



Year 2, Term 1

Newsletter

Welcome to Year 2. I am Mrs Pakrooh, many of you may know me already because I have taught here for 7 years and I have taught many of your older children. For those of you who don't know me, I usually teach in Years 5 and 6 but after having some fabulous SATs results in Year 6 the past two years, I thought it would be a fun and exciting change to teach a younger year group for a change.

This year, we are starting to use class Dojo, we will be posting homework, newsletters, pictures of the learning and more on the class page. You can also use it to email me if you have any questions or questions that I cannot deal with at drop off or collection.

The term has started well and it has been a pleasure to start to get to know your children. I think we are going to have an excellent year, full of adventurous stories, thoughtful discussions and plenty of smiles and cuddles.

Usual information

PE is on a Tuesday afternoon and a Wednesday morning this term, the children should come to school on those days in their PE kit.

Please make sure that children's clothes are labelled with their names so that we can return lost or misplaced items.

Levelled reading books (Level 18 plus) can be changed by the children on the day they read to me in class. Decodable books (labelled 4a, 5c etc) need to be changed with the help of an adult (me) and therefore I will do all children on decodable books on a Friday.

Year 2 does not currently have a TA so I am by myself, this means that I don't have anyone to help me with administrative tasks such as changing books or practical tasks such as getting coats on and changing clothes etc. Please bear with me if this does not always run smoothly.

Important notice

We have an upcoming trip to the Suspension Bridge on 15th October 2024, it is free but I am currently looking for a few parent volunteers. Please email me via Dojo or speak to me outside if you are able to help.

I will be absent from school for one week this term from the middle of week 3 to the middle of week 4. This is very unusual and will not be a regular occurrence so please do not be concerned about that. I do lead a number of subjects at the school: History, Geography, RE and Oracy, I am also completing a NPQ in senior leadership and so these do sometimes take me out of class to complete training or to complete my wider duties and responsibilities. It would not normally me for more than 2 or 3 days a term.

While I am off, learning and daily routines will continue as normal. I have posted a pdf of the termly timetable on Class Dojo as the very first entry on the chat. My PPA time is Tuesday afternoons and the class will be taught by Miss Reed during that time. At Frome Vale, subject leadership time is on a Monday afternoon and so the other afternoon you may sometimes find I am not there at collection on a Monday and that will be because I have been doing leadership responsibilities out of class.

Reading:

All children need to bring their reading book and reading record in to school every day. They will read daily in school and once a week to a school adult (sometimes more if we can find the time to squeeze it in).

It is the school's expectation that children read at least twice every week at home. We recommend 10 minutes every day to really give children the best opportunities to develop their confidence in reading.

Love of Learning:

Love of learning work will be set on a Friday to be returned by the following Thursday. This will include spellings to learn for the following week, some reading comprehension and maths. There is also a selection of optional extras e.g. science, art or topic work.

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

We are Frome Vale Citizens

This term's value is respect and the learning behaviour is motivation and aspiration. These are covered in class sessions and whole school assemblies. We also cover safeguarding, hold a discussion on the termly debate question and read

We are mathematicians

The term starts with a revisit of number and place value before moving on to addition and subtraction.

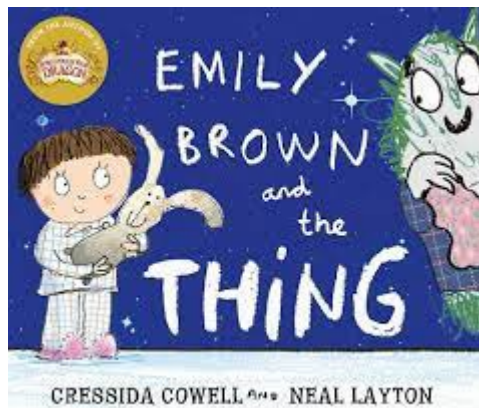
Our maths lessons are a mixture of visual, practical, spoken and written mathematics. Children have opportunities to 'show' their

our No Outsiders book, which this term is The Big Book of Families. This book helps the children to be aware of how their family set up may be the same or different to others' and to be both understanding and respectful of differences. In weekly Jigsaw sessions, the children will be thinking about 'Me in My World'.

understanding, use it to 'solve' calculations/problems and then 'prove' something using mathematical reasoning and vocabulary.

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

We are writers



Emily Brown finds a 'Thing' crying on her windowsill. It is scared of the dark, scared of 'things' and doesn't know what it is. Emily and her favourite toy rabbit, Stanley, go on adventures to help the Thing with his worries and make everything ok. We will be using this text as a stimulus for a variety of writing tasks such as character and setting descriptions, potion making instructions and their own adapted adventure story to help a Thing.

We will also be writing a factual report about polar bears.

Handwriting, spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be at the heart of our writing sessions. (Year 2 is when we expect the majority of

We are readers

We have a lovely book corner in our room, which the children can freely access.

The children will read their own levelled or decodeable books with an adult in school.. Reading comprehension is taught as a whole class every afternoon apart from book club on Fridays, where the children can choose books from the class shelf, the library, topic related books or dive into our large pile of National Geographic Kids and Aquilla magazines.

We will be reading The Hodgeheg by Dick King Smith and Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl, both of which are great stories to share at the end off the day.

Phonics

Phonics will continue daily and we will be revising phase 5 phonics sounds with alternative spellings for known sounds. (oi/oy, ow/ou, ur/er, er/ir, or/aw/au, ai/ay/a-eee/ea/e-e/ey, igh/ie/i-e, oa/oe/o-e, oo/ew/ue/u-e(oo), ew/ue/u-e(you)) Spellings will be set each week related to the sound/sounds we have been revising.

children to start joining their handwriting when they are ready).

We are scientists



Chemistry:

The children will be learning that everything, including them, is made from atoms. They will be learning at the states of matter and the properties of the states of the matter.

There will be a mixture of scientific knowledge and scientific skills throughout the topic.

We are historians

The Victorian era will be the focus of our history lessons. From daily life, schooling, workhouses and the growth of Bristol, to key people who made an impact to society, we will be examining resources, finding answers to our questions and recognising the contribution of this time in our history both then and in society today.

We have a visit from the Muller Museum and a trip to the Suspension Bridge (built by Brunel).



We are athletes

PE is Tuesdays and Wednesdays
On a Wednesday, we will focus on core PE skills which help develop balance, agility and coordination. Our focus this term is the 'personal' cog. All activities are designed for children to follow physical instructions, persevere when something is tricky and work in a zone of challenge in order to accomplish new skills.
On Tuesdays, we will develop our skills in striking a ball with a racket or

We are artists

Our skill focus this term in art will be 3D art and we will be building up through our sessions to create a 3D sculpture. Our sessions will help the children to analyse and reflect on sculptures, experiment with materials and stages of the process before planning and creating their own work of art. To help keep the stages of the the creative process, Art is delivered over the course of one week near the end of the term.

bat. Our focus will be coordination, accuracy and intent so that we can score points in a variety of striking games.

We are linguists

Bonjour la class! In French we will be learning to greet each other, ask how the other person is, say how we are and say goodbye. We will learn class room instructions and the core language skills of listening, reading and speaking will be delivered through fun games and role play. Tres bien!

RE and Music Days

During the term there will be a whole school RE day and a whole school music day. Our focus throughout the school in RE is on special books and people. In our learning about Judaism, we will explore the importance of the 10 commandments to Jews in the time of Abraham and now. In music, we will be learning the 7 core musical elements (structure, tempo, duration, dynamics, pitch, texture and timbre) ready to use these in other music days throughout the year.