

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

Ibstone, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP14 3XZ
Telephone: 01491 638281
Email: office@ibstone.bucks.sch.uk
www.ibstoneschool.org.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Louise Long

Issue 28 01.05.26

Dear Families,

I would like to start this week's newsletter by sharing how immensely proud I am of our footballers. On Monday the whole team had a superb practice and were joined by Matt Ingram (one of Oxford United's Goalkeepers). He enjoyed joining in with the final few minutes of the game and was impressed with all of our players.



On Tuesday, the team headed to the Semi-Final match at Juniper Hill. The whole team lived out our vision and demonstrated our values in abundance. Whilst the result of the game was not what anyone wanted, they walked away with their heads held high knowing that they had left everything on the pitch. Sometimes a loss, even if it feels hard in the moment, can lead to better things for everyone and I know that our players have ensured that changes to rules will be made for all pupils playing in the league and cup matches moving forward. An Ibstone Legacy will live on and that is something that they can all own and be proud of!



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

Special Visitors

Thank you to Brooke who brought in some day one chicks for our KS2 children to hold. I think everyone, including the staff, enjoyed meeting them and holding them. The children were so quiet and gentle, a couple of the chicks were quite noisy, it was lovely to hear their little cheeps.



Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

Pebbles and Ladybirds have enjoyed composing and learning a fun new song this week all about lots of different fruits. They chose their favourite fruits to be included in the song and helped to choreograph the actions. We have been very impressed with how they have remembered the words.

Pebbles had great fun designing a trap to catch the Gingerbread Man. Then using different materials, which included boxes, string and netting, they worked with a partner to make their traps. They did an amazing job with the traps being very strong (held together with large amounts of glue and sticky tape). They also became expert scientists doing a Gingerbread Man investigation, putting gingerbread biscuits into different liquids to see how they changed!

In maths this week we played a fun counting game called Spotty Dog. This learning game encourages the children to communicate, share and play together whilst taking turns.



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

Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds the children have all worked really hard on finishing their own stories based on the Gingerbread Man. They have totally wowed me in how they are trying to be independent in their writing, using the sound mats and finding tricky words to help themselves.

They have enjoyed working with a friend to design a trap to catch the Gingerbread Man and then work together to build their trap. They were then able to share their designs with their friends, demonstrating how they worked.

Ladybirds enjoyed being scientists, exploring how quickly gingerbread men dissolved in different substances, observing the changes that took place and making their own predictions.

In mathematics we are looking at numbers 11-20 and how they are made up. We have practically built the numbers with multilink and numicon, learning that, for example 14 is 10 and 4 more. We have built these numbers on ten frames, looking at the pattern it makes and sorting picture representations of these numbers.

In phonics our new tricky words are; were, here, little, says.



Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been learning to retell the story 'Traction Man' using actions. We have also started developing our action toolkit in preparation for writing our own Traction Man stories. This week, we have looked at verbs and adverbs. We have used thesauruses to find synonyms for verbs such as 'run', 'walk' and 'said' and have used interesting adverbs to describe Traction Man's actions. We also used verbs and adverbs to create list poems about a toy shop.

In mathematics, Year 1 have continued their work on multiplication and division. This week, we have been learning how to count in 5s and have been learning to recognise equal and unequal groups. Year 2 have been learning about length and height. This week they have enjoyed measuring objects using metre sticks and have compared and ordered the lengths and heights of different objects.

In science, we have been learning about the lifecycle of plants. We drew pictures of the 5 stages, which included planting the seed, germination, seedling, flower and seed spreading. We also went outside to act out the lifecycle of a plant.

In art, we have been learning about the element of shape. This week, we explored geometric shapes and freeform and drew some of these into our sketchbooks. We then used a range of these shapes to create a toy themed collage using coloured paper and card.



Kestrel Class

In English, the class have produced some fantastic writing this week! We have innovated the first three paragraphs of the text as a class and they have all written the new version in their books. The focus in writing has been brilliant and the handwriting also continues to improve.

In maths on Thursday, both Nemos and Kestrels had a practical session on telling the time. As it can be a tricky concept, we spent a lot of time practising on the clocks and then made our own clock showing the digital and analogue times. As a starter in Maths the week, we played a times table game in pairs which was a lot of fun. All of the Kestrels are working hard to improve their fluency in multiplication and it is paying off!

In Computing we've been looking at weather forecasting and we found out the temperatures of very different places in the world and collated them in a spreadsheet. It was fascinating to see the ranges of temperatures over and within different continents.

We were also very lucky to have a visit from some baby chicks this week – one of them had only been born the day before! It was lovely being able to hold them and we are very grateful to Mrs White for bringing them in.



