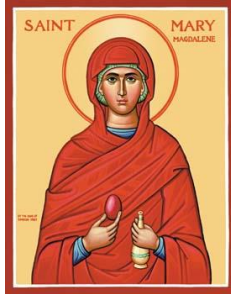




## Welcome to Year 2



**St Mary Magdalene Class**  
Class Teacher: Mrs Saab



**St Teresa of Calcutta Class**  
Class Teacher: Mr O'Keeffe

### Main objectives for your children for this year

- ⇒ Maintain high expectations for their own behaviour and always doing their very best.
- ⇒ To work independently
- ⇒ Developing academic skills and stamina, including extended pieces of writing and being able to solve reasoning style questions in Maths.

### Timing of the school day:

In the mornings we run a soft start for the children. The children will enter the school building via the lower Key Stage playground from 8.40am. If your child needs to be left earlier, we run a breakfast club. Please contact the school office for details. The children need to be in their classroom by 8.55am to ensure they are marked as present in the register. Morning activities will be taking place from 8.45am - 9am.

In the afternoon, your children will be dismissed at 3:25pm. We will not dismiss your child until we see you, or someone you have authorised to collect your child. Please notify the school office no later than 3:20pm if anyone other than you will be collecting your child. If you are running late, children should be collected from the school office.

### Maths and English

Children in Year 2 have Maths and English lessons every morning. In English, we learn about different genres through different texts, learning to retell stories and texts orally, before unpicking language features for children to use in their own writing. Reading is incorporated throughout the day in English lessons and in bespoke Reading lessons.

In Maths we explore and learn different concepts for the four key operations: Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Maths is taught in a whole-class environment, where pupils' differing needs are catered through scaffolded activities and effective questioning from the class teacher. Lessons will focus on pupils' fluency in Maths, rapid and accurate recall of number facts, including 2, 5, 10 times tables) as well as providing them with the opportunity to build a deeper

understanding of mathematical concepts by developing their skills in reasoning and problem-solving. Helping your child learn number bond facts to 10, 20 and 100 as well as the 2, 5 and 10 Time Tables will give your child an advantage in their Maths learning.

### **Phonics and spelling**

Phonic development is a fundamental key stage of your child's learning. Phonics provides children with the means of developing their reading and writing. Last year, your child would have completed a Phonic Screening Assessment in school. Children who were exempt from screening/children who did not make the national pass mark; will re-take the test in Year 2. We teach spelling and grammar for all children to improve sentence structure, as well as helping them learn common exception and high frequency words expected for Year 2. Your child will be given words to learn to spell each week, please see the, 'Homework' section for more details.

### **Reading**

Reading underpins all progress and learning in Year 2. Reading daily with your child can potentially give your child a head start in their learning. We request that reading scheme books and reading diaries are brought into school every day. Listening to your child read and hearing you read to them will improve your child's reading skills and ability. Please do encourage your children to read regularly and note this in their reading record. We do enjoy reading comments from parents about their children's reading. Reading record books will be checked on a daily basis to ensure that all children, regardless of reading ability, are reading regularly at home. Reading books will be changed on Tuesday. All children will have the opportunity to choose books from the library with support from the LSA once per week, this will be on a Thursday. Library books can be bought into school in your child's black library book bag.

### **Homework**

Schools across the nation have been reviewing their homework policies, and evaluating the impact homework has on pupil progress. The national research proves that homework does not have an impact on academic progress at primary school level and that schools should be focussing their time on providing first class teaching and learning during the school day. The research also comments those pupils between the ages of 5 - 11 could be using home time to practise social skills and take part in extracurricular activities. School homework can however provide opportunities for the children to practise key skills and consolidate their learning. Homework booklets are given to every child to bring home each half term. These booklets give details including:

- Weekly spelling words, children are encouraged to practise the weekly word lists at home, finding ways to use these in their writing at school and home. These word lists will be used in weekly spellings tests.
- A Brain Builder project will also be set for children to complete during each half term. Children are encouraged to share these projects with classmates on completion.
- Reminders and links to online learning resources.

### **Water Bottles**

It is very important that the children are hydrated and encourage your child to drink water regularly during the day. Please provide your child with a clear sport's style water bottle (no screw caps) containing only water. We have drinking water facilities in every classroom to allow your child to refill their bottles.

### PE Kits:

The children in Year 2 have PE and Games weekly. PE kits can be worn to school on the allocated days (see table below). The PE kit includes a sensible pair of trainers. If your child is in school, they will be expected to participate in these lessons unless a suitable reason is provided by parents. Correct PE kits **must** be worn: this is plain black shorts, plain white T-shirt, plain black tracksuit top and bottoms.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>PE / Games lesson</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>PE / Games lesson</b>

### Uniform

Please make sure that all parts of your child's uniform are named before coming to school. Please encourage your child to come into school looking and feeling smart! We prefer no earrings, but if they are worn, they should be silver or gold studs. Children are not allowed to wear earrings for PE, so they must be able to remove them without any adult help. Hair accessories should be simple and in school colours. During hot weather, please provide your child with a sun hat.

### Contacting us

- Send a note in with your child.
- Give the office a call and we will aim to get back to you as soon as possible, but please bear in mind we are in class most of the day, so we will return your call either at lunchtime or after the school day.
- Sending an email to [year2@olopprimary.co.uk](mailto:year2@olopprimary.co.uk)

What your children will be learning in Year 2

	<b>Topic work</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>RE</b>
<b>Advent Term Autumn</b>	How the Railway changed Slough  Would you prefer to live in hot or cold place?	Animals including humans  Everyday Materials	Beginnings - Who made the world and everything in it?  Baptism - Signs & Symbols  Preparing for special times - Do we need to prepare?
<b>Lenten Term Spring</b>	The Herschel's  Why is our world Wonderful?	Everyday Materials  Living Things and their Habitats	Books - Why do we need books?  Thanksgiving - Why should we be grateful people?  Opportunities - How does each day offer opportunities for good?
<b>Pentecost Term Summer</b>	The Great Fire of London  What is it like to live by the coast?	Plants	Spread the Word - Why should we spread the Good News?  Rules - Do we need rules?  Treasures - Is the world a treasure?