



Frome Valley First School & Preschool News Weekly



*"Together, with God's love, we learn,
nurture and grow, without limits."*

Message From Mrs Moore

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are incredibly proud of the progress our children continue to make across the school. Through their hard work, curiosity and determination, pupils are demonstrating strong learning behaviours and making excellent strides in their knowledge and skills. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow over the academic year.

Over recent weeks, the sounds of music and laughter have filled the school as children across all year groups have been busy rehearsing for our May Day dancing celebration on Wednesday 20th May. These rehearsals have brought great excitement and a real sense of togetherness, with pupils supporting one another and embracing this much-loved tradition with enthusiasm.

Alongside all this, our pupils have also been showing tremendous compassion and community spirit by fundraising for Miles for Mosaic, a charity close to our hearts. The children have approached this with kindness and determination, showing that they understand the importance of helping others and making a positive difference. We are extremely proud of their efforts and generosity.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.
Have a wonderful weekend.
Mrs Moore

Stars of the Week



Reception	Leo and Imogen
Year 1	Tommy and River
Year 2	Rex and Kingsley
Year 3	Hunter and Albert
Year 4	Willow and George

Diary Dates 2026 – 2027

Just to let everyone know the dates for the next academic year, including INSET days are now on the school website. They are on the calendar page plus available via the following link.

<https://www.frome.wessex.ac/key-information/term-dates>

Miles for Mosaic

On Wednesday, we took part in our annual fundraising event for Mosaic (a children's bereavement charity based in Dorset) by running as far as we could around the playground. For each lap we did, we received a cube which we put in a pot with our name on it. Every 20 cubes = a mile. The whole school took part from Pre-School to Year 4, with teachers and parents joining in the fun too! Everyone had such a great time raising money for an extremely important charity. All children embodied our school value of perseverance perfectly - never giving up even when they got tired or hot or had a stitch! It was the best year yet! As a whole school we ran 282.5 miles - that's roughly the distance from Crossways to Newcastle or Crossways to Paris!

A special well done to Minnie, Ivy and Oliver who have currently raised the most money on our Just Giving Page. Please keep all donations coming! The current total is **£351**.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/frome-valley-2026>



Preschool News

Makaton signs of the week : Rocks, Sand and Beach

Rhyme of the week : Rub-a-dub-dub

This week we continue our focus 'Under the Sea' and 'Splash'. The Butterflies began exploring rockpools, what they are and what you would find in them. We had lots of water play fishing for sea creatures and exploring floating and sinking. In the mud kitchen the children engaged in some amazing imaginative play where they prepared a picnic for a trip to the beach. In PE, we've explored balancing and co-ordination using benches and A frames to climb over, under and through apparatus. The wooden benches were used to balance along an elevated platform to promote balancing and strengthen gross motor skills as they climbed up the bench. We've moved large balls around the hall by throwing, rolling and kicking and used targets such as buckets to improve the accuracy of our aim. The Butterflies used a variety of medias to mark make from gloop, paint and large felt tip pens. The Caterpillars used water, balls and paintbrushes to observe the marks they make when dipped in water and placed on the ground. Wednesday, the whole class participated in Mile for Mosaic. We ran a total of 399 laps of the playground! This is a distance of just under 20 miles. This is amazing! If you would like to make a donation to the Just Giving page, the link is still live and we would appreciate any donation towards this worthy charity. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Year 3 and 4 Football Tournament

On Thursday, 8 children from Year 3 and 4 represented the school in The Dorchester Primary Inter-Schools Football Championship at Dorchester Town Football Club. All of the children represented the school amazingly, showing our school values of perseverance and respect throughout. The team made huge progress with each game, and we even won one game 6 - 0! Well done to all involved!



School Nurse Drop In

Emma, our school nurse, has her drop in next **Tuesday 12th May** from **9.30 – 10.30am** If you would like an appointment to see her, please speak to the school office. All appointments must be made by **10am on Monday 11th May**. Thank you.

Let's Keep Reading!

Please remember the importance of hearing your child read and reading to your child.

Even 5 minutes can make a difference to us all! Research has proven: *5 minutes of reading can reduce stress by nearly 20%, improve concentration and focus by as much as 11%*



It can be done by and with any willing family member or friend- grandparents, older and younger siblings, god-parents...

Interesting and heart-warming research by the Queen's reading charity:

The Queen's Reading Room Study

At The Queen's Reading Room, we're fascinated by the connection between reading and wellbeing and have undertaken a pioneering new neuroscience research study to understand what happens in the brain when we read a book.

This research used brain scans, skin conductance tests and a nationally representative study developed by neuroscientists, to examine the connection between reading and wellbeing. Together, these research pieces gave us over 72 million data points and a clear picture of our emotional responses as we read a book.

