



Newsletter 18
30th January 2026

'Let us love one another, for love comes from God'
1 John 4:7



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Wednesday, the Giraffes braved the puddles and walked to the Museum of East Dorset to enjoy a toy experience. They all really enjoyed the opportunity to handle old toys wearing their special gloves. They were surprised to find out that in the past children only had one toy! They loved playing traditional games including skittles, flap the feather and card in the hat. They showed our value of courage when they were taught by a Victorian teacher. He wore different clothes and was very strict. They weren't even allowed to smile or put their elbows on the desk! They did love the old school desks and wondered if I would let them have them in their classroom. Thank you to all of the volunteers for helping.



We had an awesome visit from Rocksteady Music School today! The children (and staff!) got a taste of what it's like to perform in a band. The children have been given a letter today with more information about how to get involved with weekly Rocksteady band lessons at school. Please see www.rocksteadymusicschool.com for more information.





Thank you to the Year 4 parents who attended our meetings about the multiplication tables check this week. You can find the presentation on our school website [here](#). I have included some useful website links for practising times tables below.

Best wishes
Miss Michelle Prince
Headteacher

Congratulations to these children who have gone above and beyond and **sparkled** this week:

Elephants: Nicoló and Robyn
Giraffes: Leo and Emse
Dolphins: Arabella and Amelia
Pandas: Annie and Harry
Snow Leopards: Andrew and Henry



Half Term Value - Courage

During worship, we read a story about a girl that told the truth when she made a mistake. The easy thing would have been to run away and hide but she did the right thing of telling the truth. Sometimes we think 'courage' means not being scared. That isn't true. Real Courage is being scared, but doing the right thing anyway. What would the world be like if everyone always chose the 'easy thing' and blamed someone else?



Useful Websites - Multiplication Tables

[Thompson's MTC](#) - Y4 Multiplication Tables Check 'mirror' check
[Hit the Button](#) - Quick fire maths practise for 6-11 year olds - Fun with timetables
[Multiplication and Division - Mathsframe](#) - Multiplication games

Water Bottles

Please remember to send a filled water bottle with your child every single day. Hydration is key for energy and focus during lessons and PE.

Attendance

Well done Snow Leopards!

Dates for your diary

[What's on this week](#)

Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February

Half Term Holiday

Monday 23rd February

INSET Day - no children in school

Tuesday 24th February

Children return to school

Friday 27th March

Last day of term



Class Weekly Attendance

for Week beginning 26th January 2026

Elephants	89.6%
Giraffes	94.7%
Dolphins	83.2%
Pandas	92%
Snow Leopards	97.1%
Whole School	94.4%

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

Easter Holiday

Monday 13th April

INSET Day - no children in school

Tuesday 14th April

Children return to school

Monday 4th May

Bank Holiday

Monday 18th May

Elephants' trip to Dumpton School

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May

Half Term Holiday

Monday 1st June

Children return to school

Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th July

Year 4 Leeson House Residential Trip

Wednesday 22nd July

Last Day of Term

Year 4 Leavers' Service in St John's Church

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STEADY**

DOES YOUR CHILD WANT TO PLAY MUSIC IN THEIR OWN BAND?



With Rocksteady, children learn to play an instrument through fun and inclusive weekly in-school rock and pop band lessons.

It's the perfect way to learn new musical skills, make friends and have a great time - all at school! There's no musical experience necessary and instruments for lessons are provided.

Rocksteady lessons are also shown to boost confidence, improve wellbeing and encourage teamwork!



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find out more!

98%

**OF PARENTS SAY
THEIR CHILD LOVES OR
ENJOYS ROCKSTEADY
BAND LESSONS**



94%

**OF PARENTS SAY
ROCKSTEADY
IMPROVES THEIR
CHILD'S CONFIDENCE**



0330 113 0330 (Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)

rocksteadymusicschool.com