



Holmer Green
First School and Pre-School

Year Two Meet the Teacher





Year Two Team



Mrs Briel



Miss Barnard



Miss Vandenberg



Mrs Hill





Core Curriculum Subjects

Literacy

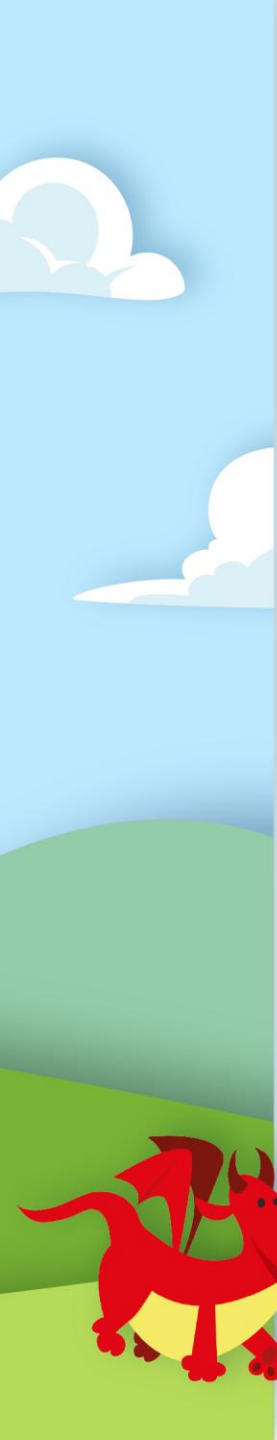
- Novels and books are read over a number of weeks to ensure children have a range of writing opportunities for each text.
- National Curriculum objectives for writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar will be embedded within these lessons.
- A range of non-fiction and fiction and poetry texts are shared and used with lessons to allow children the opportunity to write for a range of purposes (e.g. diary entries, story writing, letters, instruction writing).

Maths

- White Rose.
- Mastery approach allowing all children to consolidate and apply their learning.
- Many weeks spent on each area to ensure all children are challenged and secure in their learning.
- Resources used in every lesson with all of them being readily available in the classroom for the children to use independently.

Science

- Each unit is taught over a half term.
- Lots of investigations allowing the children to explore and observe how changes happen over time.
- Practical sessions to engage the children and allow them to become mini scientists whilst learning about other scientists and inventors (science capital).





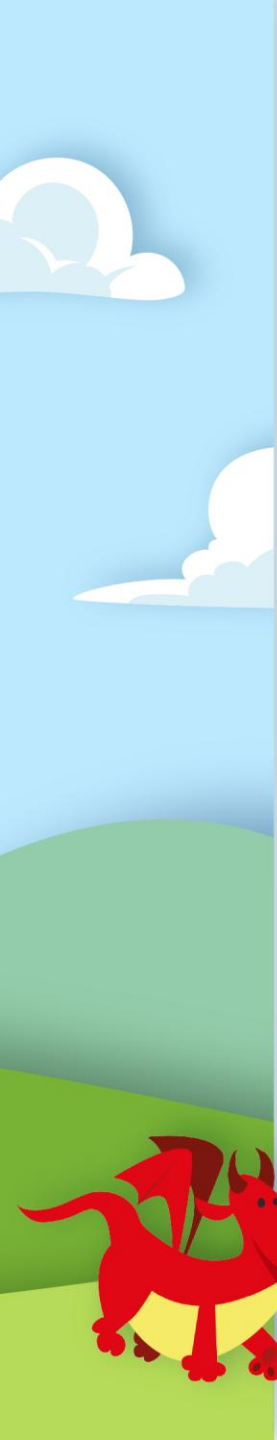
Reading

Please try to read with your child each evening. We see a huge difference in the reading abilities of children who read regularly at home and those who do not. We understand everyone is busy, even if you manage to read twice a week with your child (their school book) it makes a huge difference.

Please record in your child's Reading Record when you have read with them. Books must be read 3 times. Only when a book has been read 3 times will it be changed. Books will be changed on Monday and Thursday.

