



Notes from the Vale

Friday 6th December 2024

Volume 23, Issue 6

Welcome from Mr Lewis-Cole

The corridors are filled with the sound of Christmas! Pupils are working incredibly hard to prepare for the many nativities and the carol service taking place before the end of the term. Excitement is definitely being felt across the school as pupils countdown to Christmas and a well earned break. However, we are still working pupils very hard and this week was assessment week in school. Pupils would have taken a few tests to check the progress they have made so far this year. The information we gather from these tests helps us to think about the next term and aspects of the curriculum that we need to prioritise. Well done to everyone for showing a positive attitude and resilience towards these tests.

Christmas Fair and PTFA

A huge thank you from everyone at Lipson Vale to our wonderful PTFA for organising the Christmas fair and lights switch on. I will leave it for the PTFA to announce how much money was raised but it is a truly impressive amount that will enable further investment in school. The PTFA have also done an amazing job in getting hold of some excellent raffle prizes so make sure that you get hold of our tickets on School Money. In addition to everything they have already done (or are doing), they are also going to grant wishes to a few pupils this Christmas. Pupils can enter by adding their wish into the box at main reception.

New Foundation Area

You might have seen on our Facebook page that we have a brand new foundation area being created next to the Puffins' classroom. This will provide an all weather space for foundation pupils to get outside throughout the day and enable us to extend the great curriculum we offer inside into the outside space. We are hoping this will be completed before the Christmas break (I have everything crossed for dry weather as lots of the finishing touches can only be completed in dry conditions). I will put out some more updates on Facebook to share the progress. This is another significant investment in the school grounds.

Starting school in September 2025?

All of our set tour dates have now taken place. However, if you know of a child who will be starting school in September 2025 who has not yet been around to see what we have to offer please ask them to get in touch to book a private tour.

We said a very sad 'Goodbye' to a familiar face in the office last week. Mrs Coomber (who sat on the front desk) has moved on from Lipson Vale after many years of support our community.

There is still so much to achieve before the end of the term and many community events to put us in the Christmas mood. Please make sure you check the dates on the final page so that you have all the key events in your diaries. These events include nativities, carol services, Christmas dinners, Plymouth Argyle charity days and so much more!

Have a brilliant weekend.

Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

Resilience, Collaboration, Responsibility, Bravery, Communication, Self-belief

Together we

Congratulations



Harris Cup
Lily



Reading Cup
Ellis



'H' Cup
Arthur W

Each of you are excellent role models for your peers and have shown significant determination and effort to your learning.

to our weekly cup winners.

Attendance

We know that regular and punctual attendance to school has a significant impact on a pupils life chances. Pupils that are well enough should be in school at 8.45am every day.



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

Foundation & Key Stage 1

Puffins	89.5
Coral	78.1
Seahorses	91.3
Oysters	96.0
Mussels	97.4
Starfish	97.4

Key Stage 2

Turtles	98.3
Sunfish	94.7
Otters	97.0
Dolphins	97.6
Anglerfish	97.8
Orca	95.2
Angel Shark	89.6
Rays	94.8

The **highest class attendance** last week

Mussels & Starfish in FS/KS1

Turtles in KS2

GREAT ATTENDANCE



On Time Octopus
winning class:

Seahorses & Oysters

Punctuality Penguin
winning class:

Otters



celebrate

News & Events

What does
it mean
to feel
included?



Things to talk about at home...

- Share your thought about the FA's plans to increase awareness of disability football.
- Can you thin of a time when you have felt like you belonged (perhaps in a team or group)? What was it that make you feel included? Ask the same questions to someone at home.
- Ask people at home whether they, or someone they know, have benefitted from a similar programme.



A big thank you to all of the PTFA for their well thought out sustainable Christmas fair. It was fantastic to see how they have worked so hard to ensure that our fair could be as eco conscious as possible. Here are some of the things they considered and made happen.

