

# Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

*Nurture - Inspire - Grow*

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Headteacher: Mrs Louise Long

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Dear Families,

Today saw the launch of Family Time, Family Time is a special time each Friday when the children come together in their family groups. The older children lead these sessions, they often link to our school vision and values and usually include an activity. Today, for their first Family Time of the year, they had a Family Meeting to discuss things that were going well, things that could be improved at school, activities they could do as a family, rewards they would like and fundraising ideas that they could run! There were some excellent ideas!



Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to be the PTA Year Group Reps this year, we really appreciate your support on sharing dates, key messages and drumming up support for events.

Our first PTA event this year will be running the Scavenger Hunt and Café at The Pop Up Pumpkin Patch. If you are able to bake, help set up or give us a couple of hours of your time to man the café, please complete the form below:

<https://forms.gle/qRS2PXCHQmq7AoNz7>

Last year we raised nearly £3000, with every penny going to making our school an even better place for our children.

## Weekly Round Up

### Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds we have been finding out all about our bodies and all the wonderful things they can do, we discovered the changes and how they felt after we exercised. We enjoyed different Funny Bones stories and had a go at chalking skeletons. We looked at x-rays and identified the different bones in the body. We had fun singing head, shoulders, knees and toes super-fast! We estimated how many bodies we could fit on a very big piece of paper and drew around our bodies adding in our features.

We have enjoyed decorating our names. We have thought about different emotions and times we have felt like this. In small groups we decorated our own emotion jars.

We have continued sorting in maths exploring different criteria. Our sounds of the week in phonics are l, n, m, d. We have started to segment and blend cvc words.



### Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been learning to retell our Talk 4 Writing text 'Augustus and His Smile' using actions. We have been learning to use adjectives to describe a setting and prepositions to describe where an object is within a setting.

In mathematics, Year 1 have been counting backwards within 10 and have been using their counting skills to help them find one more and one less than a given number. Year 2 have been learning to flexibly partition numbers to 100 and have been writing numbers in expanded form.

In science, Woodland Class have been exploring their sense of hearing. This week, the children took part in an investigation to listen to different sounds. After listening to the sounds, we wrote down what we thought the sound was and thought about a word to describe the sound e.g. loud, pleasant, buzzing.

As part of our Discover unit, this week we learnt about Florence Nightingale and why she was significant. We looked at key events in her life and wrote down interesting facts about her.



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*

## Kestrel Class

In English this week we have been doing lots of short burst writing. The class have used adjectives and expanded noun phrases to describe their portal doors. They have also come up with different ways to change the setting, and used abstract nouns to create some exciting new worlds.

In mathematics, both Nemos and Frogs have continued to work on place value. Nemos have been comparing and estimating numbers to 1,000, using number lines. Frogs have been ordering numbers to 10,000 and have now moved onto Roman numerals

In history, we have been learning about cave paintings and art during the Stone Age. The class looked at cave paintings in different countries, discussed the materials that the people during that time would have used, and created their own fantastic paintings using paints and pastels.

As part of our work on collaborative learning and communication we did the drawing exercise 'exquisite corpse' which prompted a valuable conversation on the importance of clarity in communication. In Science we explored the North and South Poles and how they attract and repel.



## Osprey Class

This week in English, Osprey Class have been working on describing settings through the main character's perspective; we have looked at a multitude of different settings, ranging from a coral reef, to a rainforest, to Harry Potter's dining hall. We have also been reinforcing our text map through charades and freeze frame activities.

This week in art we have finalised our Paul Nash inspired oil pastel pieces. The children have layered colours, shapes and shading to create an emotive landscape that reflects what Paul Nash experienced during the war.

In history we have been discussing life on the home front, with a particular focus on women, children, rationing and propaganda! In computing we have begun to look at how code cracking was an essential development in our current modern day computer models. We have been learning how to apply acrostic and pig pen code and Caesar, Nth letter and date shift ciphers.

Both Year 5 and 6 have been rounding numbers up to 100,000 this week in maths. We have also been working on number lines, calculating interval values and ordering numbers in ascending and descending order up to 1,000,000.



## Barn Owls

The Barn Owls have been building their understanding of three-digit numbers this week, focusing on ordering them accurately. They needed to pay close attention to place value, especially when the hundreds digit was the same. We also started counting in 50s, linking this skill back to the familiar pattern of counting in 5s.

