



Winterbourne Valley CE VA First School

Winterbourne Abbas, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 9LW

Email: office@winterbournevalley.dorset.sch.uk

Web: www.winterbournevalley.dorset.sch.uk

Telephone: 01305 889297



Head Teacher Mrs E Sleightholme

Our Mission

Where we are all nurtured in our learning and personal development according to the beliefs of the Christian faith.

Our Values

Respect • Courage • Kindness

Notes from Mrs Sleightholme

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to begin this week's newsletter by sharing an update following this week's Ofsted inspection. While the process was certainly challenging, it was also a positive experience and a valuable opportunity to reflect on our school.

I am incredibly proud of our staff team. The inspection highlighted their commitment, teamwork and dedication to providing the best possible education and care for our children. Inspectors were also very positive about our pupils, commenting on their behaviour, attitudes to learning and the pride they show in their school.

Thank you to all of you for your support and kind words of encouragement this week and for sharing your views on Parent View. Your feedback plays an important role and is greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to receiving the final report in the coming weeks. Once it is officially released by Ofsted, we will of course share it with you. Until then, we remain firmly focused on doing the very best for every child.

Whole School News

Alternative Sports Festival – Silver Birch Year 3

On Tuesday 20th January the Year 3 Class took part in an Alternative Sport Festival which was organised by PH Active Ed.

They had a great time, not even the wind could stop them having a go at some different sports and learning some new skills.



NSPCC Number Day Friday 6th February

To support **NSPCC Number Day**, children are invited to wear something with a number on it as part of their uniform. This could be a birthday badge, a jumper or t-shirt with a number, or any small item that includes a number, there's no need to buy anything new. We will be taking part in a range of fun, number-based activities throughout the day to celebrate maths in an enjoyable way. If you would like to, a small voluntary donation can be made to help support the important work of the NSPCC.

Guidance on Illness and Attendance

We are aware that there is currently a sickness bug going around in the community. We would like to remind parents and carers that, in line with guidance, children should remain at home for 48 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea before returning to school. This helps to prevent the spread of infection and protects both pupils and staff. In school, we will be talking to the children about good hygiene practices, including regular handwashing. While good attendance is paramount, our priority is to ensure that everyone in our school community stays healthy and happy.

The Week Ahead

Tuesday 3rd February – Messy Church at St Mary's Church – Winterbourne Abbas

Friday 6th February – NSPCC Number Day

Wednesday 11th February – Hooke Court Parents information evening

Thursday 12th February – 'Phonics made simple' with Mrs Joslin

Friday 13th February – Non-Uniform day and PTA Bake Sale

Clubs Information

It has also been a real pleasure to see so many children taking part in our clubs this term. The enthusiasm, smiles and sense of belonging they bring to these activities really adds to the life of our school. While some clubs do have a small cost attached, please be assured that all children are very welcome to take part and we never want cost to be a barrier, so if your child would like to attend, we are always happy to help.

Strong roots, successful futures!