ECO SWAPS FROM PTFA:

- We swapped out latex balloons for foil balloons, they last longer and can be recycled at your local super market.
- The soaps were home made by our PTFA.
- We asked for pre loved toys, jumpers clothes etc to promote re-using.
- We recycled as much as possible, the plastic cups were recyclable too.
- Santa's elves wrapped the Santa's grotto gifts in recycled wrapping paper (on the way from the north pole!).
- The glow sticks were not single-use, they contain batteries and can be re-used over and over again.
- We borrowed rather than bought the Santa's grotto décor.
- Tombola items were from families' own cupboards.
- We avoided cellophane for sweet bags and reindeer food and used paper instead.
- Splat the Rat was made from a futon, the rat and thickened cardboard baton was made by PTFA!
- Wooden Christmas signs were made from pallet wood
- Lucky dip tree-made at home using scrap store bits and the toys inside are preloved donations from PTFA.
- Any plastic pockets were re used over and over again, not binned!
- Families, were encouraged to use the recycle bins to help us teach the children to recycle.

A huge thank you to the PTFA and Merry Christmas!

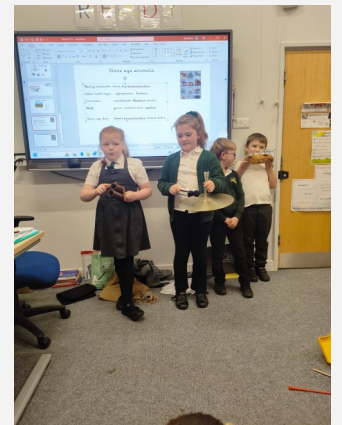
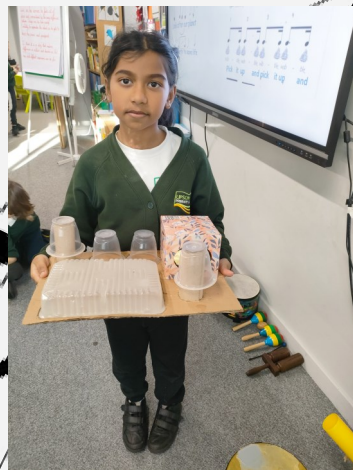
are musicians

Together we

Our Year 3 carol service group today had their first practice at walking through the Nativity Tableau in preparation for the Carol Service on the 17th. The songs were added and they listened carefully to the readings as they moved into their positions



This week our Year 4s practised different complicated rhythms and were able to build up a range of rhythms alongside each other. Macy also accompanied our Egyptian song using a drum kit she made at home. We loved hearing the different sounds as you played your rhythms. Amazing work everyone.



Year 3s have worked hard to develop their understanding of description in music. They confidently built up musical motifs in groups to create pictures of stone age animals. We enjoyed listening to Austin playing through his piece called snowflakes and thought about what musical features created this image.

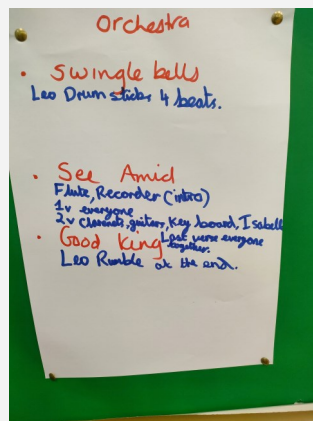
Together we



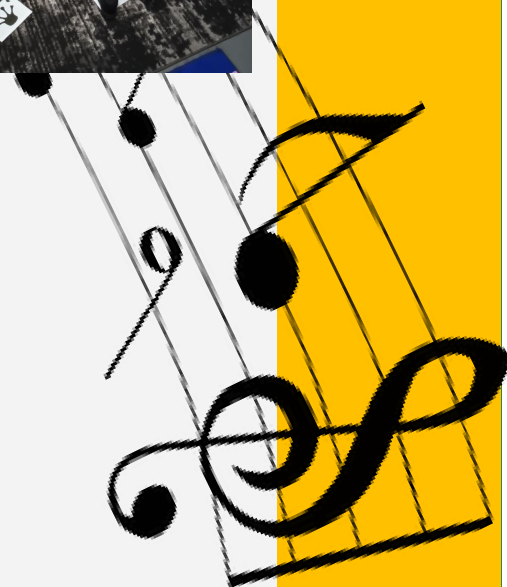
are musicians

Today some of our orchestra got into the festive mood with their headbands. A special well done to Leo who responded well with dynamics in his drum performance and added a super roll on the floor drum, to one of our carols.

We also made important decisions about our delivery at the Carol Service.



