



Notes from the Vale

Friday 10th November 2023

Volume 22, Issue 4

Welcome from Mr Lewis-Cole

Dare I mention that 'C' word in November? Well, we are definitely making preparations for the festive season! We have timetables organised, songs being learnt by all and the orchestra fine tuning their instruments. The build up to our celebrations are always such a wonderfully enjoyable time in school and a time that always brings us together as a community. We are looking forward to being able to show off our efforts to you in just a couple of weeks!

Harvest Festival

At the end of the last half term we celebrated our harvest festival in school. We were amazed, once again, at your kind and generous donations as part of this. The donations were given to St Paul's church to support their food bank that they offer the local community. A selection of School Councillors delivered the food items to St Paul's and helped to unpack and sort it with them. We received a lovely card from St Paul's thanking the community for the donations and for the continued support we offer to them. Thank you.

NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe

We have, this week, taken part in the NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe assemblies. These assemblies are designed by experts to present personal safety in a child centred way. Your child may well come home and talk about this with you. We sent home some details about these which included where you can find more information, if needed. Years 2 and 6 will have follow up workshops next week.

Development of our Year 1 garden

We were very excited over the half term to see that works started on transforming our year 1 garden into a space that can be used throughout the year to enhance learning. Ocean City Landscaping and Groundworks were busy with diggers preparing the ground for a new all weather surface to be laid. The weather was not on their side and the project, unfortunately, was set back slightly. We hope to see this completed in the next week or so and for the year 1's to be outside once again. Thank you to Ocean City Landscaping and Groundworks for their hard work and perseverance.

Individual photos

Unfortunately, the individual photos had to be cancelled due to the storm we experienced last week. We have rebooked these for 28th November and we will run this day in the same way we planned last time. If your child has PE on this day normally, please send them into school in their school uniform with their PE kits to change into. We will send reminders about this nearer the time.

Smoking and Vaping

I would like to remind families that the school site is a smoke free area. This includes vaping. Please do not smoke or vape on the school site or around the gates at drop off and collection time. This is to ensure that the school remains a welcome environment for everyone. Thank you for your support.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

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

Together we

Congratulations



Harris Cup
Andrei Isac



McIver Cup
Nooreh Arsh



'H' Cup
Lucy Sims

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	97.1
Coral	95.9
Seahorses	95.2
Oysters	96.9
Mussels	95.4
Starfish	94.5

Key Stage 2

Turtles	96.1
Sunfish	92.2
Otters	96.6
Dolphins	98.1
Anglerfish	92.8
Orca	89.4
Angel Sharks	93.1
Rays	85.6



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

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

Puffins in FS/KS1

Dolphins in KS2

GREAT ATTENDANCE



On Time Octopus
winning class:
Starfish

Punctuality Penguin
winning class:
Angel Sharks



celebrate

News & Events



Things to talk about at home...

- What is your first memory of money?
- Share your own experiences of money?
- What do you think is the best way to learn about money and why?



Next week we will be celebrating Switch Off Fortnight. This year we will not only be reminding the children to continue to switch off electrical items to save energy, but will also be learning about fast fashion and its impact on the planet. Watch this space for further information.



Wow, what a lot of milk bottle tops! Thank you to everyone who has so kindly brought these into school for recycling. We send them off to Dartmoor Zoo, who are very grateful, as they can raise funds for their zoo. Remember to keep bringing them into school and ask Mrs Hardy if you are unsure of where to drop them off!

Thanks for your support, recyclers!

are musicians

Together we

Our Orchestra have made great musical steps forward with our Christmas pieces. We have our first ever Saxophonist, welcome Rehoboth: it's great having you in our Orchestra.



Year 4 have been extending their understanding of rhythm in using more complicated rhythmic phrases and using these in an accompaniment.

Today in our music assembly, Ayan performed a guitar piece with rhythm and accurate awareness of the music. We all enjoyed it Ayan.



The intermediate recorder group enjoyed breaking up a challenging piece they are performing as part of our orchestra. Now you will be able to tackle the piece with more confidence next week.

Year 6 made a great start to their practical music lesson, creating rhythmic pieces using challenging rhythms linked to the pulse. Great team work Year 6.



