



Notes from the Vale

Friday 9th February 2024

Volume 22, Issue 9

Welcome from Mr Lewis-Cole

Here we are at half term. January is over and spring will soon be upon us. It has been an incredibly busy half term, full of engaging learning and experiences. Although a short half term, I know that there are lots of tired eyes across the school looking forward to a weeks break.

Parents' Evening

Thank you to all our families that were able to attend parents' evening this week. I hope that you found this a positive experience and were able to hear about the progress made by your child and how we are supporting them to reach their potential. We had nearly 90% of families attend which is the highest turn out we have had since I have been headteacher. Those families who were not able to attend should speak to their child's teacher to see whether a meeting can be organised.

Mental Health Week

This week, we have been celebrating mental health week in school. This is something that we are very passionate about and we have invested heavily in developing our shared understanding of mental health and the support that can be offered to pupils and staff. Mrs Stephens and Mrs Coles are leading on this area in school and are continually thinking deeply about how to improve systems for everyone to get support when needed. Thank you for your kind donations on Wednesday. We raised £230.85 which will go to the charity Beyond so that they can continue their good work. This charity gifted us a large sum of money this year so that we could train 23 members of staff as mental health first aiders for children and adults.

Exciting changes coming

I have been saying for a while now that we are having new play equipment installed. Now the waiting is over! During half term we have an enormous team coming from Outdoor Play to install not 1, not 2 but 3 new play areas for our pupils. The installation of these areas mark the start of many more exciting improvements to the outdoor space over the coming year. If you happen to walk by school over half term, make sure you check out their progress and see all of the new spaces being created.

Sad goodbyes

Sadly, today we are saying goodbye to Miss Cromarty (Otters' teacher) who is leaving us as she starts her maternity leave. Miss Cromarty has only been part of the Lipson Vale team for a relatively short time but has made such a positive contribution to the pupils and community. She will definitely be missed but we hope that she will keep in contact and let us know when her gorgeous boy is born. As Miss Cromarty leaves, we welcome Miss Bridgeman to the team. She will be taking over as Otters' teacher for the remainder of the school year.

At the end of February, we will also be saying goodbye to Miss Cooper (who works in Year 2). She will be leaving us to start at a new school across the city. Miss Cooper has been part of team Lipson Vale for 19 years. In that time she has undertaken many different roles, including a meal time assistant, working one-to-one with pupils and as a class based teaching assistant. I am sure you will join me in wishing her all the best as she starts her new job. Thank you, Miss Cooper, for always going above and beyond for our pupils, their families and the wider community. You will be missed.

I hope that you all have a wonderful half term and find time to switch off a little to recharge your batteries. I am sure the term ahead is going to just as busy as the last.

Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

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

Together we

Congratulations



Harris Cup
Andra P



McIver Cup
Ivan E



'H' Cup
Chipo 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	86.6
Coral	92.1
Seahorses	99.3
Oysters	89.3
Mussels	97.3
Starfish	98.0

Key Stage 2

Turtles	96.2
Sunfish	96.3
Otters	88.2
Dolphins	95.2
Anglerfish	98.3
Orca	97.6
Angel Sharks	98.3
Rays	87.9



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

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

Seahorses in FS/KS1

Anglerfish & Angel Sharks in KS2



On Time Octopus
winning class:
Coral

Punctuality Penguin
winning class:
Sunfish



celebrate

News & Events



Things to talk about at home...

- Can you remember the last item of clothing you bought or were given? Where was it from and what was it for?
- What does 'being fashionable' mean to you? Is it important to you? Talk to others at home.
- What do you do with the clothes that you no longer need or that no longer fit?



Thank you to our fabulous litter pickers who have been working hard to keep our school clean and tidy. They were quite surprised by the amount of litter they found in the playground today.

Please make sure you always put your litter in the bin.

Thank you everyone!



are musicians

Together we

Our music assembly this week was a little bit different as it was held on our Beyond, the youth mental health charity, mufti day. The previous week we chose songs which we enjoyed and helped us to relax and improve our mood. We decided that music, both listening, performing and moving to it, is a great activity to help our mental health. We sang a song from Mary Poppins, led by the choir, and listened to a range of performances from our many musicians at Lipson. Some extra students were invited to accompany the recorder sava performance.



