Mandeville Primary School
West Road, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, CM21 0BL
01279 723737 www.mandeville221.herts.sch.uk
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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:

Mrs Fernandez	Monday - Friday
Mrs. Du Casse	Monday – Friday mornings until lunch time
Mrs. Hoskin	Tuesday 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 started off with a whole school book titled '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 them to communicate their ideas 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. 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 living by the coast. 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 and managing our feelings. In PE, we will be doing athletics and gymnastics.

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. Children should have black crested shorts, red t-shirt

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(preferably with the school crest), a black tracksuit and trainers. Athletics and games PE lessons will be outside so please ensure that your child has trainers and 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 activities' are provided 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 and then morning break. After break, we have a spelling session and then English. In the afternoon, we have handwriting and foundation lessons.

Mrs Du Casse is the Learning Support Assistant in Year 2 and will be in class with us every morning until lunch time. Mrs Hoskin is also a Learning Support Assistant in Year 2 and will be in class with us every Tuesday afternoon.

Children still have milk (if ordered) and fruit continues to be supplied. Children are encouraged to 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 gets 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. 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 Wednesday. If activities are completed beforehand, children may wish to hand work in sooner.

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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/

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 Fernandez
Year 2 Class teacher