

Autumn Newsletter

September 2026

Welcome to Year 2!

We are excited to a part of your next step on your Risby journey! This year our class animal is the blue ringed octopus and there are a few things that would be handy to know about Year 2.



Spelling

In a few weeks time I will send home spellings to practice, on a ring binder. They will be the spellings that we are learning that week. Please practice reading and spelling these at home as for children to reach the expected level for writing by the end of Year 2, they need to be able to spell most of the Common Exception Words. I will upload a Spelling Menu to Dojo which will include different ways to make spelling fun and engaging, which in turn will help children remember their spellings.

Meet the Team

Miss Toms - Class teacher
Mrs Hartley: Mon – Thurs
Mrs Bonnett: Friday
Miss Hoogendyk: Mon-Fri
Mrs Gordon: Mon-Tues
Mrs Wooldridge: Wed-Thurs
Mrs Daniels: Friday

Reading

The expectation is that children read every day. Reading with your child every day remains one of the most important things you can do to support their learning. Even once children can read independently, sharing books together, listening to them read, discussing what they have read and introducing new vocabulary all help to develop fluency, comprehension, confidence and a lifelong love of reading. Reading also has a profound impact on writing, exposing children to rich vocabulary, varied sentence structures and exciting ideas that they can draw upon in their own work. By reading regularly, you are helping to unlock your child's full potential across the curriculum. If you would like a sheet of questions, similar to the ones they will be asked at school, please let me know and I will print one off for you. We will collect reading books and reading records in daily to do reading and change books when needed.

English

This half term our English lessons will focus on story writing. We will be reading Wombat Goes Walkabout by Michael Morpurgo and will be using this text to inspire our writing.

Through this we will be improving our writing skills by refining our sentence structure with capital letters used correctly, full stops and question marks used appropriately, selecting precise and exciting vocabulary to include in our learning and gaining accuracy with our spelling.

After half term, our focus will shift to non-fiction information texts, where we will develop our instruction writing skills. Thinking about imperative verbs, precise word choices and chronological order of sentences.

Journey of Discovery

This term, we will start by looking at the geography of Australia, including major cities and landmarks. We will then be learning about some of the history of Australia including learning about the Aboriginal peoples of Australia, Captain James Cook and the voyage he took to Australia, and the arrival and experiences of other settlers. We will be using a number of famous pieces of art and famous art styles to help us further understand the history of Australia.

Maths

This term, we will be improving our skills when working with numbers up to 100 including understanding the value of digits in two-digit numbers, counting forwards and backwards in 1s, 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s and comparing numbers. We will then be moving on to addition and subtraction, using object and images before learning more formal methods and also developing our mental maths skills. On the back of your logbook will be a Numbots log in. This is a fun game that builds understanding of key concepts and recall, that they will be using in class. If you wish to support your child further in their math, this would be a great resource to use. I will send out a message on Dojo when Numbots is up and running.

PE

PE lessons will take place every Tuesday and Wednesday. Please make sure children are prepared for their lessons on these days. Our school PE kit is as follows:

- T-Shirt: Jade or white with school logo or plain white.
- Shorts or leggings or tracksuit bottoms: Black.
- Trainers or plimsolls: Any colour.
- Round-necked sweatshirt: Any colour but plain.
- Hoodies, zip up jackets, tracksuit tops and football tops are not permitted.

Earrings must be taken out for health and safety purposes.

Key Dates

September:

- 16th - Meet the teacher
- 24th - Harvest festival at St. Giles
- 25th - Non-school uniform day

October:

- 7th- Individual school photos
- 19th- Parent Consultations
- 21st - Parent Consultations
- 22nd- last day of half term

November:

- 20th- Children In Need

December:

- 10th - Yr2 & Yr3 Christmas Performance
- 11th - Yr2 & Yr3 Christmas Performance
- 16th- Christmas Dinner Day
- 17th - End of term service
- 18th- Last day of term

Show and Tell

For any show and tell, could you please take a picture and upload it to Dojo. As we cannot always guarantee there is time at the end of the day and it will save children bringing any work they have completed at home, back and forth.

School Uniform

Please ensure all children come to school in full uniform and prepared for the weather. Our uniform is as follows:

- Black or grey school skirt, shorts, trousers or pinafore.
- Risby green or white polo shirt.
- Risby school sweatshirt.
- Black, white or grey socks.
- Black shoes

Hair that is shoulder length or longer needs to be tied back and nail polish should not be worn in school at any time. PE kit must be worn on PE days.