

Head Teacher : Mrs D Reynolds  
BSc Hons QTS NPQH



**Norwood Primary School**

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08/05/09

Dear Year 2 Parents/Carers

Your children have settled well into the new school term and are enjoying working with their new teacher Mr Reynolds. Mr Reynolds has spent his initial time with the children assessing where they are with a view to the End of Key Stage 1 statutory assessment period. This is a key time for your children and Mr Reynolds is particularly focussing upon the areas of Speaking and Listening, Reading, Writing, Maths and Science. He has quickly identified areas that required a focus for accelerated learning and is working with the Year 2 team to ensure that your child is reaching their potential by the time the final assessments occur.

Thank you to the parents/carers who took the opportunity to meet with Mr Reynolds last Wednesday, a session above and beyond the normal requirements. I am sure that this generous offer was appreciated by all those involved. During this session discussion were held around the library, calculation strategies in maths as well as homework.

Norwood School has improved the children's access to the library and I am pleased to be able to remind you of our new library provision for all children at Norwood School. The Library is now available at break times for all children to change their library books on a regular basis. This is supervised by Mrs French and supported by trained Year 5 children. Year 2 also have regular opportunities to change their school reading books, a task which at Year 2 we have an expectation for the children to become more independent with. It is also recommended that appropriate reading materials that you may have at home are shared with your children. If you would like any further guidance on this please approach Mr Reynolds.

Home work in Year 2 continues to follow the school policy and guidance – please see extract below:

**'Years 1 - 2:** children in these age groups will be expected to read books or complete reading activities regularly. Use of a variety of material is important - stories, comics, poems, jokes - anything the child enjoys reading or hearing. Spellings and math's games, plus holiday diaries (year two), will sometimes be given. Of course, it is also enjoyable for children to have the chance to play board games, card games, make jigsaws, draw, paint, make models, use plasticene, or merely relax!'

<b>Recommended time allocation for daily home activities</b>		
	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Other home activities</b>
Reception	10 minutes	10 minutes
<b>Years 1 and 2</b>	<b>20 minutes</b>	<b>10 minutes</b>
Years 3 and 4	20 minutes	20 minutes
Years 5 and 6	20 minutes	30 minutes

Home learning is an area that the leadership team and Governors are reviewing and will relaunch during next academic year. We encourage parents/carers to explore the every day opportunities that occur around them and their children. These can be the most amazing learning opportunities that occur almost naturally whilst having a great time as a family!!



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As we all know the strategies for maths have changed incredibly since we were at school! Mr Reynolds has a great wealth of knowledge within current Numeracy learning and is happy to guide you through any areas of new strategies you would like to support your child with.

If you have any queries, in line with the rest of school, please raise these with Mr Reynolds either before or after school. Should a longer appointment be required, please book this through the school office.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Reynolds

