



Notes from the Vale

Friday 29th September 2023

Volume 22, Issue 2

Welcome from Mr Lewis-Cole

At the start of a new school year, we are always busy getting to know the new pupils in our classes and putting in the support that is needed to ensure they have a successful year. It has been a privilege over the last 2 weeks to meet with teachers in year teams to discuss their pupils in detail and identify any additional support that might be needed. As always, the team here have shown a great knowledge (already) of each individual pupil and any barriers that they might be facing in their learning. As well as this, I have spent some time in classes seeing the great learning that has taken place and the commitment from all adults in setting clear expectations for all. I feel very positive about the year ahead and hope that you share this too.

Parents Evening

We are racing towards the end of the first term (where is the time going!) and it will soon be time for us to hold the first parents' evenings of the year. The dates for these are 17th and 19th October (the Tuesday and Thursday of the final week this term). We are working behind the scenes to get our booking system up and running and hope to be able to send out the link to you early next week. Until then, please pop these dates in your diary so that you are able to come and hear about how your child has settled into their new year group.

Councillor Cresswell

We were pleased to welcome Councillor Cresswell into school last week. She was keen to visit the school and find out about our curriculum and approaches to supporting pupils in school. Councillor Cresswell visited our classroom and spoke to our pupils whilst they were learning.

Mental Health First Aid training

This week, 10 members of staff from across the school have taken part in 2 days of training on Mental Health First Aid for children. Mrs Stephens was able to secure funding through a charity to bring the training to school and offer it to so many members of staff (thank you!). This is a great opportunity for us and helps us to continue our drive in ensuring that mental health and wellbeing is placed firmly at the heart of what we do. We have further training for adults mental health coming up in November.

Parking Reminder

Just a simple and polite reminder about safe parking outside of the school. As a residential road, there should be no parking in front of residents driveways or garages at any times. Similarly, no one should be stopping on the zig zag lines at the front of the school. This includes temporarily stopping to let your children out of your car. The safety of all of our pupils and their families is an absolute priority for us all so safe and respectful parking is a must. Thank you.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Why not head into the city centre to check out the UK Space Agency's Space For Everyone Tour that has landed on the Piazza between 28th September and 2nd October. This is a free event that is set to excite you about the possibilities within the growing space sector.

Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

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

Together we

Congratulations



Harris Cup
Ellie Taylor



McIver Cup
Jorja Hefferman



'H' Cup
Louie Bleasdale

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	n/a
Coral	n/a
Seahorses	96.2
Oysters	96.3
Mussels	91.8
Starfish	94.3

Key Stage 2

Turtles	96.1
Sunfish	95.0
Otters	96.6
Dolphins	93.2
Anglerfish	92.4
Orca	94.1
Angel Sharks	95.2
Rays	85.5