It is very important that books are read 3 times – this supports the child with their confidence when reading as it focuses on 3 different types of reading:

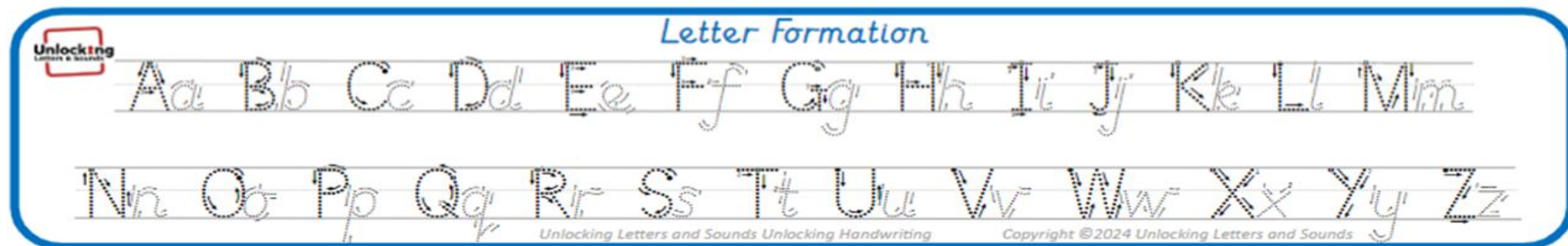
1. Decoding: blending to read, and common exception words.
2. Fluency and prosody: reading with expression – in order to read with expression, you must be able to read the words efficiently.
3. Comprehension: each time you read a book, you learn more about the story itself and can dive deeper into the meaning.





Phonics, Spelling and Handwriting

- Unlocking Letters and Sounds.
- Children are taught phonics every day, building on what they already know.
- Integral part of reading and writing.
- Unlocking Spelling – teaching spelling rules
- Phonics Screening Check. There will be a resit in June 2027. Pass mark of 32.
- In handwriting children develop an effective pencil grip and master the correct formation of numbers, lowercase and uppercase letters, letter families, ascenders and descenders.





Sound Mats – Phase 5

 a	 e ea	 i y	 o a	 u o	 ai ay a-e ey a ei eigh	 ee ea e-e ey e y ie	 igh ie i-e i y	 oa oe o-e ow o	 oo ue ew u-e ou
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 (y)oo ue ew u-e u	 oo u oul	 ar a al	 or aw au al our augh oor ore	 air are ear ere	 ur ir er ear or	 ow ou	 oi oy	 ear ere eer	 ure	 er u
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 f ff ph	 l ll le	 m mm mb	 n nn gn kn	 r rr wr	 s ss se c ce	 v ve	 z zz s se	 sh ch ti ci s/ss	 th	 ng
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 b bb	 c k ck ch	 d dd	 g gg	 h	 j g ge dge	 p pp	 qu	 t tt	 w wh	 x	 y	 ch tch t
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Common Exception Words

said	have	like
so	do	some
come	were	there
little	one	when
out	what	

oh	their	people	Mr	Mrs
looked	called	asked	water	where
who	again	thought	through	mouse
work	many	laughed	because	different
any	eyes	friends	once	please





Theme and Non-core Subjects

Theme covers Art, D & T (including cookery), History and Geography.

Each theme will either run for a whole term or half a term (Autumn, Spring, Summer).

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
We are Britain!		Pop Art – Andy Warhol	Reach for the stars – Mae Jemison	Fossil Hunters – Mary Anning	

You will also receive a Knowledge Organiser that will be sent home termly to let you know what the children will be learning and focusing on during the term.

Computing- Taught weekly. The children have access to a class desktop computer, laptops, iPads, bee bots and robots (Marty the Robot-coding). We teach online safety, programming using the bee bots and other computing lessons focus on using particular apps on the iPad.



Music- Taught weekly. Children will explore pulse, rhythm and pitch. Sing, rap and dance along to a beat. Listen to and appraise a range of music styles.

RE and PSHE- Taught weekly. Discussion based circle time.



Continuous Provision

Continuous Provision is the range of carefully planned areas and resources that are available for children to access and explore throughout the day.

It provides opportunities to:

- Explore and apply learning across different areas of the curriculum, including STEM, construction, small world, creative and communication.
- Practise and embed taught skills and knowledge independently.
- Explore, investigate and develop their own ideas and interests.
- Revisit learning over time to deepen understanding and make connections.
- Develop independence, resilience, curiosity, creativity and teamwork.
- Strengthen communication and vocabulary through purposeful talk with adults and peers.

Provision reflects current and previous learning, enabling children to revisit, apply and secure their knowledge across the curriculum.





Continuous Provision



Spelling Shed



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As well as focusing on phonics in Year Two, we also have a large focus on spelling to ensure that by the end of Year Two, children are able to spell most Year Two common exception words correctly.

Spelling Shed is an App that we use to practise spelling words containing sounds that the children have learnt and common exception words.

