

Frampton Cotterell CE Primary School.

October Newsletter.

Dear Parents,

School Development Plan

As you are probably aware, we draw up a school improvement plan each year. We have 5 main areas to focus on over the coming year. These are:-

1. **Continued improvement of Teaching and Learning**. This will result in a new Teaching and Learning Policy which should be available for parents in the New Year. Teaching and Learning is the focus of our INSET day in November.
2. **Improved teaching and learning in ICT**. We have purchased a considerable amount of software to ensure our resources are up to date and can deliver the curriculum the children need to equip them for secondary school. Our first INSET day this year was to introduce an improved ICT curriculum, and staff will receive training throughout the year on different software packages. We are very grateful to the PTA (Friends) for the funds raised to buy new netbooks for the pupils to use. Hopefully we will be able to add to these as the year progresses.
3. **Continuing to raise standards in writing**. We have introduced some excellent strategies in writing over the last 2 years which we will work to consolidate this year. We will also give pupils more opportunities to write and practice their skills. We are introducing prizes each term for the most improved handwriting in each Year group (from Year 1 to 6), and one for the most improved writer of the term. Pupils will be awarded a cup or shield to keep for the term.
4. **Embedding accurate assessment which informs planning**. We have now introduced Assessing Pupil Progress (APP) in Reading, Writing and Numeracy. This gives teachers and pupils accurate information about the levels they are working at and also enables teachers to easily identify next steps in learning. Throughout the year, we plan in opportunities for staff to meet together to moderate work in order to ensure consistency in standards and judgments through the school.
5. **Developing pupil's understanding of cultural diversity locally, nationally and globally**. We will increase the number and range of visitors coming into school to take part in lessons or Assemblies. Each class will have a slot during the week where they learn about a different part of the country or world. This will often be done through current affairs in Key Stage 2. We will continue to run our 'One World Week', but this year the focus will be 'The World on our Doorstep'

If you would like further information about any of these points, please don't hesitate to contact me.

One world week

This is being held the week of 7th November.

Key stage 1:- our aim is for pupils to be aware of people from all over the world living around them in Frampton Cotterell.

Please can you help? If you, or your parents or grandparents are from another country, or if you have live abroad for any period of time we would love to hear from you. Would you be willing to visit sometime during the week to talk to a class about your experiences?

Year 3 & 4:- our aim is for pupils to be aware of the wide variety children of other nationalities and cultures in Yate and Bristol.

Year 5 & 6:- our aim is for children to be aware of the diversity of cultures and nationalities in Britain.

Homework

I thought it might be helpful to clarify homework expectations for different year groups this year:-

Year 5/6 – formal Literacy and Numeracy tasks each week. The Numeracy task will often include a task to complete using our new Mathletics software. *
Weekly spellings and daily reading.

Year 3/4 – weekly spellings, daily reading, learning multiplication tables, a choice of tasks from a termly list (with a minimum number indicated) and the opportunity to complete Mathletics tasks.*

Year 1/2 – weekly spellings, daily reading, a choice of tasks from a termly list (with a minimum number specified) and the opportunity to complete Mathletics tasks.*

* Pupils unable to access a computer at home will be able to complete this during the lunch break each Monday.

Please note that levels in the Mathletics software do not correspond to National curriculum levels.

Eco school green flag award

Some of you may have noticed our splendid new eco flag being displayed on the school fence. Our eco reps, Mrs Francis and Mr Bruce (our caretaker) have worked really hard to successfully renew our green flag award. Well done to them for all their efforts.

Harvest

Thank you so much to everyone who generously supported our Harvest appeal for the homeless. Our total pants and socks collection was 205 pairs!

Harvest Service – Sunday 2nd October 2011

After the service on Sunday there was a Cannon Powershot A460 camera left in Church. If it is yours please contact Mel Summers – Church Warden on 01454 773478

Jeans for Genes

Friday 7th October is Jeans for Genes day. The children may wear jeans (or other trousers of their choice) for £1.

OSCARS VACANCIES

We provide a “home from home” for children before and after school hours, and playschemes in the holidays.

We currently have two vacancies,

Playworker – hours Mon/Tues/Thurs 7.30am – 9am
Friday 3pm – 5pm

This role involves supervising children, assisting in providing breakfast and refreshments, and helping children with any activities they choose.

Ideally qualified to Level 2 in Childcare, and would also suit someone at college studying childcare. Do you know anyone like this?

Cleaner – one hour a day, either 9am – 10am, or 2pm – 3pm.

General cleaning duties, but the position also requires cleaning throughout the school holidays.

We would consider job share for either vacancy.

