

# Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

*Nurture - Inspire - Grow*

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Dear Families,

I had the pleasure of joining Osprey Class on their trip to Didcot this week, they were such a credit to us all! Thank you Osprey for a wonderful day!



This week in worship we have been looking at our value of Love and spent time thinking about ourselves. We discussed Psalm 139:14 'I am fearfully and wonderfully made' and took time to identify what we loved about ourselves by looking in a mirror. We talked about how it was important to love ourselves and who we are.

## Weekly Round Up

### Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds we have finished writing our own story. We found out about the bread making process from sowing the seeds, harvesting the crop and milling the grain to make flour. We all helped to make some bread rolls and decided it was quite hard work kneading the dough. The best bit was eating the warm rolls with some butter. Ladybirds filled their diamond pot by all working together to keep the cloakroom tidy and were rewarded with their agreed treat. Our next diamond challenge is for everyone to help when it's time to tidy up. In mathematics the focus has been on squares and rectangles and describing their properties. We enjoyed exploring the shapes within a shape when we folded a square piece of paper, we turned this into making our own jigsaw. They have made shape pictures, found different ways to sort all the shapes and enjoyed going on a shape hunt around the school. This week in phonics our sounds have been sh, th, ng, and nk and the tricky words of the week he, she and of.



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

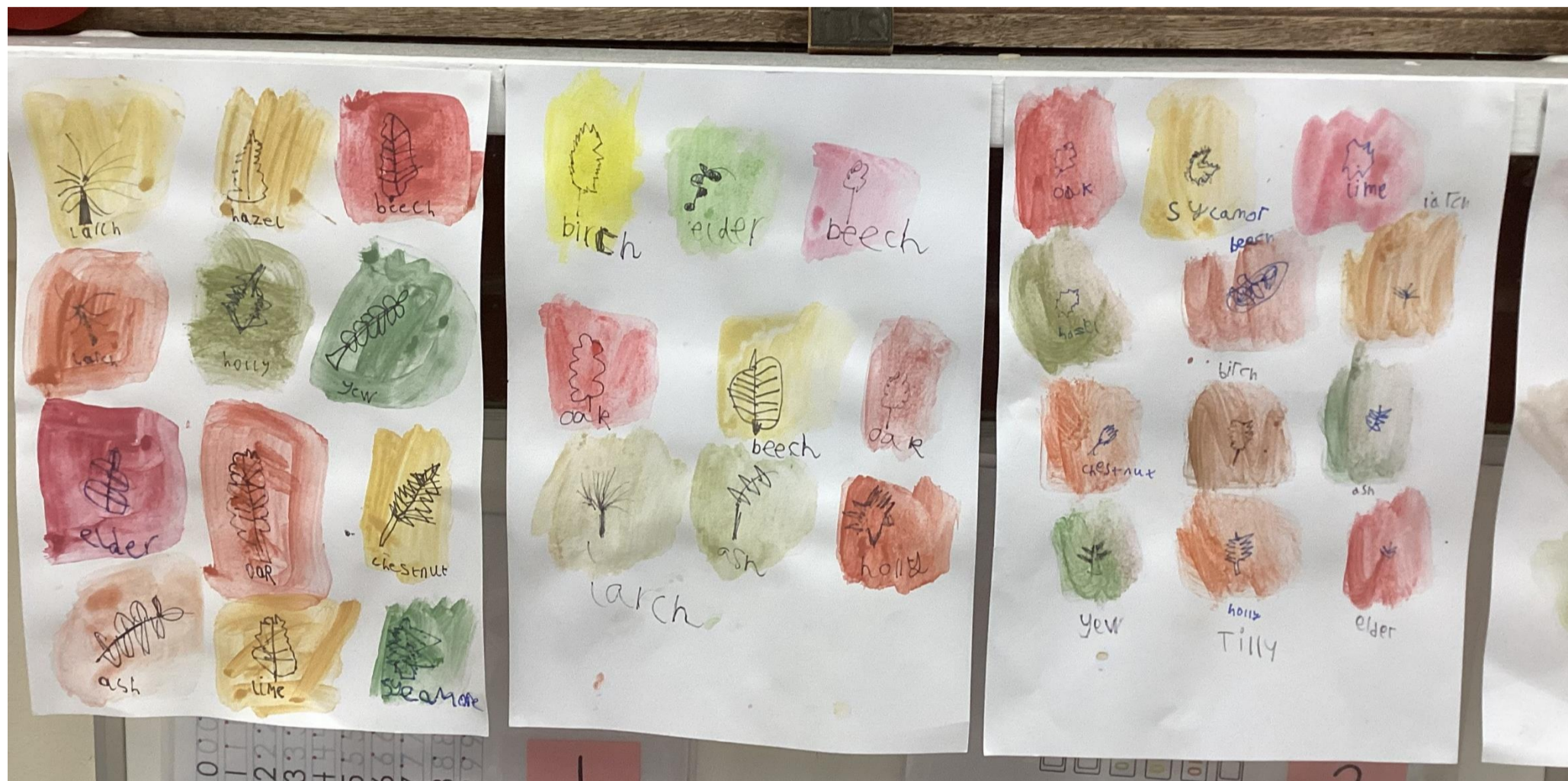
## Woodland

In English, Woodland Class have been busy planning and writing setting descriptions about their very own extraordinary gardens. The children have thought about interesting adjectives and similes to describe things that they could see, hear and smell.

In maths, Year 1 have continued learning about subtraction. This week they have been crossing out pictures and using number lines to help them solve subtraction problems within 10. Year 2 have continued learning about addition and subtraction. This week they have been learning written methods to help them add/ subtract two 2-digit numbers.

In science, the children have been learning about the weather in winter and spring. The children first described changes in weather across the two seasons before sorting images into winter and spring. Year 2 were also challenged to write sentences to describe the differences between winter and spring.

During our rainbow challenges this week, the children created some watercolour leaf drawings inspired by our Talk 4 Writing text 'The Extraordinary Gardener'.



## Kestrel

In English this week we looked at how rhetorical questions can be used in writing to add suspense to a story, we identified where they had been used in our focus text, 'Trust'. We also discussed how they can be used to persuade people. The children had to write their own rhetorical questions to persuade people to stay at 'Horrid Hotel'.



