send out a copy of our presentation so do not worry if you cannot attend.
25.09.23	Ongoing	Harvest Appeal Launches Please begin to bring in donations for our Harvest Appeal. Donations will be sent to Hope for Belper Food and Community Hub. More information to follow.
10.10.23	15:00 – 15:30	Harvest Celebration You are invited to join us in the school hall for our Harvest celebrations. This will be lead by our school Chaplaincy Team.
26.10.23	15:00-15:30	Year 2 Class Liturgical Prayer You are invited to join us as the class lead a liturgy for the whole school community. The children will be planning and preparing the liturgy.
W.C.30.10.23	HALF TERM	
06.11.23	INSET DAY	
07.11.23	INSET DAY	
13.11.23	All Day	Times Table Rock Star Day As this is the beginning of Maths week, we will be holding our annual relaunch of TT Rock stars. The children are invited to dress up as 'rock stars' on this day and we will be doing lots of maths and counting activities in class. Children should bring their PE kit to change into and ensure they have appropriate footwear.

Class Promises

On our first day in Year 2, the children created a list of class promises based on our school rules and mission statement. All of the children have signed up to them and we are delighted to share them with you...

Our Class Promises

We promise to...



Always **welcome** new friends and **look after** others.



Always **tidy up** after ourselves and keep our classroom tidy.



Always use our **good manners**.



Always show **green behaviour**.



Always **tell an adult** if there's something wrong.



Always **listen** when someone else is talking.



Always **help** each other.



Always **respect** other people's **property**.



Make sure we **don't waste food** or play with our food.



Always use **kind words**, **kind feet** and **kind hands**.



Always **respect** other people's **feelings**.



Always **try our best** and **never give up**.



Always be **generous**.



Be **happy** for each other.