

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Dear Families,

What a crazy couple of weeks! Thank you for your support and understanding last week regarding the heat. We have someone coming to look at permanent air conditioning solutions for us so that hopefully moving forward we can keep the classrooms at a safe temperature in the heat.

It seems so long ago now but I have to share how incredibly proud I am of all our Year 6 children. Every single one of them lived and breathed our school vision and demonstrated our values in abundance during Adventure 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

This week we welcomed Ted Howard Jones to KS2; he talked to the children about being a farmer and about being part of winning Britain’s Got Talent with the Hawkstone Farmers’ Choir. Thank you Ted for coming in and inspiring.

Thank you to those who responded to the poll regarding drop off and pick up, we will continue to have one point of pick up and drop off for as long as we can. The Diocese have been working hard in the background and the architect has been out already to draw up plans so that we can submit the planning application as soon as possible!

On Thursday morning, we took full advantage of the shade on the playground and Philip led us in a joyful Worship on the playground.



We also had a couple of very special visitors in school today, Miss Comrie popped into school with Violet! Miss Comrie was very grateful for the generous gift and voucher from Osprey Class!



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Sports Day

As the weather forecast is looking to be extremely hot again next week. We have decided that we will shorten Sports' Day for everyone. There will be no team activities, instead we will have the races on the common as planned on **Thursday morning for KS2** and **Friday morning for EYFS (Ladybirds and Pebbles) & KS1**. Please make sure your child is at the common for 8.50am at the latest. Siblings should be dropped at school first. All children **MUST** have a hat and water bottle.

We are anticipating that Sports Day will last no longer than 30-40 minutes due to the heat predicted. Next year Sports Day will be much earlier in the year to avoid the extreme heat we are now experiencing.

School Trip

All children should wear school uniform on the trip next week. They will also need their hats, water bottles and a lunch that can be thrown away (no lunch boxes). Suncream should be applied before school.

Those of you who have ordered a packed lunch from the Lunch Company, we will take these with us in a cool box. For those of you who ordered a hot lunch, Ms Robertson has emailed you directly as you will now need to provide your child with a packed lunch.

We will be back at school for normal pick up times, please do not come too early as the coaches will need to be able to park in front of the school.

Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

Pebbles have had a lovely time this week playing with lots of water, sand and bubbles. We had fun experimenting with different size bubble wands, hoops were the favourite which make massive bubbles. The children have been working on their mark making skills using chalk to draw pictures, shapes and letters on the playground. We crushed up the pastel-coloured chalks and mixed it with water, making chalk paint then with paint brushes did some amazing playground art.

Over the past few weeks during our phonics sessions, we have been making little Nursery Rhyme books. Drawing pictures and writing simple words to bring the Nursery Rhymes to life. Rhymes we have covered include Humpty Dumpty, Incey Wincy Spider and Baa Baa Black Sheep.

In maths we have been making repeating patterns using a variety of resources.



Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds, our butterflies had emerged and so we went into the garden to release them, we watched quietly as they flew off. We have been very busy writing our own stories based on the Sleepy Bee. We had all thought of our own character and new words for sleepy: a weary butterfly, a lethargic dragonfly, a tired flamingo and introduced another way of keeping them awake: a singing bunny, a screeching kite or a squawking parrot have been some of the ideas. All the children have been amazing at trying to be independent in their writing.

In maths we have been using positional language to describe different positions and have begun to look at mapping, we enjoyed looking at drone pictures of Ibstone School working out what each of the buildings were from above. We have explored making our own maps and mazes. In phonics we have been looking at adding est and er to various root words. We have recapped on the tricky words to, all, into, are, they, one, out, and today.



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Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been designing new toys inspired by the toy shop Hamleys. They have been busy writing fact files about their new toys informing the reader about what materials they are made from, how the toy is used and interesting features they have.

