

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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Dear Families,

Welcome back to the Spring Term! It was so lovely to see lots of happy smiley faces racing onto the playground yesterday morning. I am sure you will join me in giving a warm Ibstone welcome to Mrs Senior who joins us as a teaching assistant in Kestrel Class.

In worship this week, we have been finding out about Epiphany - also known as Three Kings' Day. It is a special date for many Christians as it's when people celebrate how a star led the Magi to visit the baby Jesus.

The whole school community enjoyed singing a rousing rendition of You are a Star (one of our Fischy Music songs) to celebrate Epiphany and to celebrate Stephen Fischbacher (founder of Fischy Music) being named in the New Year's Honors list with an MBE for services to mental health and wellbeing!



It is hard to believe that I joined the Ibstone family 10 years ago this week, I remember my first day well as the rain was torrential and the puddle outside Crown Cottage was so high that we nearly had to close the school as it was verging on inaccessible!

So much has changed in those 10 years, the school has grown from an infant school to be a through primary school, pupil numbers have grown from 32 to 86, we have developed, and continue to develop, the Ibstone curriculum to ensure that our children have a broad, balanced curriculum that is filled with rich first hand experiences and enables them to develop as individuals. We have successfully introduced breakfast club and holiday club. Lunch provision has been introduced for all. The playground has been resurfaced and gates installed to keep the children safe, the decking has been replaced to be non-slip and safe for all to use, the garage has been demolished and the library built in its place. The Ark has been built, forest school has been established for all children all year round. We have successfully fundraised for the tyre park, MUGA and planting areas at the back of school, the front garden has had a huge makeover and new planters have been built at the front of the school. We survived a pandemic and through the dedication of the team, we enabled all children to access online lessons every day and even had some fun making toilet roll and snowball videos! Most recently the classrooms have all had a makeover and the EYFS outside area has been further developed. None of these developments would have been possible without the support and dedication of the governors, staff and parents.

So thank you all for your continued support of the school!

Important Information

Road Closure

The road from Stokenchurch to the school will be closed from Monday 8th through to Tuesday 16th January. The closure will be from 9am til 3pm, if you need to get to school in between those times, please follow the diversion signs. I have been informed that you will be able come up past the windmill despite the signs saying the road is closed.

Timetable Changes – Woodland Class

From next week, Woodland Class will have PE on Wednesdays not Tuesdays, please send them to school in uniform on a Tuesday and PE kit on a Wednesday.

In other news:

12 Days of Christmas Reading Challenge

Don't forget to upload your photos (it won't matter if you only have one or two photos) by the end of today as the reading challenge finishes today! So far we only have 12 entries across the whole school! There are prizes for the winning photos!

Key Stage 2 Stationery Shop

The Ibstone Stationery Shop will be open for business on Fridays from 12th January. All KS2 children should bring their own equipment to school and these should be replenished throughout the year as and when needed. We currently have over 50% of the children without the correct resources, therefore we have made the decision to open a stationery shop, this will be a discounted shop selling all things KS2 including gluesticks, rubbers, pens, pencils, rulers and scissors. A price list will be sent out next week.

Have a great weekend, we are off to put away all the Christmas decorations!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Swimming Awards



Diary Dates

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

Date	Occasion	Who?
January 2024		
Mon 8 th – Tues 16 th	Road Closures – please see main newsletter	Everyone
Wed 10 th	Kestrel Class Swimming starts	Kestrel Class only
Thurs 18 th	Neurodiversity workshops	KS2 only
February 2024		
Tues 6 th	Parents' Meetings 3.30pm – 7pm	Everyone
Wed 7 th	Parents' Meetings	Kestrel Class only
Thurs 8 th	End of term – school ends at 3.15pm/3.25pm	Everyone
Fri 9 th	INSET DAY	Staff only
Mon 19 th	Start of term	Everyone
March 2024		
Wed 27 th	End of term – school ends at 1.30pm	Everyone
Thurs 28 th	INSET DAY	Staff only
April 2024		
Mon 15 th	Start of term	Everyone
May 2024		
Mon 6 th	Bank Holiday	Everyone
Tues 7 th – Fri 10 th	Proposed Y5 Adventure Week	Y5 only
Mon 11 th – Fri 17 th	KS2 SATS week	Y6 only
Fri 24 th	End of term – school ends at 3.15pm/3.25pm	Everyone
June 2024		
Mon 3 rd	Start of term	Everyone
Mon 17 th – Fri 21 st	Proposed Y6 Adventure Week	Y6 only
July 2024		
Tues 2 nd	Transition Day	Everyone
Thurs 4 th	KS2 Sports Morning 9am – Ibstone Common	KS2 families
Fri 5 th	EYFS & KS1 Sports Morning 9am – Ibstone Common	EYFS/ KS1 families
Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th	Ibfest – more information to follow	Everyone
Mon 22 nd	Leavers' Service 9.15am St Nicholas Church	Year 6 families only
Tues 23 rd	Summer Celebration in the school garden 12.45pm End of term – school ends at 1.30pm	Everyone

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