

# Notes from the Vale

Friday 5th November 2021

Volume 20, Issue 4

## Welcome from Mr Lewis-Cole

Welcome back! I hope that you enjoyed a relaxing and refreshing half term break. I know that, for me, it was a very much needed break from the busyness of school life and I have returned feeling very refreshed for the term ahead. I do hope that you feel refreshed too.

We, unfortunately, are experiencing a bit of disruption at the moment with a number of members of staff being out of school due to illness. We are trying our best to maintain a degree of normality for our pupils but this is not without its challenges. Thank you to all of our families for your understanding whilst staff take the time they need to get back on their feet.

### **Covid-19 case rates**

As I am sure you are aware, Covid-19 has definitely not disappeared. In fact, cases in Plymouth are incredibly high and there is a worrying increase in the rate of younger individuals getting poorly with the virus. You will also be aware, I am sure, that we have had many positive cases in school as well. Whilst we have many measures in place to reduce the risk of the virus spreading, we cannot remove the risk completely. The track and trace responsibility remains with the NHS, but the local authority has suggested that families undertake lateral flow testing when they have been in contact with a positive case for up to 7 days after the last known contact. I recognise that this can be seen as a bit of a burden but is an important step for us all to take to ensure that those in school are not unknowingly spreading the virus to others.

### **Christmas**

Is it too early to be talking about Christmas? Never!

With the current uncertainty of Covid-19, we have taken the decision early to plan for Christmas celebrations that are virtual. This will feel the same as last year with recorded celebrations being made available to families after they have been recorded in school. The dates for these recordings will be released shortly to families. I know that this is likely to be disappointing news but, after much consideration, we believe it is the right decision to make at this time. We would love to have audiences in school and will, of course, monitor case rates closely in the coming weeks and will change plans if live audiences become possible.

We had a lot to celebrate and be proud of last term. Not only were our wonderful pupils working incredibly hard every day to achieve in their learning but we successfully held parents evenings and made sure that pupils got to take part in learning outside the classroom. This is never achieved without a great deal of planning and preparation by our amazing staff - thank you to all our dedicated teachers and support staff for always going the extra mile. I know that we have so much to look forward to this term as well (although, no spoilers!).

Have a wonderful weekend. Stay safe and take care of yourselves.

**Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.**

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

# Together we

## Congratulations



**Harris Cup**  
Maddox Thomas



**McIver Cup**  
Finley Walters



**'H' Cup**  
Khaleila-Bleu Jennings

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	90.1
Coral	87.2
Seahorses	56.8
Oysters	74.3
Mussels	94.2
Starfish	94.1

### Key Stage 2

Turtles	90.6
Sunfish	96.3
Otters	81.6
Dolphins	89.2
Anglerfish	96.9
Orca	94.0
Angel Sharks	93.0
Rays	89.2



## Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

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

**Mussels** in FS/KS1

**Anglerfish** in KS2

## GREAT ATTENDANCE



# Celebrate

# love to learn

Together we

Just before half term, Year Six held an open morning to share their Indian Project learning with their parents. As well as performing an Indian dance and designing a Hindu Rangoli pattern, biscuits were sold in order to raise money for charity. The children made these, using cutters to create hand shapes, which were then decorated with Mehndi hand patterns in icing. Our generous (and hungry!) families bought lots and the total profit after costs was £90!



Today was Year 3's final art lesson on their study of Paul Klee. They added in the detail and were pleased with their results. Mrs Forster is going to select some for a 'We are artists' display.



What a week Year 3 had swimming! The Life Centre staff were as blown away as we were with the outstanding effort and progress of the Year 3 children - we really are the talk of the Life Centre! Such an achievement in just a few days!



This week our Year 2 recorder group had their first lesson. Fantastic energy and enthusiasm. We can't wait for next week.

