



Notes from the Vale

Friday 26th January 2024

Volume 22, Issue 8

Welcome from Mr Lewis-Cole

Welcome to the latest edition of Notes from the Vale.

PTFA Annual General Meeting

I have been having many conversations with families about wanting to get involved with the PTFA - here is your chance! On Monday 5th February at 3.40pm the PTFA are holding their annual general meeting. Amongst other things, this is a great opportunity to discuss events that will take place across the year and to offer up your time and support in enabling these to take place. It would be amazing to see more families being part of the PTFA and for the fund raising opportunities and events to increase. Please do get involved.

Peer mediators

As I mentioned previously, the peer mediators are now fully trained and Miss Cusack has drawn up their rota. This has been shared with them and we are hoping that they will soon start their roles and provide additional support on the playground for low level disagreements. There will be a launch assembly on Monday to introduce this to the whole school.

Parents' Evening

The booking system is now live so please make sure that you have booked your appointments to see your child's class teacher. Parents' evenings are such an important part of school life and an opportunity for us to share all the brilliant things your child is doing in school.

Luke Pollard visit

It was wonderful to welcome Luke Pollard to school today. He wanted to find out about the school, the things that worked well and the challenges that we are facing at the moment. Luke visited every classroom and saw great learning taking place and respectful learners. Year 5 were particularly excited as they have recently been writing persuasive letters to Luke about plastic and plastic pollution. Luke spent some time in each year 5 class answering some questions that they had.

NSPCC Number Day

Next Friday (2nd February), we are celebrating Numbers Day in school. Pupils are invited to come to school 'dressed as a digit' on this day. Donations will be collected to support the NSPCC. As this day will also include a Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) relaunch, pupils in years 3 to 6 are invited to come to school dressed as a rock star instead of as a digit. As well as completing number related activities throughout the day, we will also come together for a celebration assembly. There may be wigs involved!

Team Lipson Vale update

We are edging ever closer to saying goodbye to Miss Cromarty when she starts her maternity leave at half term. Miss Bridgeman will be joining the team as Otters' teacher from half term onwards. I know we will make her feel very welcome. In other team news, Mrs West has decided that it is time for her to retire after 30+ years at Lipson Vale. Mrs West has dedicated her professional life to Lipson Vale and it is impossible to measure the significant impact she has had on many young lives over her time. We will, of course, be planning a proper send off near the summer break.

Have a wonderful weekend. Stay safe.

Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

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

Together we

Congratulations



Harris Cup
Amelia J



McIver Cup
Iris R-S



'H' Cup
Matas S

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	90.3
Coral	94.5
Seahorses	96.8
Oysters	91.4
Mussels	99.3
Starfish	94.7

Key Stage 2

Turtles	97.2
Sunfish	96.3
Otters	91.7
Dolphins	90.0
Anglerfish	99.7
Orca	94.1
Angel Sharks	92.8
Rays	87.6



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

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

Mussels in FS/KS1

Anglerfish in KS2

GREAT ATTENDANCE



On Time Octopus
winning class:
Mussels

Punctuality Penguin
winning class:
Angel Sharks



celebrate

News & Events



Is an e-reader better than a book?

Things to talk about at home...

- Do you enjoy reading? If so, what type of books?
- Talk to someone at home about the types of books they like to read?
- Do you think you would prefer to read printed books, or books on an e-reader?
- Do you think that one day e-readers will replace books?



This week, children across the school took part in 'The Big Battery' assembly. They listened to a presentation all about the importance of reducing, recharging and recycling batteries. Did you know that over 1 billion batteries are made every year and that is only in the UK?

Batteries contain chemicals and if left to rot in landfill and soil they will contaminate the soil and water which can threaten animals and plants, and pollute water.

More than 20,000 tonnes of batteries can end up in landfill every year - that is as heavy as 4000 elephants! So we MUST all remember to reduce our use of batteries, use rechargeable batteries and ALWAYS recycle batteries.

