

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

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Issue 7 – Friday 20th October 2017

Dear Families,

The Ibstone fog was a feature of the weather at school this week. In fact the weather was really varied this week including the orange sky on Monday afternoon which was preceded by a balmy summery morning! We need to be prepared for the afternoons drawing in after half term when the clocks go back an hour. It will be even darker getting up for school in the mornings. I am very grateful to the parents who have been standing outside to keep the morning drop off working efficiently.

The children have all been busy at school with every inch of the school site being used. The study of natural habitats has taken our Woodlands Class out into the woods this week. Making the most of the mild weather, the children were able to gather leaves and seed pods to consolidate their learning in science. We are very lucky to have access to such beautiful woodland and views. It is important for the children to enjoy and learn about their heritage and to learn the importance of respecting the natural world.



In Worship this week the value we have introduced is Community. The children have been able to contribute their ideas with confidence. The Worship Leaders can impressively summarise the key points to discussions and stories and include these in their prayers. The children all sing beautifully with great enthusiasm.

Last week we were lucky enough to be joined by one of the education officers from Waddesdon Manor. The children have been invited to make a large willow lantern to be displayed in the Woodland Walk at Waddesdon Manor as part of the Christmas celebrations there. Ibstone have been tasked with making a large robin which the children started last week. We would like some help with this please. We would like the children to bring into school after half term any feathers which they find whilst playing outside during half term week. Also if anyone has at home any waterproof fabric in red or brown that they can send in we can use this to cut feather shapes from.

We are very excited to have been included in this project. After half term we will be letting you know the details for our whole school visit to Waddesdon Manor to see the estate's preparations for Christmas and to see our school lantern in situ.

The Ladybirds have been inspired by the story of The Three Little Pigs. The children have been able to retell the story using their small world toys when they have chosen to work inside; they have also re-told the story using musical instruments. Whilst outside, the children have used a variety of props including the play houses to act out the story.

The Three Little Pigs provides an excellent introduction to materials. The children have been able to look at, touch and decide what materials have gone into building the various sheds and buildings which make up our school.

Directional language has been a focus of learning too. The children have been encouraged to say whether they are walking forwards, backwards, etc. The children have practised this language outside on the big apparatus and also inside in a relatively small scale. The children have been programming the Bee-bots to move across a grid in different directions. The children have been learning to estimate as well; this can be quite a challenging concept when first introduced.



Highlights from the Woodland Class this week include making boats. Thank you for the 'junk' which the children remembered to bring into school to assist with our range of materials. There was great fun as well as serious challenge involved. The task set was to design and make a boat which would float and be propelled by magnetism! A range of boats were duly constructed which are now on display in the classroom if any parents would like to come and see them. The children made cross-curricular links and wrote instructions about how to make a boat in their literacy books. This included listing the materials required as well detailing the process.

Symmetry was a feature of maths this week as well as completing pictograms and graphs. The Year 1 children had to record the favourite fruits within the Woodland Class and the Year 2 children had to find out the favourite fruits from all the classes.



In R.E. the children also listened to the story of Rama and Sita which inspired their writing. The children are currently learning about Diwali.

In their music lesson the children created firework music. They created a visual score which they interpreted through the use of a range of percussion instruments. The performance was very sophisticated.

In Kestrel Class the juniors have been practising their multiplication skills. They are practising their 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times tables, including knowing facts out of sequence. The children have made times tables 'flip sticks' as a prompt for those sticky questions. The children have also developed a times table graph.

The children have been practising writing answers in full sentences for their reading comprehension. The children have also been learning new letter joins in their handwriting: *u, eel, eet, ice, ide, oi and oy*

In art this week the children have been creating their own Rangoli patterns for Divali. In science, the children carried out an investigation to find out how long it took for paper helicopters to flutter down to the ground. The investigation was inspired by sycamore 'helicopter' seeds falling.

Please could you take the opportunity of a little extra time at half term to go through your children's school uniform items and check that they are all labelled clearly with your child's name? There are many items of clothing all of a very similar size in school. We rely on name labels to make sure that children have their own clothes.

Thank you for your support for the school.

Ruth Goddard
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



Diary Dates
New or amended dates inBOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
October 2017		
Friday 20 th	Mufti Day in exchange for bring a bottle for the Christmas Fayre	All children & staff
Friday 20 th	End of Term – 3.15pm & 3.25pm	All children
Mon 23 rd – Fri 27 th	KITES HOLIDAY CLUB	All children
Monday 30 th	Start of Term – 8.50am	All children
November 2017		
Friday 3 rd	Mufti Day in exchange for a secrets room gift for Christmas Fayre	All children & staff
Saturday 4th	Ibstone Village Fireworks on the Common Bonfire from 5.45pm Fireworks at 6.30pm	Everyone
Tuesday 7th	Pre-School Workshop 1.30-2.30 No need to book	3 + Pre-schoolers
Friday 10 th	Dad's Night Out – information in book bags today	Dads
Friday 17 th	Children in Need - more info to follow	All children & staff
Monday 20 th	Open Morning – 9.30am – 11.30am	Prospective Parents
December 2017		
Saturday 2nd	Christmas Fayre 2pm-5pm	Everyone
Thursday 7 th	Nativity Performance – 6pm – St Nicholas Church	Everyone
Friday 8 th	Nativity Performance – 2pm – St Nicholas Church	Everyone
Friday 15 th	Whole School Trip to Norden Farm – am only	All children
Tuesday 19th	Church Service at St Nicholas 1pm	Everyone
Tuesday 19th	End of Term at 1.30pm	All children
January 2018		