



Welwyn St. Mary's Primary School

Autumn Term

2026



Year 2

Welcome to Year 2

The Year 2 Team

Hello and welcome to Year 2!

2 Chestnuts	2 Cedars
Mrs David Mrs Branch Class Teacher Miss Kinsella Teaching Assistant	Mrs Hadley Miss Clements Class Teachers Mrs Jones Teaching Assistants

We hope that you find all of the information in this leaflet useful. If you have any questions about the term ahead, please do let us know so that we can arrange a time to meet with you.

The Autumn Term in Year 2 is always a busy one and we have lots of fun learning to squeeze in! It is important that every child feels happy and safe in their new class so we will spend some time during this term establishing rules, routines and expectations.

There are a few things that you can do at home to help support your child:

- Daily reading – please encourage your child to read a little every day and record what they have read in their home learning diaries. If your child has at least 5 entries in a week, they earn a raffle ticket for the Bookflix draw.
- Please ensure that your child brings their reading record and reading book to school every day.
- Support your child to complete home learning tasks and spellings set each week.
- Explore and discuss the meaning of any new vocabulary your child comes across.
- Please ensure that your child's clothing is named. (cardigans, jumpers and coats in particular!)
- Please do let us know if your child struggles with a piece of homework or has any worries about school.

Thank you!

Topics for this term

English



In our English lessons we focus on 'talk for writing' which involves the children spending time exploring and discussing texts to enable them to produce their own pieces of writing. Themes for writing will include writing to entertain and writing to inform.

The current curriculum has a significant focus on accurate grammar, punctuation and using the correct tense when talking or writing. Every English lesson will begin with a 'Stop, Grammar Time' session where children will learn about and use the following:

noun, proper noun, noun phrase, adjective, adverb, verb, statement, question, exclamation, command, compound word, conjunction, suffix, tense (past, present), apostrophe, comma

Your child will have daily whole class guided reading sessions which will help to develop their decoding and comprehension skills. We will explore new vocabulary together and share our views on what we read.

Phonics

Phonics is a crucial part of learning to read and write and feeds into every aspect your child's learning. Your child will participate in daily phonics sessions following the Little Wandle scheme of work. We begin the year by revising phase 5 graphemes and applying them to read and write words.

Mathematics

Maths is taught in daily maths lessons based on National curriculum guidance. This term we focus extensively on place value, shape and data handling. Regular use of Numicon, Base 10 and other manipulative resources help to reinforce the concept of number. We shall use every opportunity to develop pupils' mathematical fluency using a highly practical approach as this is a key objective for the year. Dice, card and counting games at home can support these skills.



Please encourage your child to learn their number pairs up to 20 as they form the foundation of mental calculations and will be used and tested in school frequently.

For more information about what your children will be learning in maths throughout the year please visit our website www.welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk. You can also find a useful vocabulary list, suggested websites, some games you might wish to play with your child and a document outlining the progression of written methods in mathematics.

RE

This term we will begin by looking at God – What do Christians believe God is like? We will then learn about Harvest and the value of thanking those who work to provide for us. This fits with the whole school theme of Thankfulness this term. Our Christmas work will focus on the Three Wise Men and the part they play in the story of Jesus' birth. In particular, we will look at the significance of their gifts and link the symbolism of these gifts to the traditions of today.



Science



In science this term we will be looking at materials. We will think about how materials change when heated or cooled. We will also discuss what are the different properties of materials and what are natural or manufactured materials.

Computing



In computing, we teach the children about e-safety e.g. being safe when using the Internet. Please continue to reinforce safe use of technology at home. This term, the children will also learn about information technology all around us and digital photography, following the National Centre for Computing Education scheme.

PE



This term, the children will be developing their football skills and exploring balancing in gymnastics. Please ensure your child wears the appropriate PE kit on their PE days and that each item is clearly named. This term, your child's PE days are **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. As the weather cools, please ensure your child is warm enough in their kit. Long hair should be tied back and earrings removed or

covered.

Geography



In Geography, we explore maps of our local area and our school. Children will explore how maps use symbols to represent human and physical features, use aerial maps, carry out simple field work and use simple compass directions.

Art/DT



We look at the work of Aboriginal Artists. We also undertake a puppet unit in D&T, where we will make simple felt puppets using the skill of sewing.

Homework and working in partnership with you.

In line with the school policy on homework this term we will be sending homework as follows:

Reading please ensure that your child continues to read their book at home every evening and that you complete their Reading Record book each day with a comment on your child's progress at home. Please sign it at the end of each week. **Please note:** This year, your child's book will be changed every **Monday** and **Thursday**. We encourage children to read their book several times to develop their fluency and comprehension skills. It is extremely beneficial to read **to** your child as an 'expert reader' whenever possible and include time to talk about their enjoyment and understanding.

Please see our website for top tips on how to support your child with their reading.

Spelling homework will be given out on Friday and tested the following Friday in their spelling book. More information about how to support your child with spelling can be found on the inside cover of their book. The children will practise spellings using the 'look, say, cover, write, check' method and other spelling strategies. In class we will also revise and consolidate their phonic knowledge.

Looking Smart in School Uniform

Our school uniform is simple and practical, intended to keep the children looking smart and contributing to a feeling of belonging to the school. Our school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible.

School Uniform	
Trousers, shorts, skirt, pinafore	Grey
Polo shirt, shirt, blouse (with or without logo)	White
School sweatshirt, cardigan *(with or without logo)	Maroon
Plain sensible shoes (no trainers, sandals or boots)	Black
Socks/tights (not trainer socks)	Plain grey
School pink check cotton dress and plain white socks (Summer term up to October half term only)	
*Preferably children should have one sweatshirt or cardigan with a logo	
Additional items	
Water bottle	
Sun hat (in summer)	
Reception and Year 1 – School book bag from uniform supplier Year 2 – Year 6 – Small rucksack	
Hair accessories- small plain clips, bands, ribbons in brown, black or maroon	
Key stage 2 - Shin pads for hockey and football	
Optional fleece or jacket with school logo for outdoor use	

PE Kit	
Plain PE shorts	Black
Long plain tracksuit bottoms for colder weather	Black
Trainers for outdoor games	
PE hoodie with house coloured logo	Available from uniform suppliers
Key Stage 1 and Reception only Coloured 'house' T-shirt	Available from the school office
Key Stage 2 only PE polo shirt with coloured house logo	Available from uniform suppliers
PE kit should be worn to school on PE days	

Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings (no other piercings are permitted). Earrings must be taken out or taped for PE.
- A sensible wristwatch (a smartwatch maybe worn if classroom mode is enabled at all times), whilst on the school site and school trips etc.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school.

Hair

- Long hair needs to be tied back for school, this is for safety and hygiene reasons and to ensure that children's vision is not impeded. Hair should not be cut too short and should not have designs / tramlines shaven into it.
- Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. Brightly coloured hair is not permitted.
- Large, excessive hair accessories should not be worn; however, small hair clips or plain headbands or ribbons in brown, black or maroon are acceptable.

At the Headteacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover their hair if they have hair loss / illness etc.

Make-Up

Pupils are not allowed to wear make-up or nail varnish. False nails are not permitted.

Labelling

All clothing, shoes, water bottles and school bags should be clearly labelled with your child's name. Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

Please keep checking the monthly newsletters for dates and school events.

We are all looking forward to getting to know the children and are so excited to start our learning journey together!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do speak with us. We are here to help.

The Year 2 team

Remember to take a look at the school website for ideas to support your child
www.welwynst-marys.herts.sch.uk.