

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Issue 3 18.09.26

Important Information/ Reminders

- **School photo proofs should have landed at home, please get in touch if you have not received yours. Early Bird discount available until 28th September**
- **Curriculum letters have been sent home today**
- **Homework** – a parent survey will be sent out next week regarding homework
- **Toileting** – please see the main body of the newsletter
- **Reading Books** – please read your curriculum letters for more information about reading books
- **Good Luck Mrs Earnshaw!** Wishing you lots of luck as you embark on the Shine Night Walk for Cancer Research!

Dear Families,

It was lovely to welcome Alex Ball from the Specialist Teaching Service to school this morning. Alex led the parent Neurodiversity Awareness Workshop, thank you to those who attended, I hope you found it useful and supportive.

The school nursing team visited on Thursday afternoon to administer the flu vaccine. If your child missed this, you can contact your GP surgery for a slot at the surgery.



This week in Worship we have been thinking about Respect and have thought about how we can show respect and what it feels like to be respected. We have learnt that we all have to respect each other in order to be respected and discussed what respect looks like in and out of school. The children have all been looking for moments where they have spotted someone being respectful, from holding doors open for each other, being polite to accepting that someone may not want to play a game with them, teachers listening to their opinions and them being able to have a voice. Perhaps you can continue this over the weekend at home... when did you see or demonstrate respect?

Toilets

We are blessed to have nice school toilets here at Ibstone! Sadly, since we have returned to school from the holidays, there have been a number of toilets that have been unusable by 10am in the morning due to them being left in a state. This includes wee all over the seats and floor and in some cases faeces on the seat and the floor. We have spoken to each class and asked the children to let us know if they find a toilet in a mess, we have also asked them to let us know if they have made a mess so we can ensure the toilets remain useable. The toilets in EYFS & KS1 have step up stools available for them to use and there is a step in KS2 in case!

We are encouraging all the children to leave the toilets in the way they would wish to find them and have asked them to sit down to use the toilet if their aim is not great. Please could we ask that you support your child at home by encouraging them to wipe the seat if they have left a mess and talk to them about the use of toilet roll, some children seem to use nearly half a roll each time they visit the toilet. Please encourage them to flush the toilet themselves at home as this will ensure that they will also try to flush the toilets at school. We have ensured that our toilets are button pushes so that all children have the strength to be able to press the flush. Thank you for your continued support.

Reading

We have been working hard in the background to assess the children across the school in order to make sure their reading books are at the right level, this means that your child may not have read in school as frequently as normal. Normal service and routines will start next week and Reading for Pleasure books will be sent out with Investment Point Information.

Homework

Historically Homework has been set for KS1 & KS2 pupils each week. Based on feedback from parents, staff and the children, we have been discussing homework as a staff team. As it stands, our priority for any home learning is children reading at home to an adult. We will be sending out a survey next week to gain your views and to hopefully find the right levels for each year group.

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

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their second week of life in Pebbles. They have been learning Incy Wincy Spider and have acted it out in role play in through water play! They enjoyed going on a Spider Hunt, I wonder if they caught or saw a big one? Forest School was a hit and the children loved the water and messy play this week!



Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds we have been singing the nursery rhyme Incy Wincy Spider. We have been sequencing the rhyme and retelling it through water play. We have played rhyming games and found out facts about spiders. It has been fun going on a spider hunt around the school and garden. We have made moving Incy Wincy spiders working on our cutting skills.

In maths we have looked at finding a match, searching in the sand to find the same object and playing pair games. We have started to look at making a set and sorting into a hoop.

We started our phonics this week looking at the initial sounds s,a,t and p. We are following our handwriting scheme – kinetic letters to form the letters.



Woodland

In English, Woodland Class have been learning about colourful semantics and have been using colour coded cards to help them form simple sentences. We have also been working hard to use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces between each word in our sentences.

In maths, we have continued learning about place value. This week we have been learning to build numbers to 20 using dienes and have been identifying one more and one less than a given number using a number line and number track.

In science, we have been identifying similarities and differences between mammals and birds. After discussing the characteristics of each animal group, we then completed a Venn diagram to sort them into mammals, birds or both.

In geography, we have been learning about the seven continents of the world. This week we worked in pairs to find and label the seven continents using an atlas.

Kestrel

In maths we have been partitioning numbers to 10,000 and explored flexible partitioning. We have done lots of practical work this week to help us understand how to exchange in order to partition. The class have also started finding 1, 10, 100 and 1000 more and less than a given number.

In English we have been busy learning our new text and really getting to understand what is happening in each paragraph. We have discussed the character's emotions at different points in the text and enjoyed some drama activities to capture moments of the text using freeze frames and miming. I wonder if they can tell you which part of the story is being shown in each of these freeze frames?



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Philippians 4:13

In science we have started our topic on States of Matter and learning about the differences between solids, liquids and gases. This week we observed water in all three states and learnt about how the particles are different in each state. To further embed our knowledge, we went outside and pretended to be particles in each of the states.

Barn Owls

In maths this week, the Barn Owls have been developing their knowledge of place value. We have been looking at what each digit in a three-digit number represents, and some have even looked at four-digit numbers too! We have also explored how we can quickly and efficiently work out what 1, 10, and 100 more than a given number are.

In English, the children have been getting to grips with our new focus text, The Canal. We have been mapping, retelling, and using drama to really embed the text and bring the story to life.

Osprey

In English this week, we have started looking at our new model text ‘Smaug’. We have created our text maps and used this to help us learn the text. We will continue to practise it over the coming weeks. We have also looked at different parts of the text and identified the toolkit features were used. The children completed some short burst writing using these different tools. The toolkit features we are focusing on during this unit of work are: prepositional phrases, relative clauses, piling up description by using a detailed sentence of three, personification and showing how a character reacts to a setting.

In maths we have been looking at multiplying and dividing numbers to 1,000,000 by 10 and 100. We also looked at partitioning numbers to 10,000,000 and number lines to 10,000,000. The children had to identify the intervals on a number line and also plot numbers onto them.

In science, Osprey Class compared the ancient geocentric model with our modern heliocentric understanding of the solar system, reflecting on how scientific knowledge and attitudes adapt over time as new evidence emerges. To bring their learning to life, students also started to create their own papier mache planets.

In geography this week, we recapped the different continents and oceans and the children marked these onto a world map. We discussed any countries and capital cities they already knew in North and South America. They used an atlas to mark as many countries and capital cities as they could onto a map of North and South America.

In French, the children became language detectives. They used a translate app to explore the meaning of French transport words.



Enjoy your weekend!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Runners of the Week



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Headteacher Awards



Love – Courage – Respect – Community – Perseverance
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Diary Dates
New or amended dates will be shown in **BOLD**

Date	Occasion	Who?
September 2026		
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	
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