

Wednesday 15th March 2017

Dear Parents,

Newsletter #23



Ivy Life



Spring is in the air and you can tell that from the beautiful blanket of purple outside the front of the school. Thank you to our parent gardeners for all their support in keeping our grounds looking bright and beautiful. Last Friday, the children had an amazing time exploring the world through virtual reality tours with Google Expeditions. The day was very successful and was thoroughly enjoyed by pupils and staff alike. Year 4 and 5 thought their visit to the Great Wall of China was absolutely brilliant while the Year 2 children really loved being underwater with the sharks in the Great Barrier Reef.

Internet Filtering

We recently heard rumours amongst some parents that children have accessed Facebook via the school internet. Please can we reassure you that this is not the case and all social media sites are filtered. In January we moved to a new filtering system which has further improved online safety for children. However, if you are ever concerned about a site that your child may have accessed, please contact Mr Rafferty.

Commonwealth Day



On Monday, Morpurgo Class walked into town to take part in the Commonwealth Day celebrations. We saw Gurkhas dancing, Fijians singing, African people drumming as well as trying on some historical helmets. Next we went upstairs in the Neeld Hall to try different foods from all around the commonwealth. My favourite was the Indian food! Written by Saket Tetali.



Red Nose Day - Fri 24th March 2017



The children may come into school wearing red noses and red socks or shoes for a donation to Comic Relief on Friday 24th March. The usual school uniform should be worn that day. Year 6 children will be going round classes in the afternoons selling noses from this Friday.

Football Fixture



Ivy Lane's scintillating and skilful football team played 3 matches on the 9th March. Match 1 was against Monkton Park, where we lost to the last kick of the match 1-0. Match 2 was against Monkton Park B team; we won 16-0 (they were new to the game). Match 3 was against Kings Lodge A! When after an even match, we were unlucky to lose 2-0. Many thanks to Mr Prosser and Mr Harvey and also well done to Harry M, Tom, Gabe, Harley, Jacob, Samuel, Josh, Dominic and Jordan'.



Celebrating Achievements

Well done to Harry McLoughlin and Thomas Thornton who received medals for taking part in a mini rugby event organised by Chippenham RFC. Congratulations also to Alannah in Byars Class who passed her pre-level Wiltshire grades with a highly commended and came 3rd overall.



Wow Maths Day

On Tuesday eleven lucky pupils went to King's Lodge Primary School. They had an amazing, stupendous time experiencing shape work (tangram) and creating mathematical word puzzles with the same answer. They really enjoyed creating creatures using a square, two large triangles, a parallelogram, two small triangles and a medium sized triangle. We would like to thank Mr MacMahon for organising the event and Mrs Fewtrell for taking us this trip. Written by Kiaron and Mayson.

Library Donation

We've had a lovely e-mail in from the Mander Duffill Charity Committee donating £100 towards our new library. This is a very generous contribution towards books from one of our local businesses. Mander Duffill are chartered accountants, tax & financial advisors.

School Funding

You may have seen in the media all the concerns about school funding. Currently, the level of funding per pupil is frozen and is expected to fall by 6.5% in real terms between 2015-16 and 2019-20 because of rising costs. Please can I encourage all our parents to sign the petition the local MP, Michelle Donelan, is responsible for (<http://michelledonelan.com/schools>). The aim is to get over 15,000 signatories (400 signatures per school) to show how strong the local feelings are on the issue by the deadline of 22nd March:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/>

Star Award Winners

Congratulations to those children who have impressed the staff at Ivy Lane recently:

Annabelle Battley (Carle) Marley Lewinton (Rosen) Satya Banala (Hargreaves) David Lawther (Donaldson)	Olivia Farquharson (Milligan) Connor Murrow (Dahl) Isaac Evans (Walliams) William Burton (Morpurgo)	Thomas Davis (Pullman) Chloe Johnston (Hughes) Oliver Matthews (Byars) William Fudge (Lewis) Harley Moles (Rowling)
--	--	---

Birthday Books

Thank you this week to Chloe Smart, Aditya Naik and Mrs Love for donating wonderful books to the school library.

Y1 Hargreaves Class Assembly and FOILS Cake Sale - Wednesday 22nd March at 2pm

Hargreaves Class will be performing their special assembly for parents and family on Wednesday 22nd March at 2pm in Ivy Hall. Please could parents of Hargreaves Class children bring in their yummy cake donations on the morning of the class assembly (no nuts or fresh cream please). These will be sold by FOILS, together with drinks, that afternoon. Thank you. Please be aware there is no parking available on site for class assemblies.

Car Parking and respecting our neighbours

We have had a call from one of the local residents informing us that parents are parking across their driveway and when politely asked to refrain from doing so, the response from the parent was apparently quite rude. Please can all parents be respectful to our local residents. None of us would like someone to park in front of our driveway, so please treat others how we'd like to be treated ourselves. Thank you.

Weekly Teacher Changes

Date	Class	Replacement Teacher
16 th -17 th March	Pullman	Mr J Gore
Fri 17 th March	Byars	Mrs C Asbridge

Tunnel Repairs

The school has contacted Network Rail with regard to the poor state of repair to sections of brickwork in the tunnel. They have issued a work order last week to undertake repairs throughout the bridge and this should be completed in the next few months.

Free Chippenham Events - brochure

Chippenham Connected (www.chippenhamconnected.com) is a Business Improvement District (BID) established to improve the local economy through multiple different initiatives in the town. One of these is by hosting events. Over the coming months there will be a whole series of events in the town that you may wish to attend or even participate in. These are all free of charge. Attached is a copy of the brochure with all the details.

What's On

Fri 17th March
FOILS Quiz Night
Mon 20th March
YR Trip to Lackham
Tues 21st March
Governors Meeting, 6:30pm
Wed 22nd March
Hargreaves Class Assembly, 2pm, Ivy Hall