



# Notes from the Vale

Friday 20th June 2025

Volume 23, Issue 16

## Welcome from Mr Lewis-Cole

What a week this has been in school. Year 6 have either been out on residential or taking part in a wide range of activities, year 4 have been sailing, year 3 have been visited by a roman, year 5 have been swimming and year 2 have had a special assembly about our music offer as they move into year 3. There is no such thing as a dull week at Lipson Vale Primary School! Last week, year 1 pupils completed their Phonic Screening Check assessment and all did themselves proud with their positive attitude towards these. Similarly, year 4 completed their Multiplication Tables Check and really showed off their knowledge and quick recall of these facts. I am very proud of the dedication shown by all of these pupils. Well done!

Over the last couple of weeks, we have begun to welcome our new families joining us in September. It has been wonderful to meet them and give them some information about what starting with us with looks and feels like.

### Staff changes in September

We will be sadly saying goodbye to a few members of the team in September. Mrs Fice, our amazing music lead, is retiring after a long career at Lipson Vale. She leaves behind a school wide passion for music and a legacy of high quality music tuition. Mrs Diggins, Mrs Coles and Miss Davies will also be leaving us. Each of them are well-respected members of the community and have shown such dedication to ensuring each pupil makes great progress and achieves well. Their passion has been an inspiration to the whole school and they will be greatly missed.

We are welcoming 4 new teachers to the team in September. Introductions for Mrs Wallace, Miss Pugh and Miss Willis are included later in this newsletter. I will, in the coming weeks, also send out an introduction for Mrs Jenkins who will be joining us as Music Lead, taking over from Mrs Fice.

### New classes and moving on

On Monday, we will be emailing families to let you know about classes and teachers for September. Pupils will be told on Monday as well. Transition sessions will start next week on Thursday and continue with a second session the Wednesday after. These sessions prepare pupils well for moving on but for some pupils will be having an enhanced transition with increased time spent with their new teacher in small groups or individually. If this applies to your child, we will communicate with you separately. We recognise that moving on can cause some anxiety for pupils and hope that these sessions will help to settle this. During the transition sessions, pupils will have the opportunity to ask questions, find out about the expectations in their new year group and meet all the staff who will be supporting them throughout the year.

Year 6 pupils are also preparing to move on. They will be visiting their new school over the coming weeks and we will be delivering some transition sessions in school to address any concerns that they may have about this.

Don't forget that our summer fair is coming up on 27th June. If you are able to volunteer your time to support with this amazing event the PTFA would love to hear from you.

Have a wonderful weekend and enjoy the sun.

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

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

# Together we

## Congratulations



**Harris Cup**  
Olivia & Iris



**Reading Cup**  
Ella & Murphy



**'H' Cup**  
Caleb & Abhiman

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   | 89.3% |
| Coral     | 96.9% |
| Seahorses | 93.7% |
| Oysters   | 95.8% |
| Mussels   | 95.8% |
| Starfish  | 95.0% |

### Key Stage 2

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| Turtles     | 96.0%  |
| Sunfish     | 94.6%  |
| Otters      | 96.6%  |
| Dolphins    | 94.0%  |
| Anglerfish  | 94.0%  |
| Orca        | 96.2%  |
| Angel Shark | 99.1%  |
| Rays        | 100.0% |

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

**Coral** in FS/KS1

**Rays** in KS2



**On Time Octopus**  
winning class:

**Oysters**

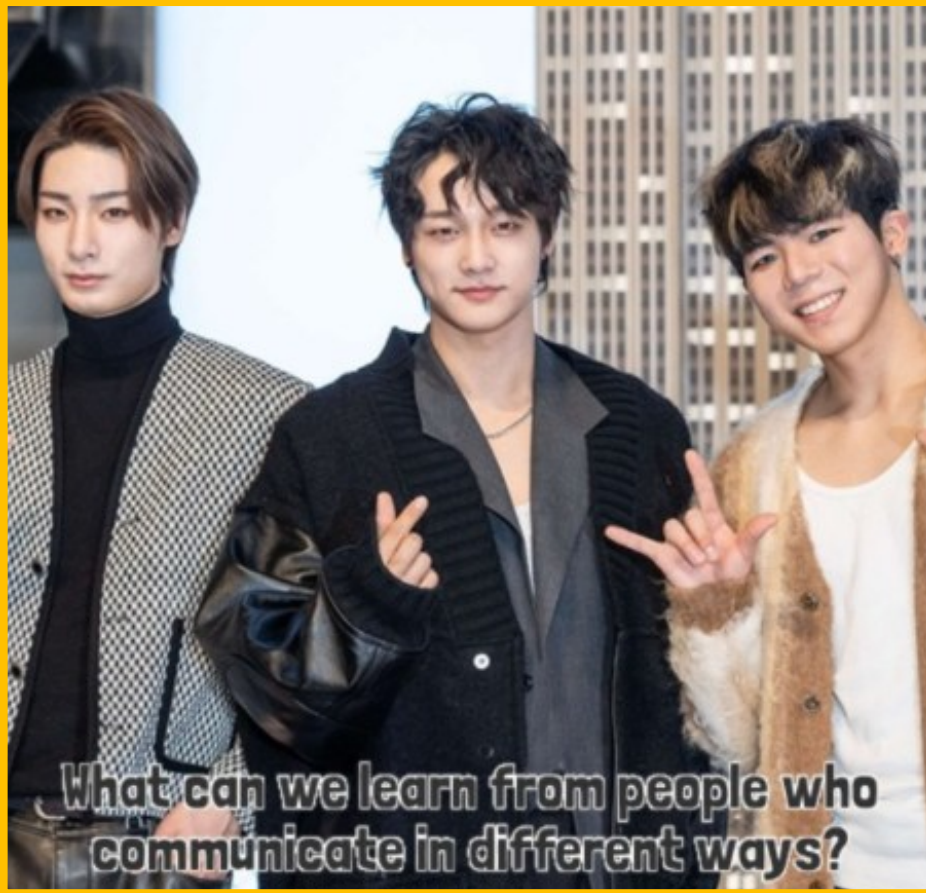
**Punctuality Penguin**  
winning class:

