

# Year 2 Parent Handbook



# Welcome to the new school year!

## Introduction

Within this booklet we have put together an overview of the curriculum for your child this year and also some general information and reminders that we hope you will find useful. The booklets are specific to each year group so if you have more than one child please do read each booklet.

## Working Together

Your support is important to enable your child to do as well as they can and we value a close working relationship with parents and carers. We aim for children to leave our school having achieved their best, by developing their skills and talents through a range of learning activities and experiences. The school teaches a broad and balanced curriculum that includes the National Curriculum, which is enriched through additional events and activities. We do expect children to fully participate in events and educational visits. If there is a concern or difficulty in your child participating please speak to Mrs Finch in confidence.

Your child will be given homework activities which are detailed in this booklet. Please do support your child in completing these. It is important that homework is done so that your child can participate confidently during follow-up activities in school.

Your child's teacher will be the key point of contact for you and it is most helpful if you let the teacher know about any matters that may affect your child, so that we can support them in school. You may sometimes have questions or concerns and your child's teacher will be happy to discuss these with you. Brief updates, for example about end of day collection, can be easily exchanged at the classroom door as your child arrives for school. However, it is best to arrange a meeting for the end of the day if you wish to have a more lengthy conversation.

Most matters will be appropriately discussed and resolved with the teacher. However, you may feel a matter is more appropriately discussed with a more senior member of staff, in which case you may wish to arrange a conversation with either Mrs Ross (Deputy Headteacher) or Mrs Finch (Headteacher). Any conversations or meetings can be arranged either directly with the class teacher or via the school office.

## Attendance

We value children's good attendance and children receive bronze, silver and gold certificates for 100% attendance each term. There is a strong link between children's good progress in school and their good attendance. We are a local authority school and governed by their policies. It is not permitted to take children out of school for a holiday during term time. Exceptions are made for families in the armed forces if a parent is due to go/returning from a tour of duty. If you do feel there is an exceptional reason for your child to be absent from school, the request should be made in writing at least two weeks prior to the event, marked clearly 'Request for Authorised Absence', and handed into the school office. Any requests will be considered and authorised at the Headteacher's discretion in accordance with the Local Authority and National guidelines.

# Welcome to Year 2

Key Stage Leader – Mr Wakefield

Oak Class – Mrs Pearson and Miss Robinson

Maple Class – Mrs Jenkins

Willow Class – Mrs Kumar



## We are a Values School!

Shefford Lower is a values school. Below are the values for each month. Although we have two values to focus on each month, the other values are still used, modelled and lived every day in school.

Children are rewarded with a stamp on their individual values leaf when they have demonstrated one of the school's values. Special Milestone Leaves are awarded to the children in assembly when they have achieved certain numbers of stamps.

