



Notes from the Vale

Friday 12th January 2024

Volume 22, Issue 7

Welcome from Mr Lewis-Cole

Hello! Welcome back after the Christmas break. Are we still able to say Happy New Year? Well, just in case I haven't had the chance to so far, Happy New Year to all of our families and the Lipson Vale community. This term seems to be whizzing by already and school has been bustling with new learning and events. You will see from this Notes from the Vale the wide variety of curriculum subjects celebrated across the school and how engaged our pupils are in the new learning they are presented with. I feel we are set for an exciting term.

Peer Mediator training

We were very excited to welcome Leanne from Behaviour Matters into school this week to begin our peer mediator training. Leanne is training 24 pupils over the next 2 weeks on all the skills needed to be excellent peer mediators. After week one, the feedback is incredibly positive and the 24 pupils are taking their new roles very seriously. Once trained, we are looking forward to our 24 peer mediator graduates taking up their new roles and providing ongoing support to other pupils across the school when they face challenges at break and lunch times. We are very much looking forward to week 2 of the training.

Community Defibrillator

With support from the Department of Education, we have been able to secure a defibrillator for the school. As we firmly believe that we are here for our community, we have decided to install this just outside the school gates meaning that, in a moment of need, anyone within the Lipson Vale community can access this life saving device. The next nearest defibrillator is over 10 minutes away so we recognise that such a device is desperately needed. Whilst the casing for our defibrillator is currently in place, it will be a week or so before it becomes useable.

Parents' evenings

You will hopefully already be aware that we are holding this terms parents' evenings on Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th February (with the exception of Otters class, which are happening a week earlier). The booking system will go live shortly for you to book your slots. Parents' evenings are always an important part of the school calendar and a real opportunity for you to hear about how your child is getting on in school and what we are supporting them to improve further. Please save the dates in your diary and book your appointments as soon as the system goes live.

SEND and Inclusion Lead

As you will know, Mrs Timony retired at Christmas. Our new SEND and Inclusion Lead has now started with us and I am pleased to introduce you all to Miss Naylor. She has been incredibly busy so far getting to know our pupils, the team and many of the families. I know that Miss Naylor is currently organising time to meet with families who have a child with special educational needs and will be extending this invitation to parents/carers who may want to introduce themselves. Miss Naylor is an experienced SENDCo who has previously worked across multiple schools in Devon and I know that she will be of great support to our pupils and the community.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I hope to catch up with you all very soon.



Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

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

Together we

Congratulations



Harris Cup
Matthew W



McIver Cup
Dylan G



'H' Cup
Lena M

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 we are all having to be a little more cautious at the moment; however, for those pupils well enough, we still have high expectations for daily attendance.

Foundation & Key Stage 1

Puffins	93.1
Coral	95.7
Seahorses	99.1
Oysters	94.6
Mussels	100.0
Starfish	100.0

Key Stage 2

Turtles	96.6
Sunfish	98.3
Otters	94.0
Dolphins	86.5
Anglerfish	96.7
Orca	94.8
Angel Sharks	93.1
Rays	85.8



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

The **highest class attendance** last week goes to...

Mussels & Starfish
in FS/KS1

Sunfish in KS2

GREAT ATTENDANCE



On Time Octopus
winning class:
Puffins

Punctuality Penguin
winning class:
Turtles



celebrate

News & Events

Are emojis an important part of communication?



Things to talk about at home...

- What do you know about emojis? Do you ever use them?
- Talk to someone else at home. Do they use emojis?
- If you could design a new emoji, what would it look like?

EASY
ECO
TIPS



Well done to Foundation for their excellent daily work on looking after the planet. In Foundation, the children always compost their fruit waste and are excellent recyclers, making sure they only put paper in the recycling bin.

"Well done and thank you" says Planet Earth!



News & Events

Introduction to Miss Naylor

Hi everyone,

I am Abbie Naylor, your new SENDCo at Lipson Vale. I am very much looking forward to getting to know you all and your lovely children. Everyone has been so welcoming this first week so a big thank you for that.

