

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Dear Families,

As part of National Story Telling Week, some of our KS2 children popped up to The Chiltern Grange Care Home to read to some of the residents. I think it was fair to say that everyone enjoyed the afternoon and hopefully we can make this a more regular event!



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

Family Time

During Family Time this afternoon the whole school listened to the story of David and Goliath, they thought about how David showed lots of our Ibstone values. Everyone thought about what their Goliath might be, there were lots of different answers, from being able to do cartwheels, to managing tempers, mathematics, name writing, phonics and learning to ride a bike! Perhaps you could share your Goliaths with your family over the weekend!

Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

Pebbles have enjoyed learning about mixing colours. We have experimented using the 3 primary colours and mixing them to make purple, green and orange. They enjoyed listening to the story 'Mixed'. They have also enjoyed listening to and joining in with 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear'. They have joined in with great expression. Pebbles have been using their fine motor skills to colour in the animals from the story so that Pebbles have their own version of Brown Bear, Brown Bear to read to each other.

Pebbles and Ladybirds had a wonderful time dancing with colourful ribbons to 'Over the Rainbow'.



Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds we have enjoyed the colour story Mixed; this has been the basis for our Drawing Club sessions. We had to draw our 3 favourite colours, design a new neighbourhood for all the colours to live in happily and invent a way to get to the moon to see if there are any colours living on the moon.

We have explored mixing the primary colours and looking at the different colours we have made. We made lots of coloured playdough and used the primary colours in oobleck. This was lots of fun!

In maths we have been working on the composition of numbers 6,7,8; finding pairs, learning about odd and even numbers and finding and making doubles up to 10.

In phonics we have been learning to read longer words and revising our tricky words.



Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been busy writing their innovated versions of 'The Magic Porridge Pot'. We have had lots of interesting ideas, including magic honey jars, magic hot chocolate mugs and even a magic baking tray. The children have all worked really hard to include interesting adjectives and verbs to describe the characters in their stories.

In mathematics, Year 1 have started learning about addition and subtraction within 20. This week they have been adding numbers within 20 using a number line and have been using equipment to help them find number bonds to 20. Year 2 have continued learning about money. This week they have been learning to solve calculations with money and how to make £1 in lots of different ways.

In geography, we worked in small groups to build 3D maps of our classroom using different resources.



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Kestrel Class

In maths this week, Nemos finished their unit on length and perimeter. They have started learning about fractions and have started to explore denominators and numerators. They have also been comparing and ordering unit fractions. Frogs have also finished their unit on length and perimeter; this week focussing on calculating the perimeter of rectilinear shapes, regular polygons and irregular polygons.

In English, we have started writing our final innovation of the focus text. Instead of the Chocolate Factory and the Sweet Factory, the children have written about a Toy Universe. The ideas for character descriptions have been incredible and it has been wonderful to see the class using the new handwriting techniques in their writing. There has been a drastic change in the presentation of handwriting in the past week which has been amazing to witness! Next week we will finish our writing and wrapping up the end of this wishing tale unit.

Geography provided some exciting opportunities for discussions about earthquakes and their consequences. It has been lovely to hear how much lots of the class already know about volcanoes and earthquakes – this is clearly a topic that they are very enthusiastic about! The class designed plans for building an earthquake-proof building and thought carefully about the different safety features that it would include.

