



Winterbourne Valley CE VA First School

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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

School newsletter No 9 - 6th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy and enjoyable couple of weeks we have had at Winterbourne Valley! The time has flown by and it has been wonderful to see the children so engaged in their learning and the many events that have taken place across the school.

This week we celebrated World Book Day and it was fantastic to see the excitement and enthusiasm for reading across the school. Our Bedtime Stories event was another highlight and it was lovely to see so many children joining us to enjoy stories together in such a cosy and relaxed atmosphere.

This week we have also welcomed many of you into school. Our parent evenings provided a valuable opportunity to discuss the children's progress and celebrate their achievements. It was also wonderful to see parents joining us for our Praise Assembly last Friday, where we could come together to recognise and celebrate the children's successes.

Thank you, as always, for your support. It makes such a difference to the experiences we are able to provide for our children and to the strong sense of community we value so much at Winterbourne Valley.

Kind regards,

Emma Sleightolme

Whole School News

World Book Day

This week we celebrated World Book Day and it was a real joy to see the enthusiasm for reading across the school. It certainly put a smile on my face at the school gate seeing the children arrive in





their wonderful and creative costumes, proudly dressed as their favourite book characters or words.

Throughout the day the children took part in a range of book-themed activities and we particularly enjoyed our buddy reading sessions. It was lovely to see the older children sharing books with the younger children, creating such special moments and reinforcing our shared love of reading across the school. We also held a special World Book Day assembly with a parade, where the children proudly shared their costumes and favourite characters with the rest of the school.

Our Bedtime Stories event was another highlight of the week. It was wonderful to see the children enjoying stories together in their pyjamas, creating a cosy and magical atmosphere across the school. A huge thank you to our PTA for providing hot chocolate and biscuits for the children – it was a lovely treat and helped make the evening feel extra special.



Arbor App

We hope you are finding the Arbor app user-friendly and helpful in keeping up to date with school communication. This week we will be enabling the payment feature, starting with payments for school trips.

Please do let us know if you experience any difficulties or have any questions while using the app, and we will be happy to help.

Wessex Singing Schools Festival

We are delighted that our Silver Birch children will be taking part in the Wessex Singing Schools Festival alongside other first and primary schools from the local area on 16th March 2026.

The performance will begin at 6:30pm and will last approximately one hour. It promises to be a wonderful evening of music and celebration.

This year, tickets must be pre-booked in advance. You can reserve your tickets using the link below:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FXXK>

We very much hope you will be able to join us to support the children at this special event.

PTA Update

We are incredibly grateful for all the hard work our PTA put into fundraising for our new playground equipment. Their support makes such a difference for the children.

Unfortunately, our front playground climbing frame has now been condemned. Knowing how much the children love it makes us even more determined to raise the funds needed for exciting new equipment.

Non-School Uniform Day – Thursday 12th March

Children can come to school in their own clothes in exchange for an Easter egg donation. These eggs will help create the prize hampers and treats for the Easter Bingo event. (Please note the date change from Friday to Thursday so all children can look smart in uniform for the Mother's Day service.)

Easter Bingo Tickets

We would love to see as many families as possible at the Easter Bingo. Tickets are available from the school office or via Eventbrite:

[Winterbourne Valley PTA Easter Family Music Bingo Tickets](#)

Thank you for your continued support – every contribution really helps make these events special!

Dates for your Diary

We are attaching the 2026/2027 term dates for your reference. Please also take a moment to note a few changes to upcoming events this term.

- Non-Uniform Day – this will now be held on Thursday 12th March, instead of Friday 13th March, to ensure all children are in school uniform for our Mother's Day service.
- Class Celebration of Learning Event – originally scheduled for Friday 27th March, this will now be moved to the Summer term because we will be holding an end-of-term Easter assembly instead. Parents are very welcome to attend this Easter assembly.

Thursday 12th March – Non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate

Friday 13th March - 9am - Mother's Day Service at St Mary's Church

Monday 16th March 6.30pm – Wessex Singing Schools Festival

Friday 20th March - Comic Relief - Non-uniform - wear something red

Monday 23rd March to Wednesday 25th March - Year 4 Hooke Court

Wednesday 25th March - BugFest Science Visit - Year 1, 2 & 3

Friday 27th March - Easter Assembly (8.45am) and last day of term

Strong roots, successful futures!