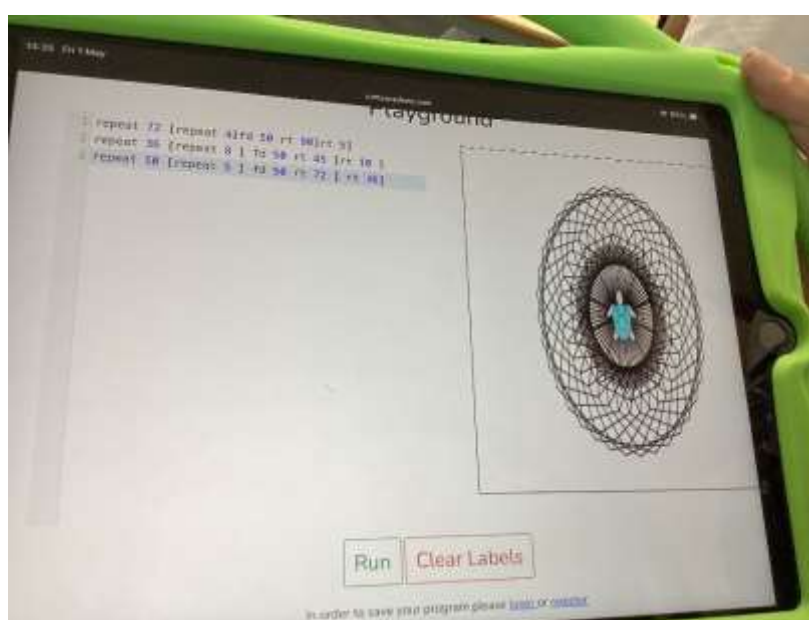
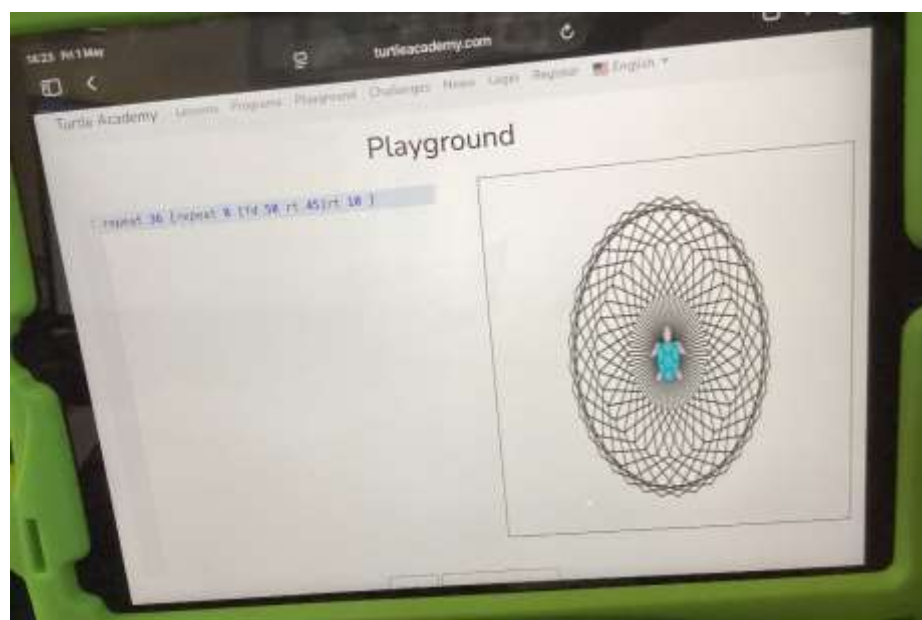
Osprey Class

In English this week, Osprey Class have been learning about using the active and passive voice and have been converting sentences from active to passive. They have also been learning about main clauses, subordinate clauses and relative clauses. They finished the week by producing a descriptive piece of writing using mountain pictures as a stimulus.

In maths, Year 6 have been working on position and direction. They have learnt how to describe the coordinates in 4 quadrants and have also learnt about translation and reflection. Year 5 have continued their work on shape and have been using protractors to measure and draw angles accurately. They have also been calculating missing angles around a point – knowing that the sum of angles around a point is 360° .

In science we learnt about heart rate – the children measured their heart rate in beats per minute and then investigated how it is affected by exercise.

In computing this week, we started our new unit of work on programming. We learnt about using code to give instructions to a robot, we discussed how the instructions have to be really clear in order for them to be followed correctly. The children used *Turtle Academy* to create different shapes and geometric patterns.



Barn Owls

In mathematics this week, the Barn Owls have been exploring time. We have been revisiting o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to times on analogue clocks. We have started to look at 5 minute intervals past the hour too. We've also been looking at the "big picture" of time, discussing how many days make up our weeks, months, and years.

Our innovate story has started to take great shape this week. Our adventure has moved from Sandy Cove to a train. Instead of finding a bag of jewels, two children have found a leather bag with a laptop inside that belongs to the prime minister. We look forward to concluding the story next week.

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 other news

Year 5 Adventure Week

We are looking forward to a week of fun with the Year 5's next week. They will be trying out a variety of new sports and challenges and we will look forward to sharing photos with you across the week. On Tuesday, Mrs Earnshaw will be in the office but there will be limited access to emails so please do not panic if you do not get a response straight away.

Information for next week

Year 6 will have Forest School on Tuesday afternoon.

There is no swimming on Wednesday for our Year 2 swimmers, their final session is on Wednesday 13th May.

Enjoy the long weekend!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



Ibstone Investments



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

Runner of the Week



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	Ib fest 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

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

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