

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Dear Families,

What a wonderful school of smiles we have! From our youngest Pebbles to our oldest Year 6s, everyone gave their best smile to Danny this morning! We hope you like the proofs that have been sent home this afternoon. Don't forget to login to see the online gallery where there are more photos for you to view.

Pumpkin and Zog enjoyed seeing Danny in action this morning, I hope their photos show their smiles too!

It is nearly that time of year where families start to look for school places for their children. If you know of anyone looking for a Reception place for September 2026, please share our Open Day post on Facebook or send them the flyer attached to this week's newsletter. We offer personalised tours that fit in with families rather than specific open days.

In good news... the White Rose Maths Journals have finally arrived (at 4pm this evening). We will send them out on Monday so that the children in Y1-6 can complete their homework!



Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

Our new Pebbles' children have settled into Pebbles' life with confidence, they have all arrived with happy, smiley faces, excited to come and play with their friends and Denise!

They have enjoyed lots of lovely story times and impressed us all with their wonderful singing voices. The home corner has been a firm favourite, cooking lots of yummy food and making lots of cups of tea!

The Pebbles' children will follow the EYFS topic for this half term 'Marvellous Me'. They loved looking at themselves in the mirror, identifying their facial features and have painted their own portraits.

Forest School was a highlight this week, they enjoyed playing in the trees and swinging in the hammock.

Ladybirds

This week Ladybirds have started their topic 'Marvellous Me'. We listened carefully to the story Perfectly Norman and designed our own wonderful wings. We have been looking in the mirror to see someone very special and then carefully painted our own self-portraits. We have enjoyed making faces with natural objects and making face puzzles. We have also been working on writing our name.

We have listened to the story of The Colour Monster and thought about different emotions throughout the story and shared time talking to our friend about these.

In maths we have begun to look at the concept of sorting; this might be colour or shape.

We have also started phonics and our focus sounds of the week are s, a, t, p. We follow a ditty to help us form these letters correctly.



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

Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have started learning their new Talk 4 Writing text 'Augustus and His Smile'. On Wednesday, we went on a scavenger hunt around the school to help Augustus find his smile. We have also read the story together and have sequenced key events using pictures from the book.

In mathematics, Year 1 have been learning to recognise numbers to 10 as words and have been counting on from any given number. Year 2 have been learning how to use place value charts and have been learning to write 2-digit numbers in words.

In science, Woodland Class have been exploring their sense of sight and have learnt about the different parts of the eye including the iris, pupil and eyelashes. We have also used our sense of sight to create observational drawings of natural objects looking carefully at the shapes and colours.



Kestrel Class

In English this week we continued mapping and learning actions to our focus text. We have also done some short burst writing focussing on the character's senses, and recapped on capital letters and full stops.

In mathematics, both Nemos and Frogs have continued to work on place value. Nemos have worked on hundreds, tens and ones; representing and estimating numbers to 1,000. Frogs have worked on thousands, hundreds, tens and ones; representing and estimating numbers to 10,000.

We started learning about the Stone Age this week. We learnt about the time period, how people survived, what a hunter-gatherer is and what life would have looked like back then. The class came up with lots of fantastic questions which will keep our topic moving forward next week.

In Science, we conducted an experiment about friction to see how different surfaces affect an object's motion. Each group made a ramp using books and cardboard. The cardboard was then covered with a variety of sandpaper grades and bubble wrap. They then let a toy car roll down the ramp and measured how far it travelled, having first made predictions. There was some great teamwork and fascinating results!



Osprey Class

This week in English, Osprey Class have started text mapping their class text 'Close Close'. We have also been using historical artifacts as inspiration to draw different imagined settings – we will be using their drawings throughout the module as writing prompts.

This week in art we have been looking at Paul Nash's work throughout the WW1 period. We have discussed how colour, brush stroke and different shapes can be used to evoke emotion in art. Students have begun recreating their own piece of art inspired by Paul Nash, beginning with a watercolour background.