The children have looked at different pictures and used inference skills to work out what information we can gather about the situation from the picture alone. This was one of the pictures the children had and the title was *First Flight*.

In mathematics, Dolphins have continued their unit of work on addition and subtraction, they have been looking at adding number bonds to 100 and also finding one more and one less than a number. Nemos have been consolidating their understanding of column addition and column subtraction. They have then moved onto adding pairs of numbers that total 100 and also estimating answers to questions. Frogs have started a new unit of work, multiplication and division. This week they have focused on the 3, 6 and 9 times table and related division facts.

In history this week, the children have been using their research about Stonehenge and have begun creating information leaflets about this ancient monument. I very much look forward to seeing the finished products.

The children have also now received their parts for this year's nativity and they will soon be bringing home a copy of their lines. Rehearsals are beginning in school and singing practice is well underway!

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## Osprey

We had a fantastic day, at Didcot Railway Centre, experiencing what it was like to be an evacuee in WWII. We loved the opportunity of being able to go into a bunker that was used as a shelter, when the bombing raids were happening. We really enjoyed the journey on a train, whilst pretending to be children who had been evacuated from the city, and thinking about how their lives really changed during this time.



In English, we started looking at our new Talk 4 Writing text, Clock Close. It is a time shift or portal story and we have been looking at all the effective strategies used to make it so dramatic, so that we can hopefully create the same drama in our own stories next week. We will be using our evacuee experiences at Didcot, to help us write our own WWII time shift story over the next few weeks.

In swimming we carried on with our personal survival and water safety techniques, by practising rescuing our friends from the pool and swimming without any goggles. We really will be sad when our swimming sessions finish in a few weeks time, we have all learned so much.

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## **In other news:**

### **Time Keeping**

There are an increasing number of children who are late in the mornings, this week alone, we have had between 3 and 6 families late each day, we understand that there is sometimes traffic or an accident and things don't always go to plan however for children who are regularly late into school, they are missing out important opportunities in the morning. There are also a number of children waiting on the playground at the end of the day, Ladybirds and Woodland Class finish at 3.15pm. Kestrel and Osprey Class finish at 3.25pm. Please make sure you are on time to drop your child off in the morning and to collect them at the end of the school day.

