



Piddle Valley CE First School

Piddletrenthide, Dorchester, Dorset. DT2 7QL

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Head of School: Mrs. Jemma Moore

Trust in each other, **Respect** one another,
Shine for yourself!

Company Reg No: 08066324 England

Newsletter 16.01.2026

Note from Mrs. Moore

What a wonderful second week of school it has been.

We have been delighted to welcome Miss Peters to the school, and into the Piddle family. Miss Peters has settled in extremely well, and I am sure Ocean Class already adore her - I may even have some competition. I will be arranging a "Meet the Teacher" afternoon for parents who would like the opportunity to meet Miss Peters and ask any questions regarding their child and their learning. Further details will follow shortly.

I could hear the most amazing singing coming from Amazon Class this week. I was teaching in Ocean Class at the time, and it all sounded absolutely spectacular.

We were also very pleased to welcome back Bowie, our therapy dog. The children absolutely adore him, and his visits continue to be a highlight for many.

We have another fabulous Stay and Play morning coming up for children who are starting or currently attending school and

Whole School News

PE Days - Thursday and Fridays

Forest School - Fridays

Facebook: Please follow our school Facebook page, **Piddle Valley CE First School**, where we will share regular pictures and updates.

Easy Fundraising - Please remember to keep supporting us via **Easyfundraising** every time you shop online. There are over 8,000 retailers that will donate to us for FREE every time you use #easyfundraising to shop with them. These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us - it is completely FREE

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/piddle-valley-ce-first-school/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-fb1

Clothes recycling bank: If you are having a clear out, please remember to use the clothes recycling bank in our school car park. The school will get a donation each time for the amount recycled.

Attendance:

Overall school attendance for this week: **92.2%**

preschool. We warmly welcome all families, whether you are already part of our school community or considering Piddle Valley for your child's education.

Just a reminder that children should be reading at least four times a week to earn their literacy award. Please also ensure that your child is completing their Times Table Rock Stars or Numbots activities online each week.

Finally, we saw the first exchange of "Piddle Pennies" on Thursday lunchtime. The children loved browsing the range of rewards available, from pencils to sticker books, and were very excited to spend their hard-earned pennies.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you all have an amazing weekend!

Preschool: **100%**

Reception: **96.4%**

Year 1: **96.4%**

Year 2: **92.1%**

Year 3: **82.1%**

Year 4: **90.5%**

Reminder: Please DO NOT send your child into school with anything containing nuts.

Literacy Reading Award

Elowen

Iza

TT Rock Stars

Evie

Hattie

Parent & Toddler Stay and Play!

Friday
23rd January 2026

9am - 10.30am

Piddle Valley CE First School
Piddletrenthide, DT2 7QL

Come and explore our
EYFS classroom and outside area!

No Booking Required!

office@piddlevalley.wessex.ac

Half Term fun @HOB's

Thursday 19th February 2026
9am-3pm

Join us for a fresh new year at HOB's and explore your new inspiration on site!

Join Emily and Emma for general silliness, bushcraft, dens, critters up close and everything in between!

Book online at:
www.hobsbottomforestschoo.co.uk

Class News and other bits

Forest Class

This week Forest Class have been busy transforming their role play area into a jungle, in line with this half term's topic - Down in the Jungle! We created some jungle inspired art work which we have put on the walls, and even have pictures of Peppa the chimpanzee and Kiwi orangutan on display, who we adopted from Monkey World last year.

In Drawing Club we have been reading 'The Lion Who Wanted to Love'. We created our own lion using our handprint and some card, which was inspired by 'Leo the lion' in the book.

In Maths, Reception have been working hard at identifying the 'stopping number' when counting, and have started to look at numbers



to 10, whilst pre-school have been looking at shape. In phonics reception have been learning new digraphs, and the children have been fantastic at including their new sounds in their writing.

