

Year 2 Term 1 Class Newsletter

Welcome back to school, and welcome to Year 2!

I look forward to getting to know all of you over the next few weeks. Please find the information relevant to our learning this term.

The weekly timetable, which shows what we intend to happen in a 'normal' week, is also available on Class Dojo. We will let you know if there are any changes to the timetable, and you can also check this on the weekly overview shared each week.

All children need to bring their reading book and reading record in to school **every day**, please.

Our PE days are **Monday** and **Tuesday**; children should come into school in their PE kits on these days.

Love of Learning

Every week, Year 2 children should do the following as part of their Love of Learning at home:

- Read at least three times with a home adult – please be sure to sign your child's reading record with any key messages when you read. Reading records are checked every week.
- Practise and learn the spellings of the common exception words below:

oh	their	people	Mr	Mrs
looked	called	asked	water	where
who	again	thought	through	mouse
work	many	laughed	because	different
any	eyes	friends	once	please

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- Spend 20 minutes on NumBots (<https://play.numbots.com/#/account/search-school>) – please let me know if you need a reminder of your log in details.
- Over the course of the term, please also have a go at the tasks from the Love of Learning grid. Please bring your projects in during the last week of term. The Love of Learning grid is also available as a separate file on Class Dojo.

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

We are Frome Vale Citizens This term's value is friendship, and our learning behaviour is motivation. We will also be learning about 'Being Me in My World', including hopes and fears for the year, identifying the rights and responsibilities of being in our class and creating a class charter that will inform our year. We will recap what it means to be a Frome Vale Citizen through everything we do in school. Our No Outsiders book this term is the Great Big Book of Families by Mary Hoffman. We will use the text as a starting off point to understand different families and diversity. In our oracy learning this term, we will be focussing especially on listening carefully to each other, inviting others to contribute and speaking with confidence in front of the class.	We are mathematicians We will start by understanding the numbers 10-100, including counting in and adding multiples of 10. Children will be introduced to the concept of place value and begin to use the language 'tens' and 'ones' to represent 2-digit numbers. (For example, 47 is 4 tens and 7 ones). We will consolidate our understanding of calculations within 10 and begin to link this to calculations within 20, including using different contexts such as statistics and graphs to solve problems using these numbers. Every lesson, children have opportunities to 'show' their understanding using pictures or physical resources, use their knowledge to 'solve' calculations and problems and then 'prove' something using mathematical reasoning and vocabulary.
We are writers We will be using the text 'Emily Brown and the Thing' to inspire our writing this term. We will use the text to explore the past and progressive past tense and simple noun phrases. Our fiction outcome will be an innovated scene in the story and our non-fiction outcome will be to write a non-chronological report based on our learning as historians. We will focus on orally rehearsing sentences to ensure we can recall write with increasing independence, using our phonics and knowledge of alternative sounds and spellings to spell with accuracy. We will also spend time consolidating basic sentence punctuation such as capital letters at the start and full stop at the end, every time we write. We will practise handwriting three times a week, first of all to secure the size of lower case and capital letters. Children will start to write the date and learning intention into their writing books to practise.	We are readers We will be focussing on recapping Phase 5 phonics daily, so that children are secure in their understanding of digraphs and alternative spellings and sounds. Our whole class guided reading lessons in Year 2 take place three times a week, with children reading one text over the course of those days. This allows children to read with increasing fluency as they become familiar with the text type and vocabulary. The texts are chosen in line with learning we may be completing in the wider curriculum. This term, many texts relate to our learning as historians about the Victorians. We identify key vocabulary and teach discrete reading skills, such as inference or retrieval, to help children understand the text. On the final day, the children are familiar with the text and can answer different questions relating to it. Some children may have additional phonics keep-up interventions to support them to make accelerated progress in their reading.

We are scientists

We will be learning about Chemistry this term, understanding that all matter in the universe is made of atoms and that these can be classified into solids, liquids and gases. We will explore the difference between these states of matter and how these states can be changed through heating and cooling.

We are historians

We will be learning about the Victorians this term, showing an understanding of when the Victorian Era was and some key events that happened during it. We will learn about the life of Queen Victoria, the Industrial Revolution, and how life was different for Victorian children.

We are lucky to have many local resources and examples of life and change during the Victorian Era in Bristol.

We are athletes

As athletes we will be practising our reaction skills and changing footwork quickly, as well as static balances on one leg. The children will have an outdoor PE session every Monday with a sports coach, to teach them different skills used in different sports.

We are musicians

As musicians we will learn about the elements of music, such as pitch, timbre, dynamics and tempo. We will play games and listen to music and instruments to help us understand these elements.

We are artists

We will be exploring the skill of drawing this term, through elements of line and shape, tone and form, pattern and texture, and colour. We will use different media, such as charcoal, graded pencils and oil pastels to help us identify how artists use their drawing skills to effect. We will focus on the artwork of Elizabeth Terhune, particularly her charcoal drawings, to appraise and inspire our own art pieces.

We are computer scientists

We will be learning about different forms of Information Technology as computer scientists this term, including recognising what technology we may find at school and at home, compared with public spaces. We will begin to discuss how to use IT safely.

We are linguists

We will be learning how to ask and answer basic greetings in French, such as, 'What is your name?' 'How are you?' and 'Where do you live?' We will also explore the European Day of Languages to celebrate the many different languages that are spoken across the continent.

We are philosophers

Towards the end of term, we will learn about Special Books and People, focussing on Judaism and The Torah. We will explore the promises made in The Torah and the Ten Commandments to help us understand the relationship between Jewish people and God.