Mason in Year 4 performed two lively pieces on his electric guitar which he has been learning with Mr Pettit. We really enjoyed the exciting sound and lively rhythms Mason.



The Orchestra have worked hard at polishing two challenging pieces this week which will be shared with an audience at the Spring Concert. Counting carefully through bars of rests has been a skill they have all been working hard on. Great effort everyone.



Together we



are musicians

Mussels and Starfish helped to plan a Tasmanian musical performance this week as part of their, 'we are performers,' study. They used a range of individual musical skills, rhythm, pitch patters, dance moves and songs in their delivery.



Thank you for the donation of the fantastic drum - it has already been put to good use in the Year 5 music lesson this week.

Year 5 successfully achieved their musical outcome this week. They rehearsed the musical phrase in groups, before performing them consecutively to create their Viking song.



love to learn

Together we

This week in year one, we have planned, made and evaluated our own fruit and vegetable smoothies. We prepared the fruit and vegetables using knives for slicing, a grater, and a juicer. We used a blender to mix together the ingredients and tasted the results!

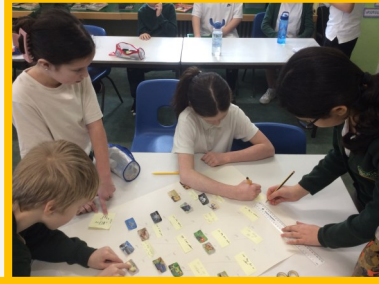


This week Year 2 went on a local walk around Lipson. They observed and collected data on the land uses and used a tally chart to record the number of human and physical features they found. Back in class they compared the data collected to an area in Coles Bay, Tasmania.



Together we

In science lessons, Year 6 have been exploring classification systems and how we can group living things according to certain characteristics. They used their prior knowledge of vocabulary such as: carnivore, herbivore, omnivore, vertebrate, invertebrate, amphibian, mammal, extinct and endangered to sort a selection of animals and create their own classification key called a branching database. They learnt a lot about what questions to ask when classifying animals and being specific with the terminology they used.



Celebrating Mental Health Week by dressing up in yellow, black or pink. Thank you for your kind donations which will support Beyond to continue their excellent charitable work.

<https://wearebeyond.org.uk/what-we-do>

love to learn

love to learn

Together we

In Year 4, Otters and Dolphins have embraced their painting focus this term. They have enjoyed looking at the work of the impressionist painter Cezanne, and trying out different techniques.

They have worked hard to develop their understanding of background, and foreground in their own landscapes when they added details onto their work.



The children in Foundation have been busy with their learning this week. In maths they have been learning about odd and even numbers and their 'must do' activity was to work independently to sort the numbers accordingly. Everyone did a great job! We have also been doing some super writing based on a lovely story book, about digging for treasure in the sand. Lots of super learning. Well done everyone!



Together we

love to learn

We are Readers



World Book Day - Thursday 7th March

This year, we are theming our celebration, 'Bedtime Stories' and invite children to wear their pyjamas, dressing gowns or onesies to school and bring with them favourite bedtime story book. During the day, children will be given a paper plate to decorate with their favourite book character for the chance to win a book voucher as well as taking part in other fun book themed activities.

Before the event, every child will be given a free £1 book token which can be exchanged for an exclusive, free £1 World Book Day book OR used to get £1 off any ANY book or audiobook costing £2.99 or more. You can find your nearest bookseller, Asda, Sainsburys or Tesco, as well as information about the World Book Day books available at [Participating retailers - World Book Day](#)

We would also love you to celebrate with us by joining your child's class before the end of the school day for a bedtime story. Thank you for your support of this important celebration to promote a love of reading.

Inclusive Books for Children

If you are looking for recommendations for brilliantly written and illustrated inclusive children's book titles, the charity Inclusive Books for Children has a brilliant website that champions inclusivity and diversity in children's literature.

[Inclusive Books for Children](#) | [Inclusive Books for Children](#) | [IBC](#)

Reading for Pleasure

Reading for pleasure is a vital indicator of a child's future success – more than their parents' educational background or their family's income. We want all children to enjoy a life-long habit of reading for pleasure and the improved life chances this brings.

We greatly appreciate your support with reading at home and want to ensure our pupils develop a long lasting love of reading. We are delighted that our independent readers using the Accelerated Reader scheme have read an impressive 296 books this month, totaling 1,788,933 words during an average of 50 minutes of reading per day. Thank you for support with reading at home.

