



YEAR TWO
PARENT
HANDBOOK

2019/20

Year 2 handbook

Welcome to Year 2 – your child’s final year in the Pre-Prep department.

Staff



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Academic Matters

- **Maths –**

- The abacus Maths scheme we use follows a cyclical format where topics are repeated periodically and previous work is revised and built upon. This allows the children to move through the material at their own pace. Extra support or extension can then be given along the way, as required.
- Children work in small groups on tasks that reflect their stage of learning. It is largely taught through practical activities - giving the children a visual representation of the operations they are performing.
- Progress is monitored through assessments; areas that need further input will be revised.
- Children who are performing particularly well in Maths, may be invited to join a weekly challenge Maths group.
- Children who find a particular topic tricky may be offered additional materials or booster groups within the school day.

- **Spelling –**

- Year 2 use the weekly phonic pattern being taught to generate the weekly spelling lists. All pupils will take a test at the start of the academic year to check their spelling age and to set them in groups. Each group has a word list following a particular letter pattern/sound.
- Pupils practise their spellings on handwriting sheets each day at school. They use the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' method to help them. They are also encouraged to find words which follow the pattern of

the week in books around the classroom and add them to the Word Wall.

- Parents are encouraged to support their child's spelling knowledge in a similar way at home.
- A weekly test of the word list and a dictation generally happens on Fridays.

- **Reading –**

- Children will be heard to read regularly at school. We aim to hear them 3 times a week at the beginning of the year. This may be done individually, as a group in Guided Reading or by reading with a peer. We work through a variety of Reading Schemes and are keen to help the children progress. Reading happens at the child's own pace. Please try not to compare your child with another.
- Reading is the key to success in many aspects of English and the curriculum as a whole. It is important that children continue to read for pleasure in order to build a wide comprehension of language and a broad vocabulary to use in their own writing. Parents are encouraged to continue to listen to their child read regularly; to discuss the plot and any unfamiliar vocabulary.
- All reading, at home and at school, is recorded in the Pupil Planner.

- **Homework –**

- Year 2 will be set homework each Friday. This should be completed and brought in to school by the following Friday.
- The work is planned to take no more than 10 minutes. If a child wants to spend longer on a task that's fine but if your child has spent the allotted time on the work but not managed to complete it and wants to stop, please write a note under the work.
- As the year progresses, your child will also be given times tables to learn. These will be tested each Tuesday.

- **Independence –**

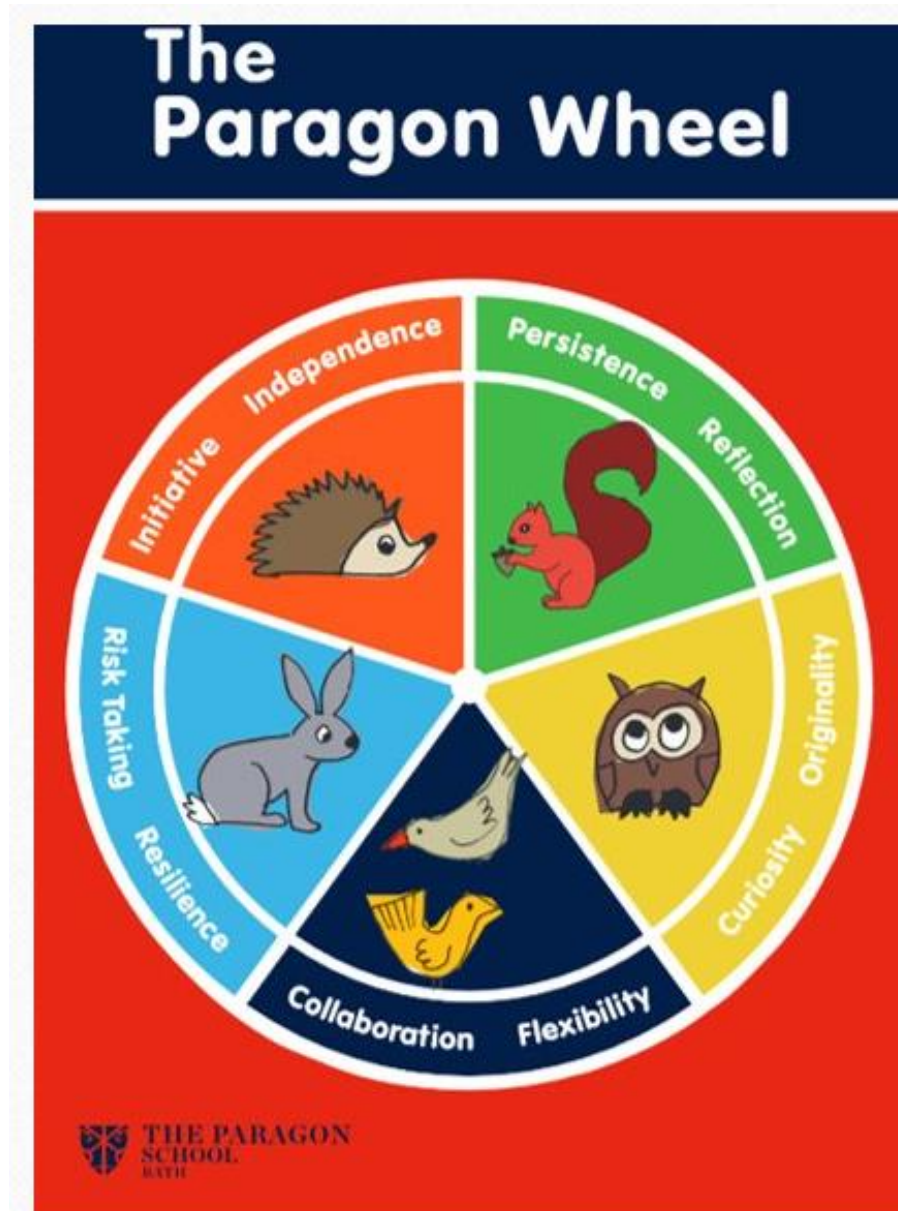
Year 2 is a year of developing independence. We encourage the children to begin the year by carrying their own bags into the classroom each morning and unpacking the items they need for the day ahead e.g. reading books, snacks and water bottles before hanging their own coats and bags up in the cloakroom. As the children are at the top end of the Pre-Prep department now, it is lovely for them to help and support the younger children in the school. We ask that the children do not bring toys into school in Year 2.

- **The school day -**

The children should be at school by 8.40 in the morning. This is the time when the children practise handwriting, correct and review their work from the previous day, read to an adult or take part in Guided Reading. It is a very important time. The register is taken at this time and anyone arriving after this will be registered as late.

Learning Habits

Pupils are encouraged to develop the learning habits shown on The Paragon Wheel and they are discussed regularly.



The Bulletin



The Bulletin is a key publication for parents, do check it every week. It contains a summary of what has been happening in school and, perhaps more importantly, information about forthcoming events. Details about:

- Trips – letters with permission slips,
- Outdoor Learning activities - appropriate clothing and wellies
- On site special days
- Assemblies
- Headmaster's Comments
- Music and Sport Notices

We hope you find all the enclosed details useful; if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

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