Start	End	Our Values 2020 – 2021
Sept 7th	Sept 25th	<b>Unity &amp; Belonging</b> "I can do things you cannot. You can do things I cannot. Together we can do great things." Mother Teresa Starting our new classes with a sense of togetherness and belonging. Belonging and working together in our school, as a new class, in our house groups. Developing our community by including everyone so everyone feels a sense of belonging.
Sept 28th	Oct 16th	<b>Respect &amp; Responsibility</b> "Treat others as you would like to be treated." The Golden Rule. Respect for everyone and everything. Taking on responsibility, owning our mistakes or our errors of judgement and resolving them to learn from these experiences.
Oct 19th	Nov 13th	<b>Tolerance &amp; Friendship</b> "A day without a friend is like a pot without a single drop of honey left inside it." Winnie the Pooh by A.A Milne. Tolerance is understanding, rather than 'putting up with'. Exploring building supportive and trusting networks and knowing who to talk to. This will also be explored in <b>Anti-bullying month</b> .
Nov 16th	Dec 18th	<b>Peace &amp; Understanding</b> "All we are saying, is give peace a chance." John Lennon. Understanding what peace is, and how can we bring peace about – conciliation, finding resolutions and solving problems together. Understanding the other perspective and point of view. Learning to understand the needs of others.
Jan 5th	Jan 22nd	<b>Excellence &amp; Quality</b> "Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better." Pat Riley (NBA Basketball Coach). Not accepting less than our best, but striving for excellence. Practising to develop quality. Rehearsing and trying so that we achieve what we believe is possible. Understanding what is excellent to one person might be different to another.
Jan 25th	Feb 12th	<b>Love &amp; Kindness</b> "Carry out a random act of kindness with no expectation of reward knowing someday someone will do the same for you." Princess Diana. What is love? How it is shown through our acts of kindness, and being thoughtful to one another.
Feb 22nd	Mar 12th	<b>Courage &amp; Determination</b> "What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?" Vincent Van Gogh. Courage when you least feel like trying. Not giving up. Knowing it is worth it, if not immediately, then in the long run. Courage when you are a lone voice in a crowd, when peer pressure is high.
Mar 15th	Mar 26th	<b>Trust &amp; Honesty</b> "When in doubt tell the truth" Mark Twain Staying true to yourself and being trustworthy. Exploring what we look for in others & how we place our trust. Understanding the difference between lying and holding back full truth as equally dishonest.
Apr 13th	Apr 30th	<b>Cooperation &amp; Sharing</b> "We are a team, one person struggles we all struggle. One person triumphs we all triumph" Barcelona FC. Team work, playing a part whether large or small, encouraging each other to be included and feel valued. Sharing games, sharing equipment, sharing feelings, sharing friends. Understanding what might make others reluctant to share or cooperate and helping each other overcome these barriers.
May 4th	May 28th	<b>Thoughtfulness &amp; Patience</b> "Be a rainbow in somebody else's cloud" Maya Angelou. Thinking of others and putting their thoughts before our own. Thinking of the needs of others and giving time and space to support them. Enduring hardships and difficulties to achieve our goals.
June 7th	June 25th	<b>Simplicity &amp; Freedom</b> "It's the simple things in life which are the most extraordinary" Paulo Coelho. Enjoying the simple things...around this time of year the flowers and trees are blossoming and we are outside more. Exploring the idea of mindfulness and taking time to relax and appreciate life.
June 28th	July 22nd	<b>Happiness and Hope</b> "It's the moments that I just stopped to be that I have been the happiest" Sir Richard Branson. Looking forward to the future. Understanding optimism and looking for the best as we move forward. Reflecting on how to keep ourselves and others happy.

### Some useful websites:

Purple Mash: [www.purplemash.com](http://www.purplemash.com) Children have their own username and password. Please ask your class teacher if you need reminding of these.

Oxford Owl – Phonics: This website provides a parent guide to phonics with a range of definitions as well as a video and audio guide of how to pronounce each sound.

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/home/reading-site/expert-help/phonics-made-easy>

Oxford Owl – Reading: This website provides a library of eBooks to help the children practise their reading online.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

An online phonics workshop link for parents will be shared in the Autumn Term.

Times Tables Rockstars: we will inform you of the website when we give the logins out.

### Important Information

Logins will be put in the back of the children’s reading records when they are given out.

### Clubs

There are a range of clubs available for the children to join. This information is available from the office and you can apply for your child to join a club should spaces be available. You will be notified if your child has a place in the clubs of your choice.

Any club changes or updates will be passed to parents via letter or parentmail. Children will be invited to attend at the beginning of each full term.

Due to the current climate all clubs are under review and won’t start until Autumn 2 at the earliest.