Key findings revealed that just 5 minutes of reading can reduce stress by nearly 20%, improve concentration and focus by as much as 11% and that reading earlier in the day can help readers feel more connected to others and feel ready to tackle challenges. We discovered that reading a work of fiction can significantly reduce feelings of loneliness, important because social isolation has already been proven by neuroscientists to have a link with an increased risk of developing different dementias.

The results have proven that there is an important link between reading fiction and increased mental health, brain health and social connectedness. Not only is reading a magical, joyous experience, it turns out that it's also good for our health!

For further information on this subject:

<https://thequeensreadingroom.co.uk/the-queens-reading-room-study/>

Online Safety

Age Ratings in Games

Age ratings exist to help protect your child as they show whether content is suitable for your child's age. Make sure you check the age rating of any game your child is playing.

Why should I check?

Not all games will be appropriate for your child. Some may appear child friendly due to fun or cartoon style graphics but still include unsuitable content. Age ratings consider factors such as violence, frightening content, bad language and/or in app purchases.

How can I check?

Most games are rated by PEGI (Pan European Game Information), who not only state the age you should be to play the game but also provide further content descriptors to give you an indication of the type of content that your child might encounter. Apps are rated by the App store/Google Play.

How can I stop my child from accessing a game they are not old enough to play?

You can set up **parental controls** to restrict access to games or apps that your child is not old enough to play and set restrictions so any downloads/ purchases must be approved by you. For example:

- Nintendo – restrict software by age so if you restrict to 10+, games with that rating or above cannot be played by your child.
- Xbox / PlayStation – set an age limit so anything that exceeds that age rating must be approved.
- Apple / Google (Family Link) – restrict your child from installing apps, allowing you to review before approving all purchases.

What else do I need to do?

- Review any additional content descriptors, read reviews and check if the game includes any form of communication or in app purchases. This will help inform your decision as to whether the game is suitable for your child.
- For any game your child plays, set up appropriate parental controls.
- If you decide a game is not appropriate, explain to your child why.

We know your child might feel peer pressure to play certain games, but explaining your reasoning will help them understand your decision.

Further information

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

Upcoming Events: Dates for your Diary!

12th May	Parent Drop In 8.15 – 8.40am and 2.15 – 3pm	24th June	Preschool and Reception Class Sports Day 9.15am (will last approximately one hour)
12th May	Year 2 Class Assembly 9am (will last approximately 30 minutes)	24th June	Year 3 and 4 Celebration Assembly 2.30pm (will last approximately 30 minutes)
12th May	School Nurse Drop In 9.30 – 10.30am	29th and 30th June	Reception Class – Parent Interviews
15th May	Reception Class – Height and Weight check - National Child Measurement Programme	2nd July	Parent Drop In (Years 1-4 only) 8.15 – 8.40am and 2.15 – 3pm
20th May	May Day Celebrations 1.15pm – 3pm (approximately) – all families and relatives are welcome	7th July	Transfer Day
21st May	Preschool Stay and Play 9-10am	8th July	Year 4 Performance 2pm
21st May	Reserve May Day Celebrations 1.15pm (if wet on 20 th)	9th July	Year 4 Performance 6pm
25th – 29th May	Half Term	13th July	Preschool Summer Outing
9th June	Year 1 and 2 trip to Leeson House	15th July	Eco Day
10th June	Preschool Family Celebration 9 -10.15am	16th July	Year 4 Leavers Trip
17th June	Sports Day 9.15am - Year 1 and 2 1.15 pm – Years 3 and 4	17th July	Year 4 Leavers Assembly 2pm
19th June	Reserve Sports Day	20th July – 31st August	Summer Holidays
19th June	Preschool Stay and Play 9-10am	1st Sep	INSET Day – school closed to children
23rd June	Reception Class, Year 1 and 2 Celebration Assembly 2.15pm (will last approximately 45 minutes)	2nd Sep	Children return to school

What are we learning in our classrooms next week?

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
In Literacy, we will begin writing our tourist information leaflet for pretend visitors to The Kapati Plain.	In Literacy, we will be writing the end of our own narrative called 'The Shooting Star'.	In Literacy, we will begin our new book all about the Great Fire of London.	In Literacy, we will compare our class text "Cinderella of the Nile" to other versions of Cinderella.	In Literacy, we will write our reports in best about an imaginary world...
In Numeracy, we are identifying 2D shapes found in 3D shapes. For example, squares as the sides of a cube.	In Numeracy, we are learning about Money.	In Numeracy, we will begin learning about time with o'clock and half past the hour.	In Numeracy, we will add and subtract measurements, including capacity and volume.	In Numeracy, we will be learning about Time including the 24 clock.
In PE, we are learning our country dance for the upcoming May Day celebrations.	In Music, we are learning about the tempo within a range of musical pieces.	In PE, we will be practicing our dances for May Day.	In Science, we will explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants. We will focus on the process of germination.	In Music, we are learning to play the Samba Drums.

Do ask your child about their learning!

If you need any further information, please speak to your child's class teacher.