Just so you know a little about me: I completed a Psychology Degree in Birmingham, followed by my PGCE in Primary Teaching in Exeter. I have worked in Education for 10 years, starting as a class teacher where I taught Years 5 and 6. I became a SENDCo in 2018 in a school in Dawlish, a similar size to Lipson Vale, and completed my SENDCo qualification that same year. At first, I taught alongside being SENDCo and as the years went on, I became SENDCo across a number of schools in the academy across Exeter.



More personally, I have always played netball so hope to get back to a team soon, and in the last year have started to get into some running - although this has gone slightly out the window since the winter! I have a lovely little cat called Lily so will always enjoy any cat conversations anyone wishes to have. I am originally from Plymouth and have moved back this last year to be closer to my family. I am very happy to be in a school closer to home and to be more settled in one school where I can really get to know all the staff, children and families.

I look forward to meeting you all as the weeks, months and terms progress.

**PLYMOUTH
INFORMATION ADVICE
AND SUPPORT FOR SEND**



WORKSHOP

Do you need some help and support to understand your child's needs and behaviour?

Join us in a free 2-hour workshop

- How to understand and support my child's communication- January 18th 9.30-11.30
- How to use visual resources to support my child's communication- January 25th 9.30-11.30
- How to understand and support my child's behaviour- February 1st 9.30-11.30
- How to use visual resources to support my child's behaviour- February 8th 9.30-11.30
- How to understand and support my child's social skills and play- February 22nd 9.30-11.30
- How to use rewards and incentives with my child with SEND- February 29th 9.30-11.30

Running face to face
Register NOW!

[Workshops - Plymouth Information Advice and Support for SEND.
\(plymouthias.org.uk\)](https://plymouthias.org.uk)



**PLYMOUTH
INFORMATION ADVICE
AND SUPPORT FOR SEND**



WORKSHOP

Do you need some impartial information and advice?

Join us in a free 2-hour workshop

- How to have successful meetings- January 29th 9.30-11.30 face to face
- How to have successful meetings- January 31st 9.30-11.30 virtual
- How to include the voice of the child- February 5th 9.30-11.30 face to face
- How to include the voice of the child- February 7th 9.30-11.30 virtual
- How to have successful meetings- February 19th 9.30-11.30 face to face
- How to have successful meetings- February 21st 9.30-11.30 virtual
- All you need to know about annual reviews- March 4th 9.30-11.30 face to face
- All you need to know about annual reviews- March 6th 9.30-11.30 virtual
- How to include the voice of the child- March 25th 9.30-11.30 face to face
- How to include the voice of the child- March 27th 9.30-11.30 virtual

Running face to face
Register NOW!



[Workshops - Plymouth Information Advice and Support for SE \(plymouthias.org.uk\)](https://plymouthias.org.uk)

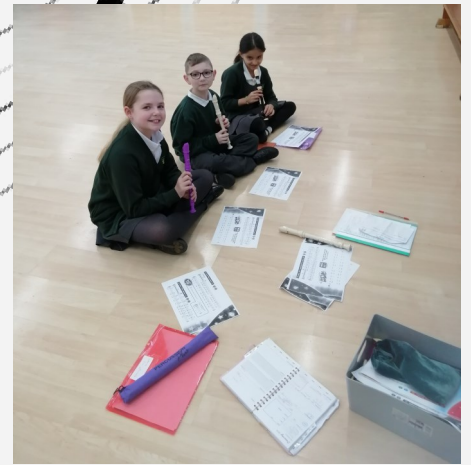
are musicians

Together we

Our Year 5 have embraced their new music project: we are composers. This week, they analysed a range of songs, focusing on musical features, and accompaniments. They enjoyed trying out their own accompaniments in preparation of their own compositions over the next few weeks.



Our Year 4 recorder students played through a selection of pieces, a smaller group as their year 3 musical friends had gone on a school trip. We started to think of pieces we would like to play in the spring concert.