### English

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<b>Topics:</b> Carnival of the Animals (Year 1 recap) Once Upon a Time (Year 1 recap) The United Kingdom and Beyond	<b>Topics:</b> Time Travellers	<b>Topics:</b> Sun, Sea and Sand
<b>Spellings will include:</b>  The ‘j’ sound spelt as –ge and –dge The ‘s’ sound spelt c before e, l and y The ‘n’ sound spelt ‘kn’ and ‘gn’ at the beginning of words The ‘r’ sound spelt ‘wr’ at the beginning of words  The ‘l’ sound or schwa spelt –le at the end of words The ‘l’ sound or schwa spelt –el at the end of words The ‘l’ sound or schwa spelt –al at the end of words  Words ending –il The ‘igh’ sound spelt –y at the end of words  Adding –es to <b>nouns/verbs</b> ending in <b>consonant</b> + y		<b>Examples:</b>  badge, fudge, huge, village race, prince, city, fancy knot, knife, gnat, gnaw wrong, wrap, wreck  handle, tickle, middle squirrel, tinsel, towel hospital, animal, tropical  pencil, fossil, nostril reply, July, try  replies, babies, carries

Adding –ed, -ing, -er and –est to root words ending in <b>consonant + y</b> Adding the endings –ing, -ed, -er, -est and –ly to words ending in <b>vowel + consonant + e</b> Adding –ing, -ed, -er, -est and –y to words of one <b>syllable</b> ending in a single <b>consonant</b> letter after a single <b>vowel</b> letter  The ‘aw’ sound spelt before l and ll The ‘u’ sound spelt o The ‘ee’ sound spelt ‘ey’ The ‘o’ sound spelt ‘a’ after w and qu The ‘ur’ sound spelt ‘or’ after w The ‘aw’ sound spelt ‘ar’ after w The ‘zh’ sound spelt ‘s’  The <b>suffixes</b> –ment, -ness, -ful and –less <b>Contractions</b> The <b>possessive apostrophe (singular nouns)</b> Words ending in –tion <b>Homophones and near-homophones</b>	copied, happier, happiest, cried hiking, hiked, nicer, nicest, shiny  humming, tapper, fattest, runny  ball, call, walk, talk mother, nothing, Monday donkey, chimney, honey wander, quantity, squash work, worm, world war, warm, towards television, treasure, usual  enjoyment, sadness, joyful can’t, couldn’t, who’s Megan’s, the girl’s, the child’s fiction, national, station here/hear, see/sea, quite/quiet
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### Glossary of terms

<b>Consonant</b>	A consonant is any letter of the alphabet except for a, e, i, o and u; y is sometimes a consonant e.g. yesterday; sometimes a vowel e.g. worrying.
<b>Contraction</b>	A contraction is the shortened form of a word e.g. cannot = can’t.
<b>Homophone</b>	Two words are homophones if they have the same pronunciation.
<b>Noun</b>	A noun is word that is the name of a person, place or thing and is used as the subject or object of a verb.
<b>Possessive apostrophe</b>	Nouns are usually made possessive by adding an apostrophe and ‘s’ e.g. Mark’s house.
<b>Singular noun</b>	The singular form of a word is the form that is used when referring to one person or thing.
<b>Suffix</b>	A suffix an ending, something added to the end of one word to turn it into another word e.g. <u>sadness</u> , <u>joyful</u> .
<b>Syllable</b>	A syllable is a unit of pronunciation having one vowel sound, with or without surrounding consonants, forming the whole or a part of a word; for example, there are two syllables in <i>water</i> and three in <i>inferno</i> .
<b>Verb</b>	A verb is word or phrase telling of action or experience e.g. reply, push.
<b>Vowel</b>	a, e, i, o, u (and sometimes y) are vowels.

### Mathematics

The national curriculum is designed to ensure all pupils become **fluent** in the fundamentals of mathematics, **solve problems** and **reason** mathematically.

**Fluency** in mathematics is related to children being able to learn and remember key mathematical facts e.g. the number bonds to 20 (11+9=20, 12+8=20, 13+7=20).

