

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Important Information/ Reminders

- **Forest School – even if it is dry, please send waterproofs and a pair of shoes/ boots (not the ones they wear into school).** If your child has wellies kept in school, they are able to use these in Forest School.
- **Can you help us? We are looking for some volunteers to head up our Y5/6 Football Team – please email the office if you can help.**
- **Nut free site – please look carefully at lunchbox bars before packing them. Nutella is also a nut product.**
- **PTA Letter – please take a moment to read this. A huge thank you to the PTA for all their efforts!**

Dear Families,

What a week! It has been packed full of lots of learning, playing and getting into the swing of the new school year.

We have welcomed our new Pebbles children this week, they have settled in well and we are looking forward to getting to know them better over the next few weeks. Our Ladybirds have all settled into school life well and it is wonderful to see their excitement when sharing their learning with me.

Today we welcomed Danny to take the individual and sibling photos, Pumpkin waited very patiently for his turn! Photo proofs will be sent out early next week. The school receives commission on all orders AND you get an Early Bird Discount if you order by the deadline.

Can you help us?

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help with Cross Country, we are still looking for volunteers to help head up our football team, please get in touch.

We are looking for volunteers to help us!

- Our Y5/6 football team is looking for coaches to help with training and matches
- Our Cross Country Running Club is still looking for more volunteers to enable the club to continue to run. You don't need to be free every week, the more the merrier!

If you can help with either of these... please email the school office!

Nut Free Site

We operate a nut free site, this is in place for staff and children to keep everyone safe. Please do not send nut products into school for lunch or snack. Lunch bars should be checked as it appears many contain nuts. Pesto pasta can also contain pine nuts, so please check to ensure that you have the nut free variety if you are sending it into school. Thank you for your support on this matter.

Forest School

Forest School plays an important role in our Ibstone Curriculum, please make sure your child has the right kit with them to take part.

Mrs Senior has asked for all children to have their waterproofs in school for their Forest School sessions at all times, it may be dry outside but the children love using water in Forest School and get wet and muddy even in the summer months.

If your child has wellies kept in school, they are able to use these in Forest School. If they do not have wellies that are kept in school or they are keen climbers, they MUST have a pair of shoes/boots in their Forest School bag.

Forest School Kit

As it is Autumn, please make sure your child has:

- waterproof trousers
- waterproof coat (this is in addition to their school coat they wear to school)
- wellies or waterproof walking shoes/boots
- a spare pair of socks
- a hat and gloves (these are not must haves for this point in the term)

KS2 Swimming

Autumn 1 Swimming starts on Wednesday 16th September, please remember to send in your child's kit in on Wednesday morning.



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

Our new Pebbles children have had a super first week, they have settled in really well and it has been wonderful to see their big smiles. They have enjoyed exploring the classroom, painting, exploring Forest School and getting to know their new friends!

Ladybirds

This week Ladybirds have spent their time settling in and learning new routines. It has been lovely to see big smiles in the morning coming into school; the buddies have been doing a fantastic job of helping to organise and play with their new friends. We have played lots of games to help us get to know and make new friends. We have thought about different feelings understanding how we might feel at different times. Ladybirds thought about what classroom rules would be a good idea and all shared their ideas. They all have painted super self-portraits, looking closely in the mirror at their features. We have enjoyed our first PE, music and Forest School this week.



Woodland

In Woodland Class, the children have been learning new routines and have enjoyed exploring the provision around our classroom during COOL Time (Choosing Our Own Learning).

In mathematics, we have started our unit on place value and have been consolidating our understanding of counting forwards and back within 10 and 20. We have also been learning to recognise 10 in different ways and have been learning to build numbers to 15 using numicon and dienes.

In science, we have been learning about different animal groups. This week we have been learning to identify different types of animals and have classified them into different groups based on their characteristics e.g. mammals, reptiles, fish, birds and amphibians.

In phonics, both Foxes group and Badgers group have been revisiting sounds taught last year. Foxes group have been practising their phase 3 sounds and words whilst Badgers group having been learning to grow the code by revisiting all of the graphemes taught so far for /ai/, /ee/, /igh/, /oa/ and /oo/.