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

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

Oysters in FS/KS1

Otters in KS2

GREAT ATTENDANCE



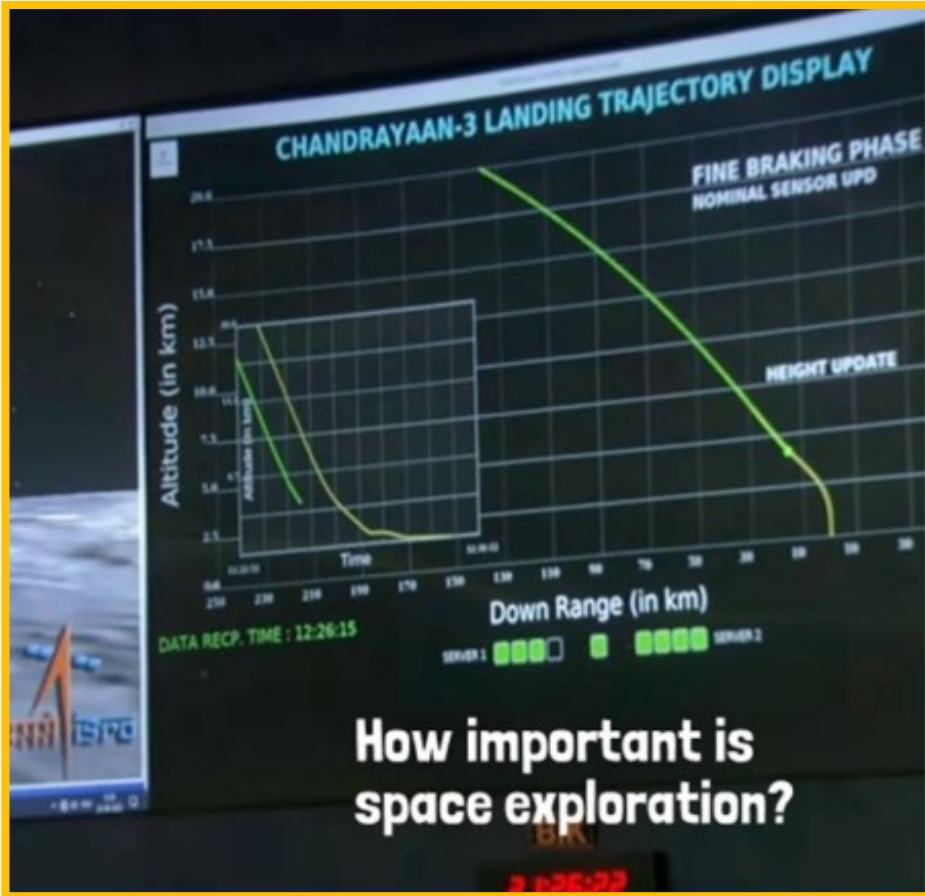
On Time Octopus
winning class:
Starfish

Punctuality Penguin
winning class:
Otters



celebrate

News & Events



Things to talk about at home...

- Share your thoughts on the recent competition for countries to reach the Moon's South pole.
- Is space exploration something that interests you? What do you think we can learn from exploring space?



Hooray we have received **PLASTIC FREE STATUS** for our school from Surfers Against Sewage!

Thank you to all the adults and children who have worked tirelessly to achieve this over the last few years. It is thanks to our wonderful children and Eco team who have had the drive and enthusiasm to make this happen. We can now proudly display the placard we have been awarded. Watch this space as we continue to educate one another and reduce our use of single-use plastics at Lipson Primary.



are musicians

Together we

Our music assemblies have definitely 'hit the road' this term. This week we were treated to two performances. Our Year 6 musicians played a jazzy duet with intricate rhythms. Jack from Year 4, loved showing his improvised piece on a mini harp, using rhythm and melody. All of KS2 then made a great start at learning a new Harvest song. What a great way to start the day.



Good to see our Orchestra arriving early to unpack instruments for our weekly session. We have worked really hard and are looking forward to our first performance at our Harvest Festival.

Year 2 used their playing and listening skills today in their rhythm study. We loved a piece about a jockey and moved in time to the rhythms.



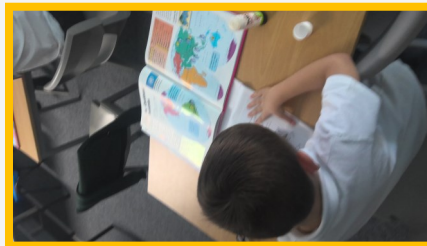
Our recorder groups have started again this term. We played a section of favourite pieces before practising our new note E. You made a super sound altogether.



love to learn

Together we

We have been delighted to welcome back Mr Smith, our drum teacher, each Wednesday. He has been delighted with the enthusiasm and focus of his students. Two of our more experienced drummers now play in our Orchestra.



This week Mussels class enjoyed using an Atlas to explore the seven continents. Year two parents - why not ask your child/ren to sing you the continent song?

This week in RSHE, Year 6 have been exploring dares and challenges and why understanding the difference between the two is an important part of growing up. We had some excellent discussions about how dares include an element of risk, while challenges healthily push us outside of our comfort zone. We explored this by playing a great game of 'Truth or Dare' where people ended up acting like chickens, doing the worm and sharing their most embarrassing story... it was a lot of fun!

