

2HH Class Newsletter

Welcome back to a new term. I am looking forward to being back with the class and getting to know everyone properly. I will be starting off with a phased return – sometimes mornings and sometimes afternoons. If all is well with my leg, this will hopefully build up to full time in a few week's time. Thank you for your patience with my recovery post operation and thank you for supporting Miss Hopkins while I was away.

There are lots of exciting things happening this term to enrich the children's learning and give them new experiences.

To help you support your child to be ready for school each day, the weekly timetable is on the love of learning page. Please note that this is a typical week and sometimes other things take place of the regular timetable such as external visitor sessions or theme days. The main thing to note is that PE sessions are still Mondays and Fridays. Once I am full time again, Mrs Bullock will be teaching the class every Tuesday afternoon. Mrs Shuja will continue to work with the class every day supporting children with their learning and helping them to progress with any targets they have been given.

Reading:

All children need to bring their reading book and reading record in to school every day. Although they each have a set day to read with an adult, some also have additional sessions with other adults in the school and the children also read every afternoon and complete activities to support their reading for which they often need their own book at their appropriate reading level. The expectation is to read at least twice every week at home and many of you have been doing this so thank you very much.

Spellings:

Spelling words are on the love of learning document on word press. Please help your child to learn the words of the week and the common exception words. This term, all of the words focus on alternative spellings for phonemes.

Love of learning:

We have made a change to the love of learning, which we hope will really give the children a much better chance to show their love of learning. Instead of weekly tasks, every class are now being given a termly task sheet. This is filled with a variety of choices of things to do that link to something like the class book, science, geography or history topic. Children can do one, some or all of the options available, depending on their interests and resources available. Over the term, they can get busy completing their choice of tasks at a time to suit you as a family, and then hand in whatever they have done at the end of the term for me to see. These tasks can be done in their love of learning books, or presented in another way that suits what they have done e.g. models, computer presentations or posters etc.

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

We are Frome Vale Citizens

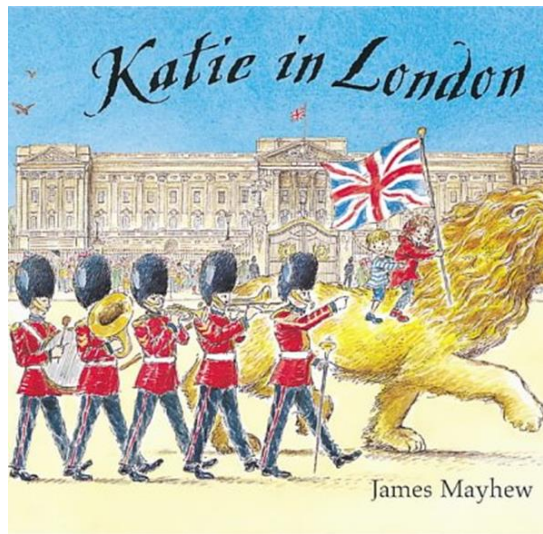
This term's value is thankfulness and the learning behaviour is collaboration. These are covered in class sessions and whole school assemblies. We also cover safeguarding, hold a discussion on the termly debate question and read our No Outsiders book, which this term is The First Slodge. It helps the children to consider people's acceptance of others and the potential impact of their behaviour, actions and attitudes, both positive and negative. In weekly Jigsaw sessions, the children will be thinking about 'Celebrating Difference'.

We are mathematicians

The term starts with a whole host of addition and subtraction strategies – such a fundamental part of number, before moving onto dealing with money and then multiplication and division. Children have opportunities to 'show' their understanding, use it to 'solve' calculations/problems and then 'prove' something using mathematical reasoning and vocabulary.

Each day, we also do a short 'numbersense' session which focuses on rapid recall of key number facts using visual aids.

We are writers



Katie visits London with her brother and grandmother. While Grandma sleeps, one of the lion statues of Trafalgar Square comes to life and takes the children to see the famous sights of London. We will be writing description, diary entries, fact files and working up to writing an adapted story, where the children will change the events of the original to create their own version. They will also create a handy factual guide to visiting the sights of London. 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). *If anyone has visited London and would like to send in any photos at London landmarks, we would love to share them. Original photos sent in/emails of digital photos to the year 2 email please.*

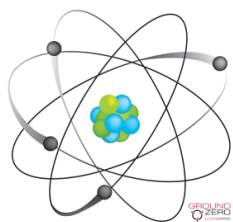
We are readers

We have a lovely book corner in our room, lit with fairy lights and covered in a space roof. The children will read their own books with an adult, develop reading comprehension skills as a class and 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 some point during most days, we enjoy stories together and develop our love of reading.

Phonics to support spelling will continue daily. Spellings will be set each week related to focus for that week, plus the common exception words.

We are scientists



Materials and Matter. It's time to delve into the world of atoms and the elements to discover just what makes things what they are. We will explore the properties of solids, liquids and gases and conduct experiments to observe changes from one state of matter to another. There will be a mixture of scientific knowledge and scientific skills throughout the topic.

We are athletes

PE is Mondays and Fridays.

On a Friday, we will focus on dance, using a theme of water to explore movement and create sequences to music. On a Monday, we have REAL PE. In these lessons, we develop fundamental movements of balance, agility and coordination. Our focus this term is the 'social' cog. All activities are designed for children to share ideas, work together, recognise skills and qualities in themselves and others and achieve physical challenges together.

We are geographers

In this topic, we learn about the regions of the UK, basic compass points and use maps to find out about the region where we live. The journey of a river and the 4 rivers of our city are a big focus before turning our attention to world maps to learn the continents and oceans of our planet. Linking with last term's science topic of space, we will learn a bit more about the equator, North and South poles and create a temperature map of the planet to understand what climates and habitats are created (ready to link back to our science work in term 3).

We are designers

Our focus this term is textiles. We will learn different skills for weaving with fabrics. We will learn running stitch with needle and cotton and then after dip dyeing our fabric, we will design and sew a pattern on a padded square to join together as a class blanket.



If any parent has particular skills in sewing and would like to be involved as a helper in our textiles week, please let me know at pick up times or at parents' evening. Sewing with 27 children certainly has its challenges!

We are linguists

Bonjour la class! In French we will be learning all about animals.

Les animaux



un cheval



une souris



un cochon



un lion



un lapin



un oiseau



un mouton



une vache



un singe



un canard

We are philosophers

At the end of the term we will hold an RE day with a chance to reflect on the meaning of the Christmas story. We will also learn about celebrations in other faiths at this time and make connections with the importance of festivals to people of faith.