

August 2018

Dear Parents / Guardians,

## **Welcome to Park House English School**

We would like to welcome you and your child to **Year 2**.

### **Routines**

In the morning, classes will open at 7.40am and the children need to come in and organise themselves for the school day. Year 2 children should be dropped off and picked up from the outside door of the classroom for the first two weeks of the year, after which we will be asking them to line up in the playground as the older children do. This is to encourage a more independent start to the day and greater responsibility for their own belongings, to suit their developing maturity. Registration time finishes at 7.50am. If your child arrives at school after this time, please ensure that they report to the office to sign in.

Year 2 will have swimming lessons once a week in the autumn and summer terms. Timings for swimming, P.E. and library lessons vary for each class. Please see the list on your child's classroom door.

Please help your child to remember their P.E. and swimming kit on the correct days. If your child is unable to do P.E. or swimming, a note must be sent to explain why. Children should know how to undress and dress themselves. Every item of clothing and shoes should be labeled with your child's name. Your child's clothes are their responsibility. We will encourage them to look after their own property.

### **Programme of Study for Year 2**

#### **English**

The English Programme is broken down into units based on the Cambridge Primary scheme of work, which are centered on a particular text type. During each unit we will cover reading comprehension, grammar and other reading and writing skills. At points throughout the year your child will have both reading and writing assessments. We have a focus on developing joined handwriting in Year 2 and once the children are able to form all printed letters correctly, they will be introduced to joined handwriting and encouraged to develop a neat, fluid style of writing.

Revision of phonics sounds and the teaching of new sounds is still important in Year 2 and we will have three phonics sessions every week.

Each week the children will be given a spelling list. They will be expected to practice and learn these spellings alongside the spelling rule and each week there will be a spelling test.

### **Term 1**

Fiction - Stories with familiar setting

Non-fiction – Instructions

Poetry – Poems in familiar setting

### **Term 2**

Fiction Traditional Tales and stories from other cultures

Non-fiction – Explanations and dictionary entries

Poetry – Poems by Significant Poets

### **Term 3**

Fiction – Stories by significant children’s authors

Non-fiction – Non chronological reports

Poetry – Poems by significant poets and with language play

### **Mathematics**

Work in math’s is based on the Cambridge program of math’s scheme, with support and extension work as necessary within each set.

The following are the general themes over each term, showing progression through the year.

#### **Term 1**

The 100 square, counting in twos, fives and tens, number line to 100, using a number line, playing with 20, adding and subtracting, multiplication arrays, 2D, 3D shapes and symmetry, measuring length, time, distance, weight and cost.

#### **Term 2**

Tens and ones to 100, estimating, number patterns, adding and subtracting (two digit numbers), grouping and sharing (division, counting in twos, fives and tens), handling data and problem solving, measure length, height and capacity, volume and 1 litre, investigating weight, length and time.

#### **Term 3**

Number problems, doubles threes and fours, sums and difference, fractions, multiplying and dividing, ordering numbers, tangrams, position and movement, 2D shapes, length, mass money and time.

## IPC

This is the International Primary Curriculum, which incorporates Science, History, Geography, Art, Technology, Society and International learning tasks in themed units.

### Term 1

**Ourselves - How are you?** – A study of healthy eating, exercise and how we grow

#### Science Focus:

Animals and Humans – Our basic needs, how things grow, healthy eating and hygiene

### Term 2

Our World – Different habitats around the world, recycling and reusing materials

#### Science Focus

Habitats – our environment, how living things survive in different places and simple food chains

Plants – how seeds grow and what plants need to stay healthy

### Term 3

From A to B – A study of transport and how its changes, materials and forces of movement

#### Science Focus:

Changing Materials- everyday materials and how some materials change shape

## ICT

Each Year 2 class has timetabled sessions in the ICT suite each week, covering basic keyboard skills and the use of desktop programs, the use of the internet for research work and mini projects to support other areas of the curriculum. The children also have access to iPads, with a wide variety of apps for use in the classroom, for individual and group work. They will be continuing on with an introduction to coding.

## Library

The children can choose a library book each week and change it the following week in school, or at the beginning or end of the day with parental help.

## Arabic, Islamic Studies and Qatar History

Arabic and Islamic study lessons are provided by Arabic staff for all Qatari children plus other Arabic speaking Muslim children as appropriate. Children of all nationalities will have a lesson in Qatari History each week, following the Supreme Education Council's Curriculum.

## Homework

Homework will be given out every week. Reading books will be changed on a Sunday and Tuesday. The children will receive up to four books per week up to orange level and then 2-4 books each week orange level and above as the books will generally be longer, with more complex stories by this stage. It is important that write in their P.A.C.T books so that we know the books have been read at home. If the books have not been read at home, they will not be changed. Please let your child's class teacher know if they find it difficult. Homework may also involve research and presentation of topic work.

## How can you help?

- Please remind your children to bring in their folder and reading books every day, even on days when the books are not being changed, as they may be required for in-school reading with a parent or teacher.
- Arabic books or folders should also be brought into school on a daily basis.
- When you listen to your child read please add comments in the Pink Reading Record to show how your child is coping with the reading at home. You can also use the Reading Record to communicate with the class teacher about other matters. The children will continue through the school reading scheme and books are only changed when we can see that they have read them. We do not like the children to rush through the reading scheme as part of reading is about breadth of knowledge and understanding as well as word recognition.
- Please feel free to use the library. When you are reading with or to your child please ask them questions about what they are reading.
- Please encourage your children to write regularly as well. Easy ways to do this include keeping a diary or writing emails and letters to a relative abroad to tell them about the goings on at school.
- English homework will help support the grammar and writing tasks we are focusing on. Help with learning spelling lists and more general use of the given sounds is also useful.
- Practical application of math's skills is really important to help children see the relevance of their learning. Please encourage your child to join in with activities such as shopping, cooking, counting and sharing to help them apply their math's skills in everyday situations at home.
- Important math's skills to reinforce with games and oral activities at home include identifying odd and even numbers, number bonds to 10 and 20 and counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10 as we begin to introduce time tables.

We look forward to a year of good attendance, achievement and fun.

Yours Sincerely

*Brian Allen*

Mr Brian Allen

**Head of Primary**

Miss Chloe Whitehead

**Year 2 Leader**