Thank you to the fabulous Year 5 children who delivered the assembly this week. Also a very big well done to Year 3 for their great posters.



are musicians

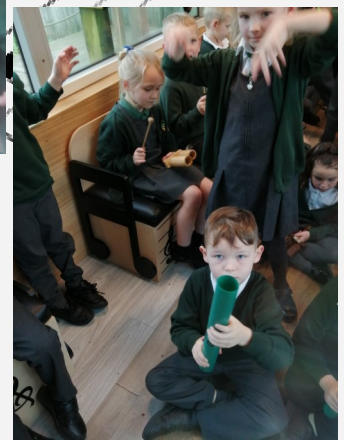
Together we



This week our Year 3 and 4 recorder group enjoyed playing a piece titled, The Odd Sock Samba. We decided to use some drums to support the tricky rhythm.



Year 2 used beat, rhythm and movement to explore a piece of music from Tasmania. Lots of enthusiasm and focus today in your practical music lesson.



This week Year 5 started to write their rhythms for their Viking songs using standard notation. They started to improvise melodies in groups, half the class improvised in a major key and half in a minor key. Next week decisions about our melodies will be made.

Together we



are musicians



We were delighted to welcome two new students to our Orchestra this week. Both Ruby and Mason enjoyed the support from our more experienced musicians in their first session.

Our two Year 3 cornet players are always enthusiastic and prepare well for their lessons. They can now play a range of notes, making a solid tone and showing an awareness of their music.



Joshua is working so hard in his piano lessons. He is now identifying a range of notes and using music to help him. This week he enjoyed playing a piece all about an elephant.



Year 1 confidently showed an understanding of the difference between beat and rhythm this week in their lesson on the music bus. Thoughtful musical statements were made about the Chinese fishing boat, a beautiful piece of music. Many of our musical Seahorses and Oysters could hear when the beat got a little faster. Fantastic listening, Year 1.



love to learn

Together we



On Wednesday, Year 4 were visited by Mr Chapman, in the role of Lord Shaftesbury, and learned how this Victorian Earl and MP helped to improve the lives of Victorian children. During the day, we studied many Victorian artefacts and tried to work out what they were and how they were used during the Victorian era and learned about some important Victorian inventions. The Otters and Dolphins classes decided that the advances in medicine and treatment of diseases, including the discovery of anesthetic, was the most important Victorian invention. We also had fun undertaking a quiz, playing a board game and taking part in a trail to discover facts about Victorian schools.



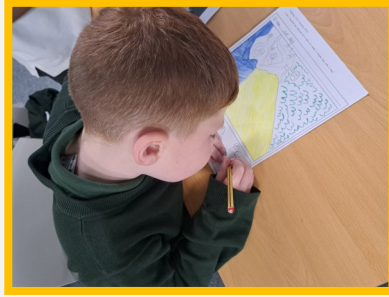
The children in Foundation have been enjoying their geography learning this week. We have been learning about islands and also that the United Kingdom is a large island surrounded by sea. We have created our own islands and added physical features, such as mountains, rivers and forests. Well done for all your great geography learning everyone!



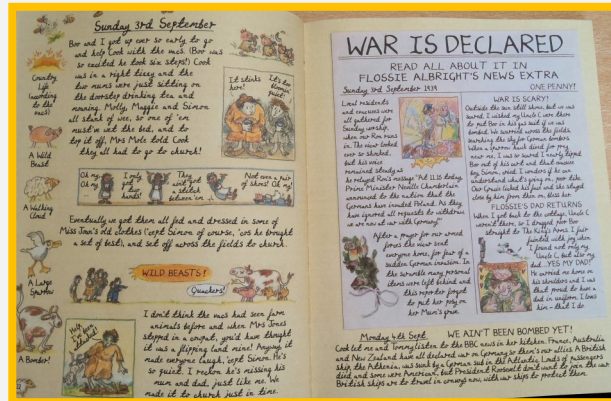
Together we

love to learn

This week Year 2 have explored physical and human features of Coles Bay, a town in Tasmania. The children enjoyed creating a map of the area and used a key to show the features. Well done Year 2.



Year 6 are absolutely loving their new unit of learning about WWII. The book we are reading in English is about a fictional girl who lived during the war and wrote a diary about her experiences. The diary is full of stories about her life and every page is decorated with pictures and stuck-in elements to add further interest. Whilst exploring the text, Y6 made freeze frames of some of the scenes.



love to learn

Together we

This week, Year 1 had a workshop with a Jewish visitor. The children learnt about a range of special and meaningful Jewish objects. We have been learning about what it means to be Jewish and the children were able to share their knowledge with our visitor too. We all gained lots of takeaway facts and enjoyed dressing up to understand more about Shabbat.



