

Year 2 Newsletter Summer Term 1 2024



Wow! It is Summer Term already! How did that happen so quickly? We ended Spring 2 with our wonderful singing in the 'Sing Off'. The children were so confident and impressive in their performance skills – we have some budding super stars in Year 2. 'Britain's Got Talent' – watch out!

We would like to say huge well done to our fabulous Year 2 learners! They have returned full of enthusiasm and are working very hard. We are hugely proud of our children and know that they will continue to shine!

Thank you so much for all your support at home, it makes such a huge difference to the progress and achievements of the children. We really do feel as if you are part of our team! Please talk to your child's class teacher if you would like to know extra ways to support your child in aspects of their learning.

We cannot believe how quickly our year is zooming by and we still have so much learning to do!



To enhance our learning this half-term, on **May 9th and May 10th**, we are going to be working with the Roald Dahl Museum and Centre. They are going to be joining us virtually via a secure Teams link and lead fun activities about Roald Dahl and the characters he created. This will add so much depth to our learning and we are so excited. Please see your email/Arbor for details of cost and deadlines.



In **English** this term we will be reading the 'The Twits' and other stories, such as extracts from 'The BFG', by the fabulous author Roald Dahl. We will be using a variety of genres including retelling, recounts, descriptions and instructions! We will be continuing to use our writing lenses to help us write – as we did in our online lessons.

In **art** we will be learning about the illustrations of Quentin Blake and creating our own artwork based upon his style and in Design Technology we will be designing and making a dream catcher for the BFG



explore and investigate.

Our **Science** work will build upon our previous learning of life cycles, and we will also learn about habitats and food chains. This will involve using the wonderful outdoor spaces that we have at Priory Rise to

In **History**, we will be learning about significant people. We will learn about the life of Roald Dahl and compare his childhood to our own. We will find out about his family and his many achievements.

In **RE**, we will continue to learn about the Christian and Jewish faiths and will compare them. We will learn about synagogues and what they look like inside. We will learn about features of the inside of the synagogue and how it is used as well as learning about customs, beliefs, and religious behaviours.

In **computing** we will be using 'Purple Mash' to develop questioning and in **music** will continue to explore pitch and rhythm with Mrs Horwood each week.

In **PSHE**, we will be learning about relationships, and this will involve thinking about families and friendships with themes such as diversity, trust, appreciation, managing conflicts and promoting positive connections.

Year 2 Assessments

Many parents have asked about the Year 2 SATs.

Government guidelines now state that the annual Year 2 SATs are optional for schools to undertake as part of their assessment programmes as from this current academic year.



We will use the optional SATs, alongside our own teacher tracking and school assessments, to help us identify how well each child is doing in their independent Reading, Writing (including spelling) and Maths.

The assessments will support the details of the end of year reports to parents. They will also be used in transition to Year 3, in identifying strengths and areas for future development.

Phonics Screening

Year 2 children who needed more development with their phonics and who did not pass the Year 1 Phonics Screening will be assessed again this year. Children new to the country who did not do the screening in Year 1 will also have this assessment.

The Phonics screening will happen in the week beginning **Monday 10th June 2024**.



You can help your child in the following ways:

1. **Read** with your child for a few minutes every day and ask a range of Viper questions. Please record your comments in the small red book.

If your child has a phonics book – this is their reading book to read to you. Support can be found: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

The colour banded book is a book for you to read together and will offer the opportunity to access wider vocabulary that might not be decodable using phonics and will support language acquisition/ learning new words.

We have had huge success with reading and children are moving through the phonic sound sets well! Many have now achieved success in decodable books and are now solely on colour banded books. Thank you so much for your support!



2. Make sure that your child can read and **spell** the common exception words (Year1 and 2). These came home after our last check, and we have been looking at them each week to embed the words into our long-term memories ready for Year 3.

We will be testing these again before May half term.

We include these words in our phonics/spelling lessons and learn them in groups, for example old, cold, gold – we teach why they are tricky, and it is so helpful for you to go over them again at home.

We will continue to inform you of the weekly Little Wandle sounds and words that we have learned each week so that you can practise these with your children. You will find them on Google Classroom.



3. **Mymaths** homework is updated each Friday – please check all work has been completed and if there are low scores, the children can do the activities as many times as needed. This will build upon work done in class. Please check that your child has done all activities set so far.
4. Make sure that your child is in school as much as possible!

Please see the '**Handy hints to help your child**' on our Year 2 webpage :

<https://www.prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk/site/data/files/users/year-2-documents/669B6508499CBF1CB1D6F2A130878503.pdf>



Warm Weather

As the weather is likely to warm up (we hope) could we please ask that your child continues to bring a named water bottle to school each day.

In addition, on very warm days, could you please apply sunscreen to your child **before school** and it is advisable for them to bring a hat for extra protection.



PE and Games lessons will occur outside this half term. Please make sure that your child wears PE kit on their PE days.

Please see the Priory Rise school uniform policy on the school website if you are unsure of what this should look like.

Children attending **after school clubs** on days which are non-PE days will need wear normal uniform during the day and bring their PE kit to school to get changed at the end of the school day. **Active Risers** – if the children go to this club on a day that is not their PE day, they will need to bring their normal school uniform (and school shoes) to change into after the club, ready for their school day.

Jewellery: Earrings need to be removed during PE or covered with Surgical tape such as micropore for safety. Watches also need to be removed.

