

Welcome from Mr Lewis-Cole

Nativities and Carol Service

This week has been wonderfully Christmassy. I had a pleasure of watching both the Foundation and Key Stage 1 nativities. I was delighted to see all pupils taking an active and enthusiastic role in their performance and to see their excitable faces as they sung, danced and delivered their lines with such confidence. Nativities always mark the start of Christmas for me and are a perfect celebration of what makes this time of year so special. It was also brilliant to see so many family members in the audience and the enjoyment on their faces as the nativity story was told.

Don't forget that our annual carol service takes place next week (on 12th December 6pm at Emmanuel Church). The choir, orchestra and readers have been diligently practising over the last few weeks and I am confident that we are in for a real treat. I hope that you can join us.

Peer Mediators

A few weeks ago, we introduced to Key Stage 2 pupils that we would be recruiting some new peer mediators to support at break and lunch times in dealing with low level fallings out. The pupils were clearly inspired as we have received a huge number of applications to take part in this training and commit to this very important role. Miss Cusack and I will be interviewing successful applicants before the Christmas break. 24 pupils will be selected from these interviews to take part in 2 afternoons worth of training delivered by an external company. Very exciting indeed.

Festive Dress Up (and Christmas lunch)

On the last day of term (19th December) we will be taking part in a 'Festive Dress Up' day in support of Save The Children's Christmas Jumper Day. We will be asking families to support this amazing charity by providing a small donation. On the same day we will be celebrating with our Christmas lunch: please make sure you have placed your order so that you don't miss out.

Attendance Conference

I was fortunate to be able to attend an Attendance Conference held by the Local Authority last week. This was positive as it gave me the opportunity to consider our current policy and approach to support positive attendance in school. Whilst it was clear from this conference that our attendance approaches are effective, I was able to identify ways in which we can increase communication about pupil attendance to families. As a result, we will be issuing attendance letters before the Christmas break to parents/carers of pupils who have missed 5 or more days due to absence. The purpose of this letter is to keep parents/carers informed about current attendance percentages and the impact poor attendance has on social and academic development.

As this is the last Notes from the Vale this term, I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a restful break (when we finally get there!).



Together we are inspiring a community with a bright future.

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

Together we

Congratulations



Harris Cup
Amelia



Reading Cup
Oliver W



'H' Cup
Alina

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.



Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

Foundation & Key Stage 1

Puffins	96.2
Coral	92.8
Seahorses	98.6
Oysters	93.3
Mussels	93.4
Starfish	93.3

Key Stage 2

Turtles	93.4
Sunfish	91.0
Otters	97.6
Dolphins	93.1
Anglerfish	93.7
Orca	90.0
Angel Shark	85.2
Rays	87.3

The **highest class attendance** last week

Seahorses in FS/KS1

Otters in KS2

GREAT ATTENDANCE



On Time Octopus
winning class:

Coral

Punctuality Penguin
winning class:

Sunfish



celebrate

News & Events

What is it like to live through an uncertain time?



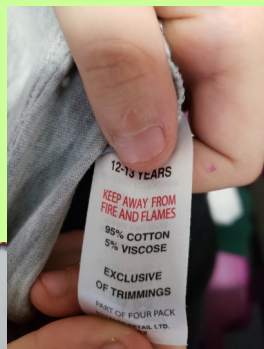
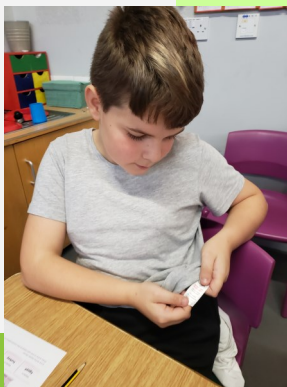
Things to talk about at home...

- Share any prior knowledge you have about volcanoes.
- How do you imagine the people of Grindavik feel about having to leave their homes, not knowing when they will be able to go back?

EASY
ECO
TIPS



The children in Seahorses learnt today about how to have a green Christmas. We talked about how wrapping presents in non shiny paper can really help the planet and reduce the impact of plastics. Christmas presents can look great wrapped in brown paper and decorated with your own drawings or beautiful things from nature.



are musicians

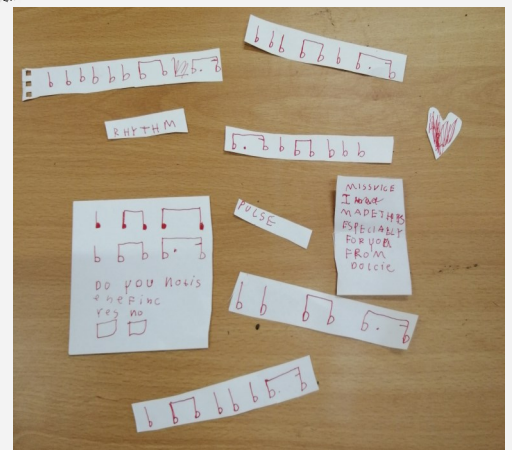
Together we

The Year 3 and 4 recorder group made the most of the stage in their lesson this week. They played through a selection of pieces and strengthened their playing of the low note D, which is quite tricky.