Year 3 have been having lots of fun in their P.E lessons where they have been taking part in a range of activities that explore and develop different areas of their health and fitness, including agility, balance, coordination, speed, stamina and strength. Today, we focused on coordination, specifically throwing and catching skills through a range of games.

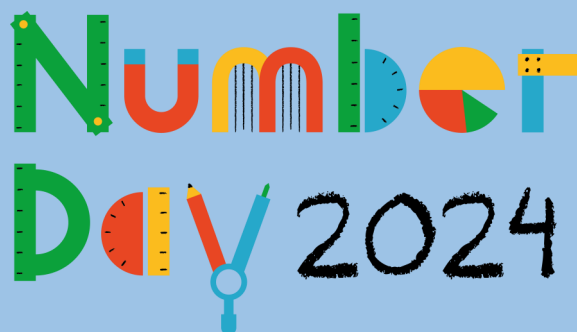
News & Events

We will be taking part in *Dress up for Digits*.

Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it. This can be a favourite sports top or cap, or even a onesie. Years 3-6 are invited to dress as a rock star instead of a digit.

Or why not get more creative and design a unique t-shirt, hat or even become a human-sized calculator or dice!

To help raise money for the NSPCC, we are asking that you donate what you feel you can.

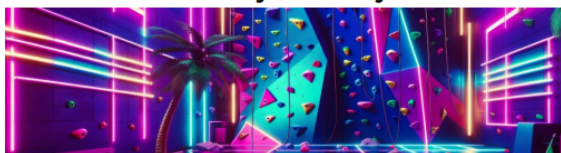


February half term climbing taster sessions.

Join one of our taster sessions.

Day	Age	Start time	Finish time	Price
Sunday	Family session 5+ years	11:00 am 12:15pm	12:00pm 1:15pm	£8.80
Tuesday	Family session 5+ years	12:15pm 1.30pm	1:15pm 2.30pm	£8.80
Wednesday	Family session 5+ years	12:15pm 1.30pm	1:15pm 2.30pm	£8.80
Thursday	Family session 5+ years	12:15pm 1.30pm	1:15pm 2.30pm	£8.80
Saturday	Family session 5+ years	12.45pm 2:00pm	1.45pm 3:00pm	£8.80
Sunday	Family session 5+ years	11:00 am 12:15pm	12:00pm 1:15pm	£8.80

Or come down and try out our Neon Bouldering room Sunday to Sunday.



To book:

Pop into the climbing wall or give us a call on 01752 606900 option 5

If you have already tried climbing and want to learn more speak to our climbing team about at our Climbing Classes for kids and our Adult Beginners' Courses.



PATRIOTS
JUNIOR BASKETBALL

BOOKINGS ARE NOW OPEN

AGES 4-16

THE FIRST STEP OF YOUR BASKETBALL JOURNEY STARTS HERE
BOOK NOW BY VISITING PLYMOUTH-CITY-PATRIOTS.CLASSFORKIDS.COM

Collective Worship

We continued to think about our value of **responsibility**. Our discussions flipped to consider what it means to be responsible to someone rather than being responsible for something. It was challenging to identify the differences and discuss how this feels differently.

Mrs Hardy and some year 5 pupils led our collective worship this week on the theme of 'The Big Battery Hunt'. Each class followed up on the presentation by thinking about how we can responsibly recycle our batteries to protect the environment.

Who are you responsible to and what does this mean?

Dates for your diaries:

30.01.24	Offers class Parents' Evening 1
01.02.24	Offers class Parents' Evening 2
02.02.24	Dress Up for Digits Muffi day
05.02.24	Years 1– 6 Boccia Event (Wear PE Kit to school please)
05-09.02.24	Childrens Mental Health Week
06.02.24	Parents' Evening 1
08.02.24	Parents' Evening 2
09.02.24	Last day of half term
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
07.03.24	World Book Day



School Meals



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FEEDING AMBITIONS

School Money



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schoolmoney

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



www.lvps.co.uk



lipson.vale.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk

@LipsonValePS



Lipson Vale Primary

