

# Welcome to Year 2

2025/2026

# High Expectations

- ▶ Behaviour Punctuality - coming to school on time
- ▶ Attendance - making sure you are here every day
- ▶ Quality of Work- presentation
- ▶ Uniform - Neatness and Presentation
- ▶ PE kit Thursday's and Friday's
- ▶ Reading - each night - raffle ticket if read 5 or more times in a week- this will be given each Thursday
- ▶ Spellings - practice each week for a test on a Friday /new spellings given out on a Friday



# Attendance



# Our expectations

Children are expected to attend school regularly and punctually.

Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance achieve less in both primary and secondary school.'

Our aim at St Martins School is for our whole school attendance to be in line with or above local and national figures.

An attendance of 97% or higher is a realistic target which would allow our pupils to flourish in all aspects of their growth.

Schools that improve attendance, maintain high levels of attendance and minimise persistent absence all have a number of features in common.  
**They 'Listen, understand, empathise and support – but do not tolerate'.**

# Absence procedures

Parents must contact the school as early as possible on the first day of their child's absence and every subsequent day of absence – updating the school on their child's condition and expected day of return.

You are kindly asked to contact school on 01691 776500, ideally by 8:30am if your child is not attending school.

School will send out an absence email should contact not have been made.

For pupils who are absent from school, in line with Shropshire policy, work will NOT be set for pupils to complete.

# Lateness

Punctuality is of very important and lateness will not be tolerated.

The gate to Primary is opened for pupils to enter school and be ready for learning at 8.45am and is then locked at 8.55am.

Pupils reaching school outside of this time will need to enter and sign in at the main reception.

Unauthorised lateness after schools registration has closed will receive a code 'U' to indicate that the pupil is in school after arriving late, this will count as an absent mark.

# appointments

As far as possible, parents/carers should attempt to book medical and dental appointments outside of school hours. Where this is not possible, appointments cards or letters should be brought to school to enable authorisation of absence.  
If the appointment requires the pupil to leave during the school day, they must be signed out by a parent/carer and signed back in on their return.  
Pupils must attend school before and after the appointment where possible.

# Regular absence

Our target attendance within school is 96%.

Should an individual child's attendance fall below this level staff will invite parents/carers into school to discuss how we can support you/your child in improving levels of attendance.

The Educational Welfare Officer will also be monitoring attendance and will offer additional support in this area.



# Regular absence

In the case of regular absence or continued absence or attendance which falls below expectations, medical evidence for proof of absence may be requested. This evidence may include:

- GP appointment card (name/date/time clearly stated)
- Prescription
- Medical packaging with name of child on.
- Medication.
- Hospital letter/appointment letter.

Arrangements will be made for parents/carers to meet with their class teacher or a member of the Student Support Services team to support pupils in improving their attendance.

# What will my child do in Year 2?

## Developing literacy skills

- In English, the children will continue to work on the phonics they started in Year 1, aiming to read words by sight without having to sound them out. They will learn further spelling patterns and rules, and begin to apply those in their writing
- They will be introduced to Year 2 common exception words and are expected to apply them in their writing.
- There will be a more detailed focus on handwriting, with children encouraged to form their letters correctly, learn which letters are to be joined and make letters consistent size
- Children will learn to write for a range of purposes including stories, poetry and real events.

## Common exception words for Year 2

Here are some common exception words - words that are spelled without using the normal spelling rules - that children in England are expected to be able to spell by the end of Year 2 (age 7).

after

again

any

bath

beautiful

because

behind

both

break

busy

child

children

Christmas

class

climb

clothes

cold

could

door

even

every

everybody

eye

fast

father

find

floor

gold

grass

great

half

hold

hour

improve

kind

last

many

mind

money

most

move

Mr

Mrs

old

only

parents

pass

past

path

people

plant

poor

pretty

prove

should

steak

sugar

sure

told

water

who

whole

wild

would

## Grammar

Grammar is a hot topic in Year 2 and children this age are expected to understand the following terms, to be able to spot them in their reading and apply them in their writing:

- Noun, adjective, verb, adverb
- Suffix
- noun phrase
- past tense, present tense
- statement, question, exclamation, command
- capital letter, full stop, question mark, exclamation mark
- compound sentence
- expanded noun phrase.

