

# PUDDLETOWN VC CE FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

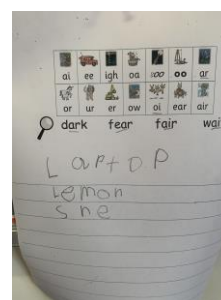
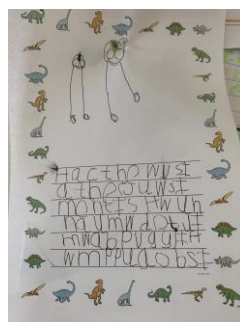
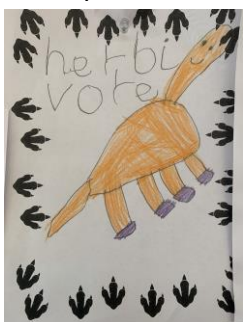


January 2026

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## REMINDERS

It often feels that nothing is happening over the Winter, plants are dormant and yet under the ground, movement and changes are happening that we can't quite see until suddenly plants emerge and bloom. It can feel like that with our learning sometimes. Work is going on and skills are being built but nothing much visible happens for a while until suddenly the learning all suddenly clicks, and big leaps forward are taken. This has certainly been the case in our Reception class. All the fine motor skills that are developed and all the phonics work to learn individual sounds have all come together for many children and writing is emerging. Miss Wilde and Mrs Newtown have so many opportunities to write through play that children are writing for fun. It is so wonderful to see some of our youngest children make the connection between what they are learning and how that can transform into being able to communicate. It is such an exciting process to see and one of the aspects that keeps us all motivated in our work.



### PARKING

Please do not use our school car park for drop off and pickups. Only cars with pre-arranged clearance are to use this option.

Because of the increasing number of these, we are having difficulties with the buses being able to reverse or park. If you do have permission to use the carpark please be considerate where you park to enable the buses to manoeuvre.

### SMART TRACKERS

We are aware that many children were given smart step tracking watches over Christmas and an increasing number of

Next week is world Children's mental Health week and also safer internet day on Tuesday 10/2.

The theme for this year's Children's Mental Health Week is 'This is my Place'. That means feeling like you're part of something, such as your family, your school, your group of friends or a team. These happy moments help us feel connected, valued, and accepted. When we feel like we belong, we feel happy, safe, and ready to learn and play. It helps us grow strong in our minds and bodies, and it makes it easier to make friends, do well in school, and feel good about ourselves. During Children's Mental Health Week, we'll be talking about how we can help everyone feel like they belong. We will share 'This is my Place' so we can learn from each other what makes us feel happy. We'll learn how to be kind, include others, and make sure no one feels left out. Because everyone deserves to feel like they have a place where they are accepted and cared for.

The theme for this year's internet safety day is 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'. In an age-appropriate way, children will explore this theme and expand their knowledge about how to keep safe. We will send out more information next week with links to help support our families navigate this in the ever-changing world of technology.

Tomorrow is our first Charity fundraiser for our toilet twinning charity. Miss Bridge and the school council have organised **BLOO** day to help raise funds to support the building of clean toilet facilities for children around the world. Come in Blue clothes and donate through our just giving page. Unfortunately, banks are making it increasingly difficult for us to process cash and so the Just giving page is the simplest way to donate.

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/puddletown-first-school-5?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/puddletown-first-school-5?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)

As part of our enrichment activities, Year 4 have been tree planting in our school grounds with Trees for Dorset and also worked with children in middle school to develop their sports leader skills.



We are also supporting the RSPB School birdwatch survey and classes will be counting and identifying birds on our school grounds.

Looking forward to a hopefully, dryer February!

Mrs Anna Seal

Head of school

children are wearing them to school. It is very difficult for staff to check whether these devices have internet/messaging capability which we do not allow in school or to supervise any gaming potential on them. Even if your child's device has none of these features, as you can imagine, they can still be a distraction to learning in the classroom and we respectfully suggest that they may be best left at home....

#### FOPS

Cake sale 12/13  
February

World book day Disco  
5<sup>th</sup> March

#### School events

All school events are on the calendar on the school website which is the best place to see what is coming up.