

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

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We have had a very chilly week leading up to the half term break. I am sure that we are all hoping for some bright spring days after the half term break. The children in the Ladybird class have made the most of the cold weather. One of their water trays has had a thick layer of ice in each morning and the children have been re-enacting the Ice Age with their dinosaurs. We have had dinosaurs smashing the ice from above as well as dinosaurs deep frozen within the ice. By lunchtime, the dinosaurs have usually triumphed over the ice and are free to roam for another day.



Please remember that when we return to school we will be holding Friday Mufti-Days (non-uniform) for the remainder of the term. We would like a donation of £5 per child to cover all five Fridays. The money raised will go towards our school expansion fund so will ultimately be spent on the children in the form of new classrooms and fixtures.

A concerned passer-by has called into school to express dismay that cars have been waiting outside our school before the end of the school day with their engines running. For the sake of our children and the environment, please switch off your car engine. Thank you.

After the half term break we will have five Monday afternoon sessions with a cricket coach at school. Please make sure that your child has their full PE kit in school, including trainers for outside and a tracksuit for chilly days. The cricket will start on the first day back so please remember to send your child to school with their PE bag! On really cold days please encourage your child to wear a warm hat and gloves to school. The wind can be biting as it blows across our Ibstone playground.



Thank you for all the donations of bird seed, meal worms, 'Cheerios', pipe cleaners and lard. Thank you too for helping your children with their RSPB bird counts. Mrs Hampson is collating the figures to register them with the RSPB.

We look forward to welcoming parents to parent consultations after half term. Every parent should have an appointment. If you are uncertain of your appointment time please contact Mrs Robertson in the School Office.

It was lovely to see so many parents for the Ladybird class 'Stay and Play'. We will continue to vary the day of the week on which we invite parents to try and give all parents an opportunity to visit during the school day.

The children in the Ladybird class are still learning through fairy-tales. This week they have been focusing on the Elves and the Shoemaker, especially thinking about how the story ends. The children have been writing story endings. They have been very taken with the kindness of the elves so the children have been writing thank you letters to the elves.

In maths, the children have participated in a range of practical experiences to add two numbers together. This concept has been followed up with the introduction and use of a number line. The children have been practising moving their finger along the number line to find given numbers. To teach children how to use number lines for addition, we help them to find the first number on the line and then 'hop on' to count the number being added until they reach the total. Typically the total is below 10 in the first instance!

The children have been playing musical instruments and learning how to work co-operatively in small groups which involves listening carefully and compromising in decision making as well as the skills required for making music.

The children have also been thinking about their own goals and whether or not they have achieved them. The children had to think about what they wanted to get better at, they were also encouraged to think about how some things take time, about how we have to persevere to be able to achieve our goals. This all ties in with diamond power, when we encourage the children to make an effort to do things for themselves. This was linked to the story of the hare and the tortoise, reminding the children that sometimes it is not just about finishing first.



The children from Ladybird class and Woodland class both had a movement and drama workshop with visiting company 'Perform'. The workshop was about outer space and the children thoroughly enjoyed their travels through space, albeit in the earth-bound school hall.

In the Woodland class the focus this week has been storytelling linked to the Chinese New Year. The children have had fun looking at the different astrological characters in the Chinese year and working out which type of animal they would be. The children have recounted the story to find out which animal was picked to go first. The children have been dramatizing the story to help sequence it for their writing.

In maths the children have been adding together larger numbers using a number line for support. Some of the children have been adding together by partitioning the number used into tens and units, even into hundreds, tens and units. The children also did some data handling work as they tallied the number of birds recorded for the RSPB garden watch. For their science lesson, the children considered the size of birds and their beak shape and how these might impact upon what a bird eats and how it eats. The children made a variety of bird feeders. We hope you have been able to hang these up at home.

In art this week the children made colourful Chinese dragons.

The children in the Kestrel class have completed their 'Ibstone Myths' this week. The stories are exciting to read as the children have re-drafted their work to make improvements which have really added quality and interest for the reader. The children have also been looking at giving commands, asking questions and remembering to use the correct punctuation to denote this.

In maths the children have been solving money problems which include adding up and giving change so that the problems are expressed in two and even three steps. This required a lot of concentration!



In RE the children read the story of the Chinese New Year. The children learnt about how the Chinese people traditionally celebrate the new year. The children also made some posters and Chinese lanterns.

Thank you for all your continued support. Have a lovely half term break and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 19th February.

Ruth Goddard, Headteacher

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We have received notification from Thames Water that Ibstone Road will be closed for 4 weeks from 26th February for essential pipe works. We have contacted Thames Water to express our concern about the impact on the school as it is a single road through the village and any diversion will add a considerable time to school journeys. I will update you with any further information.

Headteacher Awards



Diary Dates New or amended dates inBOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
February 2018		
13 th and 15 th February	Kites Holiday Club 8.30am-6pm	All
19 th February	School starts 8.50am	All
20 th February	Parents' Evening – 3.30-6.00pm	All
22 nd February	Parents' Evening – 6-8pm	Woodland Only
March 2018		
1 st March	World Book day – details to follow	All
8 th March	Grandparents' Day	Woodland
11 th March	Mothers' Day Service – St Nicholas 10am followed by tea and cake at the school	All
22 nd March	Sport Relief Day – details to follow	All
26 th March	Kites Easter Disco – 3.15-4.30pm	All
27 th March	Easter Bonnet Parade/Easter Egg Hunt – details to follow	All
28 th March	Easter service 9.15am St Nicholas Church	All
28 th March	End of Term 1.30pm	All
29 th March	INSET DAY	
April 2018		
2nd-12th April	Kites Holiday Club	All
16 th April	School Starts 8.50am	All
22nd April	Ibstone 5K Fun Run – details to follow	All
May 2018		
1 st May	Whole school Photos	All
12th May	***May Fayre Marlow – lots of help needed big fundraising event – details to follow***	All
25 th May	Kites May Disco 3.15-4.30pm	All
25 th May	EOT 3.15/3.30pm	All
29 th May – 1 st June	Kites Holiday Club	All
June 2018		
7 th June	Sports day 1pm	All
14 th June	Reserve sports Day	All
15 th June	INSET Day	All

	July 2018	
6 th July	School Reports	All
6 th July	The Big Sing – Details to follow	
12 th July	School Trip – details to follow	All
18 th July	Opera First Performance 6pm – details to follow	
23 rd July	Kites Summer Disco 3.15-4.30pm	All
24 th July	Summer Celebration Service 9.30am	All
24 th July	EOT 1.30pm	All
25 th July	Kites Holiday Club Starts	All