## Maths

- Mathematics in Year 2 focuses on the 2, 5, and 10 times tables, and they will learn multiplication and division facts for these tables.
- Children in Year 2 will also learn to add and subtract with two-digit and one-digit numbers.
- In fractions, they will find  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a shape or a quantity of objects.
- They will study measures, including weight, capacity, and length, and they will learn to tell the time to five minutes.
- They will also study properties of 2D and 3D shapes, as well as a range of data-handling methods such as bar charts and pictograms.
- By the end of Year 2, pupils will be expected to know the number bonds to 20 and be precise in using place value.
- The new curriculum 'mastery' style of teaching concentrates on breadth of knowledge, and children will be encouraged to use their understanding of the new concepts to solve challenges, which will deepen their understanding.

## Science

- Science in Year 2 is engaging and fun. Expect your child to learn about living things and their habitats, plants, animals (including humans), and uses of everyday materials.
- They will also learn how to work scientifically, how to observe closely, and how to record their observations.

# Home learning

- ▶ **Reading:** Please read with your child everyday .
- ▶ Books and reading diaries in school everyday books will be changed but we need a signature/ short comment and note to say book completed. It is important to read the book at least couple of times and ask questions (end of book) to ensure understanding - Fluency and comprehension are important
- ▶ **Spelling-** Spelling words sent home every Friday to be tested the following Friday
- ▶ **Times tables** - 2's, 5's, 10's, 3's- hit the button which is on topmarks is useful- it's free
- ▶ <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>



## CID project-Create an Animal



Choose one of these animal groups: mammal, amphibian, fish, bird or reptile. • Think about what animals in this group are like. Do they have scales or fur? Do they live on land or in water?

- Design your own brand new animal that would be part of this animal group. Choose the parts your animal has carefully to make sure it fits its animal group, but be creative!
- You could also complete a fact file about it and draw pictures of it when it is young and when it is an adult.
- You could include the following:
- Animal name: Animal group: bird mammal fish amphibian reptile
- Where does it live?: What does it eat?: Does it lay eggs or give birth to live young? Do the young look similar to the adult or very different when they are born?





# Age Related

Working below the expected standard (not working within the Year 2 Curriculum).

Working towards the expected standard (some of the learning is within the Year 2 Curriculum).

Working at the expected standard (All learning is within the Year 2 Curriculum).

Working at greater depth (very secure in Year 2 Curriculum, with elements of Year 3).



# How can you help your child?

## Help them understand what they read

Fluency in reading is a vital skill in reading but reading comprehension is so important in this year, checking your child's understanding of the book they are reading is an excellent way to support them.

There are a series of questions at the end of the book that will help with this. It is important you do this before we change their book. You can help them engage with their reading on a deeper level by asking questions about the plot such as:

- **What might happen next?**
- **Why do you think the character is feeling sad?**
- **What sort of mood is being created?**

You can also do this when you are reading to them, which is still so important at this age and will focus on bringing out a 'love of reading' Children learn a lot from the way we read aloud and we can encourage them to see how the author's use of punctuation changes the way we read their work. Think about pointing out statements, commands, questions, or exclamations when reading with your child. You might want to use a range of voices to show how types of sentences and

## How can you help your child?

- Help your child with writing, support with weekly spellings. Write together to make shopping lists and letter writing.

## Explore real-life maths

### Any opportunity to use maths in a real-life context is really useful

- For example, ask them to help you pay for goods or calculate change when shopping. This will help to develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills
- Learning to tell the time, especially to five minutes, is another great way to support your child's learning at home; this also links neatly to their counting in 5s in the 5 times-table.
- Help your child play times table games.
- Encourage them to help with cooking, weighing and measuring ingredients.

## Encourage independence

Finally, you can develop their independence at home:

- By encouraging your child to get dressed on their own
- organise their belongings more independently
- Encouraging them to walk through the gate independently
- This will help enormously as they move up through the school!



We look forward to the following year ahead! Thank you for all your continued support.

Any questions please email:

[rachel.evans@stm.318education.co.uk](mailto:rachel.evans@stm.318education.co.uk)

[emily.berry@stm.318education.co.uk](mailto:emily.berry@stm.318education.co.uk)

# Any Questions?

