

2HH Class Newsletter

Welcome back to term 4. I can't believe we are half way through the year 2 journey. Monday 20th is an INSET day for pupils as staff are receiving training. Tuesday 21st will be the first day back for the children.

Once we have had whole school music day, performing with our voices, and launched into our term's learning, it will soon be World Book Day. The whole school focus is inspirational people who achieved their dreams. In our class, we will be learning about Stevie Wonder and Evelyn Glennie, who both accomplished great things in music despite their physical impairments.

The weekly timetable, which shows what we intend to happen in a 'normal' week, is on the love of learning page. PE is Monday and Friday still, although Friday's PE this term is replaced with forest school which is always very popular with the children. Wellies need to come into school please. If you do not have a pair, please let me know before Friday's first session.

All children need to bring their reading book and reading record in to school **every day** please. There are still lots of children who do not do this.

Below is an overview of what we will be learning this term.

We are Frome Vale Citizens

This term's value is responsibility. We will discuss the question 'Why is it important to take responsibility for our poor choices?'. The learning behaviour is resilience. We will identify something which is a challenge for us, and commit to working on it over the term to explore how it feels to be resilient. We also cover safeguarding and online safety as part of our FVC lessons. We will hold a discussion on the termly debate question and read our No Outsiders book which engages the children in issues of diversity and inclusion. Our book this term is Just Because, which tells the story of a young boy who adapts his play to include his sister in a wheelchair. How can we follow his lead and adapt our play to be inclusive?

We are mathematicians

The term starts with fractions and continues with development of a whole range of strategies for number calculations before moving on to measurement of length and height. Children have opportunities to 'show' their understanding, use it to 'solve' calculations/problems and then 'prove' something using mathematical reasoning and vocabulary. On Fridays, the class are set a challenge, to develop use of mathematical thinking and reasoning. Although we do aim to solve the problem, these sessions are about process, not product. Each day, we also do a short 'numbersense' session which focuses on rapid recall of key number facts using visual aids.

We are writers



We are continuing our dragon theme this term with a wonderful book to inspire great writing. Tell me a dragon is beautifully illustrated and begins with descriptions of different dragons. It invites the children to first create a painted dragon egg and then create their own dragon, describing what makes it unique. At the end of the book, there are fictional reports and facts about dragons through history. We will use this book to inspire fiction and non fiction writing such as dragon passports and fact files, reporting as dragonologists, poetry, descriptions and a dragon-finding adventure. Handwriting, spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be at the heart of our writing sessions. (Year 2 is when we expect the majority of children to start joining their handwriting).

We are scientists

We are readers

When we develop reading comprehension skills as a class, we use texts which are connected to our class texts, science and geography topics. The children enjoy free reading book club on Fridays, where they can choose books from the class shelf, topic related books or dive into our large pile of National Geographic Kids magazines.

At the end of the day, we enjoy stories together and develop our love of reading. There will also be a whole host of book week activities for the children to engage with.

Phonics to support reading and spelling will continue daily and we now follow the no nonsense words programme. Spellings will be set each week related to focus for that week.

We are geographers



Biology. We will be learning about different habitats around the world and finding out how animals are physically adapted to survive in their specific environment. We will use sorting trees to sort, group and classify a range of animals. There will be a mixture of scientific knowledge and scientific skills throughout the topic and we will certainly be making the most of our wonderful woodland area to investigate microhabitats and record our findings.



In this topic, we will be learning about physical and human geography. Our focus starts locally, with the land features and land use of Bristol. Then we will compare this with incredible Guizhou region in South-west China. The class enjoyed learning about our local rivers in term 2, so I think that they will enjoy making comparisons with places further from home with a significantly different geography to the UK.



We are athletes

PE is on Mondays.
One session will focus on core PE skills which help develop balance, agility and coordination. Our focus this term is the 'creative' part of our multi ability approach. All activities are designed for children to use their thinking skills, create rules for games, adapt strategies and combine skills creatively. Our other session this term will be Forest School. Every week in forest school sessions, children will use nature to learn skills, and explore their creativity.

We are artists

After a successful painting week, the class will have another week of art at the end of this term. The whole school will be focusing on printing. Their final piece will link with their forest school activities and the children will create a piece of art using items from nature.



We are linguists

In French we will continue learning about musical instruments. We will learn the names of them and use them in a sentence using 'I can play the...' or 'I like the ...'

We are philosophers

On RE day at the end of the term, we will focus on beliefs about incarnation and resurrection. This will include learning about core beliefs of some of the world's largest religions, discussing similarities and differences, as well as considering our own thoughts and beliefs.