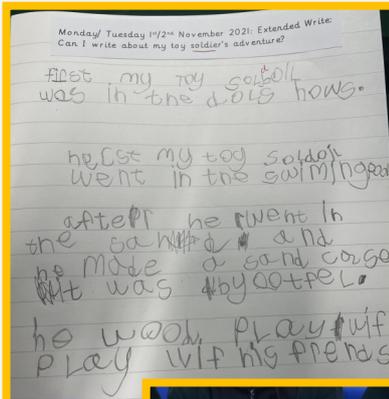


# Together we

# love to learn



Two of our Year 6 guitarists performed in our weekly music assembly. Wow, your piece was so challenging. We were so impressed with your timing.



Year 1 have been so busy in their first week back at school!

At the start of week, we completed our first extended write! We took our own toy soldier on an adventure around the classroom and then wrote about it.

In English we have been learning about fiction and non fiction books and have been sorting them.

In maths we have been looking at how we can represent our numbers and building numbers - who knew we could represent 8 using cupcakes, counters and sticks?!

Finally, it's a very exciting time in Y1 because we have started learning the songs for our Nativity (Yes, already). We can't wait to perform!



This week, Year 5 had the opportunity to write a persuasive letter to their favourite villain! Popular choices included Voldemort, Thanos, Cube Queen and Harley Quinn. Here are some of the pupils showing off their best evil expressions!

# love to learn

Together we

On Wednesday, Year 3 enjoyed their first session of an exciting 6-week project that will take place throughout this term. 4 volunteers from Plymouth Hope visited us and introduced the 'Mid-Ground: Embracing our Differences' project, which works in collaboration with Plymouth Argyle Community Trust and therefore also includes a PE session during the morning too. The children in Year 3 were engaged and interested in all of the discussions about difference and were open and honest in their answers, asking fantastic questions too. They showed great empathy and understanding as they listened to the story of a boy called Alpha, who experienced life as a refugee, before settling in England. We are looking forward to continuing to work with the team this term.



Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

Can I describe my local environment and how I feel about it?

Success criteria:

- Fronted adverbials (showing how, when and where)
- Expanded noun phrases
- Similes
- Interesting descriptive vocabulary - verbs, adjectives and adverbs

Almost unbelievably, something horrible has happened on Plymouth Hoe. A gas canister was discarded carelessly. Eventually the plastic rubbish reaches the sea and the fish will eat it and then it'll eat fish so we need to purpse then clean up this hideous junk like a rubbish dump.

This week, Year 4 started to look at plastic pollution and undertook some short burst writing to describe the litter left on Plymouth Hoe in the summer. We were impressed by the descriptive vocabulary used and how passionately the children felt about this environmental issue.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

Can I describe my local environment and how I feel about it?

Success criteria:

- Fronted adverbials (showing how, when and where)
- Expanded noun phrases
- Similes
- Interesting descriptive vocabulary - verbs, adjectives and adverbs

Something happened in the wet and rainy summer on the Hoe. Unusually there was rubbish and junk all over the nature on the Hoe. When I first saw it I was totally and utterly disgusted by the people responsible for this. The small was like a giant, pungent rubbish dump. People had ditched and discarded all their rubbish. There was broken food, glass bottles, plastic bottles, bags and crumpled cans! Please don't throw clutter everywhere. The worst bit was that it was right next to the sea. It looked like a pig-sty! Animals could get hurt and die! DON'T DO IT!!! Dropping one thing could do a terrible thing. I feel used about it.

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2021

Can I describe my local environment and how I feel about it?

Success criteria:

- Fronted adverbials (showing how, when and where)
- Expanded noun phrases
- Similes
- Interesting descriptive vocabulary - verbs, adjectives and adverbs

On Plymouth Hoe in the summer something unbelievably disgusting happened. People abandoned food, plastic junk. During the summer the landscape and grounds of it like an unbearable disease. As you can see you can see there was litter in every direction. It was like rotting, hideous smells. That is not saving the environment. Everybody just discarded the clutter. This amazing, beautiful landscape has become a useless, pungent pig-sty. I was amazingly disgusted and everybody used to love this place but now it's a vile, foul-smelling mess.

# Together we

For the last 6 weeks, Year 4 have been enjoying a netball unit in PE, looking particularly at skills that will also support their development in other team sports. We learnt the key types of passing (chest, bounce and overarm) along with understanding positional awareness in offensive and defensive positions.

