

BERKELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

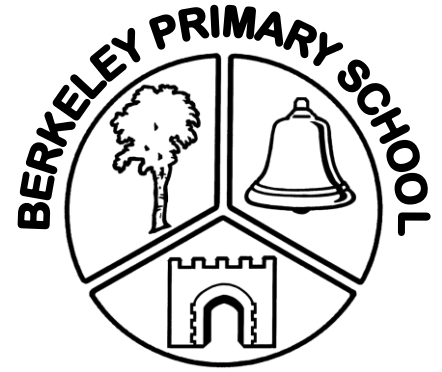
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Dear Year 2 parents and carers,

Friday 9th September

I hope you all had a good summer holiday. I am really looking forward to the year ahead and hope your child enjoys their time in Year 2. Please take a moment to read about new homework and other arrangements. Thank you.

Homework...

Reading

For the moment, I have asked your child to get two reading books at the level they were assessed at in Year One. Please be assured that I will be listening to the children read and getting to know them better over the next couple of weeks, so the level for the books they read at home may change. If so, I will write details in their journals. As the children are in Year 2 now they are encouraged to change their books independently at the very beginning of the day, whenever they need to, this should be before putting their belongings away and their morning task work.

Please hear your child read as often as you can. Every day is perfect but a minimum of three times per week is really important. I will collect reading records in every Monday morning and give house points for reading homework that has been done. Reading records are then given back to the children on Tuesday. Feel free to write any non-urgent messages in their reading diaries and I will read and respond to them accordingly.

Phonics / Spelling

Please check book bags for a red spelling book. All children will have spelling books which will come with ten words for your child to practise. Please make sure their books are back in school each Monday for a new list, when I will also award children with house points for practising. Spelling books are then given back to the children on Tuesday.

Maths

For the time being there will not be any maths homework, this will begin after Christmas and I will send a letter out then with further information. However, in the meantime if you would like to help your child to learn the 2, 5 and 10 times tables this will help them greatly in school.

None of the homework is compulsory but it will benefit your child if you can support them as much as possible.

Other information...

Book Bags

It would be very much appreciated if all children have a book bag for their belongings that will fit in their tray. Rucksacks etc. are not allowed in school in Year 2 as we simply do not have the room. Sorry.

Fire Topic

As you are already aware, our first topic is called 'Here be dragons.' I gave each of the children a curriculum map on Monday which shows what areas we will be covering. As part of this, your child may bring into school any pictures of fires or toy dragons that they may have. Please ensure that any items are clearly named as they will go on display in the classroom. Hopefully, this will enable the children to feel at home in their new classroom.

Swimming

Swimming will start next Wednesday 14th September and the coach leaves at 9.30am. Please can your child bring their swimsuits, towel, goggles and swimming hat. If your child has received any swimming awards before or attends lessons already it would be useful if you could let me know as this will help the instructors put them in the correct group. Please be assured that all the children will be taught according to their ability and will have the opportunity to work towards a badge.

Drama Workshop

As you are aware, to start this topic the children will enjoy a fantastic drama workshop from The Freshwater Theatre Company in the afternoon of Monday 26th September. This will be held during school time and the children do not need to bring anything special on this day. I will share pictures of this wow experience with you during our topic celebration assembly.

Bread Making

As part of our science and topic work, helpers are welcome in class on Friday 30th September from 11am until 12noon to help with our bread making. Please go to the office to sign in and then come to the Year 2 classroom. The children will need plenty of help to measure ingredients, follow a recipe and then make a small roll each. This will be quite a challenge as they need to be ready for lunch by 12.10am so help will be gratefully received!

Celebration Assembly

Finally, I would like to inform you of our sharing assembly on Tuesday 29th November at 2pm. This will be an opportunity to see what your child has been doing in Year 2 so far and share their work with them. Please sign in at the office and then make your way to the hall where they will be waiting to perform. You are welcome to take your child home straight from the assembly however please do sign out with Miss Ward so I can account for all of the class. Please also write your comments in our class topic book, as your feedback is invaluable.

I look forward to meeting you all in person but in the meantime please do come and see me if you have any queries.

Best Wishes,

Laura Baker