



Year 2 (Fir Class) Parent Letter

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a great summer holiday. Please read the information in the letter below which you may find useful for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Horton Kirby Church of England Primary School is incredibly passionate about ensuring that our children have opportunities to develop their curiosity through an aspirational and diverse curriculum which has been developed and adapted to meet the needs of all our children and community. We provide a rich, broad and balanced curriculum that celebrates individuality, diversity and builds procedural knowledge to nurture talent and prepare children for the challenges and rewards of life and the wider world. Our school values of Compassion, Courage, Love, Perseverance, Respect and Responsibility are embedded into our curriculum.

Within your 2025-2026 school year pack you will find:

- **A key dates letter:** A list of the main key dates for the 2025-2026 academic year. The dates and times listed are subject to change and some dates may only be relevant for specific year groups. If any other events or school trips are organised during the course of the school year then you will be informed of these via a letter, Arbor or SeeSaw.
- **A long-term plan:** This outlines the learning that will take place for your child within every subject for each term across the academic year.
- **A medium-term plan (for term 1):** This gives a more detailed overview of the lessons that will take place each week for every subject. A medium-term plan will be sent out and posted on Seesaw at the start of each term so that you and your child know exactly what they will be learning about.
- **Class timetable:** A timetable showing when each subject will be taught throughout the week. Some subjects will be taught every other term. In the case of special events at school, experiences or opportunities for cultural capital (learning opportunities which link to the children's learning) children will be off timetable.
- **A Parent SeeSaw QR Code:** Seesaw is the main way that I will communicate messages and reminders to parents. Please can ALL parents sign up to Fir class as soon as possible by scanning the QR code and following the steps. Seesaw is also a great opportunity for children to share their work and learning with you. Once you have signed up, if you do have any questions or need to inform me of anything you can do so by sending a message via Seesaw. I will aim to reply to you between 8.30-18.00 Monday-Friday. Alternatively, feel free speak to me on the playground after school if needed.



PE Days:

Fir class's PE / Games lessons will take place on a Monday afternoon. On these days could children please come to school wearing their full PE / Games kit for the day. Children wearing the correct PE kit has greatly improved in recent times and is just as important as wearing the correct school uniform – thank you. To ensure that this continues, children's kit should include:

- A plain t-shirt corresponding to your child's house group
- Black / blue shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers
- A lightweight waterproof top, jacket (weather dependent)
- A plain jumper or hoody corresponding to your child's house group (weather dependent)

If children are wearing the incorrect PE kit a 'correct' school uniform slip may be sent home. If your child is unable to participate or please write a note for that day or send a message via SeeSaw. If this is a long-term reason, a doctor's note would be useful.

Cultural capital opportunities (trips):

Fir class will have the opportunity to take part in the following during their time in year 2, these opportunities link to the Year 2 Horton Kirby curriculum:

- African Drumming morning (Term 1 Music)
- Trip to Wildwood (Term 2 Science)
- A visitor to talk about Schools in the past (Term 2 History)
- Fieldwork Opportunities (Terms 2, 4, 6 Geography)
- Church visit (Term 5 RE)
- Trip to Leeds Castle (Term 6 History)

**Children will also have a range of other experiences throughout the year – a full list can be found on the school website: www.hortonkirby.kent.sch.uk/*

Homework:

Reading:

Throughout the year, children should choose reading books within their accelerated reader ZPD band that they will be reading both in school and at home. This book can be one from school or one that they have at home and would like to read (ideally a book that is on the Accelerated reader). This can be checked on: <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/default.aspx>.

Reading books should come home on a daily basis and children should read each night. As a school, we are always trying to improve parental engagement with reading, therefore where and when possible, we would encourage you to hear your child read aloud. If you do get the chance to do this with your child then please sign and date their reading record with the page that they have read up to each time that they have read. Every time your child reads with an adult than can colour in a star on their reading chart (stuck within their reading record) to work towards a bronze, silver or gold reading award.

When reading with your child, please ask questions about the text and discuss vocabulary with them - this is very useful as is encouraging your child to record new vocabulary with the meaning so that they can use this within their own writing where possible.





Once your child has finished a reading book they should take an 'accelerated reader' quiz about the book they have just read. If your child scores 100% on the quiz their name will go onto the 100% board and they will have the chance of winning a prize at the end of the term.

Reading, SPAG & Maths Homework on Classroom Secrets Kids:

As part of our continued effort to become a more environmentally friendly school, we are aiming to go as paperless as possible. Year 2 homework will now be set online using the Classroom Secrets Kids platform. This platform supports our curriculum and will provide a consistent and engaging way for children to complete their weekly tasks.

Each week, English or Maths homework will be set online and should be completed by each Friday. Teachers will check that the work has been done, and to help motivate the children, they will be awarded 2 house points for completing the homework.

We understand that some families may not have access to the internet, WiFi, or a suitable device (such as a laptop, Chromebook, tablet or smartphone). If this is the case, please let us know so that we can support you. Children's logins for Classroom Secrets Kids, have been stuck inside their reading diaries for easy access.

Spellings:

Each week, spellings will be linked to the Year 2 statutory spelling list and the Little Wandle spelling programme. The spellings they will be practicing are the ones we will be focusing on that week in class. This enables you to support them with learning the spellings they are using in school. The Spellings will come home on a Monday, and they will complete a 'quiz' on a Friday.

**Please note: All the above homework is not compulsory; however we do recommend that children complete it as it supports their school learning and will help them to progress. Children who do not complete their homework tasks will not be rewarded with house points. Occasionally, unfinished work from lessons may be sent home for completion.*

Other information:

- Children do not need to bring pencil cases into school – all equipment that the children need will be provided in school.
- Could all children please make sure that they bring a water bottle in with them each day.
- When the weather is wet/cold, could all children please make sure that they have a warm, waterproof coat.

I hope that you have found these notes helpful but please do not hesitate to speak to me should you have any questions or concerns. Before school is always an extremely busy time and I would therefore appreciate questions to be raised after school or via SeeSaw where possible.

Kind regards,

Mrs Holden

Year 2 Teacher

