Mandeville Primary School

West Road, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, CM21 0BL
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September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school and to Year 2. We hope you all had an enjoyable summer and are settling back into term time routines. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back and we are so impressed with how well they are all settling into Year 2.

Staff

This year the staffing arrangements for Year 2 will be as follows:

Miss Hannigan	Monday and Tuesday
Mrs Ball	Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
Mrs. Lobue	Every morning till lunchtime
Mrs Hoskin	Thursday afternoons

Curriculum

English

Year 2 English sessions are split into four areas: Guided Reading, Spelling, Writing and Handwriting. Guided Reading is taught in the morning followed by English or maths. In English, we have started with 'Frog and The Stranger'. The children are using conjunctions to build sentences and write a narrative in the style of the story. Spelling and Handwriting are taught daily. There will continue to be high expectations of the presentation of your child's work in order for their ideas to be communicated clearly and to foster pride in their work.

Maths

Maths is taught for an hour every day and extra arithmetic sessions are built into our morning work as the children come into the classroom at the start of the day. In Maths, we are continuing to follow a mastery approach, using lots of concrete apparatus to support us with revising concepts and learning new ones. We will begin to move onto drawing these as the term moves on. We will be following a specialised planning format where we ensure that any gaps that children have should be addressed. Further details of the Year 2 curriculum can be found on the school website.
https://www.mandeville221.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/

Science

Science is a core subject in the National Curriculum and will be taught by Mrs Ball. This half term's topic is 'Plants' where we focus on how seeds, bulbs and plants grow and what they need to grow and stay healthy. After half term, our unit is 'Everyday Materials' where we learn about different materials and their suitability for different purposes.

Foundation subjects

Foundation subjects are taught in the afternoon. This term begins with Geography and we will be learning about the different continents and oceans. In Art, we will be learning to use a range of materials to create a sea scape collage to link with Geography and after half term, we will be looking at the architect Christopher Wren. In Computing, we will be learning about computer systems and networks, followed by algorithms in the second half of the Autumn term. In PSHE, we will be learning about managing our feelings. In PE, we will be doing athletics and gymnastics.

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PE lessons will be on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Please ensure that your child always has the correct kit in school so they can participate. Please see the uniform list below. Athletics and games PE lessons will be outside so please ensure that your child has trainers and also a black tracksuit for when it starts to get cold. **All items of clothing must be named**. It is important that the children make sure their PE kit is returned to school if they take it home after a club. During PE, earrings should either be removed or covered with tape which can be put on at school. The children need to be responsible for this. We will continue to complete The Daily Mile on the remaining days of the week.

Daily Routine

The bell is rung at 8.40 and the children are met in the playground by the class teacher. 'Morning Arithmetic' starts at 8.45 daily to encourage children to settle to their learning promptly and calmly.

We then begin the day with Guided Reading, which is followed by Maths. After break, we have a spelling session and then English. In the afternoon, we have our handwriting and foundation lessons.

Children still have milk (if ordered) and fruit continues to be supplied. Children must bring in a water bottle which they can have access to throughout the day. Please ensure the water bottle is clearly labelled. Children are reminded to bring their water bottles home daily, however, they can be rinsed out and refilled at school if the children forget to take them home.

Playtimes will be outside as much as possible so children will need to bring a coat in to school as the weather get cooler and wetter.

Home learning

Your child will be given a 'Home learning folder' which must be brought into school daily. They will also be given a reading book, to read at home, and a reading record, which should be kept inside their folder. After listening to your child read at home, please sign their reading record and place it back into their folder. Children's books will be changed once a week if it has been signed by an adult on more than one occasion. The children will change their books on the day they have guided reading with the class teacher. We encourage the children to be independent when choosing a book from their colour band. In line with the School Homework Policy, the expectation in Year 2 is that your child reads every day for approximately 10 minutes. There is a sheet in the back of your child's reading record which suggests ways you can support their reading at home.

A Home Learning and Weekly Information sheet will be uploaded to Google Classroom. This will have a spelling and maths activity to be completed, as well as key information. To be more environmentally friendly, we will no longer be sending a paper copy home so please log in to Google Classroom. Logins can be found in your child's reading record.

Please complete home learning tasks in the home learning exercise book, which is kept in the Home Learning Folder. These will be collected in on a Friday. If activities are completed beforehand, children may wish to hand work in sooner.

How you can support at home

Encouraging your child to read regularly and to complete their homework is the best help you can give your child. Sawbridgeworth Library has a wide variety of books available for loan and there are also lots of Maths games online that will help support what we are doing in school. You might find the following websites useful:

www.topmarks.co.uk
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/

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Expectations

Uniform

The children must wear the Mandeville school uniform and bring in the correct PE kit. Please ensure that all clothing is named and that your child's P.E kit is in school every day.

Girls
White polo shirt with school crest (preferred)
Red round necked sweatshirt or cardigan with school crest
Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
Plain red or grey tights or white or grey socks

Boys
White polo shirt with school crest (preferred)
Red round necked sweatshirt with school crest
Grey trousers
Plain grey socks

PE
Black shorts with school crest
Red round necked t-shirt with school crest (preferred)
Trainers
Black tracksuit bottoms and top if required

PE
Black shorts with school crest
Red round necked t-shirt with school crest (preferred)
Trainers
Black tracksuit bottoms and top if required

And finally…

We are really looking forward to getting to know you and your child(ren) over the coming weeks, working together so that we can all have an enjoyable and productive year. We hope that your child will enjoy all the new themes, challenges and approaches to learning that Year 2 has to offer. Please remember we are always on hand to listen to any worries or concerns. You can catch us at the end of the day or make an appointment via the office. Alternatively, you can email the school at office@mandeville221.herts.sch.uk and this will be passed on.

We look forward to a happy and successful year.

Many thanks,

Mrs. Ball
Year 2 Class teacher

Miss. Hannigan
Year 2 Class teacher