This half term, we have moved on to basketball and in our first session we have been testing which pass types are most effective, reminding ourselves of good technique when giving and receiving a pass. We also began work on dribbling with a focus on keeping the ball under control.



love to learn



## Starting school in September 2022?

**Come and see what Lipson Vale Primary has to offer...**

We will be hosting tours for prospective parents for the September 2022 intake throughout November 2021. Please call the school office on **01752 224801** to book yourself onto a tour.

**Numbers are capped so booking is essential.**

Wednesday 3rd November @ 11am  
Thursday 4th November @ 4pm  
Tuesday 9th November @ 9:30am  
Monday 15th November @ 4pm  
Saturday 20th November @ 11am

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# News & Events



**Need to talk?** 24/7

urgent mental health support for adults living in Plymouth

**First Response 01752 434922**

Livewell Southwest



**Poppy Appeal**

**Zip Pull**  
SUGGESTED DONATION: 50p

**Reflector**  
SUGGESTED DONATION: 50p

**Silicon Wristband**  
SUGGESTED DONATION: £1

**Snap Band**  
SUGGESTED DONATION: £1.50

Registered Charity No. 219279  
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION  
FR REGULATORY

To support this year's Poppy Appeal, the above items will be available from the main school office before and after school. Each item has a suggested donation amount.

**VACANCY**

## Cleaner Vacancy

We still have a vacancy on our cleaning team. It is a 12.5 hours a week contract for 40 weeks of the year. This term time employment offers great flexibility for family life.

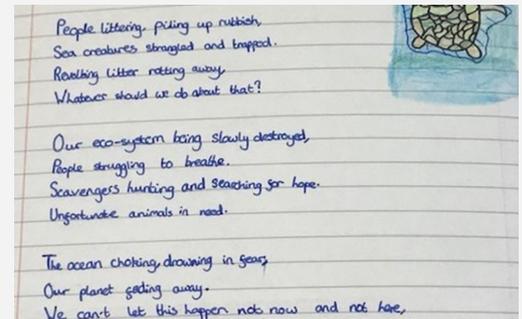
**If you are interested , please contact Mrs Dean in the school office.**

# News & Events



## Things to talk about at home...

- Do you think it's important that world leaders get together to discuss climate change?
- What do you already know about climate change?
- Can you think of any ways, either at home or at school, you can have an impact on tackling climate change?



Many children have been working hard to help the planet as part of the Planet Super League competition. Well done to all of you who took part and scored goals for Plymouth.

We are super proud of all your efforts to help the planet and particularly as a reminder to the world leaders who are attending COP26 at the moment in Glasgow. Let's hope some big plans are made to ensure carbon emissions are reduced and world leaders agree to restrict global temperature rises to no more than 1.5°C.

Here are some fabulous pictures of our children doing their bit to help the planet. Well done to Mrs Smith who makes beeswax wrapping for her sandwiches and never uses clingfilm!



# Collective Worship

This term we will be revisiting our values of 'Collaboration' and 'Bravery'. The focus will be centered around anti-bullying and understanding what bullying really means. We were inspired this week to consider the difference between bullying and conflict. Each class spent some time trying to unpick the difference between these 2 things, using the acronym STOP (Sustained, Targeted and On Purpose).

**How would you describe the difference between conflict and bullying?**

## Dates for your diaries:

- 17.12.21 Last day before Christmas break.
- 04.01.22 Non pupil day.
- 05.01.22 First day back.



**School Meals**



**SCAN ME**

**CATER**ed   
FEEDING AMBITIONS

A vertical banner for 'School Meals'. It features the text 'School Meals' in green, a QR code, a 'SCAN ME' button, and the 'CATERed' logo with a cartoon chef and child, and the tagline 'FEEDING AMBITIONS'.

**School Money**



**SCAN ME**



**schoolmoney**

A vertical banner for 'School Money'. It features the text 'School Money' in green, a QR code, a 'SCAN ME' button, the School Money logo (a green circle with a white wave), and the text 'schoolmoney'.

**Bernice Terrace, Lipson, Plymouth, PL4 7HW**  
**01752 224801**



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Lipson Vale Primary

