



## Achieving the best

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EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER of South Petherton Schools Partnership  
Mrs Shan Weston B.A. Hons, PGCE, NPQH, NPQEL

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers of Bunzl Class,

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays! It's so lovely to be back with the amazing children in Bunzl Class. Everyone has returned full of energy and smiles, slipping back into our routines like they never left. Their excitement for being here has already made the start of term feel special.

### Curriculum News

#### Reading

We will continue to develop our reading skills through reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. We will also be exploring themes from our Science, History and PSHE topics to enhance our learning. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home. Our reading Café is open to children who have collected enough stamps for reading at least 5 times a week.

#### Maths

We will focus on developing key mathematical skills, including ordering, comparing, adding, and subtracting decimal numbers. We will also explore area, perimeter, and volume in a range of shapes. In addition, children will learn how to measure angles and calculate angles on a straight line and within triangles. To strengthen their understanding, we will continue to practise arithmetic skills during our weekly arithmetic lessons.

#### Writing

We're kicking off the term with a wonderful poetry unit inspired by the stunning book *The Lost Words* by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris. The children will begin by exploring poems themed around British birds, before taking a magical turn into the world of mythical creatures. Through *How to Train Your Dragon*, they'll dive into writing diary entries, focusing on using a variety of punctuation and sentence structures to create vivid, engaging writing that really grabs the reader.

#### Art

To link with our writing, we'll be studying the beautiful artwork of Jackie Morris — the Welsh illustrator behind *The Lost Words* and many dragon-themed books. The children will learn and practise different watercolour techniques, using these skills to create their own bird illustrations and dragon-inspired artwork.

#### Science

In Science this half term, the children will be learning about evolution and inheritance. They'll explore how living things change over time and why we share certain traits with our parents. The class will also look at how animals and plants adapt to survive, using fun, hands-on activities to deepen their understanding. We'll finish the unit by learning about the scientist Charles Darwin and his important ideas.



## History

In our Viking topic, we will explore where the Vikings came from and why they launched their attacks. We will place them on a historical timeline, examine how they earned their fearsome reputation, and consider the lasting impact of their legacy today.

## Computing

We will be learning how to control variables in programming and creating our own games using Scratch.

## Music

Year 5 will be learning the ukulele and Year 6 are using music technology to create soundtracks for videos.

## French

Children will be furthering their understanding of French culture by learning about famous landmarks in Paris. Using their knowledge of verbs and adjectives, they will design a leaflet in French encouraging people to visit.

## PSHE

In PSHE this term, our topic is *Dreams and Goals*. The children are learning how to set their own personal learning goals and think about the steps they need to take to reach them. They're also exploring real-world issues that matter to them and discovering that talking about their worries is a healthy way to cope. As we work through the unit, the class learn how teamwork can help us achieve more and make a positive difference in the world. They're also practising how to accept praise and recognise their own achievements.

PE DAYS	Wednesday and Friday		
Reading homework	At least 3 times a week, if children read 5 times within a week, they will be rewarded with a stamp in their reading records and celebrated at key milestones with the reading café. Please help them fill in their reading record.		
Homework books (Year 6)	To go out on a Tuesday	Hand in on a Tuesday	Children will mark in class.
Homework sheets (Year 5)	To prepare year 5 for year 6 homework expectations, year 5 will receive 1 small piece of homework a week. This will be on a rotation of grammar, Maths revision or a short reading comprehension.		
Spellings (Year 5 and 6)	Weekly spellings given out on a Friday. Tested the following Friday.	Children can practise their spelling patterns in their book or on the spelling frame online app.	

Many thanks for your continued support, please do not hesitate to come and see me or e-mail the school office if you have any further questions.

Best wishes,

Mrs Gordon  
Bunzl Class Teacher

