Ibstone CE Primary School Newsletter

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We hope you all had an enjoyable half term break. This week many of our journeys have been affected by the road closure in Ibstone Road. On the plus side, we can see a noticeable difference in the amount of daylight at the beginning and end of the school day which is always welcome. The weather report is for another spell of very cold weather. We still have some children who do not have tracksuits or trainers for wearing outside. Please check that your child has the correct kit in school. The children also need warm coats, hats and gloves please.

Please remember that we are having Mufti Fridays until the end of the Spring Term. We have asked for a donation of £5 per child to cover the period (5 Fridays) which will be for our primary expansion fund.

Next week, on Thursday 1st March it will be World Book Day. The teachers have a variety of different events planned for the day, but we would like children to bring in a favourite book from home to talk about and share at some point during the school day. There is no pressure to dress up, but we have had a number of requests, so if your child would like to dress up as a character from a favourite book for the day they are very welcome!

We will be giving out World Book Day tokens which are usable to buy or put towards the cost of children's books. The tokens are for £1. There are a number of special edition books printed for World Book Day which retail for £1. The book tokens can be exchanged at Waterstones, WH Smith, Asda, Morrisons, Sainsbury's, Tesco and Marks & Spencer. Independent bookshops usually accept the vouchers too.

Apart from being great fun, reading is fundamental to children's learning. The more that children read, the greater the influence from this that you can see in the quality of children's writing. This includes reading aloud to children as well as children reading for themselves.



On the Friday before half term, Sarah Dewberry, the education officer from Waddesdon Manor came into school for her Bird Talk. Sarah was very interesting to listen to, engaging the children with what she had to say and the way she delivered her message. Sarah talked about where some birds come from, their country of origin and about how conservation work is carried out to protect the birds in their habitat as well as through hatching eggs at the Waddesdon Aviary. The children had been able to see many of these birds when we visited the Aviary.

The children were then able to engage in a craft activity making a bird that is endangered. Sarah took the birds away for display in the education centre at Waddesdon Manor.

Thank you for attending this term's parent consultations. There are still one or two parents who we have yet to see. When the round of appointments is complete we will send home the individual meeting notes.

On Sunday 11th March we will be holding a Mothering Sunday Service at St Nicholas Church to start at 10.00. We hope to see as many of our families as possible there. The children from Year 3 will be leading the service.

Thank you for completing the request forms for help at the May Fayre and for the Ibstone Circle. Both events are part of our fund-raising drive for the school expansion. We really need your support, so thank you very much.

The children in the Kestrel class have been focusing on geography this week. Having completed a large floor puzzle the children discussed what hemispheres were, they looked at lines of latitude and lines of longitude, considering how and why we have different time zones across the world. The floor puzzle was a good stimulus providing the children with visual clues to help make sense of what can be quite a complex idea.

In maths the children recapped what they have been learning. The children used a fraction wall so that they could compare, find equivalent fractions and order fractions. With this aide memoire, the children then practised adding and subtracting fractions. The children practised their 8 x table with the aid of a scavenger hunt in the garden. Mrs Barrett called out the questions and the children had to run and stand by the right answer.

The children have also helped to create a new book corner so that they can sit cosily with a book on the new bean bags. The children have helped to organise all the books, many of them new, into categories and alphabetically by author. The book corner looks very inviting. The children's 'lbstone Myths' have been displayed above the books, setting a very good standard in story-telling.

In English, the children have started looking at newspapers this week. They are looking at the features of a newspaper, likely contents and how newspapers are presented. Perhaps you could send a newspaper into school if you have one? Thank you.

In the Woodland class, the children have been adding larger numbers together by breaking them down into tens and units. The children have also been practising their times tables by counting on and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.



In English the children used the story of 'Mr Gumpy's Outing' as a starting point for building up a story. The children retold the story in drama as well as through talk for writing. The focus then shifted to how to improve our writing. The children decided to use alliteration for the animal names to add additional interest. The story has been very popular with the class.

In science, the children are still focusing on health and well-being. The focus this week has been about how we can keep healthy. The children have talked about healthy eating and sensible bedtimes. They thought about brushing their teeth and exercising too.

We have been lucky enough to secure 5 weeks cricket coaching which started this week. The coaching is via the charity Chance to Shine run by the ECB.

In the Ladybird class, the children have started their new topic which is about transport. The outdoor play area has been set up accordingly. There is a tough new track for the pedal bikes and there are monster wagons set up in the 'earthworks.'

The children have been thinking about where they would like to visit and how they would get there. The Wendy House has become Ibstone Station and Thomas the Tank Engine (a shaped play tent) is departing for regular journeys. There are lots of opportunities for writing including tickets, timetables and the station master's clipboard. The children have been encouraged to write about a journey with questions such as 'where would you like to visit?' 'How would you like to travel?' and 'what would you do there?' The children have tried so hard with their writing.





In maths the children have been counting backwards, as in rocket countdowns, and learning how to take away by counting back along a number line. The children have also been trying to find out what floats. They have been tasked with trying to make a sailing boat and then testing to see if it will float.

Thank you for all your support.

Ruth Goddard, Headteacher

Please note that Ibstone Road will be open on Monday morning. The roadworks will still be in place but there will be a give and take system.

Headteacher Awards



Diary Dates
New or amended dates inBOLD

Date	Occasion	Who?			
	March 2018				
1 st March	World Book day	All			
8 th March	Grandparents' Day	Woodland			
11 th March	Mothers' Day Service – St Nicholas 10am followed by tea and cake	All			
22 nd March	Sport Relief Day – details to follow	All			
26 th March	Kites Easter Disco – 3.15-4.30pm	All			
27 th March	Easter Bonnet Parade/Easter Egg Hunt – details to follow	All			
28 th March	Easter service 9.15am St Nicholas Church	All			
28 th March	End of Term 1.30pm	All			
29 th March	INSET DAY				
	April 2018				
2nd-12th April	Kites Holiday Club	All			
16 th April	School Starts 8.50am	All			
22 nd April	Ibstone 5K Fun Run	All			
	May 2018				
1 st May	Whole school Photos	All			
12 th May	***May Fayre Marlow – lots of help needed big fundraising event	All			
25 th May	Kites May Disco 3.15-4.30pm	All			
25 th May	EOT 3.15/3.30pm	All			
29 th May – 1 st June	Kites Holiday Club	All			
	June 2018				
7 th June	Sports day 1pm	All			
14 th June	Reserve sports Day	All			
15 th June	INSET Day	All			
	July 2018				
6 th July	School Reports	All			
6 th July	The Big Sing – Details to follow				
12 th July	School Trip – details to follow	All			
18 th July	Opera First Performance 6pm – details to follow				
23 rd July	Kites Summer Disco 3.15-4.30pm	All			
24 th July	Summer Celebration Service 9.30am	All			
24 th July	EOT 1.30pm	All			
25 th July	Kites Holiday Club Starts	All			