

POWERSTOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

- October 2026 -

Learning together to be the best that we can be ~ for every child, life in all its fullness. *I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. John 10:10*

In This Issue

- Note from Mrs Cleden - Key Dates - Sporting Achievements - School Events & Activities

Note from Mrs Cleden

Hello everyone! Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year! The time has flown by and we have packed so much in to these past two months. It has been a real joy seeing our children settle so quickly in to their new year groups and, for some, new classrooms and teachers. Hopefully you will have seen incredible progress your child has made when you viewed their learning journals at your parents appointment this week.

We were just 5 weeks into the term when Ofsted arrived. We couldn't be prouder of how the whole community pulled together: from teachers and pupils, to parents and governors, we all showed our shared love and passion for the school. We were proud to show how small but mighty we are!

Thank you everyone for being such a supportive team. You all deserve a rest over half term before we continue our busy schedule in the run up to Christmas with events such as open mornings, Bikeability, BBC Children in Need day, Christingle making and carol singing, to name a few. Enjoy the break!

Best wishes,
Joanna Cleden

Our school value for this half-term has been Perseverance.



KEY DATES

31/10/2026 Pumpkin Trail - Marquis of Lorne.
03-04/11/2026 Bikeability.
11/11/2026 Cross Country at Colfox.
13/11/2026 Children in Need.
14/11/2026 Forest School Open Day 10am-12pm.
19/11/2026 Bronze Ambassadors Training.
24/11/2026 Open Morning 09.30-11.30am.
24/11/2026 Kenway Cup Knockout Tournament.
09/12/2026 Christmas Cheer @ Bucky Do.
14/12/2026 Whole School Panto Trip to Westlands.
15/12/2026 Carol Singing around village 6pm.
16/12/2026 Local Food Links Christmas Lunch & Christmas Fun Afternoon.
18/12/2026 Carol service at Powerstock Church and Last day of term.

Sporting Achievements

Colmers Hill Run

On Saturday 3rd October, a team of Powerstock runners took part in the Colmers Hill Run, a cross-country event held at Symondsbury School. Wearing their new team vests with pride, the runners demonstrated excellent determination, resilience and perseverance throughout the race.

Every member of the team successfully completed the challenging course, with many children improving on their previous performances. A special congratulations goes to two of our runners, who achieved an impressive 11th and 12th place in a highly competitive field of 42 runners.

We are incredibly proud of all the children for representing the school so positively and for showing such enthusiasm and commitment to their running.



School Events & Activities

Library Visit

Last month, the whole school visited Bridport Library for the afternoon. We enjoyed activities that helped us understand how much the library has to offer. Did you know that as well as borrowing books, there are weekly Lego and Craft clubs and opportunities to play board games?

We conducted a treasure hunt around the library before making our own books and book boxes upstairs in the crafting area. The staff were very friendly and helpful and even read a story to us all before we were able to sign up for a library card and borrow some books.

A huge thank you to all you parents who came and signed your child/children up for a card. Already we have seen the impact in school with many more engaged readers and some library revisits already!



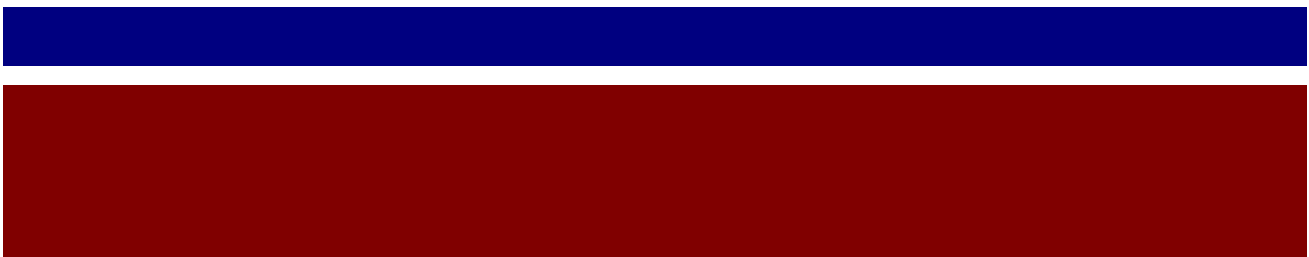
School Events & Activities

Seatown Trip to Washingpool Farm

At the end of September, Seatown Class visited Washingpool Farm for their Farm Experience Day. It was a fantastic day, with the children constructing solar panel circuits to power a water pump and learning all about dairy farming, including making butter and milking a model cow.

