

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Dear Families,

On Tuesday, Osprey Class spent the day at Garsington Studios taking part in the OperaFirst programme. They learnt about the opera *Il Ritorno D'Ulisse* and are now all looking forward to our trip to Garsington Opera on Tuesday 23rd June to see the OperaFirst performance!



Benedict's Law

This week we welcomed Claire Street from Child Matters. Claire came in to school to deliver allergy training to the staff ahead of the new statutory guidance being implemented in September – Benedict's Law. As a school we already hold a number of spare auto-injectors in school and are in the process of updating our allergy safety policy. Our training last night means that we have experienced scenarios and demonstrated our knowledge and understanding of anaphylaxis reactions and anaphylactic shock.

Newsletters

We will not be sending out a newsletter next week as I am away with the Year 6's on Adventure Week, instead we will send the newsletters out for the next few weeks on a Monday.

INSET Days 2026-2027

We have now confirmed next year's INSET days.

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Friday 23rd October 2026

Friday 12th February 2027

Thursday 25th March 2027

Monday 7th June 2027

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

Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

Pebbles have enjoyed making some lovely bumblebee headbands this week. They painted a repeating pattern of black and yellow stripes along the paper band and drew a smiley face. They looked amazing with their headbands on to do a busy bumblebee dance. They also wore them to practise our bee poem. In phonics we were blending sounds and performing actions for example "Touch your l-e-g, clap your h-a-n-d."



Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds we received a letter and a book from a very Sleepy Bumblebee who was having trouble sleeping due to all the different noises around him. The bumblebee asked if the ladybirds could write to him and suggest a quiet place to sleep. They had some super ideas, including a boat, a bed in a dolls' house and a fairy bed and wrote back to the bumblebee with their suggestions. We have also found out about the lifecycle of the honey bee and made some super head masks, we have also been busy trying to learn a bee poem.

In maths we have continued with grouping objects, for example if we put 12 objects into groups of 2 we have 6 groups. We have looked at odd and even numbers by practically sharing objects and looked at number doubles.



Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been building their information toolkit in preparation for writing their own fact files next week. On Monday, they used a selection of non-fiction books to find facts about Victorian toys and created mind maps. We have also been learning about conjunctions to extend our sentences and have been generating questions to hook the reader into our fact files.

In mathematics, both Year 1 and Year 2 have been learning about time. This week they have been learning to name the days of the week and months of the year. They have also started looking at analogue clocks and have been learning to tell the time for o'clock and half past.

In art, we have been exploring the element of print. This week we learnt about the Victorian artist William Morris. We explored some of his prints before designing our own nature inspired polystyrene tiles. We used felt tip pens to colour them in before spraying them with water and printing them onto paper.

In science, Woodland Class took part in an investigation to find out which materials made the strongest bridge. We worked in small groups to design and build our bridges before testing them by adding wooden blocks on top of them. We were very surprised to find that a paper bridge could hold 50 blocks alongside wood and cardboard. We also created bridges using polystyrene and pipe cleaners.



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Kestrel Class

We have been very excited to try something new in our mathematics groups this week and we are all working on Statistics and being taught the same concept. We have really enjoyed our lessons this week learning about pictograms and will be moving on to bar charts next week.

In English, we have made up actions to our focus text, The Big, Bad Wolf. We have been doing some short burst writing to prepare us as we move towards innovating our own stories. We also have been doing our end of term reading assessments – we are very proud of how hard they have all worked.

As part of Great Big Green Week, the WWF were hosting a live lesson with Steve Backshall. We watched this and learnt more about the life in our oceans. We then created a fact sheet on things that we found out.

In Science we investigated different reflective materials by making a reflection tester using a torch and white card.