This week Year 3 worked in groups composing and performing pieces about stone age animals in their music study of descriptive music. They have enjoyed listening to music by Saint Saens and using ideas about speed and volume in driving their rhythms.

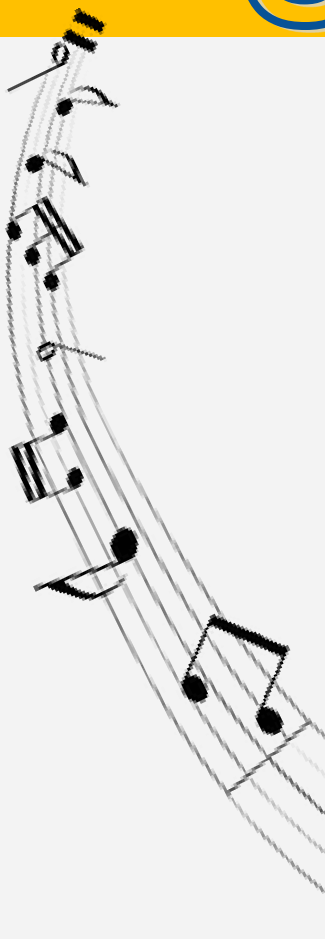
Dolcie from Year 4 followed up the music lesson this week with her own musical home learning. Good to see you remembering our music vocabulary and making up rhythms and recording it with your own notation.



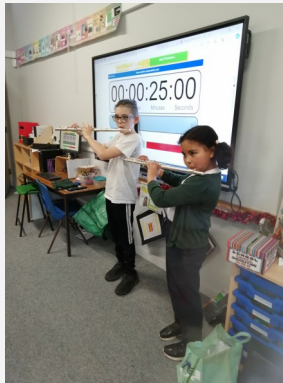
Together we



are musicians



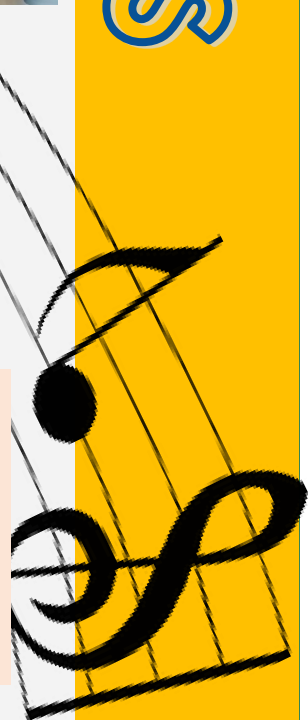
This week, Mr Petit's instrumental ensembles enjoyed rehearsing and performing a selection of Christmas pieces to Otters. Some will be shared in our Carol Service and some will be shared in our last music assembly the following day. We really enjoyed listening to the selection of pieces.



This week, Year 3 walked through the tableau of the Nativity in preparation for the Carol Service whilst listening to the readings and the Carols sung by the choir.



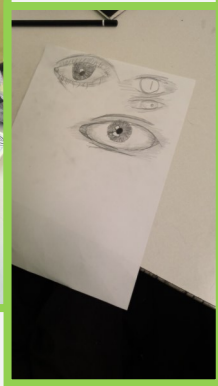
We have been delighted to welcome Mr Twyman from Lipson Academy this term to deliver a hand bell ringing project. The students have to focus and work musically together in their performance. You will be able to hear their performance of Silent Night at our Carol Service at Emmanuel Church on December 12th.



love to learn

Together we

This half term, year 6 have been exploring the art work of Kathe Kollwitz and the techniques she used in her portraiture. Over the last two weeks, the children have experimented with charcoal, which was a lot of fun, as well as working hard to refine their skills in drawing specific features of the face, particularly eyes. We have loved investigating the work of this wonderful artist and are excited to create our final pieces before the end of term!



KS1 have taken part in the Angel Express nativity this week. They all did an incredible job at saying their lines, singing and dancing. Starfish class had a big responsibility of starting the nativity but all the hard work definitely paid off.



These four music students auditioned a few weeks ago and will be sharing their solo performances at our Carol Service in Tuesday 12th. You have all great musical delivery and confidence, congratulations.

