



Frome Valley First School News Weekly



Welcome Back

We are delighted to welcome all the children back to school after the summer break and also our new Reception Class and their families. It's wonderful to have a sense of normality back to school life, with the children all being together at break and lunchtime and not a bubble in sight!

Later this week, we will have our first collective worship together in the hall and our first Friday morning singing practice. Small things that have not been able to take place for the past eighteen months.

We are planning events for the year and will send home full details to parents as soon as possible. Obviously, things may change as the term unfolds but until then we will remain positive that school life is back as we all want it.

Star of the Week

Every week, all teachers choose a child from their class that is

'Star of the Week'

They are chosen for a number of reasons that include:

Attitude in class; good citizenship and outstanding behaviour.

Each week, in News Weekly, we will let parents know who the 'stars' are for the following week.



Congratulations to the following children that are the 'Stars' for this week.

Year 1: Freddie D

Year 2: Toby

Year 3: Alfie

Year 4: Ollie

Reception Class: Miss Padfield will start to choose her 'Stars' after half term, when the children have settled in.

Breakfast Club and Happy Valley

Breakfast Club and Happy Valley are both up and running. If you would like to book your child into either of these, please contact the school office. After half term, we hope to reintroduce some different after school activities.

Covid-19: A reminder of what happens if there is a positive case in school

We thought that it would be useful to remind parents of what happens if a child or adult tests positive to Covid-19. We have new guidance to follow from the DfE. The guidance is as follows:

Tracing close contacts and isolation

Settings only needed to do contact tracing up to and including 18 July. Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.

As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. You may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a [PCR test](#). We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.

Do contact the school if you have any further questions.

PTFA News

Looking back and looking forward!

Welcome back everyone or a warm 'welcome' to all parents and carers new to Frome Valley. Last year was a challenging one for the PTFA team with dwindling Committee numbers, additional lockdowns plus continued Covid restrictions within school hindering our usual fund-raising programme. However, we continued to both raise money and raise a smile.



Last academic year we managed to make a **whopping £2500**. Thank you all for your support. We held our annual sponsored event - this time an Easter Bunny Hop - which raised £1076. Our popular Xmas raffle generated £654 in addition to £223 profit from our regular 'design your own Xmas card' fundraiser. Themed dress down days - Wacky Wednesday and Fun PJ Friday – raised £100 each too.

We have also managed to raise an income-stream of £167 from both easyfundraising and Amazon and we recently teamed up with Stikins personalised name labels to gain a 15% commission on all orders made online by parents using the unique code: 36201. Gift Aid also topped up the PTFA piggy-bank by approximately £250 last year.

In terms of grants, we once again applied to the Co-op's Local Community Fund to become one of the causes that shoppers can support when swiping their membership cards. We'll know if we've been chosen by the end of this month to receive money to put towards a new library resource area.

We have been spending too! £1990 in fact! We put £350 towards the school's special week. We covered the coach transport cost for the Year 4's sailing trip £240. £934 helped pay for much-needed Forest School equipment and storage – including a log store. As expected, we also gave ice lollies for all children to enjoy after sports day, purchased class Dojo prizes, gifted Leaver's T-shirts to the Year 4s and gave everyone a Christmas party lunch on the last day of term. We hope that changes in Covid restrictions will once again allow us to bring back our usual programme of fundraising activities this year. Watch this space!

NEW: buy your School Lottery tickets now!

We have joined up with Your School Lottery to launch a brand new weekly online lottery where you could win amazing cash prizes – including a jackpot of £25,000 or a local cash prize which is dependent on the number of tickets sold. The more tickets sold at Frome, the greater the winnings! Our first weekly draw will be on **Saturday 25 September 2021 at 8pm** and our target is to sell 50 tickets. Visit our lottery page,

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/frome-valley-first-school>, register and then either set up a regular direct debit or use a debit card to buy tickets for £1 each. 76% of ticket proceeds go to either the PTFA or into the local cash prize money pot. More information will be sent home in book bags this week.

PTFA Beetle Drive this Friday!

Please come along to Owermoigne Village Hall from 5pm to 7pm this Friday (10 September) for a family Beetle Drive plus a Harvest Tea. It's £3 per adult and £2 per child. All proceeds will go to Frome Valley PTFA - with a donation to the Kingfisher Ward in Dorset County hospital. The PTFA will also be running a raffle.

Please join our team!

We'll soon be announcing our AGM date where we will need to elect and re-elect members of the PTFA Committee. There are now vacancies for both a Chair and Secretary to join Treasurer, Liz, plus two long-standing Committee members Niki (Secretary for four years) and Kerri who are looking to pass on their knowledge to another dedicated team of parents and carers as both of their children are now in Year 4. Please contact the office for more information or email us direct at ptfafromevalley@gmail.com.

Lost Property

We have accumulated a large amount of lost property. All this week, we will place it in the playground before and after school for parents to look through. Anything left at the end of the week, will be recycled.

Inhalers and Medicines

If your child has an inhaler held in school, we will shortly be sending home a new administering of medicine form home for you to complete. Please can this be returned as soon as possible.

Play Equipment

We would like to remind parents that the play equipment in school grounds is not to be used before or after school. Thank you for your help with keeping children off of this.

P.E Kits

Please can all children have a P.E kit in school that contains all weather wear. This needs to be in from Monday to Friday. We will then send all kits home to be washed, every Friday.

Year 1 Trainee Teacher

Once again this year we have a trainee teacher in Year 1. This year, we welcome Mr Pickering to Frome Valley. He will be with us in the autumn and summer terms.

eSchools

eSchools is the platform that we use to email and send text messages to parents. If your child is in the Reception class, you will have been given a letter today, giving details of how to register. If you have already had a login (as you have an older sibling), your login remains the same. If you need help with passwords etc, please speak to the school office.

Quite often, emails from eSchools end up in your spam folder. Please look here as well!

Absence From School Requests

A gentle reminder that absences from school (holiday) requests, will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Any absences of ten half days, during a twelve week period will receive a penalty notice. Don't forget that we have a ten day break for our October, half term. An ideal time for a holiday.

Nut Free School Lunches and Snacks

A reminder to everyone that we are a nut free school. Please ensure that all lunches, snacks and drinks do not contain nuts. Thank you for your help