**Anglerfish**



celebrate

# News & Events

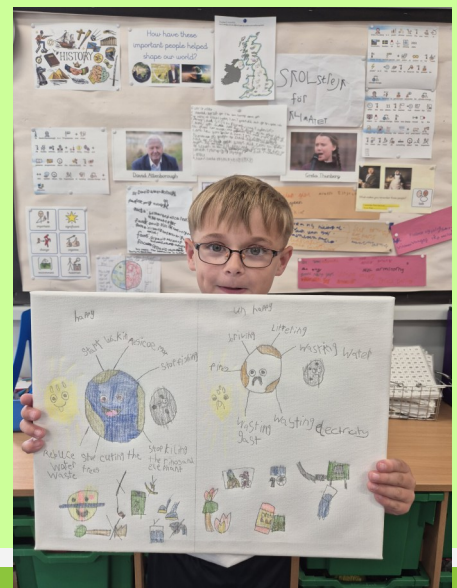


## Things to talk about at home...

- What impact do you think a band like Big Ocean could have through their music?
- Where and when might we use sign language?
- What are some different ways we can communicate with others? Ask someone at home to share their thoughts.



Thank you to Louis for this fabulous piece of artwork. We can clearly see that you are an advocate for looking after the planet and spreading the word to those around you. I know you have loved all the work you have been doing in Year 2 with Mrs Wilkinson; learning about our beautiful planet and how to care for it. Keep up the great work and keep sharing your knowledge about the planet. Thank you





# News & Events

## Introducing...



Hello. My name is Miss Willis. I am absolutely delighted to be joining the Lipson Vale team as a teacher! I have always had a passion for teaching and am especially interested in art and design, as well as helping children build their confidence so that every individual believes in themselves. I look forward to being able to develop a classroom environment where children feel confident, curious, and creative. Outside of school, I enjoy painting, reading and musicals. I cannot wait to get to know all the children and families and I am so excited to be a part of the school community.

Hello! My name is Mrs Wallace and I'm delighted to be joining Lipson Vale as a teacher and Year 5 and 6 Team Leader. I'm really looking forward to meeting my new class during our class swaps next week and beginning, what I'm sure will be, a fantastic year of learning, laughter and discovery together. English is one of my favourite subjects to teach - I love seeing creativity come alive in the classroom, especially through storytelling, imaginative writing and exploring great books. I'm passionate about helping children find their voice and expressing their ideas with confidence through oracy. Outside of the classroom, I enjoy spending time with my family, going for countryside walks, and visiting the beach (although I leave the sea swimming to my two sons!). I'm also a keen photographer and love capturing the beauty of the world around us.

I'm excited to get to know the wonderful children and families at Lipson Vale and to become part of such a welcoming and supportive school community.



Hello!

My name is Miss Pugh and I am so excited to be joining the team this year as a Year One teacher. I have been teaching for three years and have a real passion for building an inclusive classroom environment where every child can flourish. I love making learning fun and memorable through engaging hands-on activities. I can't wait to get to know every child, celebrate their achievements and help them shine in their own individual way. See you all soon.



# are musicians

Together we



This week year 3 continued to push forward on their instrumental skills and learnt to read some notation and initial technique on how to play the guitar and recorder. They were also able to be part of the instrumental workshop which gave them further insight into playing an instrument.



Towards the end of this week, Years 2 and 3 had the opportunity to take part in a music workshop. This is always a valuable experience, as we offer a wide range of instruments for our pupils to learn as they move into Key Stage 2. The workshop allows them to see first-hand what's available and the progress that can be made throughout their time at school. They thoroughly enjoyed watching and listening to the older pupils from Years 3 to 5 perform some wonderful pieces – and even recognised a few! Keep an eye out for a letter about an upcoming taster session, which will give your child the chance to explore whether this is something they would like to pursue.



