**Year 2 Autumn Term 2019 Information**

**Literacy**

Literacy lessons will be taught in the morning every day with part of the lesson being daily reading. This term we will be using the story of ‘The Steadfast Tin Soldier’, ‘Ossiri and the Bala Mengro’ and information about the real ‘Grand old Duke of York’ to help with our writing. The children will have opportunities to write endings of stories, retell a known story, write a newspaper report and write descriptions of characters. Spelling will be practiced in the afternoon through Spellodrome and written spellings.

**Maths**

Maths will also be taught in the morning every day and we will continue to follow the Power Maths scheme which will cover numbers to 100, addition and subtraction, money, and multiplication and division this term. Children who would benefit from extra support going over skills, or preparing for future lessons will work in small groups with a teaching assistant in the afternoons.

**Cornerstones**

We had a great demonstration of drumming from Matt the drum teacher to kick-start our first topic of Beat Band Boogie! This is a music based topic in which we will be exploring how we hear sounds all around us. We will also be thinking about how we can make music with our bodies, with objects and with instruments. We will be sending home an overview of the topic with this letter and as usual, we would love to see all of your creative home learning throughout the topic.

**Key reminders**

PE kits will be needed in school every day. For this half term we will have indoor PE on Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons. Outdoor PE will be on a Wednesday afternoon. Please ensure that your child has some warm trousers (eg jogging bottoms) in their PE kit for when the weather starts to change.

A reminder that all belongings in school need to be clearly named, including water bottles, uniform, shoes and trainers and any bags.

If it is your child birthday, they can come to school in their home clothes. Please do not bring in cakes/sweets in for other children.

Please let us know if your child has to take any **prescribed medication** at school. As before, green forms must be completed so that we can administer it. We can only give prescribed medication and the medication must have the prescription label on. Please phone the school if your child is off sick. If your child has a medical appointment please let the office know.

Reading records need to be filled in every day and the expectation is that children will be reading for 20 minutes a day. This year the children will move from coloured book bands to Accelerated Reader numbers, in line with the rest of the school. Your child will be able to change books each day from outside the classroom and take ‘quizzes’ on a computer when they have read each book. They will be shown how to do this in school and can also do these at home independently.

We are always grateful for parents to help with reading. If you would like to volunteer to hear readers from your child’s class or the nextdoor year 2 class please let us know. All volunteers who come into school require a DBS check; this is free and simply requires some forms to be completed in the school office.

Junk materials: We would appreciate any yogurt pots, cardboard tubes (not toilet rolls) and small sized boxes. Please ensure they are clean because the children use these to build instruments and models.

**Key dates for the Autumn term**

*Beat Band Boogie music demonstration 5th September*

*Outdoor Classroom 1: 2AL 17th September*

*2DN/DB 19th September*

*Beat Band Boogie Express event Thursday 19th December 9:15am*

Parent information workshops for Maths and Literacy dates to follow

*Christmas performances: Wednesday 11th December 2pm and 6pm,*

 *Thursday 12th December 6pm*