

# Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

*Nurture - Inspire - Grow*

Ibstone, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP14 3XZ  
Telephone: 01491 638281  
Email: [office@ibstone.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@ibstone.bucks.sch.uk)  
[www.ibstoneschool.org.uk](http://www.ibstoneschool.org.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs Louise Long

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Dear Families,

Welcome back to the final half term of the academic year! I hope you all had a good break?

There was a very exciting start to the week when Matt and Bill arrived on their Penny Farthings after lunch. They set off on their fundraising ride from Henley to Paris on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June, so they popped in so we could wish them luck and to pass on the £200 we had raised for Macmillian Cancer Support by making our giant Penny Farthing on the playground. They were so grateful for our fundraising efforts and have promised to pop back in once they return to share their adventure with us.



If you are in Henley on Saturday morning and want to wave them off, they are setting off around 9am!

## Good luck Matt and Bill!

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/penny2paris>

Over the holidays the bluetits that were nesting above the school front door have finally fledged and it has become very quiet!

We have noticed that the swifts are back this year, slightly earlier than in previous years, so don't be surprised if you see and hear them swooping over the playground in the next few weeks.

In Worship this week everyone was invited to share their Ow's, Now's and Wow's from the half term holidays, we have also listened to the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den and thought about how this showed courage, respect, love, community and perseverance. Philip led worship on D-Day and explained what the D in D-Day stood for and explained why we remember this important event. He shared how the courage and bravery shown by those 80 years ago has had an impact on what our lives look like today.



On Tuesday we welcomed two therapists from Growing Hope who are leading a 4 week course for invited parents and carers. When Dreams Change is a course designed to enable parents and carers to reflect on their experience of having a child or young person with additional needs, and to become more of the person they have been created to be. Additional needs are... wide ranging and could include a physical disability, cognitive disability, mental health problem or undiagnosed need that impacts on participation in everyday activities. During the first session, the group were given a handout which has struck a cord with me and so I have included it at the end of the newsletter and as an attachment in case you would like to share it with friends and family.

Bluey (our minibus) has been very busy this week enabling our Osprey children and Woodland Class to head off on school trips and transporting the Garsington Infant Company up to their first rehearsal at the new Garsington Studios!

Love – Courage – Respect – Community – Perseverance

*'Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am'*  
Philippians 4:13

## Weekly Round Up

### Pebbles Nursery

It was lovely to see all the children back in school this week. Our theme this half term is 'Minibeasts'. We have enjoyed listening to 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and joining in with the repeated refrains. This story gave us the opportunity to talk about the days of the week and use vocabulary linked to time such as yesterday, today and tomorrow.

The children have been learning the Tiny Caterpillar song, they have used a variety of instruments to represent different parts of the song. They have also been dancing and fluttering around wearing some special butterfly wings.

There have been some amazing paintings of spiders and ladybirds this week and the purple playdough snails were superb!



### Ladybirds

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful half term break? It seems hard to believe that we are in our last half term! The Ladybirds have been busy this week starting a new topic on minibeasts. We have loved exploring the garden to see what minibeasts we could find, we have carefully collected them and made a temporary home on our tuff spot. Everyone worked hard to collect soil, leaves and logs to make a safe habitat. We have explored the meaning of some new words for example, predators, nocturnal, camouflaged and habitat. They have thought about their favourite minibeast and the different habitats that minibeasts live in. We had a surprise delivery of caterpillars and we are enjoying watching them grow; we have found out about the life cycle of the caterpillar. They have also loved painting their favourite minibeast.

In mathematics our focus has been on sharing and grouping and understanding the difference. We have explored this practically for example sharing 12 play dough cakes fairly between 2, 3 or 4 animals; or finding out how many leaves we would need if we were grouping 10 bugs into groups of 2.

In phonics we have been reading and writing longer words and looking at punctuation when reading sentences.