Please contact Pam Bailey in the Oscars building, or phone 01454 250528 for further details.

Cycle Shed Safety

We have been informed by the Police Schools Officer that there has been a significant increase in the reported theft of cycles. They have asked us to pass on this advice to parents:-

- where possible store your bicycle out of sight
- secure it to a solid structure with a good lock and chain
- mark it with your postcode/house number and keep a record of the frame number

The police recommend products that are Sold Secure. Check out www.soldsecure.com for certified cycle locks which come in bronze, silver and gold standards with bronze being the recommended minimum standard

Lunch Money

Lunch is £1.70 per day, £8.50 per week

Amount for October = £25.50 (15 days)

Amount for November = £35.70 (21 days)

Amount for December = £20.40 (12 days)

Head Lice

There have been an increasing number of cases of Head Lice since the beginning of the new term. A letter with useful information has been circulated but please keep vigilant we understand that treating head lice can be difficult so I have downloaded some information from the NHS website that you may find useful.

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Treatment.aspx>

Friendship day

On Monday 10th October, children will be learning about friendship and conflict resolution. Key Stage 1 will be watching a theatre production in the morning. Parents are asked for a voluntary contribution of £2.50 to cover the shortfall in booking cost. Please hand money to the school office

Parents evening

The first parents evening this year will be on Tues 18th and Weds 19th October. A separate letter has been issued earlier in the week. Please make every effort to attend to support your child in their learning.

Key Stage 2 Carol service

Please note the date of this has been changed to Tuesday 13th December at 6p.m.

Replacement of cladding

The second stage of building work from the local authority grant is due to start in half term week. We are having replacement cladding on the whole of the 2 storey section of the building. This will be a huge improvement, not only in terms of appearance, but also in heating costs and comfort for pupils and staff. The new windows will have a transparent film to reduce the heat from the sun, and will be draught proof in the winter.

Unfortunately there is no way to avoid yet more disruption to pupils in that section of the building.

Please note that disrupted classes will be taught in the Library for the following dates:-

Miss Wright's class (Class 3) Weds 2nd Nov – Friday 4th Nov

Mr Barnard's class (Class 6) Mon 7th Nov – Fri 11th Nov

Miss Sheikh's class (class 4) Mon 14th Nov – Fri 18th Nov

Mr Needham's class (class 10) Mon 21st Nov – Fri 25th Nov

Children will not be allowed into their classroom for any reason during these times for their safety. Please ensure that all PE kits etc are taken home ready for their week in the library. Miss Denning's class will be unaffected by the work.

Bluebell planting

A huge thanks to all the parents and grandparents who helped with the mammoth bluebell planting expedition last week. It was a shame that it was so incredibly hot. With the benefit of hindsight, it would have been better to have only taken the older Key Stage 1 children as some of the younger ones found it quite taxing. Hopefully, they will know they helped to improve the local area once they see the flowers growing.

INSET days

Monday 31st October and Tues 1st November are INSET days. Pupils return to school on Weds 2nd November. **Please note that swimming will start for Class 7 on the first Weds back – details to follow**

Dates for diary:-

6th Oct Half year 2 play4life
7th Oct Jeans for Genes
7th Oct Friends (PTA) family disco
8th Oct Baly's Cream jazz band
10th Oct Friendship Day
10th Oct Y6 height and weight check
11th Oct tulip photos (individual and siblings)
12th Oct Y3/4 trip to M shed
12th Oct Councillor Mike Drew talking to Y5/6
13th Oct Girl's football tournament (Yate)
13th Oct Half Y2 to play4life
14th Oct Class 6 Assembly – parents welcome 9:15a.m.
15th Oct Tulip photos – to book a slot please see Deb Roberts (Friends)
18th Oct Parents evening
19th Oct Parents evening
21st Oct final day of term 1
31st Oct INSET
1st Nov INSET
2nd Nov Class 7 swimming
7th Nov Friends textile recycling
7th Nov Friends meeting 7p.m.
8th Nov Kevin Ogborne (disabled athlete) workshops with Y5/6
10th Nov KS2 choir workshop in Thornbury
11th Nov Class 10 Assembly – parents welcome 9:15a.m.
18th Nov Disco (Friends)
25th Nov whole school to panto at Winterbourne International academy
2nd Dec Christmas fair
4th Dec Christingle service 4p.m.
6th Dec Nativity to parents (afternoon)
7th Dec Nativity to parents (morning)
15th Dec Christmas dinner
15th Dec Big Sing WIA 7-9p.m.
16th Dec last day of term 2
18th Dec St Peter's carol service
3rd Jan children return to school

Best wishes,

Mrs Rosie Brydon.
Headteacher