



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 12 - 1st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

We are now fully in the swing of the new term and it has been wonderful to see such a positive start across the school. The children are thoroughly enjoying the wide range of clubs on offer, including new additions of rounders and athletics, which have been a great success already.

Our gardening team has also been doing a brilliant job planting and enhancing the appearance of our school grounds. Now that the good weather is here, the gardening club can really make the most of it and are busy planting away. We were delighted to win a £160 voucher from Groves Nursery, which means we can purchase plenty of new plants and equipment for the gardening club to enjoy.

It is always good to see the children being rewarded for their hardwork, kindness and commitment and many of our children have already earned their bronze certificates for achieving 50 house points. Well done to them! It won't be long before we celebrate our first silver certificate for 100 house points, which is very exciting.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed the good weather this week and are back playing on the school field. It really does give a little taste of the Summer. Let's hope this lovely weather continues into the bank holiday weekend. Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable long weekend!

Kind regards,

Emma Sleightholme

Whole School News

RNLI Water Smart Assembly

Last week, we were delighted to welcome RNLI lifeguards into school to deliver a Water Smart Assembly. Many children volunteered to take part, helping to make the session engaging and interactive.

During the assembly, the children learnt about how to stay safe in and around water, including understanding beach flags, the importance of swimming with an adult and what to do in an emergency. The lifeguards also introduced the "float to live" technique and explained the dangers of cold water.

It was a really informative session, and the children came away with important knowledge to help keep themselves and others safe.

Year 4 Transition Talk



We would like to say a big thank you to Ethan, who returned to school to speak with our current Year 4 pupils about life at DMS and middle school and all the exciting opportunities they have to look forward to.

We hope this has helped to prepare our Year 4 children and eased any worries they may have had about the transition. It was a brilliant talk, thank you, Ethan!

We'd also like to mention that while Ethan was giving his talk, his brother Thomas played the melodica in assembly as the children walked in. A very talented family indeed!

PTA Update

The PTA are continuing to do a fantastic job raising funds for our new play equipment, and the total currently stands at £3300. We are also very grateful to Palmers Brewery, who have kindly agreed to match any donations made through our new crowdfunding page. More details on this will follow next week.

To help inspire the children, Aiden and Calvin's mum, Zita, along with Isla and Jack's mum, Emma, joined us in assembly. They encouraged the children to design their perfect playground, helping them to better understand what the PTA are working towards and sparking some fantastic ideas.

And finally...

We have a new addition to Winterbourne Valley - a froglet! 🐸

Beech Class have been carefully watching the tadpoles grow after they were brought in by Monty and we're excited to share that the first one has now grown its legs!



What a fantastic way to see life cycles in action. Well done, Beech Class!

Dates for your Diary

Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday - School closed

Wednesday 6th May - Magic Lantern Art History Workshops R-Yr 4

Thursday 7th May - Dorchester FC Football Festival

Monday 11th May - Year 1 Multi-Sports Festival - Cheselbourne First School

Thursday 14th May - Foundation Base Trip to Washingpool Farm

Friday 15th May - Class Photographs

Strong roots, successful futures!