

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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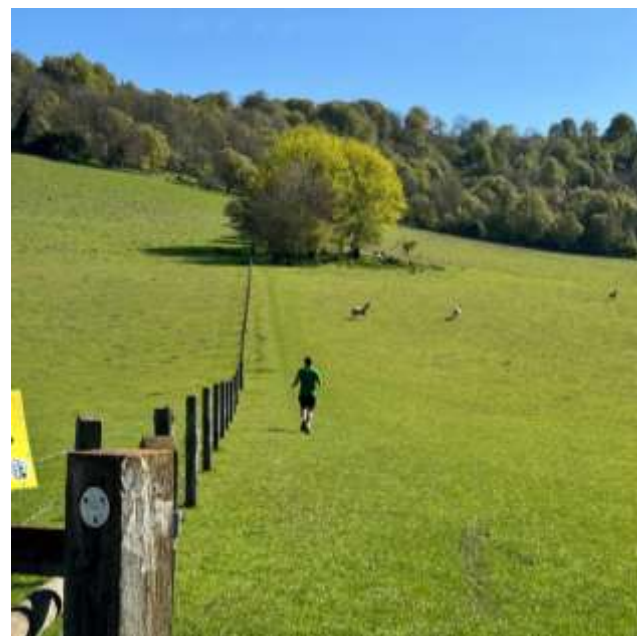
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Dear Families,

What a week! A very successful fundraising event, another winning football match, a hall meeting and a visit from the Bishop of Nandyal!

Ibstone Circle

Thank you to everyone who organised, set up, marshalled, helped, baked, served, cooked bacon, registered runners, gave out medals, threw paint, took photos, took part or packed down. We couldn't have done it without you! We raised an amazing £2021!



Ibstone FC

After a super training session on Monday afternoon, the team were ready for their final league match against Monks Risborough. The new tactics board was brought into play and the team played a fantastic match, winning 3-0! We are now focusing on the Cup Semi Final at Juniper Hill on Tuesday 28th April. Spectators are welcome. We kick off at 3.30pm.



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

Hall Update

Today we met with the Diocese Premises Team, a structural engineer and the builders to further our understanding of what works need to take place in order for us to continue with the hall project. Ms Robertson and I played our part in helping this morning! The team have all gone away to write a plan and hopefully we will have an update and a final plan in the next week or so. Thank you for your continued support with Rolling Drop Off and end of the school day routines!

A special visitor

This afternoon Osprey Class headed down to St Nicholas with a very special visitor. Bishop Santosh from the Diocese of Nandyal in Southern India who visited us as part of his trip to see education in action in the Oxford Diocese. As we are unable to tour him around the school at the moment, we decided that Osprey Class would have Worship at St Nicholas, the children led a superb worship based on the Road to Emmaus.



Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

Pebbles have been enjoying the spring sunshine this week with lots of outdoor activities. With a paint brush and bowl of water we painted over all the letters and shapes in the playground. We practised writing the letters in our names and then tipped the water onto the ground watching the waterfall as it ran across the playground. We measured how far the water had travelled using a skipping rope. We also used different coloured chinks to make marks and patterns. Storytime and phonics were lovely out in the fresh air. We also built a brilliant obstacle course with stepping stones to balance on, ropes to walk along, hurdles to crawl under and hoops to jump in. The children built and designed the obstacle course by themselves and they showed many skills including coordination and gross motor skills when they followed the trail.

In mathematics we have been learning our 2D shapes, playing different games to help us remember their names.



Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds, after learning our story, we have looked at changing the characters in the Gingerbread Man and have all made a start on writing our new stories. We have had magical fairies, beautiful princesses and a little T-Rex making the gingerbread. We have enjoyed finishing our puppets, adding on features to create our own characters.

We thought we may need to help the Gingerbread Man cross the river and thought of ways we could do this. Ladybirds enjoyed testing out their designs exploring floating and sinking along the way.

In maths we have looked at patterns creating our own complex repeating patterns using a variety of objects and loose parts.

Our new tricky words in phonics are, some, come, love and do.

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Philippians 4:13



Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been reading their new Talk 4 Writing text 'Traction Man'. We started the week by watching a video called 'The Dragon Slayer' and described the action by using verbs and adverbs. We then read the story 'Traction Man' and made comic strips to predict Traction Man's next adventure. We also discussed what the characters might be saying to each other and wrote speech bubbles using a range of sentence types.