Playing the 'Truth or Dare' game made us think about how it felt to carry out dares. Fortunately, our dares were more fun than dangerous!



Together we

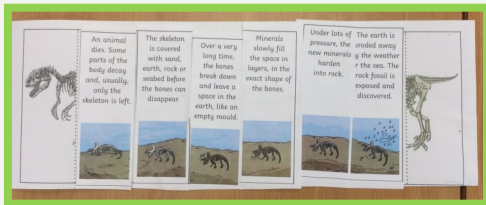
love to learn

Our young Year 3 learners have been busy exploring new concepts and building their problem-solving skills.

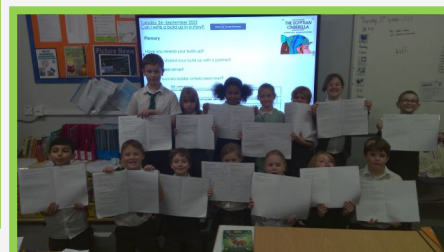
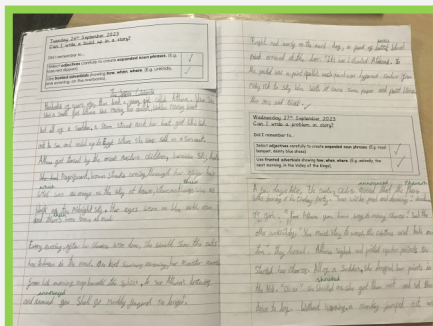
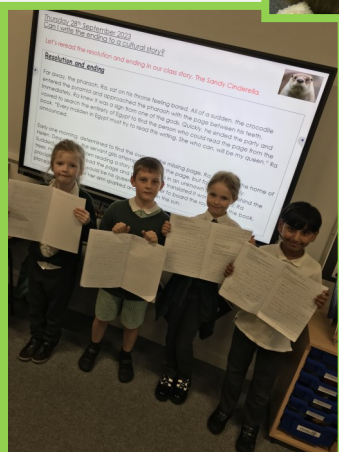
This week, they have been focusing on partitioning numbers flexibly, which has been a thrilling challenge for them. This important skill not only strengthens their mathematical foundation but also encourages them to think critically and creatively.

In science, our Year 3 explorers have embarked on a fascinating journey into the world of paleontology.

They've been learning all about how fossils are formed, from the gradual process of mineralization to the incredible preservation of ancient life forms. This hands-on experience has ignited their curiosity and sparked their imaginations!



This week, Year 4 have been working hard in their English lessons writing their own version of the cultural story, The Egyptian Cinderella. We have been impressed with the children's resilience as well as their use of interesting vocabulary, fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases. Well done to the Dolphins and Otters class.

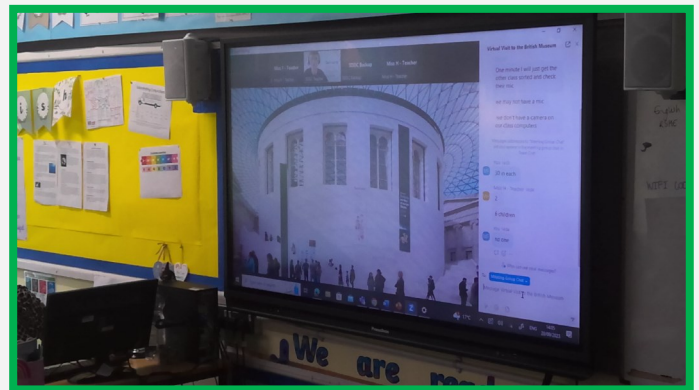


love to learn

Together we



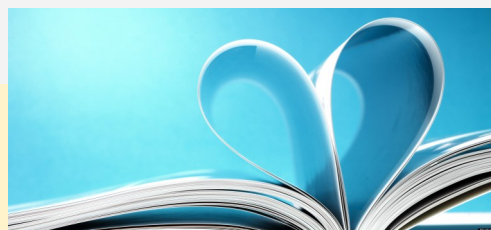
On Thursday, the children in Orca and Anglerfish received a virtual visit from the British Museum. They were able to learn new facts about Ancient Greece and understand the different temples. The children also had the opportunity to design their own temple, which God it would be dedicated to and where it would be on the map.



