

**Welcome to Year Two**

A warm welcome to Year Two. What a fantastic start to the year we have had! Launching straight into our ‘Movers and Shakers’ project, we had a fab day in Lyme Regis learning about Mary Anning and the children are already excited about the learning which lies ahead. Here are a few details about your child’s time in Year Two:

**Reading:**

As you know, reading is key to your child’s progression at school. It is hugely beneficial for a child to read aloud regularly. This year there is a slight change in how we send books home:

There are two types of reading book that your child will bring home:

**A ‘Learn to read’ practice book – Collins Big Cat.** This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. Children will practise reading this book, in small groups throughout the week before bringing it home on a Friday to celebrate. Please keep this book at home for the week to practise. Books will need to be returned to school on the following Friday ready for another group.

**A ‘Love to read’ sharing book.**  This may be a book from our reading corner, the school library or from our sharing box. Your child may not be able to read this book on their own as it is not fully decodable and may not match their exact phonics level. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together in order to instil our Reading for Pleasure.

As your child continues through their reading journey they will move off sharing books and on to our book band scheme. Please note that we do not race through the book boxes. We have supplied every child with a yellow Reading Record in which you will be able to communicate with us.

**Home Learning:**

Home Learning will be based upon the subjects we are exploring in class and will come in the form of a grid on which children choose an activity they would like to complete. We will ask for all home learning to be brought in for the half term ready to share with the class.

**Numbots and Times Table Rockstars:**

Over the coming week, everybody will receive log in details for Numbots (like the prequel to Times Table Rockstars!). The log in will also work for TT Rockstars. Please ensure that your child is able to log in and play regularly in short bursts. The programme will increase the difficulty as your child gets things correct, so it is important that they complete questions independently. Developing their maths fluency at this early stage will really help our children throughout our new maths curriculum.

**PE:**

This half term, our PE days are Thursday and Friday. Please send your child to school in their PE kit. If they have long hair please ensure this is tied back and earrings are removed or covered in tape.

**Communication:**

Each class now has its own email address -

maple@charminster.dorset.sch.uk beech@charminster.dorset.sch.uk

Please use this for messages to the teachers. We will endeavour to respond within school hours but this might not be until the end of the day. Please continue to use office@charminster.dorset.sch.uk

for all other important communications that need immediate action. We are in the process of moving from Class Dojo, over to a new service. Please bear with us whilst this is set up.

We are really looking forward to working with you and your child throughout the coming year.

*Mr Holt & Miss Webster*