Foundation pretended they were aliens this week and walked to a steady beat following the footsteps on a planet. Great listening. They enjoyed using the boom whackers to revisit our planet rhythms.



Together we

love to learn

This week, the Year One children have been immersed in all things Christmas! The children have thoroughly enjoyed a range of festive activities, including decorating the Christmas tree, making snowflakes, creating seasonal paintings and making their very own wish lists for Santa Claus.

In maths, we've been building our understanding of subtraction within ten. The children have confidently explored subtraction through taking away objects, drawing pictures and crossing out and making jumps backwards on number lines. It's been fantastic to see their progress as they grasp these new concepts.

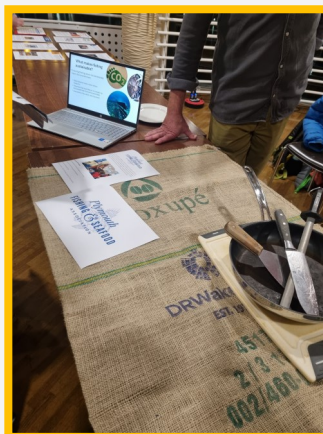
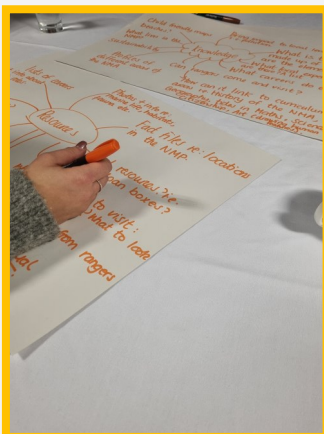
In English, we are continuing with our unit on The Disgusting Sandwich, where the children are using their creativity to plan their own "disgusting" sandwich story! They are having a great time imagining bizarre and comical ingredients and we can't wait to see their unique ideas come to life in the coming weeks.



EVEN OUR TEACHERS ARE LEARNING!

Mrs Barnes and Mrs Hardy spent Monday evening at the National Marine Aquarium with other local schools feeding back about the 'seas in our schools' project that our year 3s are taking part in this year.

They had the opportunity to feedback on the programme so far, what could be improved long term for the ocean to feature in our everyday curriculum, how we can celebrate the great city we live in and allow our children to have some truly wonderful experiences in the National Marine Park, as well as getting to see some truly amazing outreach programmes that we will get to experience in 2025!



love to learn

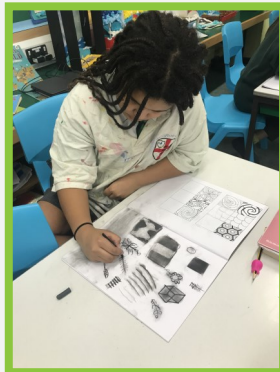
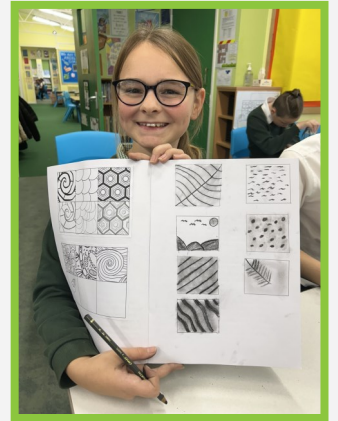
Together we



Year 3 are loving our new history topic about the stone age. We've learnt a lot about pre history, early stone age and what life would have looked like. This week we learnt about cave paintings/drawings and got to add our own cave drawing to our progressive fact file that we have been creating over the past few weeks.



This week, Year 6 have had a lot of fun experimenting with charcoal to create depth and texture in their artwork. This was inspired by the artist Kathe Kollwitz who we have been exploring as a year group in our art lessons this half term. We had a lot of fun discovering the different uses of charcoal and even ended up getting a little bit messy! We will use the skills developed in this lesson to inform our final pieces which we will be creating at the end of this half term.



Together we

love to learn



Year 4 had great fun on their trip to the Energy from Waste plant in Plymouth learning some incredible facts about what happens to our waste and how to reduce our waste by reducing, reusing and recycling (the 3 R's). We learned that an amazing 245,000 tonnes of waste is delivered to the plant every year and that the waste burns in the combustion chamber at temperatures higher than 1,000 - hotter than lava!



