

Year 1 – Information for Term 1

If you wish to make contact, you can:

- Email (info@fva.clf.uk) or telephone (0117 3532902) the school office.
- Send a message on Dojo.
- Speak face to face at the end of the day, once all of the children have been collected.

Dear parents / Carers,

Welcome to Term 1 of Year 1!

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

We are Learners

The progress of each child is tracked throughout his/her time at school. Termly, teachers meet with SLT and support staff to look at individual attainment and progress in assessments and classwork.

We are Readers

Children will be provided with a reading record and a levelled reading book, as well as a Love of Learning book to enjoy at home.

We are Writers

This term, we will begin by exploring a new book called 'Beegu' by Alexis Deacon. It is a wonderful story about a little alien who crash-lands on Earth and becomes separated from her mummy and family. As she searches for friendship and a place where she belongs, she finds kindness, refuge and acceptance from a group of children in a school playground.

This imaginative story provides excellent opportunities for discussions about friendship, welcoming others, respect and inclusion. It will also inspire us to write engaging character descriptions, setting descriptions and our own creative stories. In addition, we will be learning how to write a recount, developing our ability to retell events in a clear and organised way.

- Please read with your child **at least three times each week** and record this in their reading log.
- Please ensure that your child brings their **book bag, reading record and reading books to school every day.**
- Children will have the opportunity to borrow both fiction and non-fiction books to read for pleasure at home.
- Library books are changed every Friday. Please make sure your child returns their current library book so that they can choose a new one.

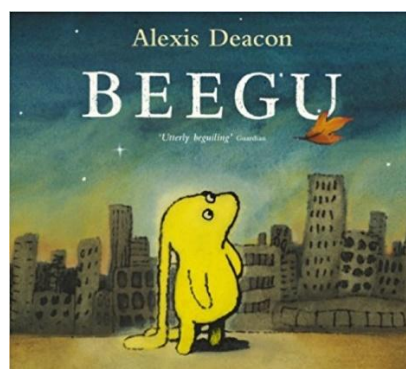
We are Athletes

We have **Forest Skills on Thursday mornings and PE on Tuesday afternoons.**

- Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their **PE kit on Tuesdays and Thursdays.**
- Children should also have a pair of wellies in school for our Forest Skills sessions if they have not already brought them in.
- Please make sure that all clothing and footwear are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Through our work with Beegu, we will continue to develop our speaking and listening skills while building our confidence as writers. We will focus on our "Every Time We Write" expectations:

- Capital letters
- Full stops
- Finger spaces
- Presentation, handwriting and letter formation



We are Frome Vale Citizens

This term, our Frome Vale Citizens topic is 'Being Me'. Through this topic, we will be learning about:

- Understanding what makes us special and how to stay safe in our classroom.
- Knowing that we belong and are valued members of our class community.
- Learning how to make our classroom a safe, welcoming and inclusive space for everyone.

We are Mathematicians

In Mathematics this term, we will be focusing on numbers within 100. This will be a highly practical block of learning, using a range of resources, equipment and hands-on activities to help children develop a secure understanding of number.

We will be learning to:

- Count forwards and backwards within 100.
- Count objects arranged in regular and irregular groups.
- Understand the concepts of more and fewer.
- Find one more and one less than a given number.
- Identify smaller numbers within a number.
- Partition numbers into different parts.

We will encourage children to explain their thinking and apply their knowledge and skills in a variety of ways. They will be challenged to use their understanding to solve unfamiliar problems, develop reasoning skills and build confidence in their mathematical thinking.

We are Historians

- Recognising and celebrating our achievements and feeling proud of what we have accomplished.

Our school value this term is **Respect**, and our learning behaviour focus is **Motivation and Aspiration**. We will encourage children to show respect for themselves, others and their environment, while developing the confidence and determination to achieve their very best.

We are Scientists

Our Science topic this term is 'Seasonal Change'. We will be learning about the four seasons and exploring how the weather changes throughout the year.

We will learn to:

- Name and identify the four seasons.
- Observe and describe different types of weather.
- Understand how weather patterns are linked to the seasons.
- Recognise changes in the natural environment across the year.
- Ask simple scientific questions and explore possible answers.

Through a range of outdoor learning opportunities, children

Through this unit, children will begin to develop their understanding of the past and how life has changed over time. We will explore different sources of information and learn how they can help us find out about people, events and experiences from the past.

We will be learning to:

- Sequence events in chronological order on a timeline.
- Understand and describe different generations within a family.
- Compare aspects of life in the past with life today.
- Use photographs, objects and stories to learn about the past.
- Develop historical vocabulary such as past, present, before, after and generation.

Through discussions and practical activities, children will build their understanding of how society has changed over time and how historians use evidence to find out about the past.

We are Home Learners

will make observations, gather information and develop their curiosity about the world around them. They will be encouraged to ask questions, share their ideas and use their observations to help answer scientific questions.

We are Artists

As artists this term, we will be learning about Drawing. We will be studying the work of Keith Haring and exploring how artists use lines to create different effects. Children will experiment with a range of drawing media and learn how to vary the thickness, direction and style of the lines they create.

We will be learning to:

- Explore line using a variety of drawing materials.
- Create lines of different thicknesses, lengths and directions.
- Develop an understanding of **tone** by experimenting with light and dark shades.
- Explore and investigate different **textures**.
- Take inspiration from Keith Haring's artwork to create our own pieces.

Through practical activities, children will develop their observational skills, creativity and

- To support your child's learning at home, please help them to complete the following activities each week:
- Reading practice (ideally every day, with a minimum of three times per week).
- Play Numbots online for at least 20 minutes per week.
- Practise weekly spellings.
- Practise phonic sounds and Common Exception Words that have been taught in school.
- Regular practice at home helps to build confidence, improve fluency and support the learning taking place in the classroom. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child to become a confident and enthusiastic learner.

confidence in using different artistic techniques.