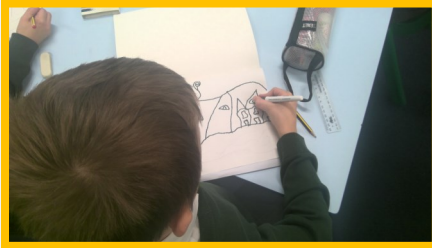


Together we

love to learn



In Year 5, we have been working hard to create our final pieces inspired by Hundertwasser. We have enjoyed learning all about his life, evaluating a range of his pieces and practising different techniques using oil pastels. The final pieces were made using permanent markers and then oil pastels and we are very proud of what we have achieved.

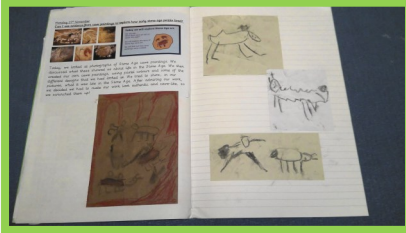


Children in Year 4 have been studying living things and their habitats in their science lessons and undertook a search of invertebrates in the foundation garden. With great enthusiasm, they searched in grasses and soil, under leaves, logs and rocks for creepy crawlies and other mini beasts. When they found them, they used our classification keys to identify which species of invertebrate they were and carefully collected them in petri dishes to study and record their findings in the classroom.



love to learn

Together we



Turtles class were lucky enough to enjoy an Indian food tasting afternoon this week courtesy of Aaryan's dad at Lipson Tandoori. The children were curious to try new things and enjoyed a selection of curries, rice, naans, poppadoms and dips!

Together we

love to learn

We are Readers



Summer Reading Challenge

Last Summer, lots of children took part in the summer reading challenge - a fantastic way to keep reading during the holiday. In last Friday's assembly (a little later than we hoped!), we were able to recognise their great effort and award them with their certificate. Well done to everyone that took part!

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended our book fair recently. During the event, we sold over £710 worth of books, a fantastic amount that has earned us an impressive £280 to spend on new books for our school library.

Reading at home

It is wonderful to see such enthusiasm for reading around school. We greatly appreciate your help with supporting your child to read at home and engaging with your child's reading diary. Your child will be sent home with a new reading diary for the Spring Term before the Christmas holiday.

This month, so far, our independent readers using Accelerated Reader have read an impressive 2,164,668 words.

If you would like to hear more about the power of reading, this Radio 4 podcast is excellent and well worth a listen.

[Analysis - Can reading really improve your life? - BBC Sounds](#)

Happy reading

Lipson Vale Primary School Reads!



In December 2023, students have read...

239 Books

2,164,668 Words

for **64** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®



News & Events

Get Creative



EM-Magination CRAFT SESSIONS

Imagine. Craft. Create



What do we do?

A range of craft sessions, Parties and events, including:

- ◆ First footPrints, Crafty Crawlers, & Messy Makers (for babies and Pre-schoolers).
- ◆ Family Craft and Craft-er School Club (for Primary age children).
- ◆ Care Crafters sessions (we bring crafts to your care setting)

Where to find us

Sessions based at The Rees Centre and Wellbeing Hub in Plympton and the surrounding areas of Plymouth.

For More Information

emmaginationcraft@yahoo.com
bookwhen.com/emmaginationcraft
[facebook.com/EMMaginationCRAFT](https://www.facebook.com/EMMaginationCRAFT)
[instagram.com/emmaginationcraft](https://www.instagram.com/emmaginationcraft)
[tiktok.com/@emmaginationcraft](https://www.tiktok.com/@emmaginationcraft)



CONTACT ME TO FIND OUT MORE!



THANK YOU

FOR SUPPORTING THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION'S
POPPY APPEAL

Certificate of Appreciation awarded to:

LIPSON VALE SCHOOL

Amount raised:

£232.84

Your contribution helps us to support the Armed Forces community,
past and present.

EVERY **POPPY** COUNTS

Registered charity number: 219279

Collective Worship

We have continued to focus on anti-bullying. Each class considered some scenarios that helped us to unpick when bullying was taking place and when it was unkindness. This was very important so that we don't use 'bullying' as a term that covers all incidents of unkindness. Each class has nominated 1 pupil to work with Mr Lewis-Cole on rethinking about anti-bullying response.

We have also been considering why Christmas is a special time of year and how we have been exploring what makes Christmas special for each of us.

What traditions do your family have at Christmas time?

Dates for your diaries:

12.12.23	Carol Service @Emmanuel Church 6-7pm
18.12.23	Whole School Dodgeball
19.12.23	Last day of school , Christmas Lunch and Festive Dress Up Day
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

