

Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

Nurture - Inspire - Grow

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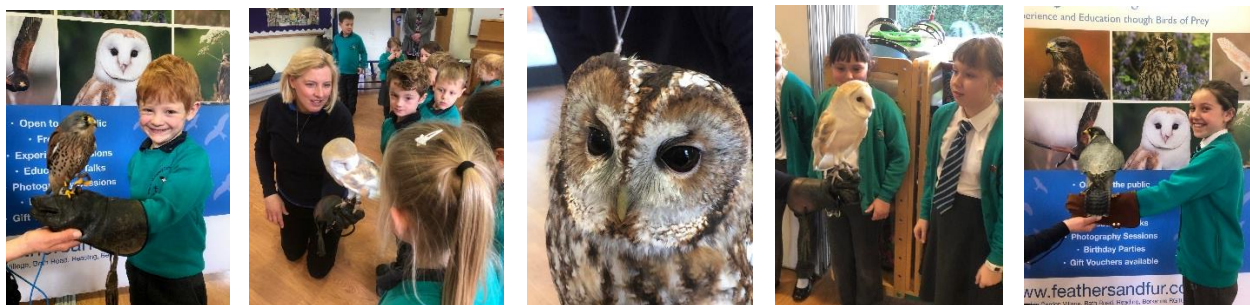
Dear Families,

As the saying goes 'Time flies when you are having fun!' This week has flown past so quickly I think I am still spinning! The school is a hive of activity, enjoying Christmas crafts, walking up and down to the church for Nativity rehearsals and somehow still managing to fit in other aspects of the curriculum!

Everyone who came along, thoroughly enjoyed Crafternoon and we hope you likes the crafts that came home too!



On Tuesday afternoon we had planned a little surprise for the children! We welcomed Sadie from Feathers and Fur Falconry Centre. Sadie talked to us about birds of prey and we met Bailey (the barn owl), Ash (the tawny owl), Bourneville (the kestrel) and Acer (the peregrine falcon). The children had the opportunity to ask lots of questions and get up close to these amazing birds. Ladybirds and Woodland Class enjoyed finding out about how each bird finds its prey and the habitats they live in. They also had the opportunity to hold Bourneville! Our KS2 children enjoyed learning about how the Romans were scared of owls and thought that if you heard an owl hooting you would die the next day! They also found out about the fate of the peregrine falcon during both World Wars!



If you would like to visit the Falconry Centre, it is free of charge (there is a donation box so take some money!), it is based at Ladds Garden Village on the Bath Road towards Reading. They also offer a range of handling experiences!

Love – Courage – Respect – Community - Perseverance

On Thursday evening the extended community enjoyed Wreath Making in the hall with Alan. A huge thank you to Alan for his expertise, skills and patience! I hope you like our offering near the school door too!



What have we been learning this week...

The Ladybirds have continued learning nursery rhymes this week. They have also enjoyed writing about their visit from Bailey, Ash and Acer.

Woodland Class have been very busy rehearsing for the Nativity but they have managed to squeeze in time to finish off their monster reports! These reports included information about the monster's habitat, diet and personality traits. In mathematics they have continued to learn about multiplication and enjoyed solving multiplication problems to make Christmas pictures.

Kestrel Class have been writing non-chronological reports, they have looked at the key features of these reports and made a toolkit to help them when they create their own. They have planned their own report about one of the birds of prey they met on Tuesday afternoon and have been researching facts online!

In mathematics they have been presenting data in different ways. They have interpreted data from tables and pictograms and have made their own tables about the birds of prey!

This week Osprey Class have continued writing their newspaper articles about the first day of The Blitz. They have watched a number of video clips about The Blitz and taken notes to give the facts and ideas of what to put in their reports. The children have enjoyed using Microsoft Publisher to create their own authentic newspaper articles. In mathematics they have been multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, 100 and 1000, working with numbers up to and beyond 1,000,000. They have also been multiplying and dividing using multiples of 10, 100 and 1000.

Forest School

It was very cold in Forest School this week! The children certainly discovered the benefits of lots of layers and experienced the joy of standing in your wellies in buckets of warm water to warm your cold toes!

Year 3 and 4 hunted for advent pictures around the site and several children had a go at fire lighting. The whole class enjoyed toasting marshmallows over the fire that they had created. The rope swing made another appearance too - this time constructed by the Year 4s.

The Ladybirds made good use of the rope swing too - they all had several goes before some discovered the joy of rolling down the hill instead!



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In other news...

Woodland Class Staffing

Many of you will have noticed that Mrs Williams has not been in school for the past couple of weeks, she has been very poorly with a chest infection. I am sure you will join me in sending her lots of best wishes and love and hope that she feels better soon.

Please bear with us with reading books! Mrs Cross has very kindly been helping in Woodland Class this week and will be helping in Woodland Class until Mrs Williams is back to full health. There will be no more spellings sent home until the new year.

