

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

Ibstone, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP14 3XZ
Telephone: 01491 638281
Email: office@ibstone.bucks.sch.uk
www.ibstoneschool.org.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Louise Long

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Important Information/ Reminders

- Thank you for your generous donations for Community Matters
- Don't forget to complete the Parent Meeting Booking Form for your child – sent Tues 29th September
- Swimming returns on Wednesday 7th October
- Pebbles Nursery will be running Monday – Friday after October half term. 9am-3pm with extended hours available
- Raffle for Deadly 60 Live tickets are on sale every day until 15th October
- Do you have a van or trailer and could spare a couple of hours next week? If so, please get in touch via the Office or WhatsApp

Dear Families,

It was our first whole school visit to the church this afternoon, it was lovely to hear the excitement as we walked to the church, we heard beautiful bird song, saw the trees and wildlife and discussed what the dumpers and diggers were doing in the fields. Once settled in the church we looked at the spectacular Harvest display that one of the villagers had created. During our time in the church we thought about Harvest. We thought about being Thankful and having thankful hearts. We talked about the Earth and how we need to look after the world around us, we practised resting our bodies and minds, we also thought about being thankful for our clothing, the food we have and thought about those who do not have enough, who go to school hungry, finally, we thought about how the generous donations to the Community Food Bank would be shared and the positive impact this would have on the families supported by this worthy local cause.



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



We will be dropping off the donations next week, so if you have more to donate, please bring them in on Monday.

Weekly Round Up

Pebbles

This week the children have enjoyed singing 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' and 'Jack and Jill'. In maths we sang '5 Star Cookies in the baker's shop'. We all took turns to buy a cookie, counting backwards until there were no cookies left!

We did a little baking this week making some delicious star biscuits. We used many fine motor skills, stirring, pouring, rubbing, rolling and cutting.

Our dance and movement session was so much fun. We pretended to be Jack and Jill going up the hill. We walked, ran, skipped, jumped and when it got very steep, we crawled.

The children loved acting and dancing our nursery rhymes.



Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds we have been singing the rhymes 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' and 'Jack and Jill'. We have had fun playing with the rhymes and changing the verses. We have used pastels to create our own starry night pictures. We discussed all the changes taking place when we made our own star biscuits working together to weigh and mix the ingredients.

In maths we have looked at language linked to measure and explored what objects were lighter and heavier using our hands as balances and then checking with bucket scales. We have investigated what objects could fit into different size boxes. We tested different sized containers to find out which one would be the best for Jack to fetch his water in.

In phonics the sounds of the week are g,o,c,k we had our first tricky word 'is'. Tricky words are words we just have to learn as we are unable to sound these out. The children enjoyed spotting 'is' around the classroom.



Woodland

In English, Woodland Class have continued learning to retell the story of 'Handa's Surprise' using actions. This week, we have been learning about adjectives and have been using them to describe different fruits. We have also been using adjectives to write spine poems about our favourite animals from the story.

In maths, we have started our next unit on addition and subtraction (within 20). This week, we have been learning about part-whole models and have been finding number bonds to 10 using systematic methods. We have also been using tens frames to find bonds to 10 and have been recording these down as number sentences.

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In science, we have been learning about what animals eat. We explored different dietary groups before sorting animals into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.

In geography, we have been learning about the continent of Africa where our story Handa's Surprise is set. This week, we used atlases to locate and label 5 countries in Africa. Year 2s were also challenged to describe the location of each country using compass points e.g. Kenya is in eastern Africa.

During our COOL (Choosing Our Own Learning) time, we have had opportunity to build the world map jigsaw, design African patterns, sort animals into our own chosen groups, play the phonics race game and have free choice with the building blocks, small world and other resources in the classroom.



Kestrel

In English this week we have been working hard on writing our class version of The Canal. We changed it to The Lake, thought of new characters and changed lots of the detail. It was quite a challenge to make sure that changes that we made at the start of the text continued throughout the rest of it, but the class worked really hard and have produced some fantastic writing so far.

Maths this week was quite a challenge as we were rounding numbers to 10, 100 or 1000. It has been quite tricky to work out what the number line is counting up in but once we have worked that out, it makes it a little easier to round the number up or down. We have also looked at Roman Numerals and related it to telling the time.

In Geography we have been learning about different types of forests and compared the Amazon Rainforest to Sherwood Forest. We looked at the similarities and differences between the South American countries and the UK. We compared the climate, size, inhabitants, species of animals, plants and rivers that run through the Amazon Rainforest and Sherwood Forest.

Barn Owls

This week, the Barn Owls have been busy mastering counting patterns, exploring step counting in 2s, 5s, 10s, and 3s. We revisited number bonds and looked at how we can use known facts to solve related calculations—for example, knowing that $2 + 7 = 9$ helps us understand that $20 + 70 = 90$ and $200 + 700 = 900$. We have also applied our understanding of place value to investigate what happens when we add ones or tens to a three-digit number.

In English, the children have been working hard to innovate The Canal text. After sharing brilliant ideas together, they have been writing their own exciting warning stories based a visit to the lake.

Osprey

In English this week, we have planned and started to write our own defeating the monster story. We have all used the same picture stimulus for our writing. The children had some fantastic ideas and I am looking forward to reading their stories.

In maths, we have moved onto a new unit of work on addition and subtraction. This week we have looked at different mental strategies we can use and have recapped using column addition and subtraction to add integers.

In geography, our focus this week was weather and climate. We discussed the difference between weather and climate, and also discussed what biomes are and how these are linked to climate. The children learnt about the Koppen Climate classification system. Using atlases and a map of the world classified by Koppen climate type the children found out the climate zone and biome for different locations in North and South America.



Enjoy your weekend!

Louise Long
Headteacher

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

Date	Occasion	Who?
October 2026		
2 nd	Harvest Service – please send in donations (see main body of the email)	Children only
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
6 th	Ibstone Fireworks – at the common - more information to follow	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	Ibifest Week	All children
21 st	End of Term – 1.30pm	Everyone