In our PSHE and assembly times throughout April, we will be thinking about the importance of **P atience** and why it is important to us. We will listen to, and reflect on, stories modelling how being proud can benefit us.



In May, we will be think about the value of **Generosity** and the vairous ways in which we can show this to others.

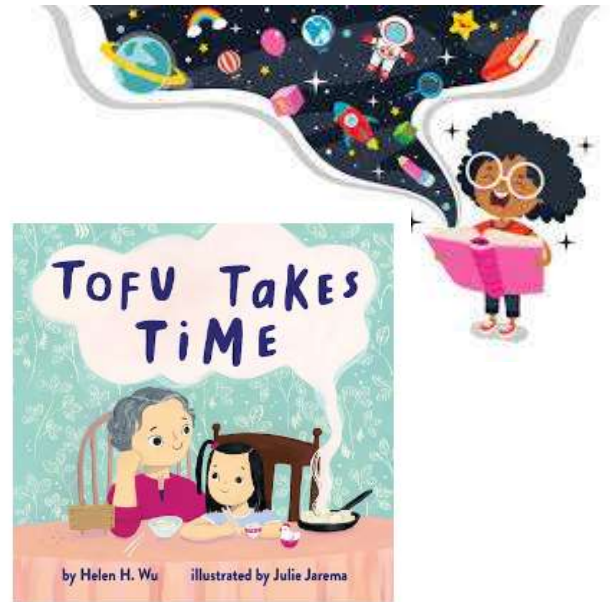


Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday (school closed)
Thursday 9th May – Rosen and Bright Virtual Roald Dahl sessions
Friday 10th May – Donaldson virtual Roald Dahl learning session
Thursday 24th May – Class photos
Friday 25th May – Break up for half-term

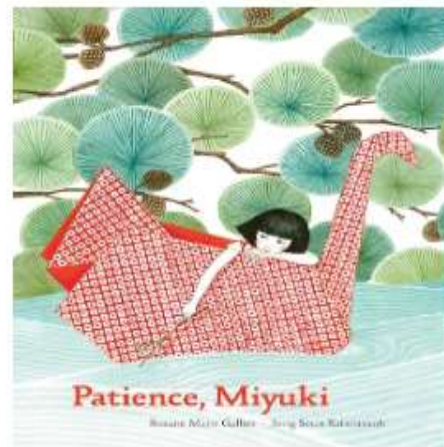
Want to read a good book? How about these?...

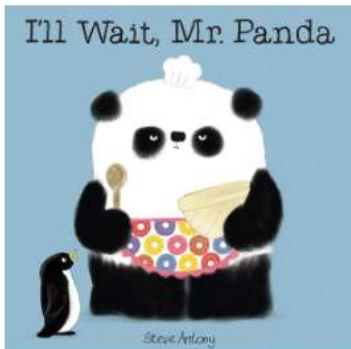
CLICK CLACK WHIRRRR . . . Lin and her grandma, NaiNai, are making tofu from scratch! When NaiNai goes through each step, from blending soybeans with water to molding curd into shape, Lin gradually becomes impatient. But she soon discovers that making tofu not only takes time, but also takes the whole universe! It takes the seed from soil and sunshine, the cloth from thread and fiber, weight and space, books of words and pictures. And most of all, it takes spending lovely time with her beloved grandmother.

In this charming tale by Helen H. Wu,, readers will marvel at how patience brings a whole universe together in a simple dish made by a modern Chinese American family. Perfect for fans of Fry Bread,



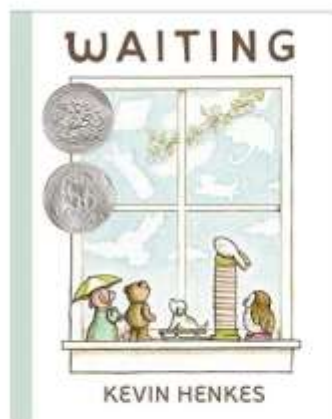
Patches the puppy is very good at waiting--or at least that's what he thinks. But his patience is put to the test when his two mums arrive home with an unexpected bundle. Is it a new toy? No! It's a new baby. Suddenly, everything Patches wants to do takes a little bit longer. But patience, it turns out, is a lesson worth learning.





Mr. Panda shows that good things come to those who wait!

Mr. Panda from Steve Antony's bestselling, funny manners book *Please, Mr. Panda* is back! This time, Mr. Panda's black-and-white animal friends are curious what he's making, but only one has the patience to stick around. An alpaca, an aardvark, rabbits, and a bird all wind up missing out. It's the penguin who declares, "I'll wait, Mr. Panda." The penguin is rewarded with a big SURPRISE: a giant doughnut! *I'll Wait, Mr. Panda* is a graphic, kid-friendly way of teaching the value of patience and the importance of saying "thank you."



What are you waiting for? An owl, a puppy, a bear, a rabbit, and a pig wait for marvelous things to happen in this irresistible and resonant picture book by the New York Times–bestselling and Caldecott Medalist Kevin Henkes.

Five friends sit happily on a windowsill, waiting for something amazing to happen. The owl is waiting for the moon. The pig is waiting for the rain. The bear is waiting for the wind. The puppy is waiting for the snow. And the rabbit is just looking out the window because he likes to wait! What will happen? Will patience win in the end? Or someday will the friends stop waiting and do something unexpected?

Thank you so much for all of your support, we are delighted to be working with you to ensure your child shines as brightly as they can! Please do get in touch with us if you need support in any way.