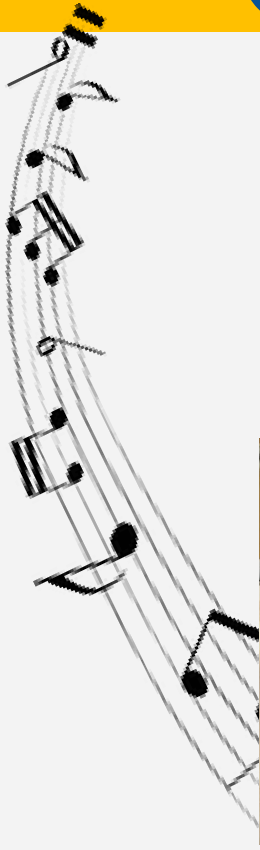
Year 2 have made a great start in their study of exploring pitch in their music lesson this week. They confidently played a simple accompaniment on a xylophone showing their awareness of how a melody moves.



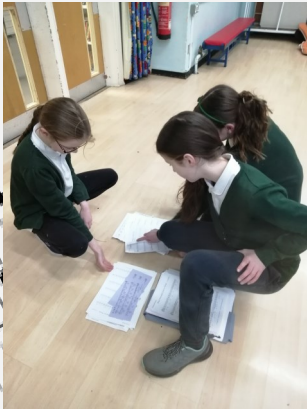
Together we



are musicians



This week, Year 1 had their first music lesson of the Spring term. They enjoyed using their listening, playing and singing skills in the development of their exploring sound study. Next week a visit to the music bus for their lesson. Great work and enthusiasm Year 1.



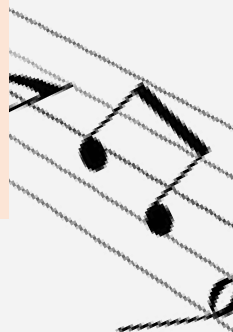
The Orchestra had their first practice this week following their successful performance at our Carol Service. A little time was spent putting our musical copies of the Carols away before we tackled our first piece in preparation for the Spring Concert.



We had a beautiful performance from one of our Year 4 pianists, Ariya. We really enjoyed the fluency and musicality of the piece.



Maddox received his trophy for the second time, there was a little delay in actually collecting the trophy for the Carol Service so a substitute was provided. Maddox is a great member of the music department, using his skills in our orchestra and choir. He was definitely a worthy winner of the John Knight Performance trophy. Congratulations Maddox.



love to learn

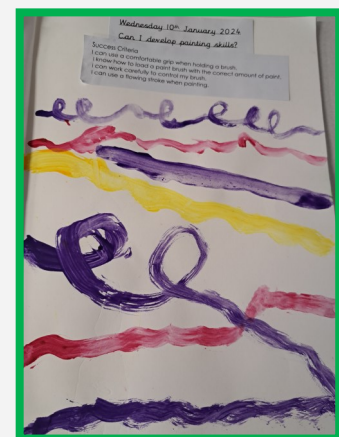
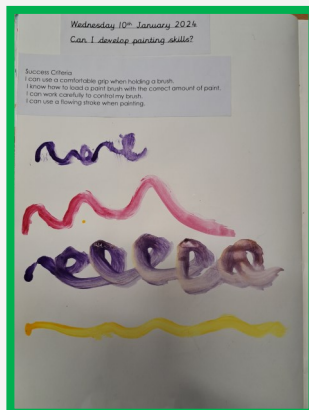
Together we

Year 3 had a fantastic morning this week at The Box being archaeologists as part of their history curriculum. They had great fun exploring artefacts from the Bronze Age discovered nearby on Dartmoor! They also had a lovely time meeting Mildred the woolly mammoth from the Ice Age. All of the adults were very impressed with their questioning skills and the application of their historical knowledge.



Feedback from The Box:

"Great to have you visit today and our learning team wanted to say they absolutely loved having the students on-site. Particularly noted was the student's politeness, curiosity and behaviour around the galleries which were all remarked on by our team, volunteers and the general public."

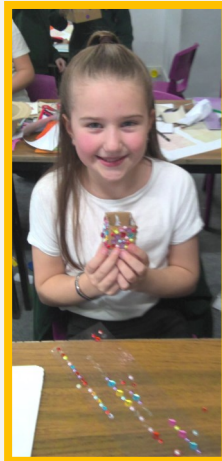


This week Year 2 started their new painting unit in art. They explored using flowing strokes when painting and checking they used the correct amount of paint and water. First they explored single lines before applying their learnt skills to create a rollercoaster. What super artists they are!

