Thursday 12th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a lovely summer holiday, and welcome to Year 2!

The main difference between Year 1 and Year 2 is that in Year 2 children start to move away from the small group phonic sessions which were a feature throughout Foundation and Year 1. They will progress towards whole class literacy teaching, which builds upon the fundamental reading skills taught earlier in school. These lessons will encourage your child to develop their reading comprehension and sustained, independent writing skills further. Learning will become more structured as the year progresses, but we will continue to provide opportunities for children to independently explore and develop their interests across the curriculum.

Your child will be invited to climb the Reading Rainbow, receiving a coloured bookmark for every 30 reads to an adult at home. This is to encourage children to read every day – and this can include weekends and holidays too!

We are fortunate to enjoy a splendid outdoor learning environment at Kea, so your child should have a coat in school every day so that we can go outside in all weather. If you are able to leave a named pair of wellies at school, this would be helpful. Library books will be changed every Thursday.

For our topic we will be learning about “Houses and Homes” and more detail can be found on the curriculum overview. If you know any local myths it would be super if you could share them with your children at home. If you could discuss and spot the similarities and differences between older and newer properties it would help a great deal. We will be visiting Lanhydrock House to explore this topic further through field work on Monday 7th October, which you will have had a separate letter about.

Please ensure that your child has a full PE kit at school - shorts, t-shirt, named jumper, spare socks and trainers or plimsolls (please check footwear still fits!). PE lessons will be on

Wednesdays and Thursdays. We would also like the children to have a *named* water bottle (sports bottle top if possible) in school at all times as we find it beneficial to the children’s concentration skills if they keep their water bottles on their tables most of the time and can drink regularly.

Our parents and carers are welcome to join the children on Thursday 19th September at 9.10am for a Maths Workshop. We will be giving some information on how we teach Maths in Year 2 and also internet safety.

We always welcome any regular help with readers and admin jobs in the class. If you can volunteer to help, please speak to one of the team before or after school or email the office.

Having two teachers is fun! Mr Carey teaches every Monday to Wednesday and Mrs McPherson teaches Thursday and Friday. The teaching assistants are Mrs Leverton and Mrs Averre. Please feel free to approach us before or after school if there is anything worrying or concerning you which you would like to discuss with us. Should it be necessary, we can arrange a suitable time to meet to talk in more detail. We look forward to working with your wonderful children and getting to know you more.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Brendan Carey and Mrs Fleur McPherson

Year 2 Class Teachers