

Friday 16th September 2022

## Year 2 Class Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

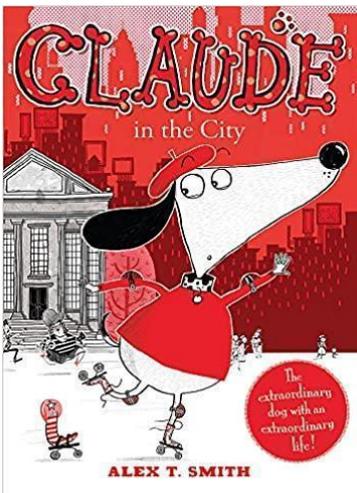
Welcome back to a new school year at Meridian! I hope that you enjoyed the summer holiday and had a chance to rest and relax. It's been lovely getting to know all the Year 2 children over the past two weeks, and it's been great to have briefly spoken to some of you on the playground; if I have not yet had the chance, I look forward to meeting you at the Year 2 'Meet the Teacher' event soon.

What a brilliant start the children have made to the new school year! I am so impressed by how they have settled in, adjusting fantastically well to school life once again. They have demonstrated how well they can follow instructions and have already begun to settle into a daily routine. I have no doubt that as the term progresses, the children will continue to support each other to achieve their best.

### Class arrangements:

I am the Year 2 class teacher (Amy), Maria is our lovely class TA and we are lucky to be joined by Joanna who will teach the children on Monday afternoons. Children in the Rocking Horse Room are taught in the mornings by Jane Whipps, Lead Teacher of the Deaf, with the support of experienced TA Masaki. We are all really looking forward to helping your children make the most of the exciting learning opportunities their second year of Key Stage 1 has to offer.

### Curriculum:



Our first mini whole school topic has been '**We are Meridian**'. We have been learning about everything that makes Meridian special, from our values to the Prime Meridian Line!

Next week, we will be moving onto our whole school **Geography** theme for the term - **Where in the World are We?** Year 2's focus will be on London. We will draw maps of our local area including the Prime Meridian Line and locate and study key human and physical features of London, including its famous landmarks. All our lessons will link to this theme where possible. We will find inspiration for our writing in **English** lessons through '*A Walk in London*' by Salvatore Rubbino and '*Claude in the City*' by Alex T. Smith.

### Supporting learning at home:

**Weekly home learning** (homework) activities will be posted on Google Classroom. (An explanation of how to use Google Classroom is available on the school website under our 'Home Learning' page.) Home learning will be posted every Friday and will consist of a Maths or English activity, as well as some suggested spellings to read and practise writing each week. Although the children should be able to do it on their own, it is beneficial if they can talk about it and ask questions at home too. Home learning should be completed and uploaded by the following Wednesday morning. If you do not have access to a home computer or some description (e.g.

laptop, PC, iPad), please let one of us know so that we can provide your child with a paper copy of the home learning.

To practise their essential reading skills and to develop their love of literature, Year 2 children will bring home two books: one phonics book or other levelled book targeted to their reading level, and one book of their choice. Please continue to read with your child at home daily wherever possible. Children will be supported in changing their reading books once a week, but it would be helpful if your child brings their book bag with their reading record and books in every day. We will continue to lead Guided Reading sessions with groups of children each day and ensure that children have additional 1:1 reading support as necessary.

**Routines:** We greatly appreciate your support in ensuring your child comes to school every day and on time at **8.50am** to ensure a smooth start to the day for all children and ensure that no learning opportunities are missed. Thank you also for continuing to ensure you pick up your child promptly at **3.20pm**

Year 2 will have two PE sessions per week, one indoors and one outdoors. These will be on **Monday** and **Wednesday**. Please ensure your child brings a PE kit on both days so that they can change before their session begins.

Indoor PE: T-shirt; shorts or leggings; bare feet

Outdoor PE: T-shirt; shorts/leggings or tracksuit bottoms; a sweatshirt for colder weather; trainers or plimsolls

**Audiology:** Hearing devices for the deaf children in the Rocking Horse Room will be checked on a daily basis. In the event that your child is having an issue with a device, please do send in a note so that Jane and Masaki are aware of it; they will reciprocate this if anything arises in school.

Wherever possible, we will incorporate the children's individual **speech and language** targets into our daily teaching and learning experiences. The children who require it will also continue to see a speech and language therapist, and their progress will be closely monitored and regularly reviewed. In order to support your child's speech and language development, it is very important that you spend time talking and listening to your child in your home language (if that is your preferred first language). You are welcome to have copies of the SALT games and activities that have been recommended for your child if you would like them - please speak to Jane.

**Communication:** Please check our weekly whole school newsletter sent via email and posted on the school website for important information throughout the year and updates on what we have been learning. Should you ever wish to discuss any aspect of your child's school life, it is usually possible to talk after school at pick up time! If this is not possible, I can give you a ring or arrange a longer meeting with you in the playground after the children have been dismissed. If you need to speak to me before school urgently, please phone the school office.

I am really looking forward to working in partnership with you to support your children's learning this year!

Best wishes,

Amy and the Year 2 team