



BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Belong Believe Achieve

Headteacher: Mrs. C Pocock

West Street, Banwell, North Somerset, BS29 6DB

Telephone: 01934 822498 Fax: 01934 825020

Email: office@banwellprimary.co.uk

Web: www.banwellprimary.co.uk



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Years One and Two – Autumn Learning Project

What Makes Us Unique?

Dear Families,

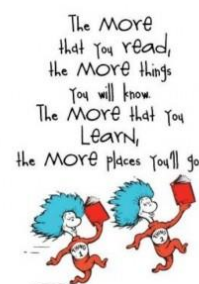
Welcome to Years One and Two. Please find attached an overview of the learning planned for the Autumn Terms within our project of **“What Makes Us Unique?”** which we hope will be amazing.

During this project, we will be finding out how we are all similar but also how we are all uniquely different. We think this topic is especially relevant to us all as at this time as it has a strong focus on how we look after ourselves and the things we must do to keep ourselves healthy. We will learn about our bodies, and our senses and will develop an awareness of healthy eating and living, where we live and go to school and allow us to show off our special skills and talents. As part of this project, We are hoping to have a Healthy Eating Workshop delivered to us by our school meals company and will be going on a walk around Banwell Village to explore our local area.

As we go along the children's interests may take us in new directions and we will look for opportunities to develop these interests and extend their learning. If you are able contribute your knowledge to our project, we would love to hear from you. We will be developing our learning through a class story book as well as an author study of Julia Donaldson. .

Beyond half term we will be thinking about the way we celebrate and remember different events and occasions and will focus on Bonfire night, Diwali and Christmas. As well as looking at how different cultures may celebrate these events.

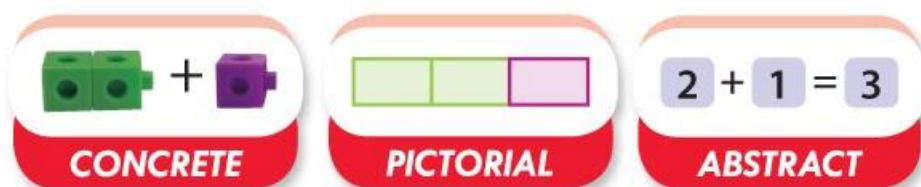
Reading: Please support your child's progress in this vital skill by reading with them **at least** three times a week. This does not just have to be the reading books they bring home from school. It could be a comic, a newspaper, library book or any other book your child has at home. Reading for pleasure is **so** important so choosing a familiar book they enjoy is just as valuable in developing reading skills. Reading to your children is just as important as them reading to you so please make time to read to them also and discuss the book.



We will change and send home your child's reading books on **Mondays and Thursdays**. These books do not need to be in school on any other days. When the books come back into school (on a Monday and Thursday) they will be put in a box and left for 72 hours before being put back into the book boxes which is the recommended time to ensure they are safe from viruses. Although the children will not be bringing home a reading record, we will be discussing the books that they have read at home with them and recording what they have read.



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 this.

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 encourage a 3 point pencil grip.

We also try and post pictures and information about what we have been doing at school. Keep checking for updates!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support especially in the current circumstances when we are all adjusting to the 'new normal'. If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and talk to us.

Many thanks

The Year 1 and 2 team.