Together we

love to learn

We are Readers



Our pupil librarians

Congratulations to our new Year 6 librarians who have shown great responsibility and commitment by volunteering to help organise and tidy the books in our library and help other pupils to find what they are looking for. Thank you to Arya, Maddox, Emily, Heidi, Katie, Iris, Saanvi, Samuel, Zaafiah and Kobi. We greatly appreciate your hard work!

Love My Books

This website contains a wealth of free resources linked to wonderful children's books. It is for parents, carers, teachers, schools and early years staff, created by literacy experts. Free and ad free with over 250 activity pages full of creative book-based ideas, it is definitely worth a browse and signing up to receive the regular newsletter too.

[Welcome to lovemybooks! | lovemybooks](http://www.lovemybooks.com)

National Poetry Day

On Thursday 5th October, we will be celebrating National Poetry Day, which this year focuses on the theme of 'refuge'. Next week, we will be reading poems and encouraging pupils to write their own. If you would like to celebrate with us and enjoy some poetry together, then visit: [National Poetry Day - the UK's biggest mass-participation celebration of poetry](http://www.nationalpoetryday.com)

Happy reading

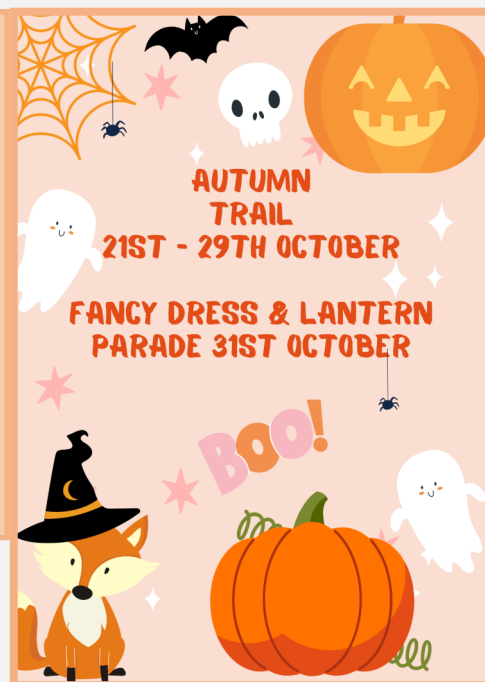


News & Events

Between Saturday 21st and Sunday 29th October come and follow the Spooky Autumn Trail around our gardens between 10.30am and 4.30pm. Each trail pack is £3.50 and includes a mask to colour, crayons, a yummy chocolate, a Halloween crossword puzzle and 1 Spy sheet.

We will also have a free entry fancy dress and lantern parade around the arboretum from 4.30pm-6.30pm on Tuesday 31st October and our cafe will be open for hot chocolate and cake. Dress up as scarily as you dare, and bring your own lantern or torch. It will be a scream!

<https://www.thegardenhouse.org.uk/whats-on/autumn-trail-and-fancy-dress-lantern-parade/>



Collective Worship

We have been continuing to settle ourselves into the new school year by exploring our Window of Tolerance. This is a school wide strategy that we use to help us know our own feelings and understand the big feelings that we have. Pupils have been thinking about what it means to be outside of their 'window' and discuss personal strategies that can be used to help us feel 'cool, calm, collected and connected' again.

How does your body feel when you are outside your window?

Dates for your diaries:

05.10.23	National poetry day
23 - 27.10.23	Half term break
30.10.23	Non pupil day
31.10.23	First day of second half term
02.11.23	Individual and Sibling photos
10.11.23	Flu vaccinations
06-10.11.23	NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe week
19.12.23	Last day of school
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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Lipson Vale Primary