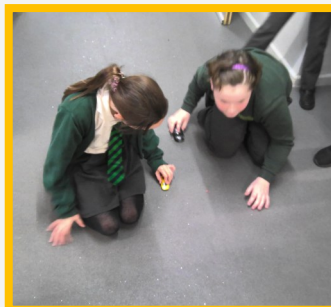
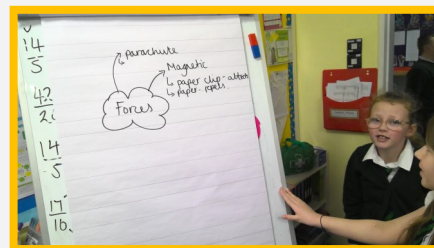
Together we

love to learn

In Year 4, the Dolphins and Otters classes have enjoyed undertaking a design and technology project this week, designing and creating shell structures for desk tidies. During the week, the children have investigated the properties of 3D shapes, created nets using computer aided design (CAD) and considered the features the net would require to be assembled into a sturdy structure, including the positioning of the faces and tabs. We have had great fun learning to score and laminate material, assembling and decorating our structures.



The Foundation children love the opportunity to get outside and Monday of this week was no exception. We wrapped up warm and had lots of fun with the outside toys, also practicing our maths skills with lots of counting and 'one more than' learning opportunities. We have very large toy dinosaurs outside and today some of the children created their own Museum for them to live in. They spent a long time carefully building the enclosure and then even longer placing them into their new home.

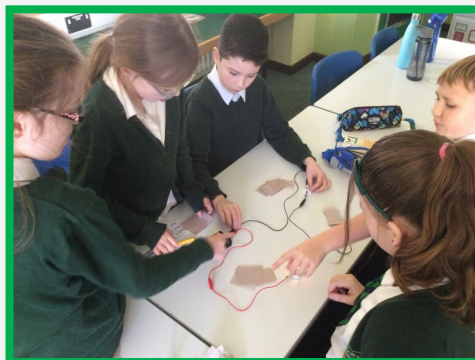
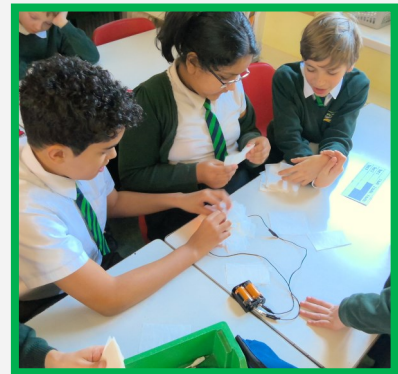
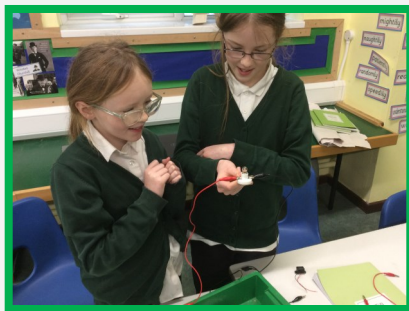
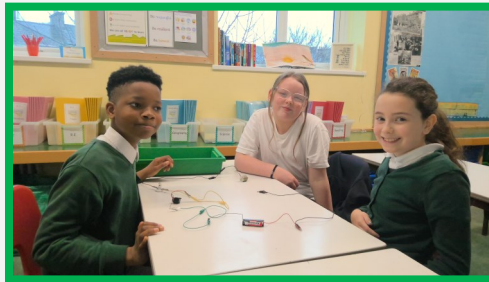
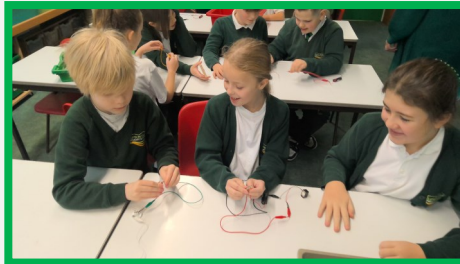
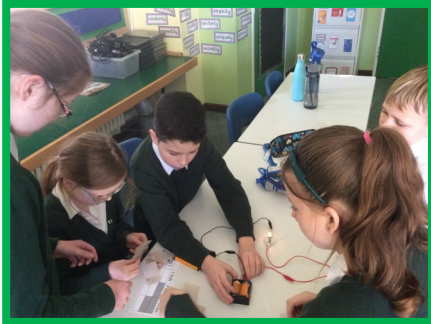
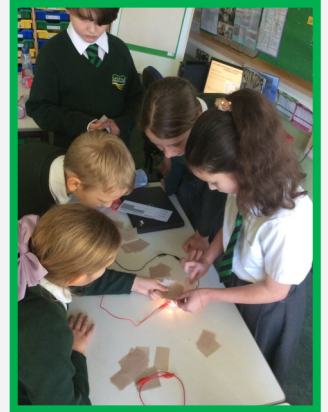


