

# 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,

When I started at Ibstone (many, many years ago now), Ms Robertson set me a challenge. The challenge was to never start the newsletter by talking about what the weather has been like, something I have achieved nearly every week for well over 10 years. The only time I am allowed to mention the weather is when it snows... so....

What an exciting start to the day on Wednesday! It was wonderful to see the snow settling around the site. The children all made good use of the new waterproof trousers that the PTA have kindly purchased. Thank you!



We are in need of some more hangers like these please!



## Christmas

The snow on Wednesday has signalled the start of the Christmas season here in school! The children have been listening to and learning the Nativity songs and parts are being discussed and shared out! The school has been filled with the sound of singing as the children continue to rehearse. Please don't forget to book your free tickets to the performances available via iPal now! Physical tickets will be sent out on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December**.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December – EYFS & KS1 Nativity** at St Nicholas Church **2pm** – 2 tickets per family (more may be available closer to the date). Please book via iPal.

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Nativity** at Garsington Studios **5pm** – 4 tickets per family (more may be available closer to the date). Please book via iPal. This performance will also be streamed over Zoom to family and friends that are unable to come in person. Please get in touch if you would like us to share the link with you.

A huge thank you to Connor and his team from Maguires' Scaffolding for making our Christmas Tree racking again this year, all we need now are the Christmas Trees! We open at 6pm on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November! Prices are the same as last year!



**The Ibstone Christmas Tree Company**

**Ibstone CE Primary  
School Back Garden  
Ibstone, HP14 3XZ**

**Nordmann Fir**  
3ft-4ft £25  
5ft-6ft £35  
6ft-8.5ft £40  
9-11ft £60

**We are proud to be selling British grown trees with all profits going to Ibstone CE Primary School**

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*



### **Craft Market – 28<sup>th</sup> November 6pm-9pm**

Please share the flyer for our Christmas Craft Market with as many people as possible. We have lots of local crafters joining us that evening, it will be a great Christmas Shopping opportunity!

### **Christmas Fair – 29<sup>th</sup> November 1pm-3pm**

Please come along to have an afternoon of fun with us, lots of fun games and activities. Get into the festive spirit with a hot chocolate or mulled wine.

### **Mufti Day for Elfridges**

We offer a Christmas shopping experience for all the children each year. This year **‘Elfridges’** will be open on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December. During that day, all children will be able to buy a present for adults in their family. The gifts are wrapped, with tags and bows. We need your help to stock the shop this year, please send in any unwanted (adult) gifts you may have at home. They need to be brand new and unopened. NO ALCOHOLIC drinks please.

More information on how much money to send in on the 15<sup>th</sup> etc will be sent out nearer the time.

**In return, your child can wear their own clothes for the day on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December!**



Examples: Perfume, Make up, Candles, Glassware, Men’s Ties, Aftershave, Sunglasses, Baseball Caps, Bath Sets, Jewellery, Scarves, Wallets, Purses etc.

### **Cold Weather**

Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing in school for playtimes, lunchtimes, Forest School and PE. In the event of heavy snow, we will make a decision about school as early as we can and will alert you via the Ibstone Community WhatsApp group, email and a message on the school website. If you are not part of the WhatsApp group, please contact the office so that we can send you a link to join if you would like to.

**Please can we ask that all children have a pair of wellies in school at all times so that they can all enjoy being outside. It would be worth during these colder months having a spare pair of socks at school in their bag or in their tray as there were lots of children with very cold feet!**

### **Football News**

It was a busy week for the footballers! Two games in two days. On Monday we played St John’s, Lacey Green in a League Game. The team played incredibly well against a really strong and long serving team. It was a close match with St John’s winning 1-0. On Tuesday, we headed to Disraeli School for our Cup Match. Another very strong side and possibly the fastest paced match I have seen to date! An early goal put us 1-0 up, Disraeli equalised and it was a tense second half! The final score was 4-1 to Ibstone! Congratulations to our goal scorers and our first hatrick for one team member! An excellent score that means we are progressing to the Quarter Finals of the Cup! Well done team!

