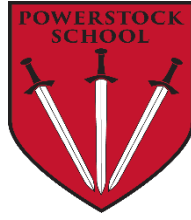


Powerstock Primary School



February Newsletter

Note from Mrs Greenham

How have we packed so much into January? Our school value this half term is Perseverance and the children have been thinking about how we can all help each other carry on and keep trying again. They are doing some fantastic work which shows their determination all round the school. In an attempt to brighten up the darker days of January, we have been enjoying music and dance and it is certainly working to brighten things up!

Green Planet

We have focused work so far on keeping our planet green, inspired by BBC Green Planet. The children have been auditing the waste from school each week and can report that we through out: 9 large bags of food waste, 3 large wheelie bins full of hand drying towels (mostly) and a large blue wheelie bin full of A4 paper.

After several meetings, the council presented this information to the school in assembly and gave suggestions as to how we can reduce the waste. The children were amazed at the facts and how much it costs the school to buy and get rid of all the waste! They will be in touch soon with how families can do their bit to help our school help keep our planet green.



Music

Cogden Class have started playing the Ukulele together and are starting to make some wonderful sounds already—have a look: [Ukulele](#)

All the children have been assigned a ukulele and are having a go under the guidance of Mrs Diane Ely from the Dorset Music Hub. The 12 week course will end in a concert just before Easter.



School Council

We have a new School Council, duly voted in by the children: Harley, Niamh, Grace, Minka, Astrid, Oscar C, Ava-Mai, Annabelle, Tommy and Sky



Internet Safety

Yesterday was Internet Safety day and although we share safety information with the children throughout the year, it was a day to be mindful of some concerns shared by parents. A recent Esafety conference I attended highlighted these concerns from school leaders across the county which include: Inappropriate language/unkindness of talk on a game chat, underage gaming, tiredness because of gaming at night, keeping children safe on Youtube, underage Tiktok use and its impact, gaming becoming the major part of a child's life. Here is a very useful link to the VSC which is a ratings board which is worth a look: <https://videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/> .

<https://vimeo.com/510174028> click for Detective Digiduck Assembly.



Curriculum

We have been working on our curriculum ensuring it is of the highest standard delivering rich and ambitious opportunities for each child. Please have a look at our curriculum journey so far on our website (best on ipad or laptop/desktop): <https://powerstock.school/learning/curriculum/> We are constantly reviewing and improving how your child learns and have planned some extra events for the summer term to enrich the children's experience.

Burton Class will be visiting Washing Pool Farm— [Washing Pool Farm](#)



Seatown and Cogden Classes will be visiting Exeter Cathedral and Mosque to experience these fantastic places of worship and enjoy some art and history on this wonderful day out:



[Exeter Cathedral](#)



[Exeter Mosque](#)

Physical Education

In dance the children have been being spies, working together on stealth and lunge movements. They have also been representing solid, gases and liquids to link with science through dance.



Literacy

We have been working closely with the Somerset Literacy Network in our collaboration of West Dorset School and reviewing reading at school. Our reading attainment is good as a school but we want to do more and to refresh what reading means to us as a school and how important it is for each child to become a reader.

We now have a new Reading Room just off Seatown Class as well as reinstating the library downstairs for reference books. Photos to follow when the finishing touches have been made! We have keen librarians to check that our books are all in good order and have the latest up to date titles as recommended by the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education. Each class will have an author focus interactive area each half term * a comfortable and inspiring place to read * excellent reading resources * reading and writing workshops * visiting authors to inspire * reading ambassadors and buddies.

Please do have a look at the **pack we will send out for each family** to see what you can do to help your child read – it makes such a difference to have your support.



We are excited to welcome Nick Goldsmith from the Bank of Dreams and Nightmares : [Bank of Dreams and Nightmares](#) on 9th March to do a writing workshop with some budding writers. Nick is based in Bridport so we are delighted to welcome in this local company to help us become amazing writers!

Dates for your diary

KS2 swimming each Monday—collection from Bridport Leisure Centre 3:15pm

Thursday 17th February—No table tennis club

Friday 18th February —Last day of term

Monday 28th February—First day of term

Monday 25th—27th April —Seatown PGL Trip

Monday 9th May—SATS week

Friday 13th May—Seatown Sail for a fiver