This week, the children in Year 5 have been exploring forces. The children have been exploring using magnets, cars and parachutes to explore how different forces act.

love to learn

Together we

Year 6 had a very exciting start to the Spring term last week when they spent two days conducting science experiments. The children spent time building and investigating circuits, designing an experiment and then conducting it to see how the brightness of a bulb is affected when more components are added to a circuit. Everyone loved trialing different methods and learnt a lot about electricity and its many uses; all whilst having a lot of fun!



Together we

love to learn

We are Readers



Six Brilliant Bookish New Year's Resolutions to try in 2024

If you're looking for ways to start a fresh chapter in 2024, check out Book Trust's great suggestions of book-themed New Year's resolutions to try. There are some helpful ideas and suggestions on ways families can enjoy reading and sharing stories together.

[6 brilliant bookish New Year's Resolutions to try in 2024 | BookTrust](#)

The Great School Libraries Campaign

Former Children's Laureate Julia Donaldson has thrown her support behind the Great School Libraries campaign, by recording a film explaining why parents should support this important initiative. Do please support this campaign as families joining with schools to improve their libraries could make a big difference. Julia Donaldson also talks about the power of reading for pleasure!

[DONALDSON AND BOOKSPACE JOIN THE CAMPAIGN \(greatschoolibraries.org.uk\)](https://greatschoolibraries.org.uk)

Reading at home

It is wonderful to see the New Year start with such enthusiasm for reading. We greatly appreciate your help with supporting your child to read at home and engaging with your child's new reading diary. Please do speak with your class teacher if you would like any recommendations or support with your child's reading.

This month, so far, our independent readers using Accelerated Reader have read an impressive 1,666,547 words.

Happy reading

Lipson Vale Primary School Reads!



In January 2024, students have read...

267 Books

1,666,547 Words

for **26** minutes/day!

(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE

Accelerated Reader®

News & Events

Congratulations to our half termly attendance winners

KS1 & Foundation



KS2



ARGYLE COMMUNITY TRUST
SATURDAY
TURN UP & PLAY
£5.50 PER SESSION
EVERY SATURDAY

Manadon Sports Hub
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Collective Worship

As we start the new year of 2024, we have been thinking about our value of **responsibility**. Initially, this was to consider what we hold responsibility for and what might be the responsibility of others. For example, who is responsible for the litter throughout our community? This sparked discussion on how the amount of responsibility we have may change depending on the type of thing we are thinking about. For example, the Government are responsible for setting the laws but we are all responsible for keeping them.

Who is responsible for making sure you get to school on time each day?

Dates for your diaries:

30.01.24	Offers class Parents' Evening 1
01.02.24	Offers class Parents' Evening 2
05.02.24	Years 1- 4 Boccia Event (Wear PE Kit to school please)
05-09.02.24	Childrens Mental Health Week
06.02.24	Parents' Evening 1
08.02.24	Parents' Evening 2
09.02.24	Last day of half term
10-18.02.24	Half term holiday
19.02.24	First day back to school
07.03.24	World Book Day



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

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Lipson Vale Primary

