

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Dear Families,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a good half term. The children have come back to school refreshed and eager to learn. This week we have welcomed another Miss Smith to the Ibstone family. Miss Smith is training to be a primary school teacher and will be with us for the majority of this half term and will be working in Woodland Class.

Thank you all for bearing with me while Ms Robertson has been away... we survived! I am pleased to inform you that normal service has now resumed!

On Monday, we welcomed Ian from Spokes who worked with some of our Year 3 and 4 children on their Bikeability Level One award. Well done to all the children who took part, you listened carefully and developed your cycling skills. Well done!



Bikability runs for Year 4 and Year 6 each year so all of our children will have the opportunity to take part during their time in school.

Year 6 parents will have received an email today about Level Two which will take place in June. It will not matter if they have not completed Level One, they can still take part in Level Two.

Ibstone Circle

Don't forget to register for Ibstone Circle. It is set to be a great day! You can register for the events and find out more here:

<https://www.ibstonecircle.co.uk/>



Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

This term Pebbles Nursery children will be learning all about Dinosaurs. We have been learning about herbivores who ate plants, carnivores eating meat and omnivores who ate both. The children looked at books and photos of dinosaurs, choosing their favourite to draw and paint. They did an amazing job with lots of attention to detail. During our dance and movement session we moved in many different ways pretending to be a variety of dinosaurs stomping, roaring, flying and swimming.

Ladybirds

Ladybirds were a little surprised to see giant footsteps when they came back into school on Monday. They used their detective skills to decide that the footprints belonged to a dinosaur! They loved sharing their knowledge of dinosaurs with us. We have been enjoying looking at different books about dinosaurs, talking about our favourite dinosaur and finding out if they were an omnivore, herbivore or a carnivore. The T-Rex was a definite favourite! There has been some super writing alongside some fabulous drawings and paintings.

In maths we have been thinking about length and height. We have had fun comparing different objects, measuring with ribbons and building towers. We have worked with our friends to build towers that were the same height. The children have compared the towers and used vocabulary such as the same height and taller/ shorter to compare the towers.



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

In phonics we have recapped on our phase 3 sounds each day, learning to spot these in new words. We are reading our sentence each day but will now start to write a sentence in phonics.



Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been busy writing colour poems based on Pie Corbett’s ‘Eye Spy with my Rainbow Eye’. We started the week by making paper rainbows to generate vocabulary to use in our poems. We have also been looking at using interesting adjectives and verbs to describe the objects in our poems.

In mathematics, Year 1 have been learning about subtraction. This week we have been subtracting numbers within 20 using number bonds and number lines to count back. Year 2 have started their unit on multiplication and division. This week they have been learning to make equal groups and have been introduced to the multiplication symbol.

In geography, we drew simple maps of our school site using symbols and colours. We then created a key to explain what each of the symbols and coloured areas were.

In computing, we have continued our work on programming. This week we worked in pairs to become robots and programmers. In our pairs, the programmers had to give the robots instructions to move in different directions, including forwards, backwards, left and right.

We have also welcomed Miss Smith into Woodland Class this week, who is training to be a teacher. She will be working in Woodland Class for the next four weeks. The children have been very excited about having two Miss Smith’s this term!



Kestrel Class

In English, we have learnt our new focus text which is an explanation text about a Prince turning into a frog. The class have mapped the text and done some shared writing to think about how a teacher might turn into a parrot! We have also done lots of work on the vocabulary in preparation for our writing next week.

In maths we did a collaborative challenge with fractions' cards. In small groups we matched cards displaying numerical and pictorial fractions as well as digits. This seemed an easy task until the rules of the activity were revealed: no talking or noise, no gesturing and you could only give a card to one of your team, not take one off them!

In science we made fossils using a salt dough that we made with some added extras that we can tell you about and shells, plants and bones. They look amazing!



Osprey Class

This week in English, we have been discussing relative, personal and possessive pronouns. We have also started a unit of work on poetry; we read two poems called City Poem and Country Poem by Pie Corbett. We discussed any unknown vocabulary and created a glossary. Following this, we looked at the structure of the poems and identified any features. Both poems use personification in every line and also include some alliteration. As a class we have created a bank of nouns and verbs and wrote our own class poem using mountains and rivers as our focus. The children then had a go at writing their own poem.

In maths, Year 6 have finished their unit of work on decimals and have moved onto a unit of work on fractions, decimals and percentages. They have been converting between fractions and decimals. Year 5 have finished their unit of work on fractions and have begun a unit of work on decimals. They have been writing decimals to two decimal places.

In geography, we learnt about erosion and deposition and discussed how this can cause rivers to change course and ox bow lakes to form.

Barn Owls

This week in maths, the Barn Owls have been learning how to multiply a two-digit number by a one-digit number. First, we worked with calculations where there were no exchanges, then we moved on to one and two exchanges. We used place value counters in place value charts and use them to explore the structure of the short multiplication, presenting the concrete model alongside the formal written method.

In English, Barn Owls started a new unit of work 'How the Prince to Frog Potion Works'. Through an explanation text we learned that the potion triggers a gaseous reaction that inflates the prince's throat and a circulatory transformation shrinks the limbs and the skin turns green. The process strips away "dislikeable" royal traits like arrogance and beauty, successfully converting the prince into a simple, wart-covered frog. The text has been great fun to read and learn. We will explore the key features within it to help develop our own explanation texts over the coming weeks.

In other news

Chiltern Rangers Conservation Project - Monday 2nd March

Osprey Class will be heading out on Monday morning to work with the Chiltern Rangers as part of a conservation project in the local area. Please make sure they are wearing old clothes and have their Forest School boots and kit with them as we will be out for the whole morning.

World Book Day – Friday 6th March

We will be celebrating World Book Day next Friday, 6th March. This year we are inviting all children, parents and staff to dress up as a word. We will be holding a Vocabulary Parade during the school day and will be inviting parents to join our parade at 3pm on the school playground. The choices are endless, we look forward to seeing your creativity.

Louise Long
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



Zog the Dog & Pumpkin Praise Awards



Love – Courage – Respect – Community – Perseverance
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Maths Whizz Awards



Bikeability Awards



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Investment Points Purchases



Runners of the Week



Love – Courage – Respect – Community – Perseverance
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Philippians 4:13

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

Date	Occasion	Who?
March 2026		
2nd	Osprey Class outreach work with Chiltern Rangers	Osprey Class only
6 th	World Book Day – see main newsletter and email sent on 27/2	Everyone
20th	Red Nose Day – see main newsletter	Everyone
23rd	Year 5 Adventure Week Meeting – 7pm in the hall – Parents only	Y5 Parents only
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
18th	Year 6 Adventure Week Meeting – 7pm in the hall – Parents only	Y6 Parents only
19th	Garsington Workshop from 1pm – Osprey Class only	Osprey Class
22 nd	End of Term – 3.15pm	Everyone
June 2026		
1 st	INSET Day	Staff Only
2 nd	Back to school	Everyone
9th	Opera First Auditions – Y4,5 & 6 only	Y4,5 & 6 only
15 th – 19 th	Year 6 Adventure Week	Year 6 only
23rd	Garsington Opera Performance – pm – Osprey Class	Osprey Class 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	Ibifest 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