

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Dear Families,

What a half term it has been! The whole school community has risen to the new 'normal' school routines this half term, thank you all for your continued support whilst we navigate the school hall developments.

Yesterday we took delivery of the Year 6 Leavers' Hoodies and they have now had their debut outing!

Last night, we had the honour of taking our Year 6's to see The Lion King at the Lyceum Theatre in London. They navigated the train, tube and streets of London expertly and we thoroughly enjoyed the show! Thank you Year 6 for a lovely evening!



On Tuesday afternoon, Kestrel Class and some Year 5's headed up to Garsington Studios to take part in the Youth Company Workshop, all the children were amazing and following the workshop some of the children have been invited back for a second Youth Company audition. Well done everyone!



Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

Pebbles have enjoyed listening to the story of Jack and the Beanstalk this week, they have planted their own beans and watered them well, we can't wait to see how tall they grow!

They have been chalking beanstalks on the front playground and have played lots of games linked to the story. They have also enjoyed using shapes to make pictures.



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 we have enjoyed the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. We have thought about the characters and the setting of the story and worked really hard at being independent when writing our sentences using our phonics. We have made collage beanstalks and played lots of fun games linked to the story. We have listened to the story of Jasper's Beanstalk and found out what plants need to stay healthy. We have looked at different seeds and planted our own.

In maths the focus has been on using shapes to build pictures, we have used tangrams to copy and create our own picture. We have used pattern blocks to make pictures, learning that we sometimes need to rotate the shape. We have explored filling triangles with pattern blocks of all different sizes.

It has been assessment week in phonics.



Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have enjoyed creating and writing their own superhero stories. We have had a range of exciting characters, including super burgers, mega slugs and police dogs. All of the children have been working very hard to use powerful verbs and interesting adverbs to create action in their stories. We have also been working on using finger spaces, full stops and capital letters.

In mathematics, Year 1 have continued learning about fractions. This week they have been learning how to identify quarters of shapes and amounts. Year 2 have also continued their work on fractions. This week they have been learning about unit fractions and non-unit fractions.

In art, Woodland Class enjoyed creating observational drawings of their favourite toys. We used lots of the elements we have been learning about, such as shape, colour and texture, to help us draw our toys with lots of detail.

In science, we wrote up the results of our plant investigation. We were very surprised to see that our plant, with no water, managed to grow, however it was starting to fall over. We discussed how the soil could have had moisture before planting the seed which may have caused it to grow. Year 2 were also amazed to see that our plant in the cupboard had also grown however, because it did not receive much sunlight, it became floppy and was yellow in colour.



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Kestrel Class

In maths this week, both groups have started working on shape. We have been identifying right angles, acute and obtuse angles. Nemos have also started to use measurement of shapes within their work on angles. Frogs have been comparing and ordering different angles.

In English, the class have written their innovations of our adventure tale. They had learnt our class innovation Adventure on the Train really well, which gave them the confidence to be braver than usual in their own versions and not hug the text as closely. There were some fantastic ideas of settings and lots of work was done to build suspense within their writing.

In DT this week, we continued learning about seasonal food. We had a practical lesson and learnt how to safely cut and peel different fruit and vegetables. We learnt how to cut the food using the claw and bridge holds, which helped us to keep our fingers safe. We also practised directing the peeler away from our bodies. We had the opportunity to taste the foods as well if we wanted to.



Osprey Class

In English, we continued to text map and learn our model text, Zelda Claw and the Rain Cat. We then started looking at different ways we can create suspense within our writing. The children then began innovating the text, using the following picture as a stimulus.

In maths this week, we have continued our unit of work on position and direction; looking at lines of symmetry, reflections and translations.

In computing, we have been continuing to use a programming website, called Python. The children have been having a go at writing code to give instructions and create shapes and patterns. This week we explored how you can use 'loops' within codes to create repeating patterns. This is the link if they would like to continue exploring creating patterns <https://trinket.io/python/3aa9351fc6>

Barn Owls

In maths this week, the Barns Owls have been thinking about shapes and lines. The children have been learning to identify right, acute, and obtuse angles. They have explored the concept of horizontal and vertical lines.

Building on the brilliant ideas they generated last week, the Barn Owls have spent this week writing their own exciting adventure stories. Using Adventure at Sandy Cove as their inspiration and structural base, the children have done a fantastic job incorporating their own creative concepts into their writing.

Summer has arrived ... hopefully!

Hopefully the warm weather will continue – please send in a named sun hat everyday and suncream should be applied before coming to school.

We still have a number of children who frequently do not have a water bottle in school, please make sure your child has a water bottle with them each day.

Summer Uniform

Shorts or green gingham dresses (no preference on the shade of green) will help keep the children slightly cooler as the warmer weather finally arrives.

Information for the week after half term

- Monday 1st June is an INSET Day – please do not send your children in!
- Forest School and PE as normal for all classes
- Y6 Bikeability – Thursday 4th & Friday 5th – Please drop off bicycles and helmets on Thursday morning. We will store them securely overnight and they will need to be collected on Friday 5th at the end of the school day.

Have a super half term! Don't forget the children do not return until Tuesday 2nd June!

Louise Long
Headteacher

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Headteacher Awards



Ibstone Investments



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Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
June 2026		
1 st	INSET Day	Staff Only
2 nd	Back to school	Everyone
4 th / 5 th	Year 6 Bikeability	Y6 only
9 th	Garsington Workshop from 1pm – Osprey Class only – now at Garsington Studios	Osprey Class 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
22 nd	End of Term – 1.30pm	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