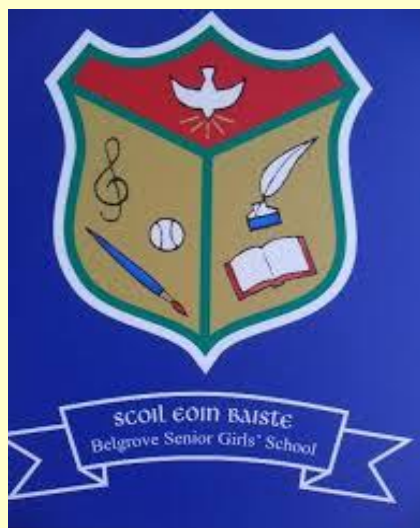




ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM SECOND CLASS TEACHERS



Introduction

Dear Parents,

We welcome you and your daughter to 2nd Class. Teachers and pupils alike are all excited to be back in the classroom.

Your daughter has now entered the Senior School. This year is about empowering the girls to become more responsible in their learning and in the organisation of their school books and equipment.

We are looking forward to a productive and enjoyable year. Lots of work and lots of fun! 😊

Ms. Finn, Ms. McCarthy & Ms. O'Connell

School Requirements

Your child will need the following supplies this year:

1. 4 x Pared HB pencils
2. Coloured pencils and crayons
3. Eraser and pencil sharpener
4. 30cm Ruler
5. 2 x Pritt Stick
6. Art Shirt
7. 4 whiteboard markers
8. 2 x Highlighters (pink & yellow)

The pencil case must be left in school

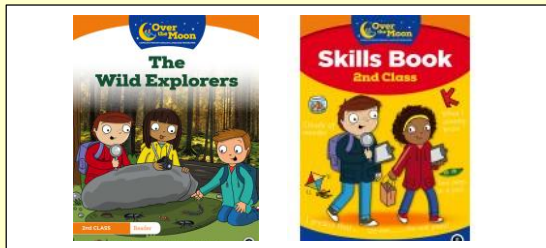
Homework

Homework is an essential part of your child's learning. It reinforces what she has learned in class that day. It is important she completes it fully and correctly. In Second Class we encourage each child to develop her organisational skills in relation to her homework.

This year the girls will have traditional homework i.e. Mental Maths/Tables Champion and also at times, online homework via **Seesaw**.

Oral homework is as important as written homework. Second Class homework should take roughly 20 - 30 minutes of consistent work. All journals should be signed by parent/guardian every night after checking that homework has been completed accurately.

English Scheme



We are excited to be using a new English scheme in line with the new language curriculum. Over the Moon is available online.

<https://www.gillexplore.ie/gill-explore-resources/over-the-moon-2nd-class-skills-book?Chapters=0&ResourceTypes=11344>

Reading

Homework reading must be read aloud for you every night. If your child has difficulty with a word, help her to break it into syllables and sound it out. If this fails, tell her the word and ask her to read the sentence again. At the end of the reading session, chat with your child about the content of what she has read. We cannot over emphasise the importance of developing a love of reading at this stage.

Reading material should always be at your child's reading level. **Read to your child, read with your child (paired reading)**, let your child read to you. Make it fun! **A child's love of reading is learned from the adults in their life.**

We encourage 15 minutes reading for pleasure every night.



Guided Reading

The girls will partake in our Guided Reading initiative this year. Each class will have two four week guided reading sessions. During this time the three Special Education Teachers and Class teacher will divide the girls into four groups/ The girls will then go with that teacher to their classroom to work on reading fluency, comprehension and word study skills. The girls will be reading from the PM Readers range at their own level. We ask that you listen to your daughter read aloud each night from these books. Ask her to predict what she thinks could happen, give and alternate ending to the story etc.

Spelling

The children are encouraged to learn spelling using the **“Look and Say, Cover, Write, Check”** method. The actual writing down of each spelling using the spelling strategies they have been taught in class, is a very important part of the learning process. Their spellings will be checked on an on-going basis.

English Writing

We encourage the children to be accurate with sentence structure, punctuation, spellings and grammar.