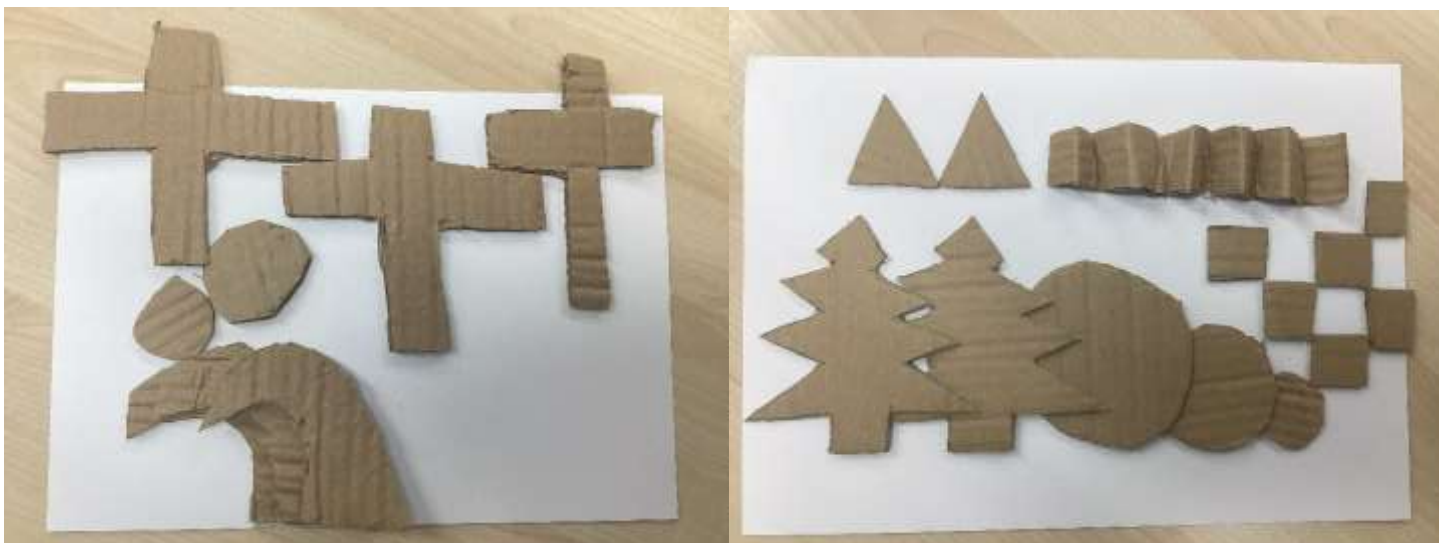


Osprey Class

In English this week, the children have looked at a picture from the book 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. They then looked at how dialogue can be used to advance the action and also thought about what characters might think as well as say. They used this to write a short piece of dialogue between the two characters in the picture.

In maths, we have been looking at imperial and metric measurements. We thought about all the different imperial and metric measurements and then discussed whether they measure length, mass or capacity.

In art, the children used their paper composition of their memories, from a few weeks ago, to create a cardboard relief sculpture.



Barn Owls

In maths this week, the Barn Owls have finished their unit on shapes. The children revisited 3D shapes and identified their properties using key vocabulary like 'faces' and 'vertices'. They also started a new statistics unit, where they have explored and interpreted pictograms.

In English, the class tackled a reading comprehension about Bear Grylls, and they enjoyed discovering a variety of facts about his adventures. Additionally, the children have been adding physical actions to the story of The Big, Bad Wolf—a brilliant technique that is helping them internalise the text's structure and vocabulary.

Information for next week

- Y6 are out all week on Adventure Week
- Mrs Statham & Ms Robertson will be the Designated Safeguarding Leads in my absence.
- There is NO Forest School all week. Please wear school uniform.
- PE is still happening for all children in school.
- Ms Robertson will be in on Tuesday so the office will be manned all week.

Please do a sunshine dance for next week!

Louise Long
Headteacher

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Headteacher Awards



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Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
June 2026		
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	Everyone
17 th	Pebbles Last Day	Pebbles
20 th	Leavers’ Service 9.15am, St Nicholas Church	Year 6 Families
22 nd	End of Term Celebration – 12.45pm – location TBD	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	Thursday 22 nd 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	Wednesday 24 th March 2027 1.30pm
Summer	Monday 12 th April 2027	Friday 28 th May 2027 3.15pm
	Tuesday 8 th June 2027	Wednesday 21 st July 2027 1.30pm

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