Winterbourne Valley CE VA First School
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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 4 - 6th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to everyone! It has been lovely to see the children return to school after the half-term break, full of enthusiasm and ready for another exciting few weeks of learning.

We have a wonderful half term ahead of us, with lots to look forward to as we approach Christmas. Preparations for our Nativity and Carol Service are already underway and these are always such special occasions in our school calendar. I am really looking forward to seeing the children come together to share their talents and spread a little Christmas joy!



Before looking too far ahead, I would like to reflect on the lovely way we ended last half term with our Harvest Festival. It was wonderful to see the children sharing such lovely performances and I was incredibly proud of the confidence and enthusiasm they showed. We were also overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community and the fantastic amount of food donated to Community Share Food Larder. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed. It was a lovely example of our Christian value of Generosity being put into action and a reminder of what a caring and supportive school community we have.

As we begin this new half term, I am looking forward to all the exciting learning, celebrations and special moments ahead.

Kind regards,

Emma Sleightholme

Headteacher

Whole School News

Our New House Captains and School Council

We are delighted to announce our new House Captains and Vice House Captains for this year!

- St Martin: Isla (House Captain) and Arla (Vice House Captain)
- Abbas: Erin (House Captain) and Bobby (Vice House Captain)
- Steepleton: Gorge (House Captain) and Olivia (Vice House Captain)

I am incredibly proud of all the children who put themselves forward for these roles. They showed such confidence, courage and enthusiasm and I know our newly elected House Captains and Vice House Captains will make fantastic leaders and role models for the rest of the school.

Our remaining Year 4 children will also be taking on an important leadership role as School Council Leaders. They will help guide and support our School Council, ensuring that children's voices are heard across the school.

We are currently holding elections for our School Council Representatives in the other year groups, and we look forward to bringing everyone together to share ideas, discuss improvements and help us make important decisions about school life.

It is wonderful to see our children taking such an active role in shaping their school. I am really looking forward to seeing what they achieve together!

Children in Need – Friday 13th November



We are looking forward to supporting Children in Need next Friday, 13th November!

Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform and we would love to see lots of spots, bright colours and Pudsey accessories to help celebrate the day!

We are asking for a suggested donation of £1 per child, with all money raised going to Children in Need.

Throughout the day, the children will take part in a range of fun Children in Need activities, helping them to understand why we are fundraising and how their kindness and generosity can make a difference to other children.

Thank you, as always, for your support. We are looking forward to a fun-filled day for a very worthwhile cause!

Parent Class Representatives – We Need You!

We are looking to set up a Parent Class Representatives Group to help strengthen communication between home and school and give parents a greater voice in school life.

The idea is to have a parent representative from each class who can share the views, ideas and suggestions of other parents, while also providing an opportunity for me to share updates about what is happening in school and our plans for the future.

We would aim to meet once every half term, with representatives feeding back the key points from our discussions to the parents in their class. This will help ensure that everyone feels informed, involved and has the opportunity to have their voice heard.

If you would be interested in becoming a Class Representative, please contact the school office to let us know.

I am really looking forward to developing this group and working together to make our school the very best it can be for our children!

Can You Help? – Chain-Link Fencing

We are looking to repair a small gap in the internal fence surrounding our school playground and wondered whether anyone in our school community might have some spare chain-link fencing, 1.8 metres high, that they would be willing to donate.

We only need a small amount, so if you have any left over from a project or know someone who might be able to help, we would be very grateful!

Please contact the school office if you can help. Thank you!

PTFA Christmas Film Afternoon/Evening – Thursday 26th November 🎄

Our wonderful PTFA are organising a Christmas Film Afternoon/Evening on Thursday 26th November, giving the children a lovely opportunity to start getting into the festive spirit!

It promises to be a fun and cosy occasion as we begin the countdown to Christmas.

Please see the attached information for further details.

A big thank you to our PTFA for organising another lovely event for the children!

Dates for your Diary

Attached are the remaining dates for the Autumn term. Please note the change in date for our Christmas Carol Service, which will now take place on Thursday 17th December - 6pm at St Martin's Church.

Strong roots, successful futures!