



# Year 2 Autumn 2024



We want to wish all of our families a very warm welcome to Year 2. We hope you have all had an enjoyable summer and are ready for a new school year. Year 2 have a wonderful team who are all excited to get to know your fantastic children and begin teaching our fun and engaging lessons.

**THE TEAM:** Mrs Sarah Sheath (Year Team Leader) is sharing 'Flamingos' with Mr Steffan Thomas with the support of Mrs Claire Symonds (LSA). Mrs Sheath will be teaching Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday morning and Mr Thomas will be teaching Monday and Friday afternoon. Miss Emily Tindale is teaching 'Penguins' with the support of Mrs Anca Antocci (LSA). Mrs Hunter is sharing 'Parrots' with Miss Wareham with the support of Mrs Fiona Osgood (LSA). Miss Wareham will teach Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Hunter will teach Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

## Weekly Routines

**P.E days:** Tuesday (Outdoor P.E)  
Friday (Indoor P.E)

Please bring in suitable kit for all weather (shorts and a t-shirt for indoor PE, tracksuit and sports shoes for outdoor PE) in a named, drawstring bag. **Please name all items of PE clothing.**

**Library day:** Friday  
Please try and remember your borrowed books each week.

**Water bottles:**  
Please make sure your child brings a clearly named water bottle to school each day. Please can we emphasise that these must only contain water.

A small plea... please name all your child's items so that things can be more easily found if they become lost.

## Dates for your Diary

**Hot and Cold Workshop- Open the Box Theatre company:**  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September

**Market:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October

**Project Celebration:** (mornings- timings tbc)  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November- **Penguins**  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November- **Flamingos**  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November - **Parrots**

**School Photos:** Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
**School mop up photos:** Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

**INSET Day:** Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October

**Half Term:** 28<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November

**Parents' Evenings:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November

**INSET Day:** Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November

**Christmas Fayre:** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
**Christmas Performance:** w/c 16<sup>th</sup> Dec TBC

**Early Finish (optional):** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

## Dinner Time...

Year 2 is the final year for the *Universal Free School Meals* so please do take up the opportunity of a free, hot and balanced meal. We will provide a fruit snack and as always, we use these opportunities to encourage healthy eating. We are a 'Healthy School' so water only in water bottles and healthy lunch boxes if you decide on lunch boxes. Thank you for your support. We are also a nut free school!

## What can I do at home to help?

Read, read, read! We cannot emphasise enough the importance of reading at home. Developing a love of reading is something we are passionate about. This goes far beyond teaching them phonics, blending and common exception words. It allows them to express themselves through developed vocabulary, empathise through understanding characters as well as relax, enjoy, increasing knowledge, imagination and creativity. As we continue to teach phonics through our ELS phonics scheme, we will send home a decodable phonics reading book each week for your child to continue to practise their reading fluency. We will also send home a 'Love to Read Book' chosen by your child during their library session, in order to promote reading for pleasure. During our taught reading lessons, we will teach a range of comprehension skills across a variety of carefully chosen texts. This half term, we will be exploring the texts; 'Hansel and Gretel', 'Gotcha' and 'Revolting-Rhymes' and will be summarising, making predictions, clarifying, evaluating, making connections and inferring meaning. Your child will bring home a reading diary to record any home reading that you do. We reward every read with a reading dojo and 4 reads or more a week will enter your child in our weekly reading raffle.

## Communication

It is imperative that all parents sign up to DOJO as we will be communicating regularly through this. Your child's reading comment and target will be posted on DOJO for their reading group, as well as updates on what your children are learning each week. If you are having trouble logging in, please do speak with your child's class teacher as soon as possible. Dojo is useful for quick communications about areas such as curriculum news or specific messages regarding behaviour and should be your first 'port of call' if you have any concerns. Your child's class teacher will access and respond to dojo messages around the school day and after school, during office hours. For communications regarding absence or any prolonged communications, please continue to email the school office or phone reception.

# Projects and Learning

## Let's Explore

Throughout Year 2, We have an exciting journey planned full of discovery, critical thinking and hands on learning. Our first project '**Let's Explore**' is planned for your child's first term in Year 2, where we will be exploring the UK before moving on to continents around the world. We will learn all about hot and cold areas of the world and their relation to the equator and north and south poles. Open the Box Theatre Company will be delivering their hot and cold workshop on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September and we are really excited about the hands on learning their visit will bring. We have an exciting hook morning planned for our first week in Year 2. The children will hop on board the Berrywood aeroplane in order to travel and visit different destinations in the world, collecting stamps in their passports as they go! We will also be carrying out lots of research on the different animals that live in these continents and will be using this information to help us to plan our exciting project celebration with you in Autumn 2!

### Maths

- Number
- Addition and Subtraction
- Measures
- Maths Mastery

### Science

- Longitudinal Study
- Making new plants- how new plants are made
- Exploring the key idea that all flowering plants make seeds
- Identifying what plants need to stay healthy
- Identifying the different parts of a plant

### PE

- Football
- Basketball
- Creative Dance
- Gymnastics

### Geography

- Exploring the four countries within the United Kingdom
- Learning about the 5 oceans and 7 continents in the world
- Locating hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles
- Developing skills in using maps, atlases, globes and compass directions
- Identifying the physical features as well as recognising landmarks and human/physical features

### English

- Narrative- Alternative versions of traditional tales
- Poetry and rhyme
- Instructions
- Diary entries
- Sustained 'Write on' tasks
- Let's Think in English

### Art

- Painting seascapes and Caribbean landscapes
- Printing in the style of Donald Judd
- Paper weaving to create tartan
- Exploring the artworks of Kelly ZumBerge, Janice Sylvia Brock, Shari Erikson, Vincent Van Gogh and Katsushika Hokusai.

### DT

- Free Standing Structures: Designing and making an animal enclosure

### Music

- Weekly singing assembly
- Christmas nativity preparations

### Computing

- E safety
- Research based web browsing (animals from hot and cold countries)

### PDL

- Class rules
- Growth Mindset
- Being a good friend
- Belonging

### RE

- Bread as a symbol
- Candlelight as a symbol- Hannukah and Advent

We hope that you have found this letter informative and would like to thank you in advance for your support. We look forward to working alongside you to ensure that your children have a fantastic year at Berrywood.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sheath

Mr Thomas

Miss Tindale

Mrs Hunter

Miss Wareham