Children will use this in guided groups and it is available in Continuous Provision.

Each child is provided with their own QR code so that they are able to log on as themselves and complete the different levels. This can be accessed from home too.

Children will only be able to access Year Two word lists.

Children earn tokens each time they play, the number of tokens will depend on if they spell the word correctly and how quickly they spell it. Children can then spend their tokens on different items to customise their avatar.





Homework

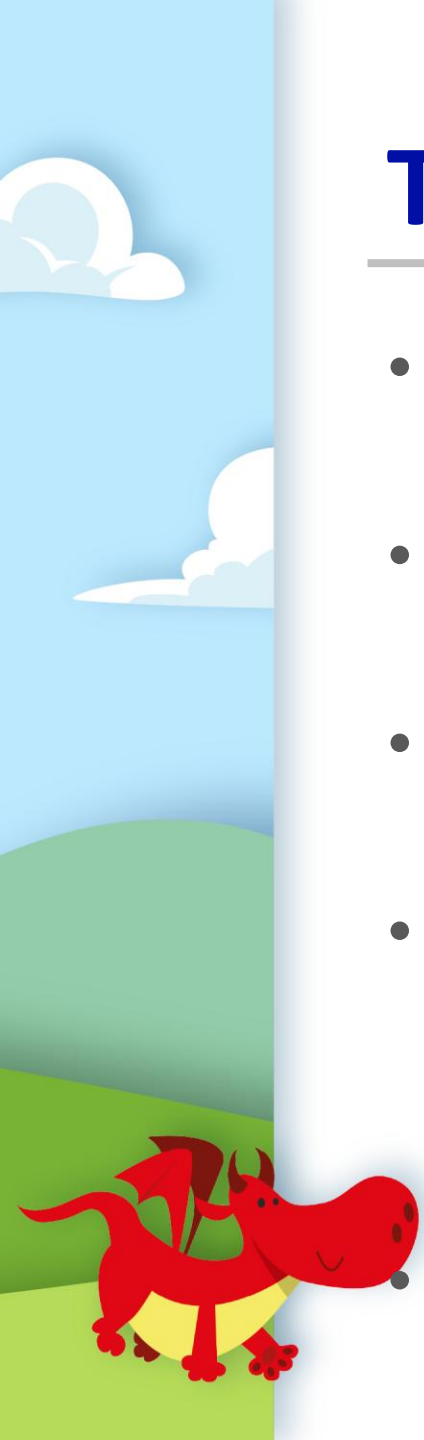
- Every child should have the opportunity to read to an adult at home every day. Please comment in your child's Reading Record when your child has read and once the book has been read three times and there are three comments, we will change your child's book.
- Each half term every child will receive a Homework Bingo Board. There are a selection of activities covering all areas of the curriculum that your child can complete. Choose one activity each week and upload it to Seesaw. The activities will relate to the theme for that term and current learning.
- Every child will have a Seesaw login, our remote learning platform in case of school closure. First homework of the year is set on Seesaw to allow everyone to activate it. Any issues activating it, please let the class teacher know.
- Continue to practise learning the sounds that have been taught at school and to read and spell common exception words.





Tapestry

- Tapestry is used from Pre-School/Reception up to Year Two to record your child's learning journey.
- At the end of Year Two, you can download their full journal as a keepsake.
- We use Tapestry to capture special “*wow*” moments. It isn't used to record their whole day.
- Staff usually share a photo or video linked to the curriculum. We keep writing to a minimum, as we believe time is better spent interacting with the children (a picture speaks a thousand words!).
- Parents can also upload photos and videos for staff to see.





Personal Development

Autumn Term:

Science Oxford Centre - Friday 18th September 2026

Spring Term:

Dr Dolittle – Image Musical Theatre - Friday 5th March - **£4.00**

Whipsnade Zoo link to science-habitats - Tuesday 16th March - **£21.50**

Summer Term:

Violin Lessons and performance during the term

End of year treat - **£25.00**

- Red Kite – 14th July 2027
- Badger – 15th July 2027

Magic Booking

Trips and visits have been carefully spread throughout the year to help families manage the cost. However, as the school is unable to subsidise these activities, they can only go ahead if sufficient voluntary contributions are received





