

# Welcome to Year 2

Welcome to another exciting year at Malvern Way School. We are looking forward to working with you and your child this year and thank you in advance for your support.

## **Book Bags & Water Bottles**

We ask that every child has a Malvern Way book bag to keep in their tray (no ruck sacks or keyrings attached please) and a Malvern Way water bottle in school (water bottle lids are colour coded depending on your child's colour group). Your child will be in the same colour group as last year. Water bottles should not be kept in book bags as they damage reading books if they leak.

## **P.E**

All children should have a full PE kit in school every day including: black plimsolls, a pair of navy blue/black shorts, navy blue/black tracksuit trousers and top, a sky blue T-shirt and a spare pair of socks (if they wear tights). Children with earrings must have their own micropore tape in their PE bag (they must be able to put this on themselves). All PE items need to be named. We have PE on a Wednesday morning and then either a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday afternoon so please ensure PE kits are in school every day.

## **Library Books**

These will be changed every Friday (Heron and Owl classes) and every Tuesday (Robin class) so please help your child to ensure that their library book is in their book bag on the correct day every week. If they would like to keep their library book in their book bag and bring it in everyday that is fine as it is important that they keep track of their library book and take good care of it.

## **Home Learning**

Most of the home learning in Year 2 follows a similar pattern to Year 1 in terms of reading books, maths games, key words etc. You will receive a ParentMail every Friday informing you what we will be learning the following week so that you can support learning at home.

## **Reading Books**

These are changed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. However, please ensure your child has their reading book and reading record book in school everyday as they may need to read with an adult. Every child should be reading at home daily. Please make a brief comment in the reading record book and sign. You will find talking about the reading and questioning your child to develop their understanding is as important as reading itself. Children will bring 1 book home. However, when the children are reading the longer books we do not expect them to read the whole book in two days and it may take a week before they need to change their book. Children change their own books independently therefore it's their responsibility to choose different books. It is the class Teacher's decision to change/move spots, we will regularly read with the children during Guided Reading and individual reading time.

## **Keywords**

Your child will be bringing home a small pack of keywords. These are taken from the list of most frequent words that children use and can either be 'memory' or phonic words. Keywords should be practised daily and will be tested in school each week. Each class Teacher will let you know which day this will happen (dependent on parent helpers). Help with this is always greatly appreciated so if you are able to commit to this weekly please let your class Teacher know. Please do not practise in their purple books, these are just for use in school. It is very helpful for your child to practice these words in a sentence. If they bring in their sentences to school they will be rewarded with a sticker. Please ensure that your child learns their spellings using the *cursive* style of writing, as they are written on the pieces of paper. If you have lost your copy of our handwriting rhymes please ask your class Teacher or look on the school website <http://malvernway.herts.sch.uk/publication/view/handwriting-rhymes> You may notice that your child has a spelling which they have had before. This will be because they are not spelling the word correctly in their work at school. The application of their spellings is the most important part.

## **Maths Games**

You all received Maths games last year. These are similar in Year 2. Each class Teacher would like a parent helper to help check in, organise and re-distribute the games. Once we have volunteers, we will let you know which day we will change the packs. Please enjoy playing the games with your child and play them as many times as you like in that week.

## **Wellies & Coats**

It can get muddy on the grass later in the term and the children will only be allowed to play on the grass if they have a named pair of wellies in school. Coats MUST be in school everyday, the children will still go out to play if it is raining.

## **Parent/Carer Helpers**

We always welcome adult support for Guided Reading which happens daily from 9.00 – 9.30am. We are also very grateful of adult help with the changing of reading/library books and changing maths games. If you can help on a regular basis, please discuss this with your class Teacher as a DBS check will need to be completed which is a cost to the school.

## **PPA Time (Preparation and Planning)**

Year 2 Teachers are out of class on Wednesday afternoon. The classes are then taught by:  
Mrs Harrington ~ Robin, Mrs Sahin ~ Heron, Mrs Venn ~ Owl

## **Behaviour**

Our behaviour system consists of a first verbal warning, followed by a yellow card and a red card. If a child breaks the same Golden Rule again they will then lose 5 minutes of their Golden Time on a Friday. Children receive team points, stickers, praise pads, certificates and lots of verbal or non-verbal praise for good behaviour or learning.

## **Beginning & End Of The Day**

Our school day begins promptly at 8.50am when the class Teacher will collect the children from outside. If your child is going home with someone other than their parent/carers please inform the Teaching Assistant at the start of the day to save any confusion at collection. If it is a regular arrangement it would be really helpful if you could put it in writing.

## **Letters**

Please encourage your child to check their own book bag for letters from school, most communication will be sent via ParentMail. Also please note we do not look in your child's book bag so please remind your child to hand any letters or monies to us or use the post boxes around the school.

## **Birthdays**

We love to celebrate children's birthdays in school. We will always sing 'Happy birthday' and share their birthday news. As we are a healthy school please ensure that children do not bring sweets to school for their friends. Fruit packets, stickers, pencils or small toys can be given out to celebrate their birthday.

## **Noticeboards**

Please remember to check the notice boards and website for daily/weekly messages and reminders.

Thank you,

***Mrs Ineson, Mrs Coyne & Mrs Harrington ~ Robin***

***Mr Reid & Mrs Newberry ~ Heron***

***Mrs Stephen & Mrs Long ~ Owl***