More from Year One



love to learn

Together we

We are Readers



Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended our pre-Christmas book fair. During the event, we sold £500 worth of books, a fantastic amount that has earned us an impressive £200 to spend on new books for our school library.

Book Recommendations

If you are looking for some reading recommendations for the Christmas holiday than this round up of children's and teens best new books and novels by The Guardian has some great ideas:

[Children's and teens roundup – the best new picture books and novels | Young adult | The Guardian](#)

Additionally, the superb Books for Topics website has a comprehensive guide for Christmas book gifts for children in their primary years here:

[Best children's books - Primary School Book Gift Guide 2024](#)

Reading at home

It is wonderful to see such enthusiasm for reading around school. We greatly appreciate your help with supporting your child to read at home and logging your child's reading on BoomReader. This provides us with an opportunity to monitor, support and celebrate your child's reading in school.

During this school year so far, our independent readers using Accelerated Reader have read an impressive 2,687 books and 12,561,014 words.

Happy reading.

Congratulations!

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE
WHO ATTENDED OUR
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR.**

Together we have raised...**£200**.....
for our school to spend on **FREE BOOKS**

SCHOLASTIC

Lipson Vale Primary School Reads!



In this school year, students have read...

2,687 Books

12,561,014 Words

for **16** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

News & Events

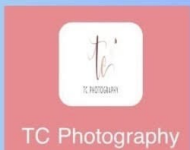


Raffle Prizes



Kayaking

Breakfast with Mr Lewis-Cole for the winning child & 2 friends



Childs helmet & bell



Hair-up into a fancy hair do- By Mrs Giles



Pre-loved Children's books

Mystery Gift Set x 3



UPDATE YOUR DETAILS



If you have recently changed any contact information (phone number, address etc) please let the school know so that we can update our records. We have added a simple online form to our website which you can complete (in seconds) to notify us of any changes.

Neurodiversity Fun Day
Reserve your tickets at Eventbrite -
Neurodiversity Fun Day- Plymouth



HAMOAZE HOUSE GEORGE STREET MOUNTWISE
PLYMOUTH PL1 4JQ

January

Friday
3

12-3pm



EMAZDAD RAFFLE QUIZ
BASKETBALL PRINCESSES

Sponsored by Livewell Neurodiversity
Wellbeing Team



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7

SALISBURY ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
LARGE HALL 10:30AM

Drinks and Cakes



Activities for Children

Stalls and Games

Lunches available



All proceeds in aid of
The Mustard Tree Cancer Support

Collective Worship

As part of the national Anti-bullying week, we have focused on what the word 'bullying' means and how this is different to unkindness. We unpicked this using the word STOP which stands for 'sustained, targeted and on purpose'. We find this a simple way to help us discuss what bullying is and how we can work together to stop it.

This week, we focused on advent and where advent calendars originated from. We explored how the Christian faith celebrate advent and what the advent wreath symbolises.

How can we work together to make sure bullying doesn't happen?

Dates for your diaries:

10.12.2024	Yr 1 Christmas Show @ 9.30am Yr 2 Christmas Show @ 2pm
11.12.2024	Yr 2 Christmas Show @ 9.30am Yr 1 Christmas Show @ 2pm
13.12.2024	Lord Major's Carol Service
16.12.2024	Whole School Sport - Football
17.12.2024	Carol Service
17.12.2024	Fdtn Christmas Show @ 10am
17.12.2024	Last day to buy PTFA raffle tickets
18.12.2024	Green Muffti Day for PAFC
18.12.2024	Fdtn Christmas Show @ 2.15pm
20.12.2024	Christmas Lunch
20.12.2024	PTFA Festive Muffti & Parties
23.12.2024	Start of Christmas break
6.1.2025	Non Pupil Day
7.1.2025	First Day of term
16.1.2025	Year 3 The Box trip
29.1.2025	Year 4 Victorian Day
24.2.2025	Year 4 Swimming starts



School Meals



SCAN ME

CATERed 
FEEDING AMBITIONS

School Money



SCAN ME



schoolmoney

Bernice Terrace, Lipson, Plymouth, PL4 7HW

01752 224801



www.lvps.co.uk



lipson.vale.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk

Lipson Vale Primary