Forest School

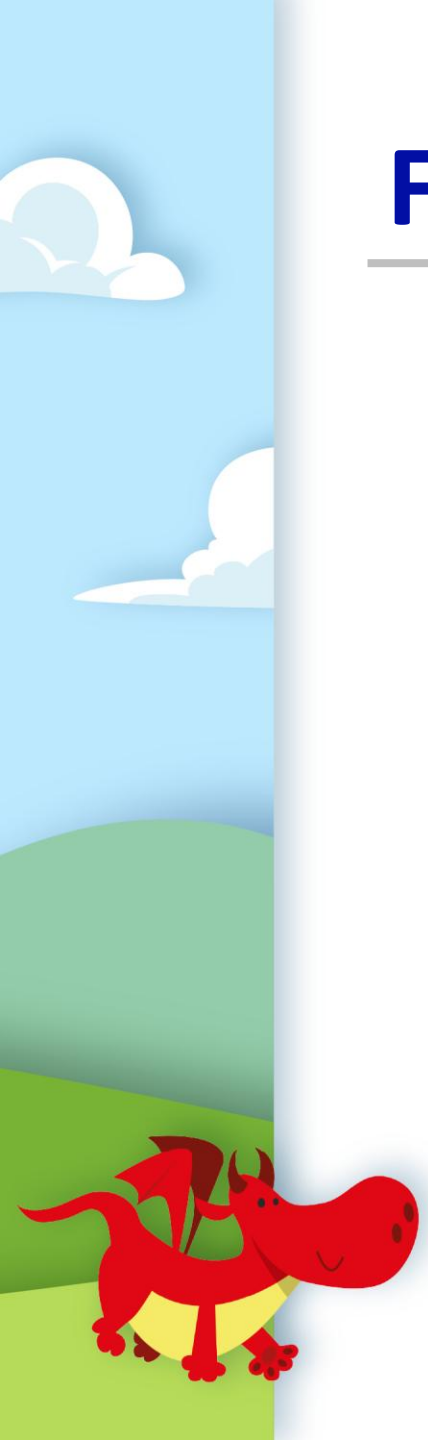
- ***There is no such thing as bad weather at Forest School, we expect the children to get very muddy!***
- Long sleeve top and trousers which you don't mind getting muddy. This will protect the children from the stinging nettles and biting/stinging insects.
- Boots. Snow boots are preferable as they are a lot warmer than wellies.
- Thick pair of socks to keep their feet warm.
- Waterproof coat with a hood and gloves (preferably ski type gloves).
- Sun cream and hat for sunny days.
- Woolly hat for cold days.
- The school will provide waterproof over trousers for the children to borrow.
- Each class will have the opportunity to have a Forest School session on a Friday each half term.
- This will allow them to observe changes over time and see the forest during the different seasons.
- *Children may come dressed in their Forest School clothes for the day.*

Red Kite Class dates:

Friday 9th October 2026
Friday 29th January 2027
Friday 14th May 2027

Badger Class dates:

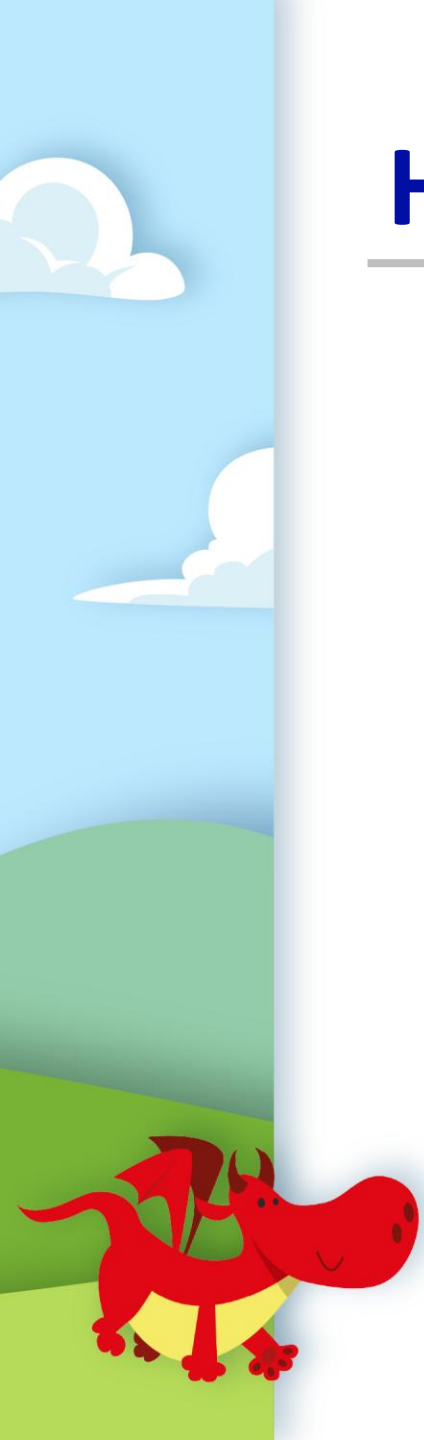
Friday 16th October 2026
Friday 5th February 2027
Friday 21st May 2027





