

Top 10 tips for Year 2 parents

1. Listen to your child read DAILY. Ask them questions about what they have read to check their understanding. Try to make time to read your child regular stories too, as they will enjoy hearing more rich and varied vocabulary from the extended texts that you read – this in turn will enhance your child's story writing! You could keep a STORYWRITING notebook where your child could jot down special phrases that they like from books they've heard (feel free to bring these into school and they can use them when they write stories in class).
2. If your child is not already a member, consider joining Weymouth library – they have a great children's section with a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction books to enjoy. Try to encourage your child to use the contents, index and glossaries in non-fiction texts.
3. Children find telling the time and solving money problems much easier if they've had practise at home in real-life contexts (e.g. handling money when shopping at a local shop, working out what time their favourite TV programme is on, how long until bedtime etc!).
4. Help your children to learn times tables, in and out of sequence, off by heart and at speed. If confident with these, learn the associated division facts. By the end of Year 2, children are expected to know the **2, 3, 5 and 10** times tables.
5. Practise spelling patterns and high frequency word spellings using strategies such as the 'Look, cover, say, write, check' method.
6. Help your child to find out as much as they can about their current topic, e.g. Safari
7. Encourage your child to write diaries/ letters/stories for enjoyment and real purposes. If your child is particularly proud of a piece of writing, encourage them to bring it into school to share with the class!
8. Find opportunities for learning everywhere – even a walk in the woods can be full of opportunities. Talk about what they can see, hear, feel. Describe everything.
9. Continue to encourage your child to gain independence. Ask them to carry out short tasks for you. Give two or more instructions at a time.
10. Help your child to play longer, more complex games at home. Board and card games are great!