Nativities

Just in case you have missed the times and dates, here they are again:

Date	Who is in it?	Who can attend?
Wednesday 11 th December – 2pm	Ladybirds & Woodland Class	Everyone
Wednesday 11 th December – 6pm	Kestrel & Osprey Class	Everyone
Thursday 12 th December – 6pm	Ladybirds & Woodland Class	Everyone
Friday 13 th December – 2pm	Kestrel & Osprey Class	Everyone

The children have all worked incredibly hard to learn their lines, the numerous songs and their positions on the stage in the church. We kindly ask that if younger siblings are at the Nativity performances that they are taken out of the church straight away if they become unsettled.

Please make sure your child is at the church at 5.40pm so that we can help them get into their costumes. During this time we ask parents to wait outside so please wrap up warm!

Parking

We are unable to use the church car park during the afternoon performances as it is in use. Please park at the school and walk down to the church.

Kites and Early Birds

The Kites and Early Birds forms for next term have been sent home today, they are also available on the school website. Please return them to the school office before the end of term so that they can be booked in.

Cross Country Running Team

I would like to say a huge Congratulations to our Cross Country Running Team, you have been amazing this half term and Mrs Randall, Mrs Hartigan, Mrs Statham, Miss Hearn and Mr Messenger have all commented on how well behaved, committed and eager to learn and improve you all are! Well done!

KS2 Christmas Forest School (Kestrel & Osprey)

Hopefully you will have received a letter home today. Please do get in touch if it hasn't made it home!

Last Day of Term

We would like to invite you to join us at St Nicholas Church at 1pm at St Nicholas Church on Thursday 19th December. This is our annual Christmas service to mark the end of term. All children will need to be collected from the church at 1.30pm. Please do not park in the car park near the church as it is in use at this time of the day.

Christmas Jumper Day

We are inviting everyone to wear their own clothes and a Christmas jumper on the last day of term (Thursday 19th December). We will take a collection at the church after our service and all proceeds will go to Save the Children.

Don't forget...

Christmas Post box

Back by popular demand! The Christmas post box will be in the hall on Monday ready for the elves to sort and deliver cards across the school site!

Forest School Kit

It is bitterly cold outside and there are a number of children who do not have enough layers in their forest school kit. We would rather you sent in too many layers than too few (especially in the sock department). Moving forward we may be forced to stop children taking part in their forest school session if they do not have their kit or appropriate kit in school.

Ibstone Circle

For those of you who like a challenge, Ibstone Circle registration is now open!

<https://www.racedirector.co.uk/events/ibstone-circle-2020>

Don't forget to pop into the Christmas Market tonight from 6.30pm – 9pm in the school hall!

Louise Long
Headteacher

Headteacher's Awards



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Diary Dates - New or amended dates in BOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?
December 2019		
Fri 6 th	Christmas Market – 6.30pm-9pm	Grown Ups
Mon 9 th	Forest School Yellow Sessions	Y1/2/5/6
Wed 11 th	Nativity Performance 2pm – St Nicholas Church	Y R/1/2 children & families
Wed 11 th	Nativity Performance KS2 6pm – St Nicholas Church	Y 3/4/5/6 families
Thurs 12 th	School CLOSED – Polling Station	Everyone
Thurs 12 th	Nativity Performance 6pm – St Nicholas Church	Y R/1/2 children & families
Fri 13 th	Norden Farm Trip	Y R/1/2 children
Fri 13 th	Nativity Performance KS2 2pm – St Nicholas Church	Y 3/4/5/6 families
Mon 16 th	Forest School Green Sessions	Y R
Mon 16 th	Forest School Christmas Session – see main newsletter	KS2
Mon 16 th	Film Night – end of school – 5.15pm	Everyone
Tues 17 th	Shortenills Trip – Magical Nativity	Y R/1/2 children
Tues 17 th	KS2 Carols by Candlelight 6pm	All KS2 children and families
Thurs 19th	Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children	Everyone
Thurs 19 th	End of Term 1.30pm	All children
January 2020		
Mon 6 th	INSET DAY	Staff only
Tues 7 th	Back to school 8.50am	Everyone
Mon 13 th	Forest School Yellow Sessions	Y1/2/5/6
Mon 20 th	Forest School Green Sessions	Y R/3/4
February 2020		
Fri 14 th	End of Term	All children
Mon 24 th	Back to school 8.50am	All children
March 2020		
Thurs 5 th	World Book Day – more info to follow	Everyone
Fri 13 th	Sport Relief – more info to follow	Everyone
April 2020		
Fri 3 rd	End of Term 1.30pm	All children
Mon 20 th	Back to school 8.50am	All children
Sun 26 th	Ibstone Circle 5k & 10k	Everyone
May 2020		
Fri 8 th	Bank Holiday	All
Thurs 21 st	End of Term	All children
Fri 22 nd	INSET DAY	Staff
June 2020		
Mon 1 st	Back to school 8.50am	All children
Thurs 18 th	Sports Day	Everyone
Thurs 25 th	Reserve Sports Day	Everyone
July 2020		
Tues 7 th	Transition Day	Everyone
Tues 21 st	End of Term 1.30pm	Everyone