Kestrel

Kestrel Class have had a fabulous start to the new academic year. We have been doing lots of getting to know each other activities and coming up with ideas to keep a happy and safe learning environment.

We have started our new unit in maths and the children are working well with the mixed age planning. We have been recapping the value of ones, tens and hundreds and now are also looking thousands. The class have been using lots of practical resources to help support their understanding of place value.

In English, we have introduced our new focus text; a warning tale called The Canal. We have discussed the key vocabulary, started learning about the features of a warning tale and begun to map our text. Today the British Library were hosting a live schools' session in which Julia Donaldson was answering questions about her work. This ended with Julia reading her new book, Gruffalo Granny, which the class all really enjoyed!

Our topic this term is all about Rainforests. We have started learning about the different types of forest and looked at maps to discover which countries have rainforests within them.

We are working our way through our reading assessments to ensure that your children are on a suitable reading book. We will begin reading with them next week and reading books will go home next week. Thank you for your support!

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Osprey

In English this week, the children have been completing some short burst writing linked to our topic we will be starting next week. They used prepositions to write an I am... poem which described a setting from our model text. They focused on using their senses to describe the same setting. The children finished the week by completing their cold task - they had to write a defeating a monster story with a focus on setting description.

In maths, they have started their new unit on place value. They have been looking at Roman numerals and also reading and writing numbers to 1,000,000.

As part of our Explore topic, the children have been thinking about the different countries that are in North and South America. In groups they chose one of the countries to research, recorded facts about it and presented their findings to the rest of the class.

In computing this week, we have been looking at barcodes and QR codes and have been exploring how these can be used to store data.



Have a great weekend!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
September 2026		
16 th	Swimming starts – email sent to families of KS2 swimmers	Autumn 1 Swimmers
18 th	Neurodiversity Awareness Parent Workshop – email sent 03/09/26	Parents
October 2026		
14 th	Last Swimming session for Autumn 1 Swimmers	Autumn 1 Swimmers
14 th	Parents Evening – Woodland, Kestrel, Osprey, Barn Owls 1pm – 5pm - more info to follow	KS1 & KS2 Parents
15 th	Parents Evening – 3.30pm – 7pm - more info to follow	All Parents
22 nd	End of Term	Everyone
23 rd	INSET DAY	Staff only
23 rd – 31 st	Pop Up Pumpkin Patch – more info to follow	Everyone
November 2026		
2 nd	Start of Term	Everyone
December 2026		
8 th	EYFS & KS1 Nativity – St Nicholas Church – 2pm	EYFS & KS1 families
10 th	KS2 Nativity – Garsington Studios – 5pm	KS2 Families
18 th	End of Term – 1.30pm	Everyone
January 2027		
4 th	Start of Term	Everyone
February 2027		
9 th	Parents Evening – 3.30pm – 7pm more info to follow	All Parents
10 th	Parents Evening – Woodland, Kestrel, Osprey, Barn Owls 1pm – 5pm - more info to follow	KS1 & KS2 Parents
11 th	End of Term – normal end of day	Everyone
12 th	INSET DAY	Staff only
22 nd	Start of Term	Everyone
March 2027		
24 th	End of Term – 1.30pm	Everyone
25 th	INSET DAY	Staff only
April 2027		
12 th	Start of Term	Everyone
15 th	KS2 Sports Day	
16 th	EYFS & KS1 Sports Day	

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22 nd	Reserve KS2 Sports Day	
23 rd	Reserve EYFS & KS1 Sports Day	
18 th	Ibstone Circle & Run in Colour	Everyone
May 2027		
4 th – 7 th	Year 5 Adventure Week	Y5 only
10 th – 13 th	KS2 SATS	Y6 only
28 th	End of Term – normal end of day	Everyone
June 2027		
7 th	INSET DAY	Staff only
8 th	Start of Term	Everyone
14 th – 18 th	Year 6 Adventure Week	Y6 only
July 2027		
6 th	Transition Day	Everyone
12 th – 16 th	Ibfest Week	All children
21 st	End of Term – 1.30pm	Everyone