

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Dear Families,

I have been fortunate enough this week to spend time with Woodland Class and Kestrel Class. Zog and Pumpkin have really enjoyed 'helping' and overseeing the children with their handwriting!



They have also enjoyed their walk with the children who spent their investment points on a walk with Zog & Pumpkin.



On Wednesday our last group of KS2 swimmers took part in their Water Safety session, they enjoyed wearing their pyjamas in the pool but all commented on how heavy they felt and how much more tiring it was to swim in their clothes. As part of the session they swam against a current, learnt to tread water for 1 minute and demonstrated some excellent life saving skills. Water Safety is such an important part of the swimming curriculum and we were very proud of all the children for persevering.



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

On Thursday afternoon the whole school set out on a very special Easter walk. Some of our Osprey children helped re-enact the story as we walked. The children waved and cried 'Hosanna' as Jesus rode up the road on a 'donkey'. A huge thank you to Jack for volunteering to be a donkey ... we really appreciated it!



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A huge thank you to Jean and the PTA for donating Easter Eggs for all the children. I know all the children are very grateful!

Weekly Round Up

Ladybirds

This week Ladybirds have all been working very hard finishing their dinosaur stories, we have had lots of creative storytelling going on. We have been learning about the Easter story and enjoying Easter craft.

In maths the focus has been on number bonds to 10; looking at finding two numbers to make 10 and also three numbers to make 10.

In phonics the focus has been on the suffix 's' being added to words, how sometimes it makes a z sound, also adding 'es' and 's' can create plurals and the present tense of verbs.

Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been busy writing their newspaper reports about Jack and the Baked Beanstalk. The children worked very hard to use the -ed suffix on the end of past tense words and created interesting headlines for their reports.

In mathematics, Year 1 have completed their unit on length and height. This week, the children learnt how to measure objects using cubes and rulers in cm. In Year 2, the children have finished their unit on multiplication and division. This week we looked at the 5-times table and how to divide by 5.

Across the week, we have also enjoyed taking part in a range of Easter themed activities, including drawing daffodils, making tricky word bunnies and going on a whole school Easter walk.

Kestrel Class

In maths some of us did a challenge activity of solving a 'set square puzzle'. We worked together to solve two and then some of us created our own for Mrs Butwell to solve. It was a lot of fun! Nemos have continued learning about fractions and Frogs have finished their unit on decimals.

In Science we learnt about plants and looked at the different parts of a plant and what their functions are. We had three different flowering plants to study. In pairs we chose one and then we took it apart to identify and label the different parts.

In English, Kestrels produced some fabulous Spring rhyming poems. They have done really well with using rhyming words and understanding that words using different spelling rules can still rhyme.

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Osprey Class

This week in English, the children have been using their plans to create a tourist brochure. They have used a range of persuasive techniques very well, as I would love to visit all of the places they are advertising.

In maths Year 5 moved onto a new unit of work on area and perimeter. This week they have been finding the perimeter of rectangles and rectilinear shapes. Year 6 have continued with finding the area of different triangles and have also learnt how to find the area of a parallelogram.

In science, we continued to learn about Carl Linnaeus and his classification system. We completed our animal classification maps.

Barn Owls

This week in maths, the Barn Owls have reviewed their learning from this half term through a variety of maths activities. They especially enjoyed completing clues to solve a maths mystery to find out the winner of an Easter bonnet parade.

In English, Barn Owls have continued their work on poetry. They explored rhyming words, thinking of words on a spring theme. They then used these to complete rhyming couplets and chose their favourite ones to create a spring poem.

In other news

Kites

Kites bookings are now open for next term. We are delighted to be offering Cricket on a Thursday and Gymnastics on a Friday, these are open to all pupils in the school. There is also a Netball Club running on a Tuesday, this is only for children in Y5/6 who would like to play netball for the school team. There are limited spaces available in this club so please book sooner rather than later.

Year 2 Swimming

Summer 1 Group will start their swimming on 15th April, please make sure they have their kit with them.



On behalf of all the staff and governors, we hope you all have a blessed Easter break. Thank you for your continued support of the school!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



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Runners of the Week



Investment Points



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Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
April 2026		
13 th	Back to school	Everyone
19 th	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
18 th	Year 6 Adventure Week Meeting – 7pm in the hall – Parents only	Y6 Parents only
19 th	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
9 th	Opera First Auditions – Y4,5 & 6 only	Y4,5 & 6 only
15 th – 19 th	Year 6 Adventure Week	Year 6 only
23 rd	Garsington Opera Performance – pm – Osprey Class	Osprey Class only
July 2026		
7 th	Transition Day	Everyone
8 th	Whole School Trip – letters sent 6/3/26	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

2026/2027 Term Dates

Term	Open on the morning of	Close on the afternoon of
Autumn	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026	Friday 23 rd October 2026 3.15pm
	Monday 2 nd November 2026	Friday 18 th December 2026 1.30pm
Spring	Monday 4 th January 2027	Thursday 11 th February 2027 3.15pm
	Monday 22 nd February 2027	Thursday 25 th March 2027 1.30pm
Summer	Monday 12 th April 2027	Friday 28 th May 2027 3.15pm
	Monday 7 th June 2027	Wednesday 21 st July 2027 1.30pm

INSET DAYS 2026/2027

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Friday 12th February 2027
+ 3 more INSET Days to be confirmed

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