As part of the day, they also had a go at pond dipping. One of the highlights was a tractor ride across the fields to watch the potato harvest and the opportunity to harvest some potatoes of their own.

The children were a real credit to Powerstock School. They asked thoughtful questions, listened carefully, participated enthusiastically and displayed excellent manners throughout the day.



School Events & Activities

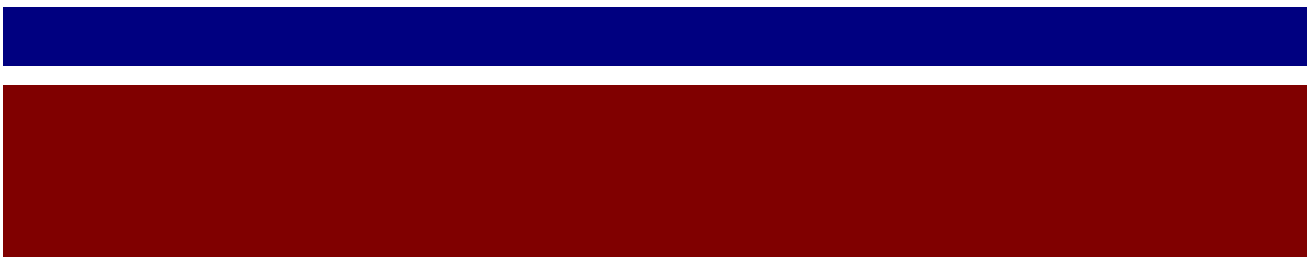
Forest School

Cogden Class have been busy exploring the signs of autumn during their Forest School sessions. Activities have included becoming autumn detectives, gathering evidence of seasonal change, and using conkers to create imaginative woodland characters.

The children have also been developing practical outdoor skills, using knot-tying techniques to create natural picture frames. These will be used throughout the year to photograph and compare the changing seasons, so look out for our seasonal photo updates!

Drawing on their learning in Design and Technology, the class applied their knowledge of levers and linkages to build a shaduf, before testing their precision and teamwork by manoeuvring objects using the bucket. An exciting ongoing project is the construction of new benches for around the conker tree in the school grounds.

Alongside the curriculum knowledge and skills developed each week, Forest School provides valuable opportunities for children to build resilience, cooperation, confidence and self-esteem, all within the beautiful setting of Merriott Woods.



School Events & Activities

Bubble & Squeak Parade

Last Saturday, the Weir Field hosted the culmination of the Bubbles and Squeaks Project that we have been a part of. The project promoted connection with the River Brit and how rivers need to be healthy to allow a healthy ecosystem for living things. We then worked with Emerald Ant artists to re-create river creatures in willow and tissue paper. All this culminated in a twilight lit-up lantern procession celebrating, and raising awareness of the challenges facing our local rivers. We enjoyed spotting the many different lantern creatures from salmon to beavers as we walked around the field to music composed by some schools. A fire sculpture, created by Bridport Youth Club, was lit and enjoyed too. It was wonderful to be a part of such a big collaboration with other local schools and groups. Thank you to all those who came along and took part (including the tasty hog roast provided by Kyla afterwards!). It was a truly magical experience!



School Bus

We would like to remind parents of our school bus service which runs every day to and from school. Collection points are at Gore Cross and Mangerton Mill, with the same at the end of the school day, with an additional stop at Bridport Bus Station, if required. There is a small cost per journey. Please contact the school office for more information.



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