H Team

- School monitors.
- Bright jackets, greater sense of responsibility.
- 6 children from each Year 2 class will be selected, allowing all children the opportunity to be a monitor over the course of the year.
- H Team will receive a certificate and their badge during assembly. They will be expected to wear their badge every day during their half term of duty! After this period, they must keep their badge at home.
- The role of the H Team will include looking after children who have hurt themselves during break and lunch time, looking after the library, delivering the fruit to all classes and putting away the playground toys at break time and lunch time.





NED Cards

_____ is just like NED because
|

Never give up, Encourage others,
Do your best!



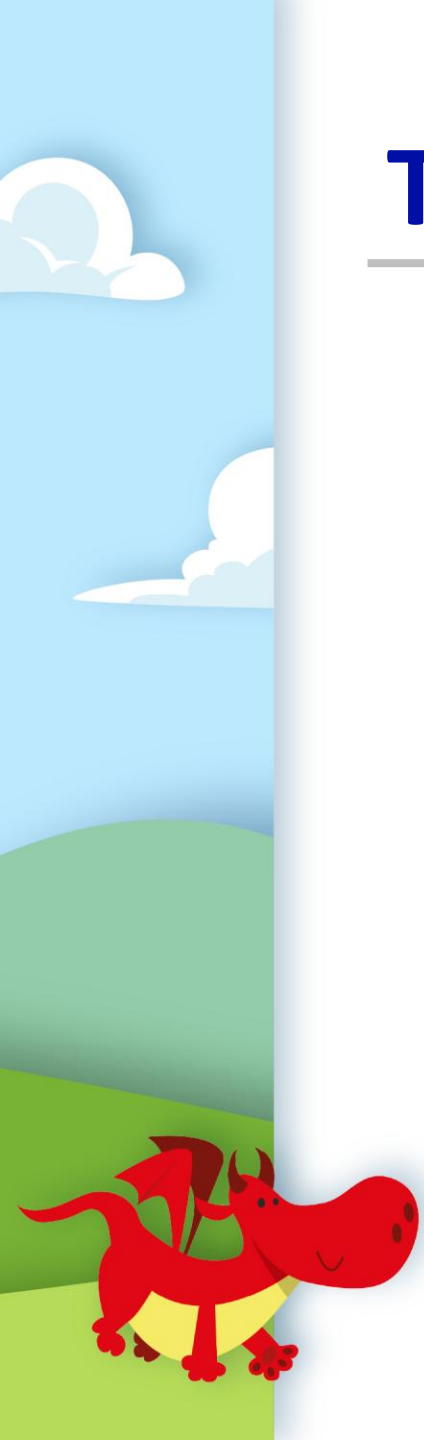
- To celebrate very special achievements e.g. riding a bike without stabilisers or tie shoe laces independently.
- A sheet of 2 will be sent home this week. These should last for several months. But if you would like some more, please ask your class teacher.





Things to Remember

- Year Two children will visit our school library once a week on a Thursday to choose a book to take home. Please ensure these are in bookbags every Thursday so they can be changed.
- Both classes will have PE on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Children will keep their PE kit at school. They will be sent home at the end of half-term.
- In cold weather, children may wear black jogging bottoms or black leggings and school jumper.
- Children must have trainers in school.
- Wellington boots do not need to stay in school. We will request them as and when we need them.
- Label all school uniform, coats, hats and shoes.
- Children should bring a water bottle into school each day.





End of Key Stage Assessments

- No longer statutory.
- Teacher Assessment Framework.
- Graded as working towards, working at, working at greater depth. Some children may be working at a level which is below (pre standards).
- Same as Year One, but assessing against Year Two objectives.
- If one objective has not been highlighted, can not award that grade. Exceptions can be made in some cases for English.
- Expectations are a lot higher. Challenging to achieve GD.
- We use the teacher assessment framework to assess the children at the end of Year Two. Please find the link attached to access the document –

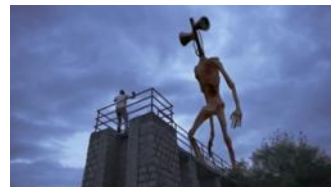
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teacher-assessment-frameworks-at-the-end-of-key-stage-1/non-statutory-teacher-assessment-frameworks-at-the-end-of-key-stage-1>