### **Illness and work expectations**

There are a number of nasty illnesses going round school at the moment, we are encouraging children to use the crook of their arms when coughing, asking them to put used tissues straight in the bin and to wash their hands frequently. It is really important that if your child is not well enough to be in school that you email the school office before 8.45am or leave a message on the school answer phone. If your child is not well enough to be in school, we will not be sending work home for them to complete, if they are well enough to complete work then they are probably well enough to be in school. There are normally a raft of activities that they can complete at home including, but not limited to, practising their spellings, completing extra homework challenges and snuggling down with a good book or two.

### **Water Bottles and Reading Books**

A polite request to all Ladybirds and Woodland families, please do not put water bottles in book bags, they do have a tendency to leak and we have had a number of reading book casualties this year! We have invested a lot into the reading scheme and when we have books that are out of circulation it has an impact on the children.

### **Ladybirds Farm Visit**

Don't forget to send in your child's warm outer layers on Monday as the children will be walking to the farm in the afternoon. We have used a drop pin in What3Words to help you find the exact location of the farm: [///sues.first.district](https://www.what3words.com/sues.first.district)

### **Minibus Fundraising**

Our visit to Didcot this week has made me even more determined to raise the funds for a school minibus! If you have any ideas on how we can raise more money, please do get in touch. We currently have just over £20,000 for the minibus and are looking to hit between £25,000 & £30,000 before we can start putting in offers.

### **Christmas Craft Market**

Don't forget to join us next Friday evening for the Christmas Craft Market. There are lots of amazing stalls and lots of lovely ideas for Christmas presents.

### **My Santa Story**

As an extra fundraiser we have these wonderful My Santa Story books available to purchase. Each one will be personalised with a photo of your child or if you are looking for them as gifts for others, you can purchase them without personalisation. If you would like to order a My Santa Story, please complete the Google Form, the link is in the newsletter email.



Have a wonderful weekend!

Louise Long  
Headteacher

# Headteacher Awards



# Zog the Dog Awards



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# Our First Aiders



## Diary Dates

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

Date	Occasion	Who?
<b>December 2023</b>		
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup>	Christmas Craft Evening 6.30pm-9pm – School Hall	Adults only
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Wreath Making 7pm – School Hall	Adults only
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mufti day for Secrets Room	Everyone
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS & KS1 Nativity 2pm – St Nicholas Church	EYFS/ KS1 families
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Christmas Performance 6pm	KS2 families
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS / KS1 visit to Norden Farm	EYFS/ KS1 only
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Christmas Performance – 2pm – Zoom	Everyone
<b>Fri 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Last Kites Session</b>	<b>Everyone</b>
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	Secrets Room	Everyone
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup>	End of term – school ends at 1.30pm	Everyone
<b>January 2024</b>		
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	Start of term	Everyone
<b>February 2024</b>		
<b>Tues 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Parents' Meetings 3.30pm – 7pm</b>	<b>Everyone</b>
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Meetings	Kestrel Class only
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>	End of term – school ends at 3.15pm/3.25pm	Everyone
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	INSET DAY	Staff only
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	Start of term	Everyone
<b>March 2024</b>		
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup>	End of term – school ends at 1.30pm	Everyone
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup>	INSET DAY	Staff only
<b>April 2024</b>		
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	Start of term	Everyone
<b>May 2024</b>		
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Bank Holiday	Everyone
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	Proposed Y5 Adventure Week	Y5 only
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 17 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 SATS week	Y6 only
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	End of term – school ends at 3.15pm/3.25pm	Everyone
<b>June 2024</b>		
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Start of term	Everyone
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	Proposed Y6 Adventure Week	Y6 only
<b>July 2024</b>		
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Transition Day	Everyone
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Sports Morning 9am – Ibstone Common	KS2 families
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS & KS1 Sports Morning 9am – Ibstone Common	EYFS/ KS1 families
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Ibfest – more information to follow	Everyone
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Leavers' Service 9.15am St Nicholas Church	Year 6 families only
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Summer Celebration in the school garden 12.45pm End of term – school ends at 1.30pm	Everyone

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