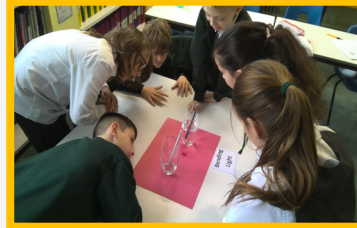
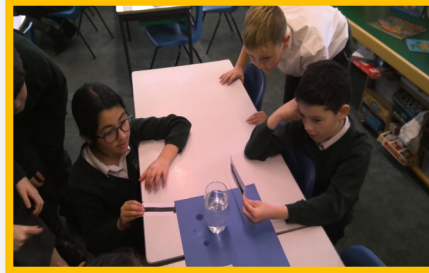
Together we

love to learn

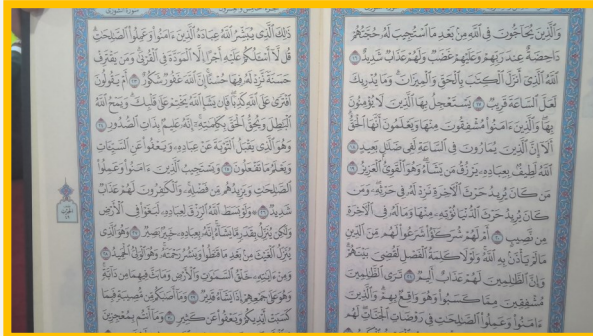
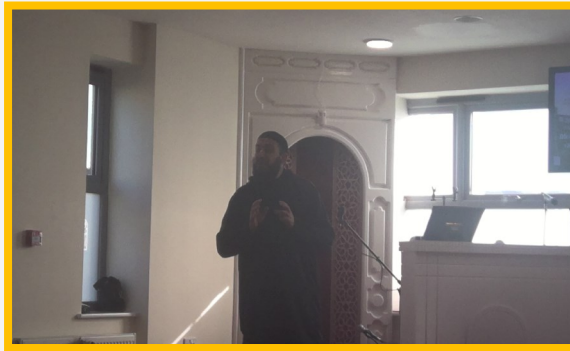


This week, year 6 investigated light phenomena. We found out that light can play tricks on us... Did you know that light can bend a pencil, it can make an object hover, it can make an object change direction and even magnify something?

We took part in several investigations that proved refracting light is happening and we had a lot of fun whilst doing it!



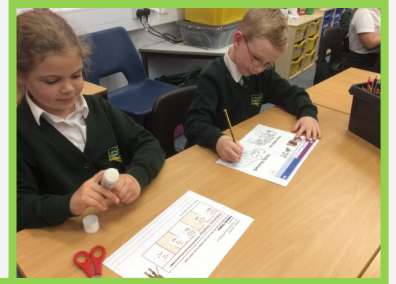
On Monday, the children in Year 5 travelled to the Piety mosque in Plymouth. We learnt lots of interesting facts about Islam and how Muslims worship. In Plymouth, Muslims face South-East for prayer which happens 5 times a day.



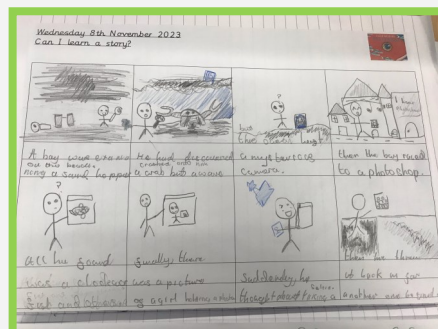
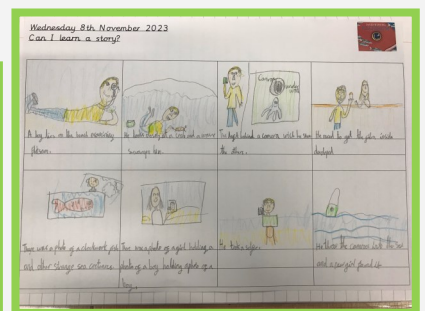
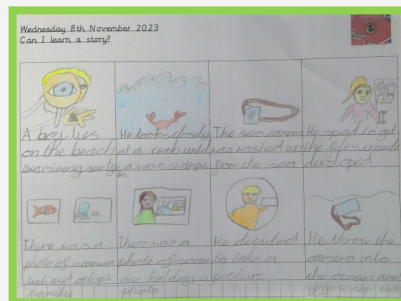
love to learn

Together we

We are excited to share that our Year 3 science class has started a new history module exploring the Stone Age! The students have been learning about prehistory and studying timelines to understand how people lived during this time. They even got to be archaeologists for a day and carefully uncovered some artifacts from the Stone Age. Using their critical thinking skills, they tried to figure out what the artifacts were and who might have used them.



This week, the Dolphins and Otters classes immersed themselves in the wordless picture book, Flotsam, by making predictions, summarising the story and learning the text to inspire our own writing. The children created some fantastic storyboards to help them retell the narrative.



Together we

The children in Year 5, have really enjoyed learning about Islam. They are fascinated about the religious practices of this religion and have really enjoyed learning all about mosques and how Muslims pray. Thank you to Bella for kindly sharing the Qur'an with our classes and also the magnificent Hebrew Old Testament bible - fascinating!