Year 4 enjoyed creating a simple piece using a rhythm, melody and beat as part of their process in creating their own compositions.





# Together we

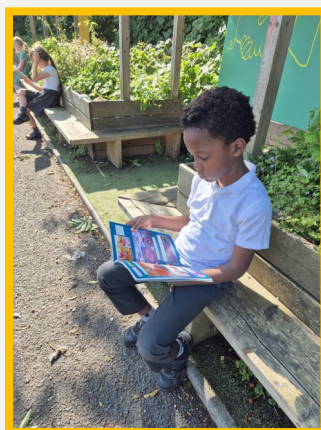
# love to learn



This week, the children in Year 5 have been sculpting and painting their clay crows. They have worked incredibly hard on their projects and the results have been amazing. They have used their skills of sculpting and slip to connect their clay parts together.



Year 2 children were making the most of the lovely weather this week. Reading for pleasure outside during our AR sessions.





# love to learn

Together we

Year 6 have had a great week out and about in Plymouth. On Monday, they had an Escape Room experience where they had to solve clues to escape the classroom. You'll be pleased to hear, none of the groups were locked in! They also had a nature scavenger hunt - it's amazing what you can find on the field when you search hard enough!

For two days this week, they have been sailing at the Mayflower Marina. The weather was perfect and the children were allowed to experience steering the boats. It was amazing to see the Royal William Yard, Mount Edgcumbe, Drake's Island and the Hoe from the perspective of being on the water. When they weren't sailing, they designed and made their own boats which we later tested at the little beach. Some floated really successfully... others not so well! They also sketched from the viewing platform at Mount Wise which provided panoramic views.

On Thursday, Pizza Express kindly provided a pizza making workshop for the children. Whilst they enjoyed making them, the best part was definitely eating them on the Hoe! (And we managed to avoid all the seagulls too!) An ice-cream in the sunshine helped prepare us for the long walk back.





# Together we

# love to learn



Our Year 4 children had a fantastic time this week on their sailing trip at Mayflower Marina. During the day, they designed and built their own boats — then put them to the test to see if they would float! Out on the water, they also had the incredible opportunity to helm a sailing ship on the beautiful Plymouth Sound. We were so lucky with the glorious weather, making the experience even more memorable.



LIPSON VALE  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## The Great Lipson Art Exhibition

Please join in sharing your child/children's art journey this year **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm** enter the school via the entrance doors nearest their classrooms.



# love to learn

## Together we

Year 1 have had a very fun and informative couple of weeks in provision learning about how to eat healthily and about good personal hygiene. They had great fun exploring fruits and vegetables, including cutting them open to see what's inside! They have also enjoyed following instructions to brush a giant set of teeth using toothpaste! In addition, in DT, they have been learning how to join materials together and strengthen bases in preparation for making their own free standing play area structure. Year 1 you've been amazing learners as always!



Year 3's annual Roman day was a hit as always, it is always a privilege to watch our pupils enjoy such immersive experiences and this week was no exception.

Our children loved exploring so many wonderful things about the Romans from meeting a Roman soldier, to playing Roman rummy, completing a Roman numeral quiz to reveal a coded message, becoming soldiers themselves and playing another game called Hadrian's Wall. This week we showed so many of our school values, collaboration being a huge part! We're ready for the rest of our amazing history learning.

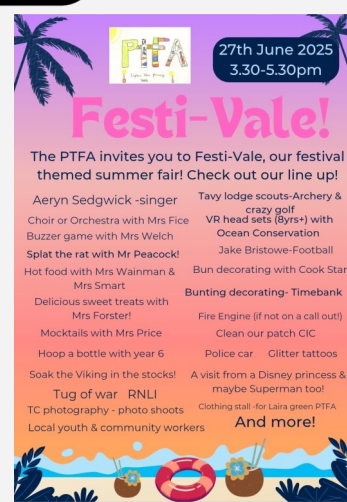
# News & Events



my **child** at **school.com**



Scan the QR code to be taken to our MCAS launch page. Reset your password to activate your account.



**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.





# Collective Worship

This week, Mrs Diggins led our collective worship on the theme of bravery and trying new things. She explored with pupils what it means to be brave and considered if different situations were examples of bravery (for example, trying a new food). Pupils shared a story about bravery and further consolidated their understanding by reflecting upon a poem entitled 'Brave Like Me'.

**How are you brave? What does this feel like in your body?**

## Dates for your diaries:

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| 25.6.2025  | Year 6 Charles Darwin Day   |
| 27.6.2025  | PFTA Mufti Day & Festi-Vale   |
| 01.07.2025 | Year 5 Dartmoor Trip  |
| 14.7.2025  | Whole School Cricket Event  |
| 15.07.2025 | Great Lipson Art Exhibition<br>@3pm   |
| 17.07.25   | Summer Concert Yr 3-6<br>@2-3.15pm<br>Yr 6 (Choir & Orchestra)<br>Summer Presentation |
| 23.7.2025  | Last day of academic year   |



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Lipson Vale Primary