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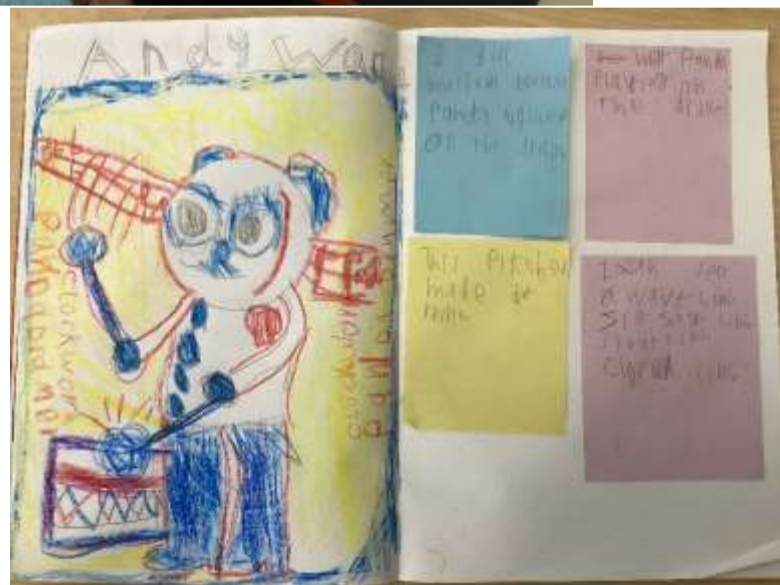
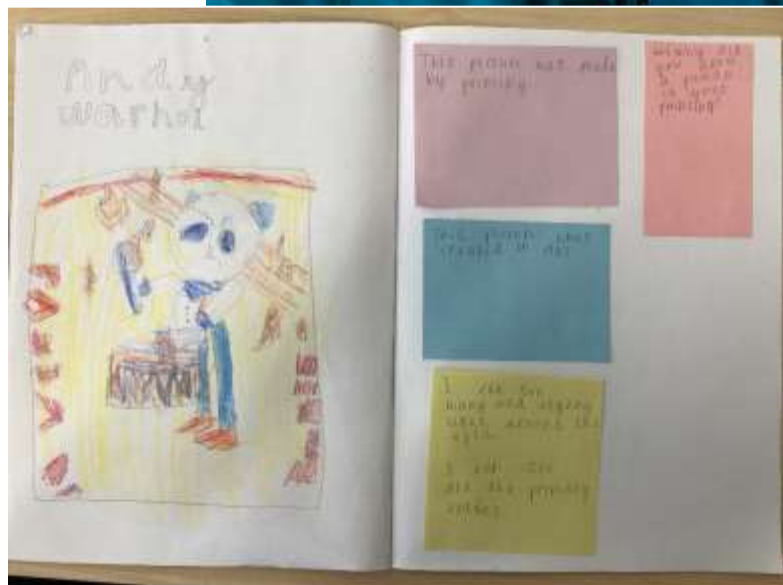
## Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have started reading their new Talk 4 Writing text 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes. As part of our hook, the children went on a scavenger hunt around school to find Miss Smith's special bear. They had to work together to read the clues and find tags with letters written on them. This told us where to find Miss Smith's bear. The children then wrote recounts about their scavenger hunt using time starters.

In mathematics, Year 1 have started learning about place value to 100 and have been revisiting their knowledge of tens and ones to build numbers. Year 2 have been learning how to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes and have been using interactive analogue clocks to help them show different times past and to the hour.

In art, the children have been analysing the work of Andy Warhol. Using all of their knowledge of colour, line, texture, shape and printing, the children were able to talk about and describe his print 'Clockwork Panda Drummer'. The children also thought of questions they'd like to ask Andy Warhol about his work.

On Thursday, Woodland Class had a fantastic time at Reading Museum learning about Victorian toys. A Victorian Nanny called 'Nanny Brown' spoke to the children about different Victorian toys and showed them clothes that children would have worn from that period of time. After exploring lots of toys and making their own cup and ball, the children enjoyed walking around the different galleries in the museum. The children particularly enjoyed learning about the history of biscuits and what life was like in the Roman times.



### Kestrel Class

In English, the children have started a new unit of Talk 4 Writing, this time with a non-fiction focus. We started the week by reading the book 'The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs' and then the children were introduced to our focus text: a biography about The Big Bad Wolf. We have looked at key vocabulary in the text and have started to learn it using the text map. We have also looked at how we can add cohesion to a paragraph and how to use the pattern of three to give information about a person.

In mathematics, Nemos have continued their work on time. They have continued telling the time to 5 minutes and then also to the minute. They then moved onto looking at digital time and using am and pm. Frogs have been converting between analogue and digital and also converting between the 12 hour and 24 hour clock.

In art this week, the children used photographs of themselves to create an abstract portrait. I love some of the designs they came up with.

In science the children learnt about soil and discovered there are many different types. We discussed how these different types of soils have different properties and contain different nutrients, and therefore may be more or less suitable for growing plants. The children then explored the school garden to see what different soil types they could find, using an identification card to help them.



### Osprey Class

This week in Osprey we have been improving our word processing skills by writing up our suspense story from before half term.

We also started our art topic for the rest of the term, looking at architecture and creating a 3D structure of a Chiltern building, using recycled materials. We took our inspiration from the buildings we saw at the Chiltern Open Air Museum on our trip this week.