**Problem Solving** is the ability to apply mathematics to a variety of problems e.g. word problems, investigations.




**Reasoning** is to use what is known about mathematics to tackle a problem and make connections between their learning e.g. *Are all numbers in the 5 times table even? No!*

See *Calculation Policy (Appendix)*

### Glossary of terms

- Addition** The process of calculating the total of two or more numbers or amounts.
- Division** Division is splitting into equal parts or groups.
- Fraction** Part of a whole.
- Geometry** The area of mathematics that deals with shapes and space.
- Measure** To find a number that shows the size of something. Usually the number is in reference to some standard measurement, such as a metre or kilogram.
- Multiplication** The basic idea of multiplication is repeated addition.  
For example:  $5 \times 3 = 5 + 5 + 5 = 15$
- Number** A number is a count or measurement.
- Place Value** The value of where the digit is in the number, such as units, tens, hundreds, etc.
- Subtraction** Taking one number away from another.

### Topic

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<p><b>UK and Beyond</b></p>  <p><b>History and Geography</b> United Kingdom and Beyond – map skills, Naming the 7 continents and 5 oceans, observing physical and human features, facts about UK and a contrasting countries.</p> <p><b>Science</b> Habitats, native animals and plants, life cycles and food chains.</p> <p><b>Forest School</b> Linked to Science, Maths and Art</p> <p><b>Art</b> Earth art – this will link with nature and the environment.</p> <p><b>Food Technology</b> Food linked to Topic and Science.</p>	<p><b>Time Travellers</b></p>  <p><b>History and Geography</b> Inventors, the lives of significant individuals and how they have influenced our lives; as well as the Titanic and the Great Fire of London.</p> <p>Visit to St Albans Cathedral</p> <p>Titanic Day</p> <p><b>Science</b> Materials and their properties.</p> <p><b>DT</b> Inventions and inventors. Egg STEM challenge (Egg Day)</p> <p><b>Art</b> Sculptures linked to inventions and based on the children’s ideas and investigations.</p>	<p><b>Seaside</b></p>  <p><b>History and Geography</b> Comparing our local environment to the seaside, with links to the seaside in Victorian times. Grace Darling.</p> <p><b>Science</b> Exercise and healthy eating, plants and lifecycles.</p> <p><b>Textiles</b> Puppets</p> <p><b>Music</b> Investigating rhythm, composition and playing instruments in a group.</p> <p><b>ART</b> Sketching unit</p>

## **Computing and E-Safety**

The core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world: Throughout all of the units children will be taught how to keep safe when using any computer, tablet or website. This will include the safe use of photographs, usernames and email. Children will be encouraged to use tablets and computers in the presence of their parents and will follow up any concerns regarding children’s use of Facebook, Twitter, etc. Social Media sites are not considered appropriate for children of lower school age.

