



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,

As we come to the end of another wonderful term at Frome Valley, I want to reflect on the many moments that have made this term so special. Our pupils continue to impress us with their enthusiasm, kindness, and eagerness to embrace new experiences.

A standout highlight was the Year 4 residential to Hooke Court this week. The children had an amazing time taking part in a wide range of activities, all approached with teamwork, confidence, and plenty of smiles. Staff have spoken warmly about their behaviour, curiosity, and resilience. We look forward to sharing more details and photographs after the Easter break.

As part of our Active Citizen Project, our Year 1 pupils demonstrated kindness in a very special way this week by donating Easter eggs and treats to Dorchester Food Bank. Their generosity will help bring joy to local families who may be finding this time of year challenging. This thoughtful act of giving shows their growing understanding of empathy and care for others.

Our Year 2 pupils ended this week with great energy and purpose as they held their Cake for Apes sale. They are raising money for International Animal Rescue and have written letters explaining why this cause is important to them. Their passion for protecting animals and making a positive impact on the wider world is truly inspiring.

Our Year 3 pupils have also played a valued role in supporting our community. They created beautiful Easter cards and planted spring bulbs in decorated pots for the residents of Casterbridge Manor in Cerne Abbas. Their thoughtful actions demonstrate the values at the heart of our school – respect and compassion.

With Easter approaching, we are encouraged to reflect on new beginnings and the importance of showing compassion to those around us. These values have shone through the actions of our children, whether supporting a friend, stepping out of their comfort zone, or taking steps to support members of our local and global community.

I wish all our families a peaceful, joyful, and restorative Easter break.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Moore
Head of School

Stars of the Week



Reception	Isabel
Year 1	Dougie
Year 2	Phoebe
Year 3	Hollie
Year 4	Minnie

After School Activities

We are still sorting after school activities for the summer term. We will give families further details when we return to school.

Year 3 News

Year 3 have been busy making cards and decorating plat pots for the residents of Casterbridge Manor. Don't they look beautiful.



OPAL Outdoor Play and Learning

We are having a loose parts drive to support the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) Programme at our school! Through the programme, we are working to improve outdoor play at our school by offering more opportunities for creative, child-led play and learning. Loose parts are open-ended materials that our students can use during outdoor play times.

We would be incredibly grateful for any donations of toys or items that you may no longer need at home.

One of our next steps is to restock and refresh our sandpit area, which we are currently repurposing to make it more engaging and enjoyable for everyone.

Collection 1: Sandpit Area

- Buckets, spades, scoops and rakes
- Small containers, pots, jugs, and funnels
- Toy cars, diggers, and construction vehicles
- Moulds, cutters, and sandcastle tools
- Natural materials such as pebbles, shells, or smooth sticks
- Any other robust loose parts that encourage imaginative play

Collection 2. Upcycled Loose Parts

- Car tyres (without the rims!) No winter tyres.
- Wheels from trolleys, carts, scooters, and large toys (with plastic rims as opposed to metal)
- Small spools (used for rope, wire, or chains)
- Wooden planks
- Cones
- Please see other ideas below in the picture



*Please avoid: glass, ceramics, or other easily broken objects
Thank you for supporting enriched outdoor play at our school!

Preschool News

This week our focus is Spring and Easter. We visited the Forest School area for Spring Walks to observe the changes in the environment as we move from Winter to Spring. The children showed a keen interest in the Bug Hotel where they used magnifying glasses to see minibeasts in their habitats. Our enrichment activity for the week was making chocolate nests using shredded wheat. The Butterflies explored ways to melt the chocolate and identified what was needed to turn it from a solid to a liquid, heat! They chose objects to smash their chocolate eggs in preparation to sprinkle on to their nests. Many chose the ginormous rolling pin! We made a Thank You card for Chelsi from Little Robins Gymnastics Club as the children participated in their last Gymnastics session Wednesday afternoon. It's fantastic to see the progress they have made in the last 11 weeks. We ended our week working together to create a giant egg for our window display and an egg hunt. We'd like to wish our families are very Happy Easter.



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!

13th Apr	INSET Day – school closed to children	19th June	Reserve Sports Day
1st May	INSET Day – school closed to children	23rd June	Reception Class, Year 1 and 2 Celebration Assembly 2.15pm (will last approximately 45 minutes)
4th May	Bank Holiday	24th June	Year 3 and 4 Celebration Assembly 2.30pm (will last approximately 30 minutes)
5th May	School Nurse Drop In 9.30 – 10.30am	29th and 30th June	Reception Class – Parent Interviews
6th May	Miles for Mosaic Fundraiser	2nd July	Parent Drop In (Years 1-4 only) 8.15 – 8.40am and 2.15 – 3pm
15th May	Reception Class – Height and Weight check - National Child Measurement Programme	7th July	Transfer Day
12th May	Parent Drop In 8.15 – 8.40am and 2.15 – 3pm	8th July	Year 4 Performance 2pm
20th May	May Day Celebrations 1.15pm – 3pm (approximately) – all families and relatives are welcome	9th July	Year 4 Performance 6pm
21st May	Reserve May Day Celebrations 1.15pm (if wet on 20 th)	15th July	Eco Day
25th – 29th May	Half Term	16th July	Year 4 Leavers Trip
9th June	Year 1 and 2 trip to Leeson House	17th July	Year 4 Leavers Assembly 2pm
17th June	Sports Day 9.15am - Reception Class, Year 1 and 2 1.15 pm – Years 3 and 4		