Whilst on our trip we also took part in two workshops, one to make a brick from the local clay and during the second one we were able to have a go at making butter in a farmyard environment. Both workshops helped us understand more about our science topic earlier in the year of "Changing States". It also reinforced part of our local geography topic about the Chilterns, by thinking about the industries that are important for the area, such as brickmaking and farming. Later this term we will be visiting the Chair Museum in High Wycombe to continue finding out about more of these industries.



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### In other news:

#### **Punctuality**

This week there have been an increasing number of children arriving late in the mornings. The school day starts at 8.45am, Rolling Drop off opens at 8.35am and runs until 8.45am. We understand that traffic and roadworks pop up from time to time however there are a number of children who are arriving late most days. If you are having difficulties getting your child/ children in to school on time, please do come and talk to us, we are happy to support you.

#### **Earrings and Jewellery**

There are a number of very fancy earrings being worn in school and an increase in the number of necklaces and bracelets being worn in school. Please leave these lovely items to be worn at home in the evenings, weekends and holidays. Children wearing jewellery in school will be asked to remove it. You child is welcome to wear plain silver or gold stud earrings but these should be taken out if possible on PE / Forest School Days. If your child is unable to remove their earrings, please send them in with tape so that they can cover them over to prevent any accidents.

#### **School shoes**

There have been a number of parents who have been in touch about school shoes. If your child has outgrown their school shoes please do not go out and buy a new pair of school shoes at this point of the term. We are happy for your child to wear a pair of dark shoes into school until the end of the school year.

Have a great weekend!

Louise Long  
Headteacher

## Headteacher Awards



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## Zog the Dog Award



## Family Time Awards



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# Runners of the Week



## Diary Dates

New or amended dates will be shown in **BOLD**

Date	Occasion	Who?
<b>June 2024</b>		
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Vision Check	Ladybirds only
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup>	Garsington Workshop	Osprey Class
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	Y6 Adventure Week – letter sent 10/5/24	Y6 only
<b>July 2024</b>		
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Transition Day	Everyone
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Sports Morning 9am – Ibstone Common	KS2 families
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS & KS1 Sports Morning 9am – Ibstone Common	EYFS/ KS1 families
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup>	Pebbles Nursery Sports Morning 11am – Ibstone Common	Pebbles families
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	Ladybirds Trip – more information to follow	Ladybirds
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	Osprey Class Trip am only – more information to follow	Osprey Class
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Ibfest – more information to follow	Everyone
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Pebbles Nursery finishes 12pm	Pebbles
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Leavers' Service 9.15am St Nicholas Church	Year 6 families only
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Summer Celebration in the school garden 12.45pm End of term – school ends at 1.30pm	Everyone

<b>2024 – 2025 Term Dates</b>		
<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>Start of Term</b>	<b>End of Term</b>
Autumn	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 (1.30pm)
Spring	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025 (1.30pm)
Summer	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025
	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025 (1.30pm)

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## WELCOME TO HOLLAND

by Emily Perl Kingsley

I am often asked to describe the experience of raising a child with a disability - to try to help people who have not shared that unique experience to understand it, to imagine how it would feel. It's like this.....

When you're going to have a baby, it's like planning a fabulous vacation trip - to Italy. You buy a bunch of guide books and make your wonderful plans. The Coliseum, the Michelangelo David, the gondolas in Venice. You may learn some handy phrases in Italian. It's all very exciting.

After months of eager anticipation, the day finally arrives. You pack your bags and off you go. Several hours later, the plane lands. The stewardess comes in and says, "Welcome to Holland."

"Holland?!?" you say. "What do you mean Holland?? I signed up for Italy! I'm supposed to be in Italy. All my life I've dreamed of going to Italy."

But there's been a change in the flight plan. They've landed in Holland and there you must stay.

The important thing is that they haven't taken you to a horrible, disgusting, filthy place, full of pestilence, famine and disease. It's just a different place.

So you must go out and buy new guide books. And you must learn a whole new language. And you will meet a whole new group of people you would never have met.

It's just a different place. It's slower-paced than Italy, less flashy than Italy. But after you've been there for a while and you catch your breath, you look around... and you begin to notice that Holland has windmills...and Holland has tulips. Holland even has Rembrandts.

But everyone you know is busy coming and going from Italy... and they're all bragging about what a wonderful time they had there. And for the rest of your life, you will say "Yes, that's where I was supposed to go. That's what I had planned."

And the pain of that will never, ever, ever, ever go away... because the loss of that dream is a very very significant loss.

But... if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to Italy, you may never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things ... about Holland.

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