Our short burst writing sessions continued, with pupils innovating parts of our class text, Elf Road. They used their imaginations to explore different portal doors and described the exciting worlds they imagined lying beyond them.

## Other important information:

### Lunch bands

The children who have school lunches are given a band at lunch time to help staff know what they have ordered. There are blue bands for the main meal, green bands for jacket potatoes, red bands for school sandwiches and yellow bands for vegetarians/ dietary requirements.

**We seem to have lost a huge amount of the blue bands since the start of term... please could you have a look at home to see if any have accidentally arrived for dinner!**



### Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to these children for completing the Summer Reading Challenge at the Library. Thank you to Lisa for coming in to present the certificates and medals.



Enjoy your weekend!

Louise Long  
Headteacher

## Headteacher Awards



Love – Courage – Respect – Community – Perseverance

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Philippians 4:13

## Zog & Pumpkin Awards



## Lunchtime Awards



Love – Courage – Respect – Community – Perseverance  
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## Family Time Awards



## Ibstone Investments



**Diary Dates**  
**New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD**

Date	Occasion	Who?
<b>September 2025</b>		
<b>October 2025</b>		
All month	Black History Month	Everyone
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Last day to take advantage of Earlybird Discount for photo orders</b>	<b>Everyone</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Harvest Service – Gadbury & Merton 9am – St Nicholas Church	Gadbury & Merton Families
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Harvest Service – Allnutt & Baker 2.15pm – St Nicholas Church	Allnutt & Baker Families
6 <sup>th</sup>	Tours for Reception 2026 start – please see flyer at the end of the newsletter	New starters 2026
13 <sup>th</sup>	Open Classrooms – 3.30pm – 5.15pm – more information to follow	Everyone
14 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
15 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
22 <sup>nd</sup>	End of Term	Everyone
23 <sup>rd</sup>	The Pop Up Pumpkin Patch – more information to follow	Everyone
23 <sup>rd</sup>	INSET Day	Staff only
24 <sup>th</sup>	INSET Day	Staff only
<b>November 2025</b>		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Back to school	Everyone
11 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day	Everyone
13 <sup>th</sup>	World Kindness Day	Everyone
14 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need – more information to follow	Everyone
28 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Trees & Christmas Craft Fair	Everyone
29 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Christmas Fair	Everyone
<b>December 2025</b>		
9 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS / KS1 Nativity Performance -2pm – St Nicholas Church	EYFS / KS1 Families
wk beginning 9 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Christmas Performances – more information to follow	Everyone
19 <sup>th</sup>	End of term 1.30pm	Everyone
<b>January 2026</b>		
6 <sup>th</sup>	Back to school	Everyone
<b>February 2026</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Open Classrooms – 3.30pm – 5.15pm – more information to follow	Everyone
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
4 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening – more information to follow	Everyone
9 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Mental Health Week - more information to follow	Everyone
10 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day	Everyone
12 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term – 3.15pm / 3.25pm	Everyone
13 <sup>th</sup>	INSET Day	Staff only
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Back to school	Everyone
<b>March 2026</b>		
6 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day – more details to follow	Everyone
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ibstone Circle – more information to follow	Everyone
26 <sup>th</sup>	Stations of the Cross Easter Walk	Everyone
27 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term – 1.30pm	Everyone
<b>April 2026</b>		
13 <sup>th</sup>	Back to school	Everyone
<b>May 2026</b>		
5 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Adventure Week	Year 5 only
11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 SATs Week	Year 6 only
22 <sup>nd</sup>	End of Term – 3.15pm	Everyone
<b>June 2026</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	INSET Day	Staff Only
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Back to school	Everyone
15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Adventure Week	Year 6 only
<b>July 2026</b>		
7 <sup>th</sup>	Transition Day	Everyone
9 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Sports Morning 9am-10.30am – more information to follow	KS2 families
10 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS & KS1 Sports Morning 9am-10.30am – more information to follow	Ladybirds & Woodland Class families
4 <sup>th</sup>	Pebbles Sports Morning 11pm-12pm – more information to follow	Pebbles families
13 <sup>th</sup>	Ibfest Week – more information to follow	Everyone
17 <sup>th</sup>	Pebbles Last Day	Pebbles
20 <sup>th</sup>	Leavers' Service 9.15am, St Nicholas Church	Year 6 Families
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Garden Celebration – 12.45pm	Everyone

# 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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