

Year 3 – INFORMATION FOR TERM 1

If you want to contact us, you can:

- Email or call the school office (this is usually the quickest option)
- Email us directly using year3@fva.clf.uk which is checked once a week
- Speak to us face to face at the end of the day once all of the children have been collected.

Please use the following link for home learning tasks and other useful class information:

<https://fromevalecitizens.wordpress.com/year-3/>

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 3! I am truly excited to welcome all of our Frome Vale Citizens in September.

We are Readers

The children will all be provided with new reading records and reading books in September.

- You should read with your child at least **2 times a week and record the date, title (book or other read material) and your comment.**

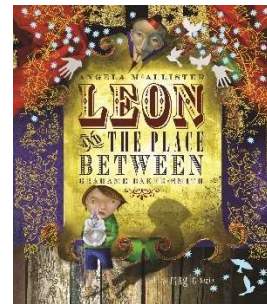
*Research shows us that parental engagement is consistently associated with pupils' success at school. Two recent meta-analyses suggest that increasing parental engagement in primary and secondary schools had on average **two to three months' positive impact and progress (EEF, 2020).***

This is truly amazing data and I am so excited to share in your children's successes this year.

- Though this is not a typical occurrence at Frome Vale Academy, if there is an insufficient number of reads recorded in the reading log (less than 2) or the reading log is not available at school, children will catch up on their reading over lunchtime on Friday, where they will be supervised by an adult while reading their levelled book, after they have enjoyed their school dinners and packed lunches. **This procedure is part of our KS2 reading and home learning policy.**
- If your child reads **4 times a week** they will get a house point, so this is something to aim for on a weekly basis as all 'houses' work towards various rewards throughout the year.
- Please make sure that your child brings their book bag, reading log and reading books every day.
- Children will be able to borrow both fiction and non-fiction books to read for pleasure at home, if they wish.
- I have attached home reading support materials to this newsletter.

We are Writers

In Term 1, we will be reading 'Leon and the Place Between' by Angela McCallister.



We will write our own narratives, focussing on the character, setting and the build-up of the story and using vocabulary to engage the reader.

We will continue to work on sentence structure, revisit sentence boundaries, the use of full stops and commas. In addition to that, we will begin our work on subordinate clauses and fronted adverbials of manner, place and time and the correct punctuation of complex sentence.

Later this term, we will work towards writing non-chronological reports based on our History wider curriculum focus.

We are Athletes

PE is going to be taught on a Mondays and Fridays. Please ensure that children have a PE kit in school on that day. Kit can be left in school or taken home, whichever you prefer. Please label all items of clothing.

If you have any questions about your child or what we are doing in class, please feel free to speak with us in the playground before or after school or alternatively telephone the office for an appointment.

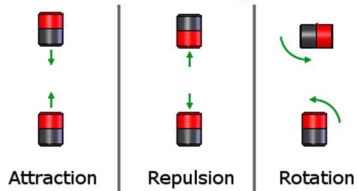
We are Historians

In History, we are learning about the European Explorers. Our key question this term is 'Was exploration a good thing?'. We will be answering that question by studying the timeline of exploration of South and Central America, learning about John Cabot and the discovery of Newfoundland and investigating the role of Bristol and its merchants.

We are Scientists

In Science, we are learning about forces and magnets. This term's concept is physics. We will be learning to compare how things move on different surfaces, investigating contact and non-contact forces and grouping everyday materials on the basis of whether they are attracted to a magnet.

Green Arrows Indicate Magnetic Forces



We are Artists

This term we are going to explore line, patterns, texture, tone, form and colour. We will also continue to experiment with a variety of malleable media, such as clay.

We are Mathematicians

In Maths this term we are building on our knowledge from year two of number and place value. We will be learning to solve problems with 3-digit numbers, and to count in intervals of 1000.

Will continue to work on addition and subtraction, using written and mental methods to solve calculations with 3-digit numbers. We will be focussing on our ability to explain and prove our answers in a variety of ways.

By the end of year 3, your child should know their 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables and related division facts so we will be practising our times tables on a weekly basis playing TTRS and daily in 'Mathsmagicians' sessions.

Please practise on TTRS using your individual log-in details at least twice a week.

<https://trockstars.com/>

We are Frome Vale Citizens

This term's learning behaviour is Motivation. The FVA value is Friendship. Our Jigsaw focus this term is 'Being Me', where children will explore their roles in the wider world, celebrate things they are good at and set goals for the academic year.

We are Home Learners

The Love of Learning

-In addition to home reading, your child will have **Love of Learning** tasks to complete each week, in order to support and enrich their learning in school.

-You can access your child's home learning tasks by following the link to the year 3 WordPress page:

<https://fromevalecitizens.wordpress.com/year-3/>

-Every Friday, your child will receive 1 task linked to their reading, 1 task linked to the wider curriculum or maths and a spelling task. They will complete these tasks in their 'Love of Learning' books every week and return these to their teacher by the following Friday.

-Though I am absolutely certain that Year 3 children will be receiving the highest level of home support and engagement next year, if the Love of Learning tasks are not handed in or completed by Friday (or another day specified on the Love of Learning page), they will complete these independently over lunchtime on Friday, where they will be supervised by an adult after they have enjoyed their school dinners and packed lunches. **This procedure is part of our KS2 reading and home learning policy designed to encourage independence, responsibility and KS2 and KS3 'readiness'. It is our expectation that Year 3 children will be able to fully engage with all Love of Learning tasks independently by the beginning of Year 3.**

7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

- 1** Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

- 2** Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

- 3** Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

- 4** Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

- 5** Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

- 6** Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

- 7** Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

Enjoy reading with TRUST

T Take turns to make predictions



R Recap to check ideas & understanding

U Use encouragement and praise



S Share prior knowledge & past experiences

T Tune-in and listen. Be curious with your child





Supporting Readers at Home



Open University research suggests there are three important ways to support readers and a love of reading.



Reading aloud to your children shows them reading is a pleasure, not a chore. Older children can read to younger ones too.



Making time to read alongside one another helps develop children's reading stamina and interest. Let them choose what to read and relax together.



Book Chats encourage readers. Invite them to make connections and share their views. Join in with your thoughts too!



Children who read, and are supported as readers, develop strong reading skills and do better at school.



For more ideas see the OU website: <https://www.researchinpedagogy.org>