The children in Year 2 have been doing some fabulous home learning. Everyone is really enjoying learning about the geography of the world and studying the book, 'Here we Are.' Well done to Charlie and Jackson for their fantastic homemade globes. Thanks for sharing these with the class.



Our Military Kids group were specially invited to attend the remembrance service held at Efford Crematorium. They asked the veterans questions about their medals and placed a wreath they made as part of the service. Henry was chosen specifically to place the wreath from the Councilor of Laira and Efford.

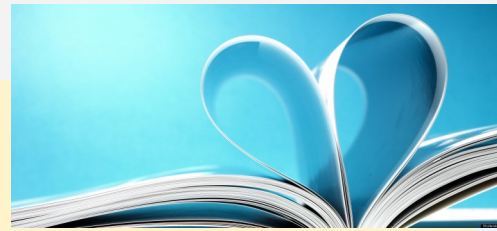


love to learn

Together we

love to learn

We are Readers



Please join us at our Book Fair!

We are delighted to inform you that our Book Fair will be arriving in school soon, with lots of new children's books to browse and buy. There are over 200 titles for you and your child to choose from with prices starting from £2.99. You can securely pay for books at the fair by using the online payment link ([here](#)) or pay with cash.

When: Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st and Friday 24th November between 3.25 – 3.45pm

Where: In the school staff room (Please enter through the Year 6 fire exit and we can direct you from there!)

However, if you can't make it to our Book Fair, but would like to purchase books, your child can bring home a wish list and you can pay for their chosen books using the online payment system. Or alternatively, prepaid vouchers are available [here](#). They are a great way to ensure your child doesn't miss out. Don't forget that every book you buy can help to get FREE BOOKS for our school library!

Reading at home

Thank you for supporting your child with their reading at home and engaging with your child's reading diary. If you would like any tips to support your child's reading at home, please do not hesitate to speak to your class teacher. You can also find some great tips here: [Top tips to support your child's reading at home - BBC Bitesize](#)

Accelerated Readers

It is wonderful to see such fantastic reading around school! A huge congratulations to our young bookworms embracing Accelerated Reader who collectively have read nearly 10 million words so far this year! If your child is using Accelerated Reader at school, you can access information about your child's reading progress via the Home Connect feature which will enable you to see the books your child has read and their average percentage correct on quizzes. Visit our website and enter your child's username and password (Your child should know this, but please ask your class teacher if required).

<https://global-zone61.renaissance-go.com/studentprogress/homeconnect?t=1892766>

Happy reading

Benefits of Reading to Your Child

Take time to read to your child daily and reap these wonderful benefits.

- 1 It can build your child's vocabulary and language skills.
- 2 It can develop your child's imagination.
- 3 It can inspire and make your child love reading.
- 4 It can boost your child's readiness for school.
- 5 It can help your child succeed in school.



Lipson Vale Primary School Reads!

In this school year, students have read...

1,986 Books

9,717,562 Words

for 18 minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®



News & Events

Children in Need

Friday 17th November

Wear something spotty for the Children in Need

'Be Spotacular.'

Suggested donation of £1 to be taken to class on the day.



During the school year 2023/2024 all parents and carers of children in **Year 1** in Plymouth are invited to complete a digital health and wellbeing questionnaire.

The purpose of this is to give you an opportunity to tell us about your child's health so that we can assess the health needs of your child and provide you and your child with any appropriate support, which may include online, telephone or face to face contact.

You can complete this simple online questionnaire by using the following link:-

<https://forms.chathealth.nhs.uk/index.php/336721?lang=en>

or alternatively using the QR code provided below: -



Collective Worship

We have all taken part in the NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe assemblies this week. These assemblies, designed and delivered by the NSPCC, are an important opportunity for us to pause and consider our own personal safety.

Next week we will be moving on, as part of Switch Off Fortnight, to consider the impact of fast fashion. Mrs Hardy will be leading our thinking around this.

What does Harvest mean to you?

Dates for your diaries:

17.11.23	Children in Need Muffin Day
20,21 & 24.11.23	Book Fair 3.25-3.45pm
28.11.23	Individual & Sibling photos
12.12.23	Carol Service @ Emmanuel Church 6-7pm
18.12.23	Whole School Dodgeball
19.12.23	Last day of school & Christmas lunch
20.12.23	Christmas holidays
03.01.24	Non pupil day
04.01.24	First day of term



School Meals



SCAN ME

CATERed 
FEEDING AMBITIONS

School Money



SCAN ME



schoolmoney

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