

2HH Class Newsletter

Happy New Year to you all. Welcome back to a new term.

The weekly timetable is on the love of learning page so that families can see what lessons are happening on a typical week. Sometimes theme days, enrichment opportunities, external visitors or trips will impact our usual timetable, but this gives an overview of what to expect most weeks.

PE sessions are still Mondays and Fridays. Both sessions are indoors this term. Please leave PE kits in school all week and children will be encouraged to take them home on Fridays. Mrs Bullock will be teaching the class on a Tuesday afternoon and Mrs Shuja is supporting individual and group learning in class every morning. For this term, a trainee teacher studying at UWE will also be working with our class. I will be the lead teacher, but there will be opportunities for the trainee to plan and teach some lessons or group activities during the placement. I consider it a privilege to support trainee teachers and the class will benefit greatly from having an enhanced teaching team, with additional adults to engage, motivate and support them in their learning.

All children need to bring their reading book and reading record in to school **every day** please. There were a lot of missed reading opportunities in term 2 due to no book and record. Your child will read with me but most of the class will also have some additional sessions with reading volunteers, the trainee teacher, TAs, other adults in school and we read every afternoon. Children 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, or 3 times a week for those on decodable books. Many of you have been doing this so thank you very much.

Spelling words for the term are on wordpress and also sent home on paper. We have finished Unlocking letters and Sounds as a class, but we will continue to use it to support phonics and reading and some children will be revising earlier phases or working on their phonics gaps. As a class, we will move onto a programme of spelling called no nonsense spelling, which helps the children with ways to learn and remember non phonetic words, alternative sounds and homophones (words which sound the same but are spelt differently). There

are spellings set for each week and these are the key words we work with every day that week before a test on a Friday.

Love of learning tasks are due in at the end of the term. You can choose which tasks to do at a time to suit you. The children get the chance to present their home learning in front of the class if they wish to.

Please remember that you do not need to wait for parents evening to discuss your child and their learning with me. If you need to have some time with me, please catch me on the pick up/drop off, arrange it with the office, or email the year 2 email. I have after school clubs on a Monday and Thursday this term, and staff meetings are Wednesdays, so Tuesday or Friday are best if you need to meet with me, but I will happily talk on the phone or try to work round a time to suit you.

I look forward to a great term of learning and fun with your child and the class.

Mrs Hall

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

We are Frome Vale Citizens

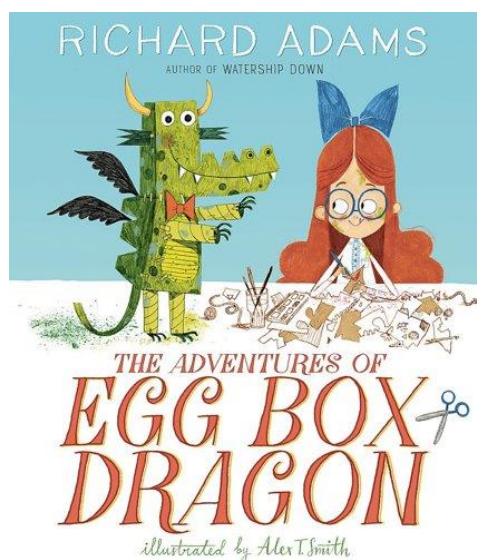
This term's value is trust&honesty and the learning behaviour is self-evaluation. These are covered in class sessions and whole school assemblies. We also cover safeguarding, hold a discussion on the termly debate question and read our No Outsiders book which engages the children in issues of diversity and inclusion. Our book this term is What the Jackdaw saw by Julia Donaldson. This book is used to raise awareness of communication using sign language. In weekly Jigsaw sessions, the children will be thinking about personal goals and how they overcome barriers to achieve these.

We are mathematicians

The term starts with multiplication and division before moving on to statistics and properties of shape. 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



This engaging book will no doubt inspire some wonderful creative writing and bring meaning and purpose to their work. Stories, descriptions, brief news reports and persuasive letters will all be outcomes from this text. 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 readers

We have a lovely book corner in our room, lit with fairy lights and covered in a space roof. The children will be taught 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. Each day, we enjoy stories together and develop our love of reading.

Spelling lessons will continue daily and we now follow the no nonsense words programme. Spellings will be set each week related to focus for that week. Some children will continue to learn and revise phonics alongside no nonsense sessions.

We are scientists



Electricity. Always a big hit with the children, this topic teaches the children about what electricity is and how it is produced and used. They learn to make simple electrical circuits with batteries,

We are historians

In this topic, we continue our learning from term 1 about the Victorian era by finding out what was happening around the world during this time. We will focus on the Crimean war and significant people such as Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. We will learn about the scramble for Africa, look at the events that led up to the American battle for independence and the mutiny in India. This is a great topic for the children to understand how past

wires and lamps, then experiment to see which materials are conductors and which are insulators. It's a brilliant, hands-on topic which really brings out their scientific thinking.

events have shaped the world they live in.

We are athletes

On a Monday, we will focus on core PE skills which help develop balance, agility and coordination. Our focus this term is the 'cognitive' part of our multi skill approach. All activities are designed for children to use their thinking skills, identify areas for improvement, follow different instructions and learn how good cognition can support physical development.

On Fridays, we will be working on gymnastics skills, learning how to control the body in flight and through floor rotations. The children will be creating routines with a focus on linking movements and developing control of shape and fluency.

We are artists

After a successful textiles design week, the class will have a week of art at the end of this term. Having a focussed week gives the children a wonderful opportunity to immerse themselves fully into a project, with clear progression over the week and a sense of pride in a completed project. Here is our monster patchwork quilt (which the children designed and sewed).



Our art week focus will be printing, using every day materials and some from natural resources.

We are linguists

In French we will learn the names of musical instruments. We will play listening and matching games, practise saying and reading the words and explore determiners and the use of the phrase I can play....

We are philosophers

On RE day, we will focus on the wonder of the world. We will explore the similarities and differences between what Christians, Jews and Humanists believe about the creation of the world, before expressing our own

	views and beliefs through the art and poetry.
We are musicians Our music day on the 9 th January will be an exciting day of composition. Having recapped the elements of music in term 1 and developed use of notation in term 2, the children will use their skills to compose music. They will be using a variety of instruments such as hand chimes to compose and perform original music inspired by a story, using non-standard notation which others can perform from too.	We are computer scientists In this unit, children learn to gather data and create digital pictograms and charts to display and interpret results.