

# Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

*Nurture - Inspire - Grow*

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Dear Families,

This week our value of the week has been COURAGE, we started the week by thinking about the recent storms we have experienced, it is only the second time there have been 10 recorded storms in the UK in storm season! The whole school community listened to the Bible story from the book of Matthew about Jesus and Peter walking on water. We talked about storms in life and how we can use the messages from the Bible story to help us keep going, take courage, be brave and step out, keep calm and ask for help. We also talked about how it is ok not to be ok and that sharing that with others takes great courage and enables us to get the help we need.



Across the week we have also thought about COURAGEOUS ADVOCACY and how we can develop this further as a school community. We defined a courageous advocate as someone who champions a cause which is special and meaningful to them. We have thought about how we could become courageous advocates not just locally, but nationally and globally! The whole school community have been set the challenge to think about causes we would like to support, please let us know if you have a cause you would like us to consider as a school.

In Family Time today the children learnt about the Christingle and what each part represents. They each made their own Christingle for our special Worship this afternoon. Some children asked why we were making Christingles now rather than at Christmas so we found out about Candlemas which falls on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, it marks the 40<sup>th</sup> day after Jesus' birth when he was presented at the Temple. Thank you to Philip for coming to join us for Family Time and Friday Worship.



## Today's Random Ibstone Moment

Today was a first for the whole school community, just as we were about to go in at the end of lunch, two gentlemen rode past on their Penny Farthings! After a double take, we invited them onto the playground to find out more about these special bikes. The children asked questions and got to see the Penny Farthings up close, we even had a demonstration of how to get on and off them! A huge thank you to Matt and Bill for being so kind, we wish you luck on your fundraising efforts riding from Henley to Paris raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support. If you would like to donate to this cause, please follow the link below <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/penny2paris> or if you would like to follow their journey you can find them on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/penny2paris/>



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

### Forest School

This week the children have been making vehicles, Forest School has seen trucks, rockets, cars and much more! They have worked together to develop their ideas and have used their construction skills, rope techniques and building skills to design some amazing machines! Lots of children have embraced this weeks value of courage and have tried new things such as climbing trees!



### Pebbles Nursery

This week, Pebbles have been listening and learning the pattern of Brown Bear, Brown Bear, they have really enjoyed joining in with the story. They have been colour sorting, playing colour games such as colour path and colour catcher and threading colourful beads and buttons onto pipe cleaners to make watches and bracelets! All of the children have enjoyed the sound tracks listening game and matching sounds to photographs, this has really helped develop their sound discrimination and active listening and concentration skills.

They all enjoyed making very cheeky monkey masks to help them sing '5 Little Monkeys' with actions!



### Ladybirds

This week in Ladybirds we have continued our Colour topic and our focus has been on camouflage, we have been finding out what it means to be camouflage. The children enjoyed listening to the story about a chameleon and his crazy colours, the chameleon was about to be eaten by a lion until he came up with a plan, this is where we left our story and the children were tasked with coming up with their own ending. They have produced some fabulous art work making their own chameleons, they have also been challenged to make a background for their chameleon to hide in. We all had lots of fun making camouflage worms and taking it in turns to hide them outside for our friends to find. In mathematics the focus has been on numbers 6,7 and 8 finding 1 more and 1 less. We have also been learning about a 5 wise pattern on a ten frame and lots of subitising. Our phonic sounds this week have been 'air' and 'er' and learning about double letters. The tricky words are, sure and pure.



### Woodland

In English, Woodland Class have been busy innovating The Magic Porridge Pot story. The children first planned their stories by story mapping before writing their stories independently. There were lots of interesting magic items including ice cream cones, Nutella jars and popcorn machines.

In mathematics, Year 1 have continued learning about addition and subtraction. This week they have been using their number bonds to 10 to find number bonds to 20. They have also been using their knowledge of doubles to find near doubles. Year 2 have started their unit on multiplication and division. This week they have been learning how to identify and make equal and unequal groups.



In science, the children took part in an exercise investigation to find out which types of exercise increased their heart rate. The children first learnt about the importance of exercise and how to check their pulse. They then took part in a range of exercise challenges to see whether or not their heart rate was increased.

In geography, the children have been learning to identify human and physical features. They first looked at a range of features from around our school environment before sorting pictures of them into human and physical features.



### **Kestrel**

In English the children have used their planning from last week to create their own text maps of their innovated story. They have used these, along with their planning, to write their story. The children have worked hard on these stories and I look forward to reading them.

In mathematics Nemos have been looking at different methods for dividing, including using the written method of short division to divide 2 digit numbers. Frogs have continued to look at using short division to divide 3 digit numbers, including questions where there is a remainder. They have then finished the unit by looking at different methods of multiplication and selecting the most efficient depending on the question.

In our geography lesson, we started to look at where different volcanoes are located in the world. We used atlases to identify the country the volcanoes are located in and then mark them on a world map. The children also worked in groups to write down 10 facts about volcanoes they now know that they didn't at the start of the unit – they have already learnt lots!

In science we have continued to look at skeletons. This week we looked at different animal skeletons and made comparisons between them. We then also compared the animal skeletons to a human skeleton.

All the children worked really hard in swimming again. I can see so much progress being made in just a few weeks.

### **Osprey**

This week in English, we have again used our knowledge of DADWAVERS and Alan Peat sentences to describe another picture from our book, "The Arrival", after role-playing and pretending to be in an immigration hall ourselves on Monday. We really enjoyed the drama workshop.

In geography, we have been looking at contour lines and we made a mini hill. Whilst thinking about what contour lines represent, we also planned a route on an OS map, around Ibstone. We are beginning to realise just how hilly the Chilterns really are! Mrs Hodgson has set us a new challenge in Geography: to be able to locate and name as many of the UK counties as possible.



We have started some new mathematics topics this week, including: decimals, mass and division. When you get the hang of the method in Maths, it can make other parts of maths feel much easier.

In Forest school, some people enjoyed watching a talent show; others strategically placed planks so that they could enjoy climbing trees.

### **In other news:**

#### **Friday Finish Time – KS2 Important Information**

On Fridays we always end the day with Worship so that we end the week together. After half term, we will be moving the end of the day collection time for KS2 to 3.15pm on a Friday. This is only on a Friday and means that the whole school will leave together after Worship.

#### **Tag Rugby**

We are delighted to be offering Tag Rugby sessions after half term. KS2 sessions will run on a Monday after school, EYFS and KS1 sessions will run on a Wednesday after school. Please make sure you book via iPal.

#### **Gymnastics**

Gymnastics club will continue to run after school on a Friday, there are a few spaces available for those who wish to join. Please book via iPal.

#### **Parents Meetings**

You should have received your confirmation email this week. If you have not received an email confirming your appointment time, please contact the school office.

#### **Kites Holiday Club – February Half Term**

Holiday Club will be open on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February, bookings can be made via iPal.

**Kites Holiday Club – Easter**

If you think you will need Holiday Club during the Easter holidays, please email the school office by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February with your preferred dates. We need to gauge uptake before we can confirm if we will be opening over the Easter holidays.

Enjoy the weekend!

Louise Long  
Headteacher

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Occasion</b>	<b>Who?</b>
<b>February 2024</b>		
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Meetings 3.30pm – 7pm	Everyone
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