

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Headteacher: Mrs Louise Long

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Dear Families,

Today we have celebrated Mrs Statham's 30th year of teaching at Ibstone! Over those 30 years she has taught hundreds of children who have started their educational journey in her care. She has worked with numerous members of staff and seen over 10 headteachers during her time here. There have been many changes to the school over the years but one thing that hasn't changed is Mrs Statham's youthfulness!



Thank you for 30 years of service to our community Mrs Statham!

Family Time

In Family Time this week we listened to the story of 'You Are Special' by Max Lucado. We thought about how unique and amazing each of us are, all with different gifts and talents. We talked about how important it is not to judge each other but to embrace and celebrate everybody. We then created our own fish and decorated it to represent ourselves. All our fish will create a beautiful display in the hall, celebrating our uniqueness whilst also being part of our school community together.



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

This week in our phonics sessions we have learnt the nursery rhyme Hickory Dickory Dock. The children enjoyed doing lots of actions as they sang the song and we also listened to sounds of ticking clocks, squeaky mice and chiming bells.

We have been talking about our 5 senses, starting off the week with a lovely walk around the school listening to all the different sounds we could hear.

We focused on our sense of touch, they had to put their hands into feely bags and describe to everyone what they could feel. They felt big blocks of freezing cold ice which they painted whilst it melted. We made beautiful butterflies, sticking on many different textured materials to decorate the wings: bubble wrap, ribbon, tissue paper, shiny card, feathers and pom poms. In Forest School some of the children got to feel cold, slimy worms!!

In our herb garden we could smell lots of different varieties of mint, lavender, rosemary and many more fragrances.

We enjoyed the story of Brown Bear What do you see? And Polar bear What do you hear? The children enjoyed reciting the words of the story.



Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds we have continued with our topic Marvellous Me and been finding out all about our senses. We started the week enjoying looking around the school, taking time to listen to all the wonderful sounds we could hear. We have thought about our favourite food and the food we don't like, brussel sprouts seemed to come out on top in this! We made our favourite foods using collage. We thought of lots of great describing words to find out what was in our feely bags. We have enjoyed making some textured collage pictures. We have explored different smells and tried to see if we could guess the smell. We had fun making our own musical shakers creating different sounds.

In mathematics we have been looking at patterns; we have also tried to make some repeating patterns using a variety of ways including natural objects, beads or pegs, either copying, continuing or creating our own.

In phonics the sounds of the week are; ck, e,u,r and the new tricky word is l.



Woodland Class

In English, Woodland Class have been busy writing their innovated stories based on 'Augustus and His Smile'. In our stories we have been changing the characters and settings and adjectives to create our own losing tale. We have also been working very hard on developing our handwriting and have been learning about different letter families. This term we have been focusing on the curly caterpillar family.

In mathematics, Year 1 have started their unit on addition and subtraction. This week we have been learning about parts and wholes and have been using part-whole models to partition numbers within 10. Year 2 have finished their unit on place value. This week they have been busy comparing and ordering numbers to 100 and have started to count in 3s.

In science, Woodland Class explored their sense of touch. We collected a range of items with different textures and felt them using our hands. We then picked a word to best describe the texture, including smooth, rough, cold, warm and soft.

This week, Woodland Class have also been thinking about things they are grateful for after our Harvest service last Friday. The children enjoyed writing their ideas onto our gratitude pumpkin.



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Kestrel Class

In English, the class finished writing their portal stories and we have been amazed at how imaginative they have been. Over the past two days, they have also written an even more exciting and improved version of their portal story for the hot task. Next week we will be moving onto our next unit of work.

This half term we have been learning how to greet someone in French. We learnt a French nursery rhyme about two little kittens and made finger puppets to perform it to the Ladybirds.

In History we have moved onto looking at the Bronze Age. We looked at how and why tools were made out of bronze and discussed how life has changed since the Stone Age.

In mathematics, to consolidate our work on rounding numbers to 10, 100 and 1000, we did some work in partners matching up numbers. Nemos have continued working on addition and subtraction. They have been adding and subtracting 10s and 100s, looking for patterns and have started to exchange across 10. Frogs have started working on addition and subtraction and have been adding two 4-digit numbers using more than one exchange.

Osprey Class

I have had the pleasure of teaching Osprey Class this week! The children have missed Miss Comrie and we all hope she feels better soon! However, in her absence they have wowed me with their positive attitudes to learning! In English we finished their class portal story about Coral Corner and explored some new vocabulary to make the ending of our story even more exciting.

The whole class have continued creating their own propaganda posters and we have then turned our thoughts to different ways to advertise. The whole class have made promotional posters for Ibstone CE Primary School and then wanted to take this further. They are working in groups to plan and make their own adverts for the school. I look forward to sharing these with you on our social media streams in the next few weeks.

In mathematics, the Year 5s have been focusing on addition and subtraction, rounding numbers to check answers and inverse operations. Year 6 have been finding out about common factors, prime numbers and squared and cubed numbers.

In science we conducted an experiment to discover if a substance is soluble or insoluble. We looked at a range of different substances and predicted whether they would dissolve in water (the solvent) and create a solution. We then tested margarine, flour, sand, sugar, salt, wax, coffee, jam and chalk to see if they dissolved in the water. We recorded our results in a table. We then thought of lots of different solutions that we use in everyday life, our favourite being hot chocolate!



Barn Owls

Our focus in mathematics has continued to be place value. The children are now applying this knowledge to help them successfully add and subtract three-digit numbers.

In English, we've concluded our portal story unit. Using the skills they've developed over the past few weeks, the children wrote their "hot task." It was amazing to see their imaginations soar once again, incorporating pirate ships, undersea worlds, and wibbly-wobbly worlds into their latest adventures!

In other news:

Tissues

We are entering that time of year where there is a need for tissues, if you are shopping and feel you can help us out with a box of tissues, we would be very grateful!

Ibstone Bonfire and Fireworks

This year the fireworks will be held on Saturday 1st November. It is a 5pm start for the BBQ, bonfire & bar. Fireworks will start at 6pm. Donations will be taken on the gate. This is a no sparkler event.

The whole event takes place on Ibstone Common, our children make the Guy for the bonfire each year.





Hotwheels Stunt Show Raffle

Hopefully you will have all seen the Hotwheels Raffle email earlier. Tickets are £10 and the winner will be announced on Friday 17th October. Tickets will be available on Parents' Evening or on the playground each day after school. Cash or card accepted!

Community Matters Food Bank

On Tuesday, a group of Year 5 children delivered the Harvest donations to Holy Trinity, Lane End. We met Barbara there, she heads up the Community Matters Food Bank. She was overwhelmed by your generosity and thanked everyone for supporting the Food Bank. The children offered to help pack the donations away while they were there too!



Enjoy your weekend!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Summer Reading Challenge



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Headteacher Awards



Family Time Awards



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Lunchtime Awards



Runners of the Week



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Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
October 2025		
All month	Black History Month	Everyone
13 th	Open Classrooms – 3.30pm – 5.15pm – more information to follow	Everyone
14 th	Parents Evening – email sent	Everyone
15 th	Parents Evening – email sent	Everyone
22 nd	End of Term	Everyone
23 rd	The Pop Up Pumpkin Patch – please share the poster	Everyone
23 rd	INSET Day	Staff only
24 th	INSET Day	Staff only
November 2025		
3 rd	Back to school	Everyone
6 th	KS1 & KS2 History Off the Page Day – please see main body of newsletter 3/10/25	KS1 & KS2 children
11 th	Remembrance Day	Everyone
13 th	Michael Rosen Poetry 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

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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