Happy reading

Lipson Vale Primary School Reads!

In February 2024, students have read...

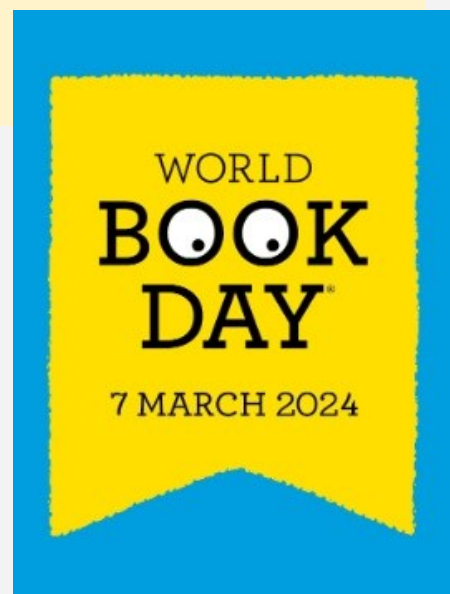
296 Books

1,788,922 Words

for **50** minutes/day!
(individual student average)



RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®



News & Events

Attendance Breakfast Winners

KS1 & Foundation



Mussels

KS2



Anglerfish

Pisces Swimming Club

Based at the Plymouth Life Centre, we provide regular private swimming sessions for people of all ages with any type of disability.

Our aim is to provide a friendly and safe environment where our members, together with their families and carers, can swim in comfort and privacy. Further information can be found at:

<https://piscesclub.wordpress.com/sessions/>

CATER

WORLD BOOK DAY

CELEBRATE THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF LITERATURE
THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2024

HORRID HENRY'S GREEDY CRISPY BUN (CRISPY CHICKEN BURGER IN A BRIOCHE ROLL)
BIG FINGER BURGER (CRISPY PANE SAUSAGE IN A BRIOCHE ROLL)
SUPERTATO'S HERBY WEDGES
VARIOUS DECORATED SHAPED CUSTARD BISCUITS.

FIRST TOUCH FOOTBALL

CALLING ALL BUDDING FOOTBALLERS

YEARS 2-7

FIRST TOUCH FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT DAY

16TH FEBRUARY 2024, 9AM - 4PM
@ EGGBUCKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

6-A-SIDE FULL DAY EVENT
FOOTBALL INFLATABLES & LOADS OF PRIZES

COST:
Enter a team of 6 - £60
Enter as a 3 - £30
Solo Entry - £20

GIANT KICK DARTS & PENALTY POWER

SCAN TO ENTER

★ GREAT TOP PRIZE FOR WINNING TEAM ★

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STANDARD DAY 8.30AM - 4.30PM
EXTENDED DAY 8.00AM - 6.00PM

FROM **£35** PER DAY
PRICE INCLUDES ALL XTRA ACTIVITIES

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AGES 3-12

HALF TERM 12TH-16TH FEB

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6-8 yrs old
9-12 yrs old
OF ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

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- PERFECT PASSING

Maximum fun, with no pressure and a great learning environment, all delivered by Basketball England qualified coaches & PE teachers

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Collective Worship

Last week, we used our collective worship time to introduce the roles of the peer mediators. Classes in KS2 were given information about the recruitment into these roles and the training that was provided so that each peer mediator could fulfil these roles well. We also discussed when and why we might speak to a peer mediator and what to expect from the conversations.

This week, Mrs Coles led the school in thinking about mental health and developing a shared understanding of what mental health is.

How would you describe your mental health today?

Dates for your diaries:

10-18.02.24	Half term holiday
19.02.24	First day back to school
19.02.24	Year 4 daily swimming lessons begin for 3 weeks
21.02.24	Years 1 & 2 Martial Arts Day
27.02.24	Years 4 & 5 Parkour Day
29.02.24	Years 3 & 6 Parkour Day
07.03.24	World Book Day
29.03.24	First day of Easter holidays
15.04.24	Non pupil day
16.04.24	First day of summer term



School Meals



SCAN ME

CATERed 
FEEDING AMBITIONS

School Money



SCAN ME



schoolmoney

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www.lvps.co.uk



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@LipsonValePS



Lipson Vale Primary