### **FAB Playtimes**

Our FAB Playtimes keep on getting better. The PTA, along with some parental purchases from the Amazon Wishlist mean we now have a full compliment of cycle helmets for all head sizes! The children have been taught how to do a fit check and how to look after the helmets so that we can continue to enjoy the scooters and bikes at playtimes.



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## Family Time

In Family Time this week we have been out in small groups planting bulbs in our local community. Over the course of the afternoon the whole school popped up to the common and planted over 1400 daffodil bulbs that will wave a cheery welcome to everyone in the Spring! A huge thank you to the Wormsley Estate Gardens Department for prepping the holes and being there to teach us how to plant the bulbs and thank you to Ibstone Parish Council for donating £200 towards the bulbs!



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## Weekly Round Up

### Pebbles

This week Pebbles have made some wonderful farm animals out of play dough using small sticks for whiskers and sparkly gems for eyes. They also painted some amazing pictures of horses and sheep making sure they counted four legs and a long tail. We sang “I went to visit a farm one day” making the sounds of all the different animals included in the song. The children were very clever learning all the words of the song and holding up their animal when it was their turn.

Following on from our story about the Little Red Hen we joined Ladybirds to make some delicious bread. We weighed and measured the ingredients and thoroughly enjoyed kneading the dough, because we helped to make the bread we also got to eat it! Yummy!



### Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds we have continued to orally retell our class version of The Little Pink Pig. We took turns to be in the hot seat and ask questions to different characters in the story. We have played rhyming games and have tried to spot the odd word out. Unlike the little red hens’ friends all the Ladybirds wanted to help make the bread. It smelt delicious and was shared and enjoyed by all. We enjoyed a visit from Jack the Firefighter who showed us around the fire appliance explaining about his job, he allowed everyone to feel how heavy the branch was and told us what job it did. We have also been very busy learning our songs for the Nativity.

In mathematics we have continued to explore the numbers 1-5. We have looked at the number bonds to 5 and explore the number 5 by sharing buttons between two pots and then representing this on a 5 frame. We are also using the terms parts and whole for example 1 is a part, 4 is a part, the whole is 5.

In phonics the sounds of the week are z, qu, ch and tricky words go, no, to, into.



### Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been busy planning and writing their own set of instructions for making a potion. We have had all sorts of ideas including moon potions, shape-shifting potions and invisibility potions. The children have been using our instruction toolkit which includes adjectives for extra information, time openers and bossy verbs.

In mathematics, Year 1 have started learning about subtraction. This week they have been learning to find a part using cubes to subtract. Year 2 have been learning to add across 10 by first finding a bond to 10 and then adding the rest.

In science, we have been learning about the seasons. This week we focused on autumn and learnt about animals that hibernate throughout the autumn and winter. The children then designed their own hibernation dens for animals including hedgehogs, dormice, toads and bats.

### Kestrel Class

In mathematics, Nemos have finished their work on addition and subtraction, and have moved on to multiplication and division. We have been looking at sharing between equal groups. Frogs are still working on multiplication and division, and have been working on their 11x, 12x and 0x this week.

In English, we have introduced our new focus text on instructions and have started to map the text. Our text is ‘How to trap a Grass Goblin’ and the class thought of lots of different ways that they could trap him before hearing the instructions in the text.

In French, we used different coloured shapes to create pictures, inspired by Matisse’s The Snail. We then described our picture using shape and colour vocabulary.

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## Osprey Class

On Monday morning, Osprey Class welcomed Green Watch from Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service (BFRS). The fire fighters talked to the children about the types of things BFRS do, how they help people, how to stay safe and they allowed us to look around the fire appliance. Your child should have brought home a BFRS Workbook that they can share with you and work on at home too. It was a really informative morning! Thank you Green Watch!

In mathematics this week, Year 5 have been working on fractions exploring equivalent fractions and how to convert both improper fractions to mixed numbers and mixed numbers to improper fractions. Year 6 have been working on fractions too. They have compared and ordered fractions and then learned how to add and subtract fractions.

