



ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Welcome to Year 2

We have enjoyed welcoming your sons back to school today: We have an exciting year ahead!

In Year 2, we build on the solid foundations of the Year 1 curriculum, further developing these, and aim to foster motivated and enthusiastic children who, by the end of the year have developed into independent learners. We hope that the following information is useful and helps to ensure a smooth transition.

There are two forms in Year 2, 2S is taught by Sandra, who is also the Senior Teacher in the Junior House and who you will often find on duty in the Hall first thing in the morning. Milly is the class teaching assistant and you will often hear your boys talking about her. 2V is taught by Vanessa and Katalin is the class teaching assistant. Katalin also teaches Year 2 Games, so if you have any questions about that side of the curriculum, she is a good person to ask!

As in Year 1, the Year 2 day starts with Registration at 8.55. It is really important that the children are at school and sitting down at their desks ready to start the day. Please aim to get your children to school before 8.45 so that they have time to organise themselves. If you have any information to pass on to Vanessa, Sandra, or any of the other teachers, please do tell one of the members of staff on duty. Alternatively, e-mail messages can be sent through Kathryn in the office at jhoffice@stanthonysprep.co.uk and these will be forwarded to the relevant member of staff.

Responsibility

It is important that the boys develop their independence and their organisational skills, as appropriate to their age, but they will certainly still need some help to do

this. You can help your son by ensuring that he brings a water bottle (labelled with his name), his book bag, appropriate outdoor wear and a small break-time snack to school every day. In addition, he will need to bring in his swimming kit and P.E. kit to school on the appropriate days (see below). Please encourage him to get ready with the things that he needs for school every evening before bedtime to help avoid stressful mornings – never a good way to start the day!

Physical Education

Both classes have Games on a Tuesday morning. Please can your son come into school wearing his Games kit every Tuesday with his uniform brought to school in his sports havasak to change back into. They also have P.E. on Wednesday mornings and kits will be sent home at the end of the day ready for the following week.

2S swim on Thursdays and 2V on Fridays, so they will need to bring a swimming bag containing their swimming trunks, goggles, flip flops and a towel to school on these mornings. If your child is feeling under the weather and not well enough to swim, please do send a written note to your son's form teacher on the relevant morning.

Year 2 P.E. kit should consist of the school tracksuit, blue sports shorts, a white t-shirt and trainers. For Games lessons, your son will also need a school football shirt, available from the school uniform suppliers and plain navy football socks.

Please do label **all** items of clothing – including socks, goggles and pants. Mislaid, labelled clothing usually finds its way back to the owner!

Reading

In Year 2, we hear boys read at least twice a week, either on a one-to-one basis or in the form of a small group reading session. Reading is closely monitored and emphasis is placed not only on decoding, but on comprehension, observation of punctuation and inference. The boys are expected to change their reading books independently.

Handwriting

In Year 2, the boys develop a fully cursive style. Please see the attached sheet for examples of letter joins.

Maths

We develop the boys' recall of basic number bonds and apply these in the solution of more complex mental calculations. Through developing the boys' understanding of place value, they are better able to apply this in the solution of more complex sums but they are also taught formal written methods for solving addition and subtraction problems. We also make a start at learning the times tables this year, with a particular focus on the two, five and ten times tables.

The core curriculum, including Science, Religious Education and Geography is taught primarily by the form teachers, but the children are also taught by several subject specialists, including Kere for History, Paul and Jonathan for Music, Peiwen for Mandarin and Anthony and Luke for P.E..

A more detailed outline of the Year 2 curriculum is available on the school website at www.stanthonysprep.org.uk

Homework

In terms of reading development, nothing makes up for the one-to-one attention that your child can receive from you at home. Every night, please take the opportunity to read with your son for ten to fifteen minutes and record this in his reading record book.

New spellings are handed out every Friday. The first twelve words on the list should be tackled first and, only when these are consolidated, should the final three 'bonus' words be attempted.

To help your son develop key mathematical skills, it is beneficial to give him the opportunity to apply these as often as possible in everyday life: giving him the opportunity to buy small items when visiting shops and calculating and counting his change; spotting two and three dimensional shapes in the environment; talking about time, the days of the week and the months of the year and working on his mental arithmetic.

Every Friday, your son will be given a homework activity to complete over the weekend. This alternates between a Maths and language based assignment. Homework needs to be handed in on a Monday morning. If, for any reason, your son has been unable to complete the homework task, which should, usually, not take longer than 30 minutes to complete, please let us know with either a note in his book bag or an e-mail to the school. Please do not write in your son's Reading Record book or directly in his Homework book.

School Visits and Activities

Throughout the year, a number of visits and activities are planned to support and enrich the children's learning. We do value parental support but require that any accompanying parents have DBS clearance processed by the school. Please do see Kathryn if you did not have an opportunity to do this last year. Please do be aware, that we have a strict policy regarding ratios and, if parent helpers drop out at the last minute, there is a chance that trips may have to be cancelled. Please do only

volunteer yourself for individual trips if you feel sure that you are able to make a firm commitment.

Reporting Schedule

To keep you updated on your son's progress, the reporting schedule for this academic year will be as follows:

October 2017:	Target setting meeting with form teachers;
December 2017:	End of Term Report in English, Maths and Science;
January 2018:	Parents' Evening to discuss report and to set targets for the coming term;
April 2018:	Target setting meeting for the Summer Term;
June 2018:	End of year report in all subject areas.

We hope that this schedule will ensure that parents get valuable feedback about their children's progress at key times throughout the academic year. As in your report at the end of the last academic year, attainment will not be graded, but you will be given a clear indication of how your child is progressing in line with our expectations. If you have any concerns at any other point throughout the year you should, as always, feel free to make contact with either your son's form teacher, through the main office e-mail, jhoffice@stanthonysprep.co.uk, or directly with Dana.

We hope that this information is useful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch - we will always get back to you as soon as we are able to!