

2HH Class Newsletter

Happy New Year to you all. Welcome back to a new term. I hope the break has been a good one. Thank you for my cards, gifts, homemade goodies and lovely messages; they were all very much appreciated. Finishing the term with the wonderful production of The Snow Child really showed off what a fabulous class this is. The children had so much input into the show, writing additional lines, producing choreography and supporting each other to make it a success. I was hugely proud of them and I hope you were too. They were an absolute credit to you all. Our last day ended with forest school and a showcase of home learning. What an excellent array of tasks were shown! Thank you for your support as always, making the time, providing the resources and getting stuck in with your child. This term, I would like more children to complete more tasks please. It really is very rewarding for them and there is the added incentive of individual Frome Vale Points now...

So what do you need to know about term 3?

This term we will be welcoming a new pupil, Baris-Treasure, who is joining us from Begbrook. He had a taster day before the end of term 2 and will join us from the first day of term 3. Please make him and his family welcome and do share any links to parent communications there may be.

The weekly timetable is on the love of learning page so that you 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 continue to be Tuesdays 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.

Staffing: Mrs Bullock will continue teaching the class on a Tuesday afternoon when I have my non-contact time for admin, planning and assessment. Our volunteer teaching assistant Miss Aslam will continue to be with our class 4 days a week and Miss Barrellie, a trainee teacher, will also be working with our class. She had a placement with the class when they were in year 1 and this time will be taking on some more of the teaching responsibilities. 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.

As always, 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/or no record. Your child will read with me but most of the class will also have some additional sessions with reading volunteers, Miss Barrellie and other adults in school. 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 will be different now. We have finished the Unlocking letters and Sounds phonics programme as a class, but we will continue to use it to support phonics and reading and some children will be revisiting earlier phases or working on their phonics gaps. As a class, we will move onto our whole school programme for spelling using the website Spelling Shed. (See separate letter with information about the website, your child's login and weekly task expectations)

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 an after school club on a Thursday this term, and staff meetings are Wednesdays, so Monday 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

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

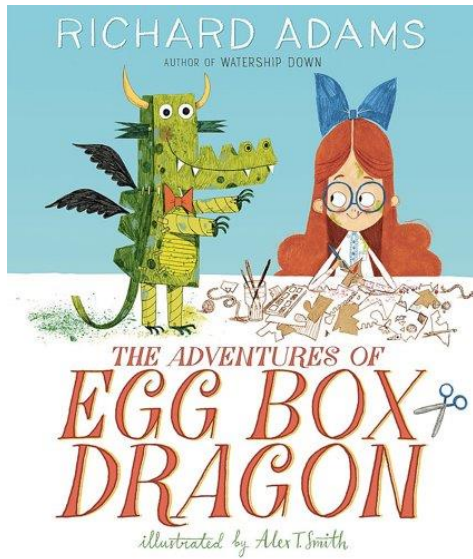
We are Frome Vale Citizens

This term's value is contribution. Our question to explore is 'Why is contribution difficult sometimes?' The learning behaviour is self-evaluation. We will be focusing on identifying our strengths and weaknesses and exploring ways to set goals. The value and learning behaviour are both 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 focus for this term is multiplication and division. The topic introduces the concepts of repeated addition of equal groups of for multiplication and the sharing of equal groups for division. It also uses vocabulary of 'How many groups of ___ are there in ___?' It secures concepts, explores a variety of methods and covers lots of opportunity for reasoning and problem solving. 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



This engaging book about a home crafted egg box dragon who comes to life will no doubt inspire some wonderful creative writing and bring meaning and purpose to their work. Descriptions using noun phrases, stories 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

The children will be taught reading comprehension skills as a class. Each day, a selection of children read with the teacher while others complete reading activities independently. Then we learn reading skills as a class and share a text together. Some of our texts will be linked to our learning in science and history.

On Fridays, we enjoy book club, where they can choose books from the class shelf, topic related books or dive into our large pile of National Geographic Kids magazines. During the day, we enjoy stories together and develop our love of reading.

We are scientists




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

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.

In addition to our trip to the SS Great Britain, 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 events have shaped the world they live in.

<p>wonderful woodland area to investigate microhabitats and record our findings. We will learn about herbivores, carnivores, omnivores and understand food chains in different habitats.</p>	
<p>We are athletes</p> <p>On a Tuesday 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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>We are artists</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Our art week focus will be printing, using every day materials and natural resources. The final project is making a clay block to use for printing. We will work in the style of established artists as well as creating our own inspired ideas.</p> 
<p>We are linguists</p> <p>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 a and the to use the phrase I can play...</p>	<p>We are philosophers</p> <p>On RE day at the end of term 3, 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.</p>
<p>We are musicians</p> <p>Our music day on the first week back will be an exciting day of composition. Having recapped the elements of music in term 1 and developed use of notation in term 2,</p>	<p>We are computer scientists</p> <p>In this unit, children learn to gather data and create digital pictograms and charts to display and interpret results. We will be linking this learning to our maths and</p>

<p>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.</p>	<p>science to create and interpret meaningful data.</p>
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