In mathematics, Year 1 have started learning about multiplication and division. This week they enjoyed playing games and listening to counting songs to help them count in 2s and 10s. Year 2 have continued their work on capacity. This week they have explored measuring in millilitres and litres and have measured temperature using thermometers.

In science, Woodland Class looked at the difference between bulbs and seeds. We looked at a selection of seeds and dissected bulbs to see what was inside. We then drew observational pictures and labelled them. This week we also started our investigation 'What do plants need to grow and stay healthy?'. We will continue to observe our plants over the next few weeks.

In art, we explored the element of line. This week we drew different types of lines using a range of media including pencil, oil pastel and chalk. We then designed our own colourful pictures using a range of different lines, including curved, straight, wavy and spiral.



Kestrel Class

In mathematics, Nemos have been adding and subtracting amounts under £10 and they have now finished their unit on money. As we barely use cash these days, if there are any opportunities at home for them to use coins and notes on a shopping trip, this would really support their learning further. Frogs have been comparing rounding to the nearest whole number and calculating halves and quarters as decimals. They have now finished this unit on decimals.

In English, we have been doing lots of short burst writing this week. In preparation for writing a suspense tale, we have found toolkit features within the focus text and developed a toolkit for suspense and action writing. The class have been thinking about ways to show the reader how a character is feeling rather than just telling, and have produced some great writing from this.

In DT, we are working on food technology and have been learning about seasonal foods in the UK. We have looked at which seasons it is possible to find each fruit and vegetable, and discussed the pros and cons for importing food. Several fruit and vegetables were ones that the majority hadn't heard of, so we have sent the list home to look out for on your next supermarket trip!

In Kestrel Class, we receive gems into a jar as rewards for when our class is particularly wonderful. There are a lot of gems to get before we have a treat and last week we finally got all the gems! To celebrate we had a special afternoon where we each made a frog out of origami and then we raced them in triple jump and sprint. It was a lot of fun!



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Osprey Class

In English this week, the children have been revisiting previously learnt grammar terminology and skills to see how much they can remember. We have been building on what they already know so they can apply these to all pieces of writing.

In mathematics, Year 6 have worked extremely hard this week to cover lots of different areas of the shape unit. I am so proud of them, well done! They have learnt all about angles in triangles, quadrilaterals and other regular polygons. They then used all of this to calculate missing angles, having to complete multiple calculations to find the final angle. Year 5 have continued their work on statistics and have been reading and interpreting line graphs, tables and timetables.

This week in science, Osprey Class were looking at the make up of blood. They learnt about platelets, plasma, red and white blood cells.

In art, Osprey Class have looked at the work of Louise Nevelson, an American artist famous for her large, wooden sculptures that were often one colour. The children created a mind map of memories from their time at Ibstone. They selected 5 of the memories and chose a simple shape or symbol to represent it – the symbol could be realistic or abstract. They drew these symbols onto card, using different colour and sizes, and arranged them to create a paper composition. Next week they will be using these designs to create a cardboard relief sculpture inspired by Louise Nevelson.



Barn Owls

In maths this week, the Barn Owls have been mastering the world of money. The children have identified different coins and built their confidence in calculating totals. By applying their addition and subtraction skills, they’ve also been learning how to calculate change—a vital real-world skill!

In our writing sessions, the adventure continues at Sandy Cove. After finishing their detailed text maps, the class has been exploring the power of “Show, Don’t Tell.” Instead of simply naming an emotion, the children are learning to describe a character’s body language, movement, and interactions to bring their writing to life. We’ve also worked together on a “Writer’s Toolkit” to guide us as we begin developing our stories over the coming weeks.

In other news

Pebbles Nursery September 2026

We are delighted to share that we are now accepting applications for Pebbles Nursery for September 2026. We are offering up to 30 hours with extended hours available. Please do contact the office if you would like more information. If you know of friends or family looking for Nursery places, please share this with them.

IBSTONE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

PEBBLES NURSERY

**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS NOW
FOR SEPTEMBER 2026**

Nursery places are now available for children who will be starting school in September 2027.

WHAT WE OFFER

- 8 place part or full time provision
- Daily sessions 9am-12pm and 12-3pm
- Childcare funding accepted
- Small, nurturing environment
- Very experienced staff

FIND OUT MORE

www.ibstoneschool.org.uk/
office@ibstone.bucks.sch.uk
01491 638281

Have a great weekend!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



Ibstone Investments



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Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
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	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

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