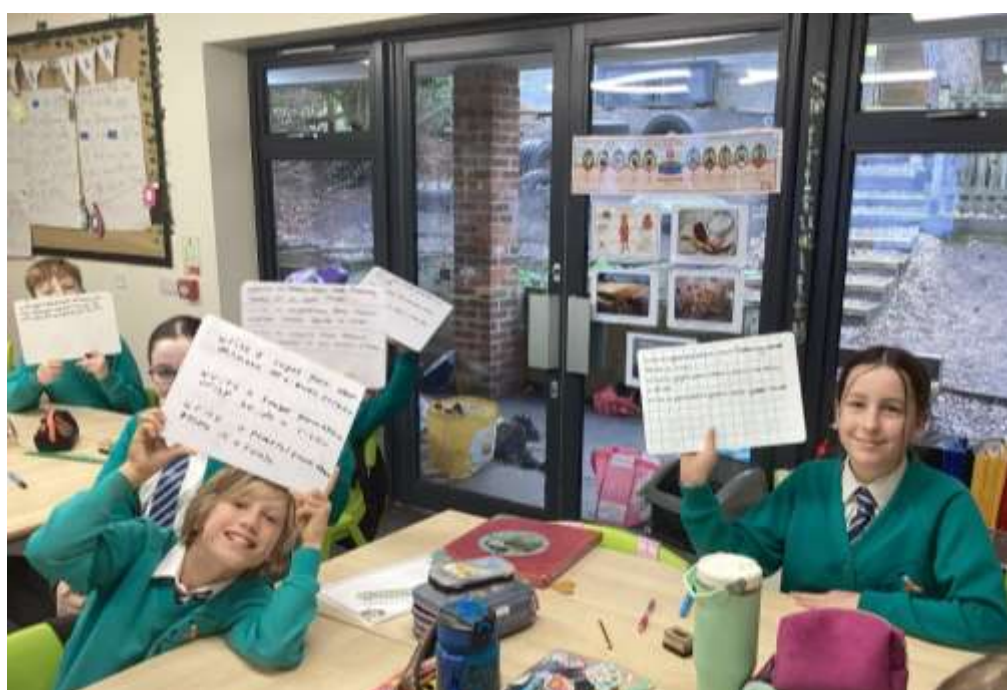
Osprey Class

This week in English, Osprey Class have been discussing when to use colons, semi colons and dashes. We have also discussed dependent and independent clauses in SPaG. They have then started writing their wishing story, they have worked really hard with these so far and I really look forward to reading them when they are finished.

In maths, Y6 have finished off their algebra topic by solving 2-step questions involving challenging formulae. They have then started the next unit of work of decimals, looking at reading and writing numbers with integers and decimals.

In science, they have been learning about the lifecycle of birds and reptiles; they have dissected chicken eggs and identified the different structures within.

In geography this week, we starting looking at different features of rivers and discussed what each of them was and whether they would be found in the upper, middle or lower course of a river.



Barn Owls

This week in maths, the Barn Owls have been learning that a fraction can be seen as part of a whole and that to find a unit fraction, they divide the whole into equal parts. They then identified the role of the denominator, appreciating that this shows how many equal parts the whole has been divided into. They have compared fractions by observing the part-whole relationship. For example, if they split the whole into 4 equal parts, the parts will be bigger than if they had split the whole into 10 equal parts meaning $\frac{1}{4}$ is a bigger part of the whole than $\frac{1}{10}$ is.

In English, the children have started their own innovations of a wishing tale. Utilising the structure of our text Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, the children are currently writing original narratives based on a child's desire to visit or inherit a fantastical 'Toy Universe.' This week has been seen the beginning of the stories and introducing the main characters. We look forward to concluding our stories next week as we move into the final stages of our tales.

In other news

Kites Bookings

You are now able to book Kites sessions for after half term. Table Tennis will continue up until Easter as the children are really enjoying these sessions.

Cross Country

If your child would like to take part please book next term on IPAL.

Bikeability

Year 4 have their Bikeability session on Monday 23rd February. Please make sure that bikes and helmets are in school first thing as the session starts at 9am. It would be best for them to wear their PE kit and trainers.

Swimming

The current swimmers will have their last session on Wednesday 11th February. Please make sure they have their kit and a pair of pyjamas for water safety.

Those who are swimming after half term (you will have had an email), please book using iPal.

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Children's Mental Health Week

The theme for this year's Children's Mental Health Week is 'This is My Place'. During the week we will be talking about what it means to belong, how we can support our own sense of belonging and how we can help others. On Thursday 12th February we would like to invite all the children to 'Come as Yourself'. Everyone is welcome to wear an outfit which makes them feel most comfortable and confident— whether that's cosy clothes, cultural dress, favourite colours, or something totally unique. We want to celebrate what makes you, you!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



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Zog & Pumpkin Awards



Family Time Awards



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

Date	Occasion	Who?
February 2026		
9 th – 15 th	Children’s Mental Health Week - please see the main body of the newsletter	Everyone
10 th	Safer Internet Day	Everyone
12 th	End of Term – 3.15pm / 3.25pm	Everyone
13 th	INSET Day	Staff only
23 rd	Back to school	Everyone
March 2026		
6 th	World Book Day – more details to follow	Everyone
20 th	Red Nose Day – more details to follow	Everyone
22 nd	Ibstone Circle – PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE – now 19th April	Everyone
26 th	Stations of the Cross Easter Walk	Everyone
27 th	End of Term – 1.30pm	Everyone
April 2026		
13 th	Back to school	Everyone
19th	Ibstone Circle	Everyone
May 2026		
5 th – 8 th	Year 5 Adventure Week	Year 5 only
11 th – 14 th	Year 6 SATs Week	Year 6 only
22 nd	End of Term – 3.15pm	Everyone
June 2026		
1 st	INSET Day	Staff Only
2 nd	Back to school	Everyone
15 th – 19 th	Year 6 Adventure Week	Year 6 only
July 2026		
7 th	Transition Day	Everyone
9 th	KS2 Sports Morning 9am-10.30am – more information to follow	KS2 families
10 th	EYFS & KS1 Sports Morning 9am-10.30am – more information to follow	Ladybirds & Woodland Class families
4 th	Pebbles Sports Morning 11pm-12pm – more information to follow	Pebbles families
13 th	Ibfest Week – more information to follow	Everyone
17 th	Pebbles Last Day	Pebbles
20 th	Leavers’ Service 9.15am, St Nicholas Church	Year 6 Families
22 nd	Garden Celebration – 12.45pm	Everyone