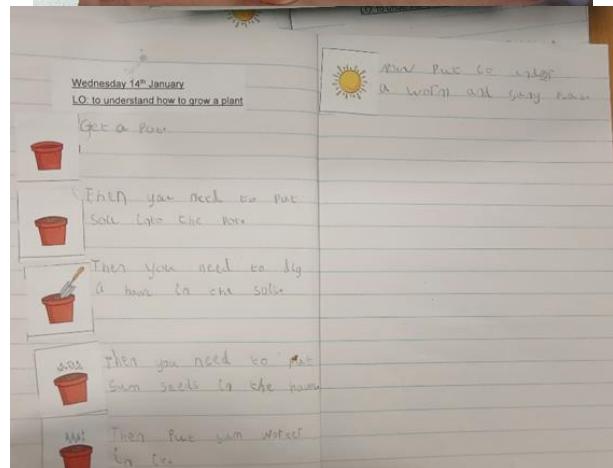
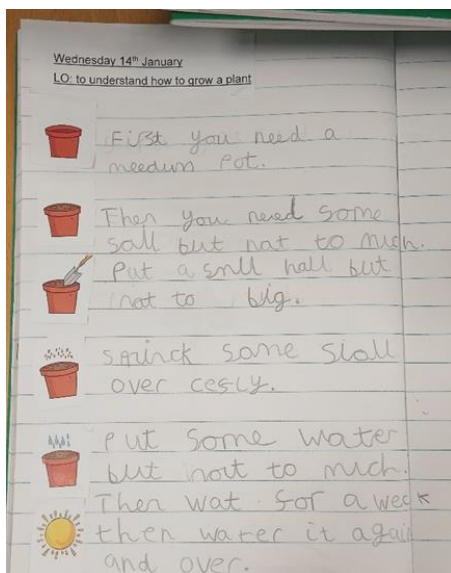
Have a lovely weekend.



Ocean Class

This week Ocean Class planted some seeds so that we can watch them grow over the coming months. We planted Sweet Peas and Dahlias to keep on the windowsill, as it is too cold at the moment for them to be outside. We will track their growth with a plant diary and document any changes. Miss Peters planted some bulbs too. We wrote out the steps to successfully grow a plant and produced some great writing. We have made some playdoh Beegus and have started to retell the story in great detail.

Year 2 have been solving some tricky multi-step word problems in maths using what they have learnt about length so far and have done really well.



Amazon Class

A busy week in Amazon with our annual Wessex concert practice has already started ready for March.

This week the children have started completing tasks around our new book 'The Barnabus Project'. So far, we have not started reading the book but already they have created themselves an ideal pet and how they would create this pet and how.

They have been multiplying 2-digit numbers this week using partitioning to help support this.

They have started their geography topic about the United Kingdom understanding that the UK is split into 9 counties and that there are specific places of interest that they can locate on a map using an atlas.

The children have been sent homework, and I can't stress enough how important that children engage with this in preparation for their education journey but also supporting us to build strong foundation in reading, spelling and multiplication. Thank you in advance for your support in encouraging the children to complete their homework.

Have a lovely weekend!

Student Council

Piddle Pennies

During our student council meeting last term the children had an idea to create Piddle Pennies, which I am sure parents are beginning to hear about. The children decided they wanted to introduce a system that acknowledges genuine acts of kindness.

This is not replacing our Citizen award; it is in addition. The student council felt that although they might not get the Citizen award that their acts towards being a good citizen should still be acknowledged.

Therefore, they decided to raise funds through a non-uniform day to support the rewards they receive.

So, now when an adult within the school sees our school values being independently demonstrated without being prompted, they can receive a Piddle Penny. Then on Thursday at lunchtime, they can choose to exchange it for a small reward or bank it and save it for a bigger reward.

Welly Walk

I would like to say a great big **Thank you** to all our families that have supported our sponsored welly walk. After a count up today we have raised nearly **£250!** This will go towards new outdoor play equipment that all the children will be able to enjoy.

Dates for your Diary

Please keep an eye on this section each week. More key dates will be added as they arise.

Friday 6th February
Number Day

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February
Half Term

Clubs for Spring Term 1

Breakfast and all After School Clubs are to be booked and paid for via Arbor.

Lunchtime clubs can be joined on the day by informing your teacher.

Breakfast Club

Open every day from 8.00am

After School Club

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th February
Scholastic Book Fair

Thursday 6th March
World Book Day

Wednesday 18th March
Amazon Class - Wessex School's Singing
Festival

Friday 20th March
Red Nose Day

Wednesday 25th - Friday 27th March
Year 4 to Hooke Court

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April
Easter Holidays

Monday 13th April
Inset Day

Friday 1st May
Inset Day

Monday 4th May
Bank Holiday - School Closed

Thursday 14th May
Fraser Photography - Class Photos

Monday 25th - Friday 29th May
Summer Half Term

Friday 3rd July
Whole School Trip - TBC

4.30/5.00/5.30pm pick up options

Monday - Lights, Camera, Action!
3.15-4.15pm - £3.50 per session

Tuesday - Craft Club
3.15-4.15pm - £3.50 per session

Wednesday - Cooking Club
3.15-4.15pm - £3.50 per session

Thursday - Kick Boxing
3.15-4.15pm - £8 per session (Payable via Kickstart
Vitality)

Friday - Forest School
3.15-4.15pm - £4.50 per session

Lunchtime Clubs
Monday - Shine Squad
Friday - Gardening Club

School mobile number - 07510 653624
(To be used for After School pick-ups if no answer
on the office number)