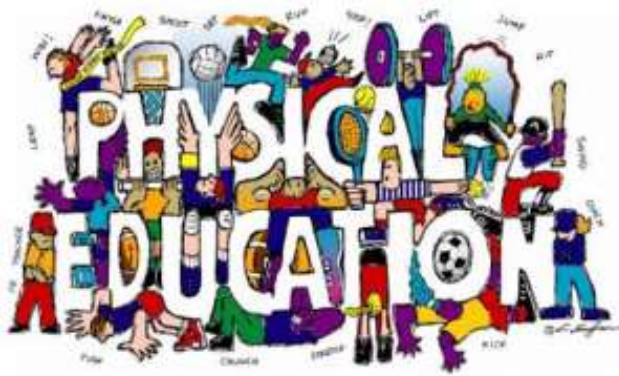


## **Glossary of key terms**

<b>Algorithm</b>	An unambiguous procedure or precise step-by-step guide to solve a problem or achieve a particular objective.
<b>Debug</b>	To detect and correct the errors in a computer program.
<b>Input</b>	Data provided to a computer system, such as via a keyboard, mouse, microphone, camera or physical sensors.
<b>Internet</b>	The global collection of computer networks and their connections, all using shared protocols (TCP/IP) to communicate.
<b>Output</b>	The information produced by a computer system for its user, typically on a screen, through speakers or on a printer, but possibly through the control of motors in physical systems.
<b>Program</b>	A stored set of instructions encoded in a language understood by the computer that does some form of computation, processing input and/or stored data to generate output.
<b>Sequence</b>	To place programming instructions in order, with each executed one after the other.
<b>Simulation</b>	Using a computer to model the state and behaviour of real-world (or imaginary) systems, including physical and social systems; an integral part of most computer games.
<b>Variables</b>	A way in which computer programs can store, retrieve or change simple data, such as a score, the time left, or the user’s name.
<b>World Wide Web</b>	A service provided by computers connected to the internet (web servers), in which pages of hypertext (web pages) are transmitted to users; the pages typically include links to other web pages and may be generated by programs automatically.

## **PE**

PE will be on the following days:



**Oak Class** – Tuesday & Wednesday

**Maple Class** – Tuesday & Thursday

**Willow Class** – Tuesday & Wednesday

**PE Kit** must be in a drawstring bag therefore **no rucksacks allowed**. These will be stored on pegs. **PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING.**

In Year 2 some children may be invited to partake in inter/intra school competitions, including a range of festivals such as Sports hall Athletics and Multi-skills arranged by the Redbourne Sports Partnership.

Children are selected to participate in sports festivals based upon their effort, learning behaviours and ability in that area of PE. The school will endeavour to provide an opportunity for as many children as possible to attend these events throughout their time at the school.

**Daily Mile** – we will be encouraging pupils to do a 15minute (1 mile) run 3 times a week.

If your child has any **sporting achievements** outside of school, please do let your teacher know so that they can be mentioned in our PE assemblies on a Friday.

### **Forest School**

**Maple** – Summer Term - Thursday

**Oak** – Spring Term - Tuesday

**Willow** – Autumn Term - Friday



Each class will be given the opportunity to be taught Forest School with Mr Tilbury for one term.

Children will come to school in their forest school clothes and bring their uniform to change into after.

Forest School will take place outside whatever the weather, so please make sure that your children are appropriately dressed and bear in mind that they will get dirty so only provide old clothes.

We will be going to Chicksands Woods more regularly.



## Library

Children will be able to visit the library to borrow a book to take home. If children wish to keep the book for a second week, they still must bring it to the lesson so they can sign it out again. These sessions are as follows:

Willow – Tuesday

Oak – Friday

Maple – Tuesday



## Music



**MUSIC MATTERS!** In Year 2, children will have an opportunity to work with our music specialist teacher, and learn to play the ocarina. There is also an opportunity to attend beginners recorder club for any children wishing to learn to play the recorder.

## General Information

**School Book bags** can be bought from the school office. Children are expected to bring a book bag to school rather than other types of bags as they will need to fit into their class tray.

**Snacks:** In Key Stage 1 children will be provided with a fruit or vegetable snack. However if they wish, they may bring their own snacks in for morning playtime; these need to be raw or dried fruit and vegetables. We would also encourage your child to bring in their own named water bottle to ensure they get enough fluids during the school day.



**Reading:** We expect the children to read to an adult at home **at least three times a week**, as part of their weekly homework. Children who read each night will receive a House Point the following day and if they read all week they will also receive a Merit (2 House Points).



**Spellings:** Spellings are given weekly and spelling activity sheets should be kept in their red folder. Classes will be informed what day spelling homework is given and what day this will need to be returned in order for new spellings to be issued.



**Learning Logs:** Children in Year 2 will be expected to carry out a Learning Log activity **every two weeks**. Children will receive a table of activities in their Learning Log book and will be able to choose a different activity to carry out for their Learning Log task. Alongside this, children are also required to choose a Maths activity to carry out every two weeks (these activities will be provided for children to choose one every two weeks).