Online Safety

- Very important in ensuring all children are safe online.
- Online safety lessons are taught each term and reinforced through out the year to ensure children use the internet safely and know what to do if they are a victim of Online Bullying.
- Some games, videos and apps are not appropriate for children and some of the characters in these can cause children to become upset and worried.
- Please refer to the age ratings on video games.
- Huggy Wuggy Siren Head



- Check restrictions on your devices (iPad, mobile phone) if your child can access them – Netflix, Youtube, Roblox.
- More information can be found on: <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/>





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Website

<http://www.holmergreenfirst.co.uk/>



SCAN ME



Stay up to date by linking our school calendar to your phone.



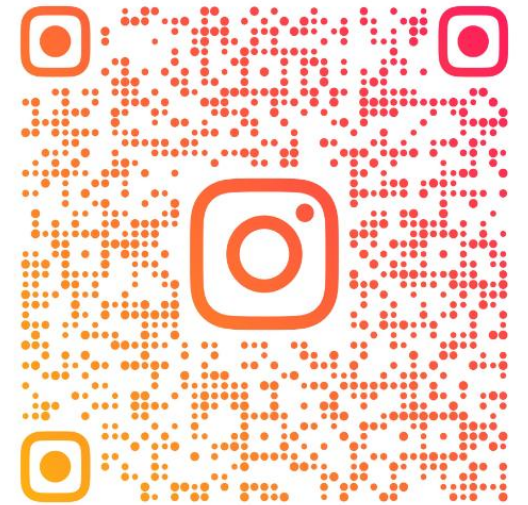
Instagram



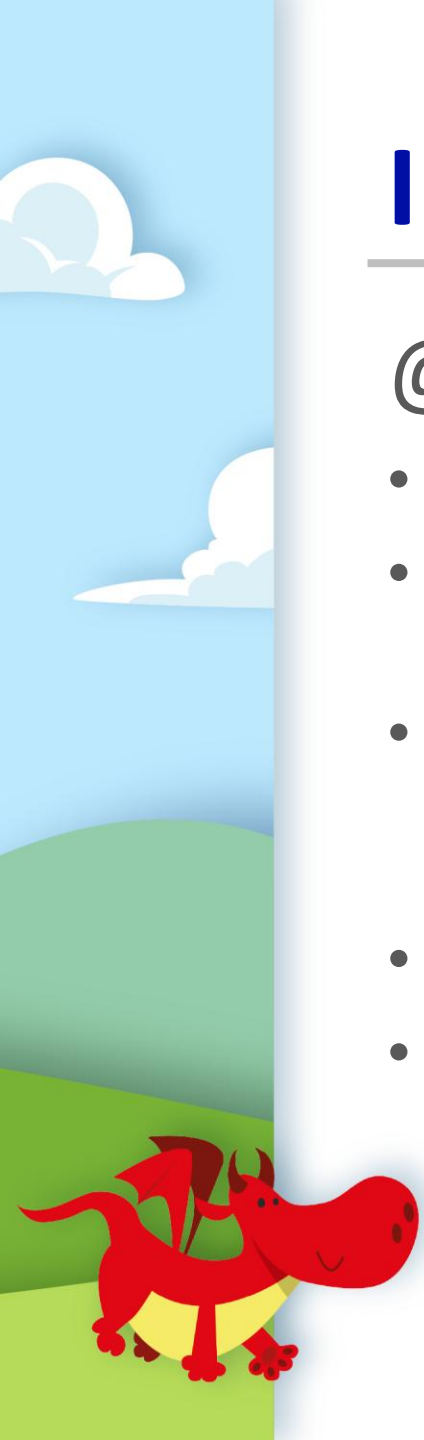
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@hgfs.learning.through.play

- We use Instagram to share photos and videos of:
- Classroom activities and special events like Sports Day and trips.
- Our classroom set-up and planned activities (to help you support your child at home or start conversations about their day!)
- Amazing work produced by the children.
- Our followers include parents and early years professionals, allowing us to celebrate learning and share our practice with others around the world.



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Thank You!

Year 2 teachers will be on hand at the end of the day when we dismiss the children if you need a quick chat.

Each Wednesday after school from 3.10 - 3.30pm you are welcome to look at your child's work, books and displays in their classroom.

If you need to have a longer discussion, please do not hesitate to email or phone the office to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher.