We have continued looking at 'place value' in maths this week, everyone has been writing numbers in numerals and words up to 1,000,000. We have also started learning about 'powers of 10' in both Y5 and Y6. Y6 have also begun completing number lines up to 10,000,000!

Osprey Class seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed our history topic this week. We have been learning what it was like for soldiers to exist in the trenches during WW1. They have written a 'day in the life' diary entry, analysed poems written by war veterans and have labelled the different elements of a trench.

In Science we conducted an investigation on the thermal properties of materials. We chose three different materials and wrapped them around about three cups of warm water. We discussed how to make sure we were conducting a fair test. We then took the temperature of the water every 5 minutes to compare which cup stayed warmer for longer.



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Barn Owls

The Barn Owls have had a fantastic week and are settling in beautifully into their new routines.

In mathematics, we've been busy with place value. The children have learned to understand the value of each digit in a three-digit number. We've used this knowledge to add or subtract one, ten, and one hundred from a number. We also used the greater than, less than, and equals signs to compare numbers. We finished up the week by finding the greatest and smallest numbers in a set of numbers.

Our English work this week has been all about the story Elf Road. We've had a great time mapping out the story, which is a brilliant way for us to remember the order of events, the structure of the narrative and all the key vocabulary. To finish the week, the children used their imaginations to write I senses poems, describing what it would be like to be in the great hall among the elves.

Other important information:

Cross Country Club

Weather permitting, Cross Country Club will start on Monday for those KS2 children who have been signed up. If you have yet to sign your child up and they would like to run on Monday lunchtime, please sign them up via iPal – Sports Clubs – Cross Country. **This is only for KS2 children.**

Enjoy your weekend!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



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Zog & Pumpkin Awards



Lunchtime Awards



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Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
September 2025		
October 2025		
All month	Black History Month	Everyone
3 rd	Harvest Service – Gadbury & Merton 9am – St Nicholas Church	Gadbury & Merton Families
3 rd	Harvest Service – Allnutt & Baker 2.15pm – St Nicholas Church	Allnutt & Baker Families
6th	Tours for Reception 2026 start – please see flyer at the end of the newsletter	New starters 2026
13 th	Open Classrooms – 3.30pm – 5.15pm – more information to follow	Everyone
14 th	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
15 th	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
22 nd	End of Term	Everyone
23 rd	The Pop Up Pumpkin Patch – more information to follow	Everyone
23 rd	INSET Day	Staff only
24 th	INSET Day	Staff only
November 2025		
3 rd	Back to school	Everyone
11 th	Remembrance Day	Everyone
13 th	World Kindness Day	Everyone
14 th	Children in Need – more information to follow	Everyone
28 th	Christmas Trees & Christmas Craft Fair	Everyone
29 th	Children’s Christmas Fair	Everyone
December 2025		
9 th	EYFS / KS1 Nativity Performance -2pm – St Nicholas Church	EYFS / KS1 Families
wk beginning 9 th	KS2 Christmas Performances – more information to follow	Everyone
19 th	End of term 1.30pm	Everyone
January 2026		
6 th	Back to school	Everyone
February 2026		
2 nd	Open Classrooms – 3.30pm – 5.15pm – more information to follow	Everyone
3 rd	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
4 th	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
9 th – 15 th	Children’s Mental Health Week - more information to follow	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
22 nd	Ibstone Circle – more information to follow	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
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

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IBSTONE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

OPEN DAYS

TOURS AVAILABLE FROM 6TH OCT

As this is one of the biggest decisions you make as a parent, we are very flexible and invite you to see our school in action at a time that works for you and your family. If you would like to book a tour please contact us.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Small, nurturing environment
- Very experienced staff
- Weekly Forest School for all year groups
- Wrap around care from 7.45am
- A family feel
- Pebbles Nursery 9am-12pm daily



FIND OUT MORE

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