



BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Belong Believe Achieve

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Years One and Two – Spring Learning Projects

“What story would your toy tell?”

Dear Families,

Happy New Year and welcome back. We are very pleased by the progress your children made last term in their learning and are excited as they continue to grow in confidence and further develop their skills.

Please find attached an overview of the learning planned for the spring Terms within our project of

“What story would your toy tell?”

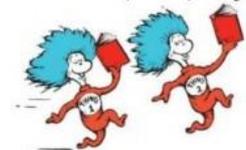
We will begin our project with the story, ‘Traction Man’ by Mini Grey. We will be exploring the adventures had by Traction Man, the hero and his many costumes and accessories. We will respond to the story and use these ideas to develop and describe our own superheroes and the adventures they have. We would like your children to bring one of their own toys to school which will help us to write character descriptions. We would also like to invite families into school as an opportunity for the children to showcase their learning and for you to join us in some activities (date and details to follow).

We will then move on to studying ‘The Great Fire of London’ using non-fiction books and stories set in that time period. We will make connections with fire and the adverse effects it can have in the natural environment for science week. We will look at other causes and effects of deforestation.

As the projects progress the children’s interests may take us in new directions and we look forward to discovering the inspiration they will bring to their learning. If you are able to help in school or contribute your knowledge to our project, we would love to hear from you.

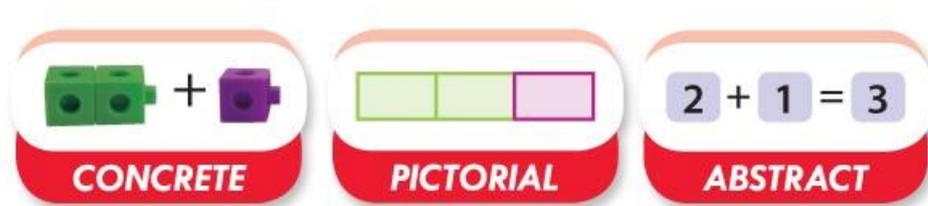
Reading: Please support your child’s progress in this vital skill by reading daily. This does not just have to be the reading book they bring home from school. It could be a comic, a newspaper, library book or any other book your child has at home. Reading for pleasure is **so** important so choosing a familiar book they enjoy is just as valuable in developing reading skills. Remember that reading **to** your children is just as important as them reading to you.

The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
Learn,
the MORE places you'll go.



Please continue to write in their reading record. We will change your child's reading book on **Mondays and Thursdays** when it has been recorded in their reading record that they have read their book at least three times. However, our aspiration is for children to read EVERY DAY. Could you be part of this above and beyond challenge? If you would like to hear readers in school, your support would be greatly appreciated.

Maths: As a whole school, we are following a Mastery approach for the learning and teaching of maths. Children are given many opportunities to practise new skills in a variety of ways. They then apply these skills in a range of reasoning and problem solving activities and are challenged to explain their thinking.



The CPA method involves using actual objects for children to add, subtract, multiply or divide. They then progress to using pictorial representations of the object, and ultimately, abstract symbols; the numbers and signs. Children often find maths difficult because it is abstract. The CPA approach helps children learn new ideas and build on their existing knowledge by introducing abstract concepts in a more familiar and tangible way. Our Maths calculation policy is on our class website pages if you would like more information about his.

Please use the Numbots game link on the school website to continue to practice number bonds and times table facts. It's great to see how many of you have already made fantastic progress.

Spelling and Phonics: Spelling Shed is a great game that we use to support the learning of phonics and spelling rules. At school, we use this game alongside other activities. Try and play at least three times a week at home. It only takes 5 minutes but will make such a difference.

Website: Remember to check our class website pages for links to Phonics, Spellings and Maths games. Also, have a look at our 'whooshy' letter handwriting links. Here, you can watch how to form our 'whooshy' letters and even print out sheets to practise at home. We also try and post pictures and information about what we have been doing at school. Keep checking for updates!

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's education, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Thank you,

The Year 1 and 2 team.