In mathematics, Woodland Class have completed their unit on time. This week they have been learning about minutes in an hour and hours in a day. They have also used all of their knowledge of time to solve problems.

In DT, we have been designing and making hand puppets inspired by Punch and Judy. After exploring the characters and watching a short video clip, the children designed new characters to join Punch and Judy. Next week, we will be working hard to develop our sewing skills, using a running stitch to join our fabric together.



Kestrel Class

In English, we turned our focus text from The Big, Bad Wolf to the Terrible, Terrifying Troll. The class has done some fabulous retelling and have really enjoyed our innovation. They have written their own biography about the Troll and tried really hard with their handwriting to present it beautifully!

In maths this week we did an investigation called Finding 15. Using digit cards 1-9 we realised that we divide them all into three piles with each pile adding up to 15. We then investigated to see how many ways we could add up the digits to make 15. Finally, we looked at how many times could we get 3 piles of 15 using all of the digit cards. The most a pair could find was four different configurations. We found it very interesting and fun!

We have been learning about light in Science. This week we started to look more closely at shadows and the relationship between how close the light source is to the object, plus its angle relative to the object, and the effect that has on the size and sharpness of the shadow. We also started learning how to do hand shadow puppets. It's a lot more difficult than you first might think!

If possible could you ask for children to bring in any clean, empty plastic bottles that they have before the last week of term? We need them for an investigation we are doing!



Osprey Class

This week in English we have been looking at biographies. We read some example biographies and identified the type of information included in them and the way in which they are written. The children worked with a partner to gather information about each other, in order to be able to write a biography about them. They finished the week by writing the biography about their partner and then used CUPS and ARMS to edit and redraft it.

In maths they have completed a unit of work on volume. They have calculated the volume of different shapes, compared volume and then estimated volume and capacity.

In science, they continued looking at growth and development of humans from babies to adults. They looked at how we change as we grow, including looking at how our handspan changes as we grow. The children then had a go at measuring their own handspan.

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In art the children designed a memory box that they would be creating over the next couple of weeks. This could include mini sculptures, words and pictures to represent their time at Ibstone. The children had to draw a 3D view and a birds eye view of their box and label the different materials and colours they would be using.

Barn Owls

In maths this week, the Barn Owls have been mastering coordinates. The children thoroughly enjoyed both reading and plotting different points on a grid, and we wrapped up the week with a fun game of Battleships to put their new skills to the test.

In English, the children have been busy writing fantastic biographies about the Troll from The Three Billy Goats Gruff. In a creative twist, the children wrote from the perspective that the Troll has been completely misunderstood all these years and isn't actually a bad guy after all.

Information for next week

Tuesday

- Y6 children who are not visiting their new schools on Tuesday should come in old clothes, they will be helping outside with the big Forest School clear up
- Tuesday - Open Classrooms for Woodland & Kestrel Class – a chance for you to see your child's new classroom and meet the teachers before September - 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Wednesday

The whole school are out on Wednesday on a school trip – School uniform please, hats, water bottles and a lunch that can be thrown away (no lunch boxes).

Thursday

- Thursday - Open Classroom Osprey Class – a chance for you to see your child's new classroom and meet the teachers before September - 3.30pm – 4.30pm
- KS2 Sports Day – 9am on the common – Please make sure your child is at the common to be registered at 8.50am latest.

Friday

- EYFS & KS1 Sports Day (including Pebbles) - 9am on the common – Please make sure your child is at the common to be registered at 8.50am latest.

Louise Long
Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



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Zog & Pumpkin Awards



Investment Points



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Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
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
September 2026		
1 st	INSET Day	Staff Only
2 nd	Start of term for Reception – Year 6	All school children
7 th	Pebbles children start	Pebbles children
11 th	Individual photos – more information to follow in September	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

INSET DAYS 2026/2027

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Friday 23rd October 2026
Friday 12th February 2027
Thursday 25th March 2027
Monday 7th June 2027

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