In order to promote self-expression and fluidity of ideas during creative writing, all mistakes may not be corrected.

Handwriting

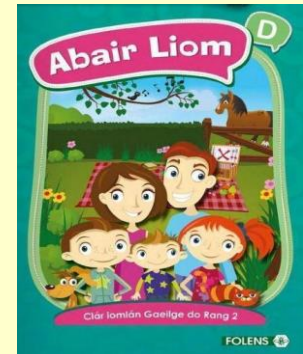
Neat hand writing is expected in classwork, homework and in project work. The neat layout of work is an important skill. This is reinforced in class on a daily basis and should be encouraged at home.

Joined writing will be introduced through the Go with the Flow programme.

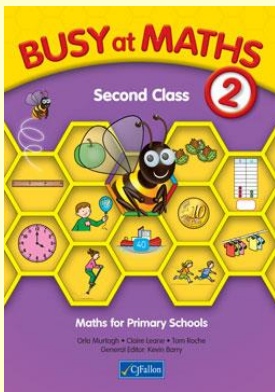
Gaeilge

The revised curriculum has a strong emphasis on oral language. We would encourage each child to use the phrases and vocabulary she learns in school at home

We will be using SingFónaic; an Irish phonics programme to assist with Irish reading and pronunciation.



Maths



The Maths programme in Second Class is Busy at Maths 2. **The learning of addition and subtraction tables is essential.**

Tables can be learned, as spellings are, using the “*Look and Say, Cover, Write, Check*” method.

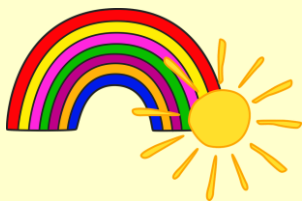
Many Maths topics can be carried out informally. Help your child to:

- Read the time both in digital and analogue.
- Be familiar with coin values and be aware of change when shopping.
- Understand fractions (halves and quarters) when sharing.

Busy at Maths is available online, you may need the school roll number (17148D) if you are setting up an account for the first time.

<https://www.cjfallon.ie/>

S.P.H.E



We are using the Weaving Wellbeing, Stay Safe, Walk Tall, RSE and Webwise programmes to deliver the SPHE curriculum. We would encourage you to engage in the Home -School Links in these programmes.

Religion

We are continuing with Grow in Love programme in class. We would encourage you to engage with the Home-School Links you can register on www.growinlove.ie



Healthy Lunches

Children should bring healthy lunches to school and should bring home unfinished lunches. Crisps and fizzy drinks are not allowed. Sweets and chocolate should be discouraged.

Please ensure that your child brings home her recyclable cartons in her lunch boxes. A re-useable water bottle with a sip lid which does not spill is recommended!

Communication Requirements

Absences, late arrivals and early departures must be communicated via Aladdin Attendance Notes.

All journals should be signed every night after checking that homework has been completed accurately and you have read it with your daughter.

Please email the school office at: info@belgroveseniorgirls.ie if you have any queries or wish to discuss something with us.

Social Media

Please monitor your child's use of the internet, they should be supervised when online. The HSE recommended Screen Time allowance is 2 hours.

See www.webwise.ie



Assessment

Standardised Tests -The MICRA-T Level 2 Reading Test is usually administered in September and The Sigma-T Maths Test is administered at the end of the school year.

CAT 4YL

The CAT is a general ability test which is administered in late September. The children will complete a booklet with four sections. The areas looked at are words, numbers, figures and shapes. The CAT gives teachers an insight into where the children's strengths lie and also can help us identify what teaching methods best suit each child.

Seesaw

Our school is using the online platform to help facilitate blended and distance learning. It is a fantastic way for students to submit work and receive feedback from their teachers. FAQ are found on the link below:

<http://www.belgroveseniorgirls.ie/2020/05/seesaw-helpful-information/>



Project Work

Don't Stress! Projects at this stage are usually 2 scrapbook pages long, about 10 facts and pictures. Keep it simple and in the childrens' own words. Encourage neat and tidy presentation.