The children have enjoyed being taught by Mr Stoddard this week, he has also enjoyed his time with Osprey Class and has commented several times on how respectful and well behaved they are! Well done Osprey Class.

In science this week we have been studying irreversible changes. We explored the chemical changes that occurred when we mixed different substances together such as milk and vinegar, washing up liquid and water as well as vinegar and bicarbonate of soda. We observed the new products that had been formed!



## Barn Owls

In maths, we have continued our work on developing our multiplication skills. We learned to count in threes. We have applied this to writing multiplication facts and solving word problems involving the three times tables.

For English, we started our new unit of work which focuses on instruction writing. For the cold task, the children wrote instructions on how to make a sandwich for an elf. The ingredients included all sorts of imaginative ingredients, such as snow, candy canes and red and white sprinkles. We have listened to and started mapping our new text 'How to trap a Grass Goblin.'

## In other news:

### Books needed for Christmas Fair

If you have any children's books at home that are in very good condition, please could you donate them to the PTA for one of their Christmas Fair stalls, they have something exciting planned! We are looking for books suitable for Nursery & Primary aged children (3-11years).

### Contact information

The data collection sheets were sent home last week. Please could you ensure that you return these to school by Wednesday next week to enable us to have the correct contact and emergency contact details on record.

### Forest School Clothing

We have now moved into Winter, please ensure that your child has the right clothes and footwear/socks. All children need to have an extra pair of socks for Forest School, especially if they are wearing wellies.

## Forest School Kit List

### Winter

- Warm waterproof coat / ski coat  
(this must be in addition to their school coat)
- Waterproof trousers/ ski trousers
- Hat
- Gloves
- **Spare socks**
- Wellies/ snow boots/ walking boots
- Extra mid layers – jumpers / joggers from Nov - Feb



Enjoy your weekend!

Louise Long  
Headteacher

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

Date	Occasion	Who?
<b>November 2025</b>		
28 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Trees & Christmas Craft Fair 6pm-9pm	Everyone
29 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Christmas Fair	Everyone
<b>December 2025</b>		
9 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS / KS1 Nativity Performance -2pm – St Nicholas Church	EYFS / KS1 Families
11 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Christmas Performance – 5pm – Garsington Studios	Everyone
12 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper & Christmas Lunch Day	Everyone
19 <sup>th</sup>	End of term 1.30pm	Everyone
<b>January 2026</b>		
5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Back to school</b>	<b>Everyone</b>
<b>February 2026</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Open Classrooms – 3.30pm – 5.15pm – more information to follow	Everyone
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
4 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
9 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Mental Health Week - more information to follow	Everyone
10 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day	Everyone
12 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term – 3.15pm / 3.25pm	Everyone
13 <sup>th</sup>	INSET Day	Staff only
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Back to school	Everyone
<b>March 2026</b>		
6 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day – more details to follow	Everyone
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ibstone Circle – more information to follow	Everyone
26 <sup>th</sup>	Stations of the Cross Easter Walk	Everyone
27 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term – 1.30pm	Everyone
<b>April 2026</b>		
13 <sup>th</sup>	Back to school	Everyone
<b>May 2026</b>		
5 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Adventure Week	Year 5 only
11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 SATs Week	Year 6 only
22 <sup>nd</sup>	End of Term – 3.15pm	Everyone
<b>June 2026</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	INSET Day	Staff Only
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Back to school	Everyone
15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Adventure Week	Year 6 only
<b>July 2026</b>		
7 <sup>th</sup>	Transition Day	Everyone
9 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Sports Morning 9am-10.30am – more information to follow	KS2 families
10 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS & KS1 Sports Morning 9am-10.30am – more information to follow	Ladybirds & Woodland Class families
4 <sup>th</sup>	Pebbles Sports Morning 11pm-12pm – more information to follow	Pebbles families
13 <sup>th</sup>	Ibifest Week – more information to follow	Everyone
17 <sup>th</sup>	Pebbles Last Day	Pebbles
20 <sup>th</sup>	Leavers' Service 9.15am, St Nicholas Church	Year 6 Families
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Garden Celebration – 12.45pm	Everyone



