

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents,

Newsletter #1



## Ivy Life

Welcome back to all parents and children. The start of a new school year is always a special time, this year we welcome 58 reception children and their families to Ivy Lane. The school starters have already made a big impression here at Ivy Lane with their smiles and enthusiasm and we look forward to watching them grow as individuals and learners over the coming terms. We would also like to welcome Elliott and Olivia Langley (Hargreaves & Donaldson), Kian Haines (Griffiths), Isla Waite (Hughes), Isabelle Taylor-Firth (Pullman) and Montse Merry-Sanjuan (Lewis) and their families who have recently joined Ivy Lane.

Also, a warm welcome to our new teachers, who have settled in and seamlessly joined the team over the summer months - Miss Butcher (Donaldson), Miss Watson (Dahl), Miss Spooner (Morpurgo), Mrs Storey (Byars) and Miss Readman (Rowling).

Mrs Tottle, will be available during school hours (except Friday afternoon) this academic year. She is available at the gates, when teachers are busy welcoming or releasing their class and to discuss, support or advise (or sign –post to other support) on any matters, non-educational that may affect your child or family, including attendance.

We have appointed a new Site Manager to start later in the month, please bear with us in the interim as we try to manage with opening gates and keeping the site up together!

The theme for this term is 'Tractors & Turnips', and many classes will be visiting local farms to bring their 'learning to life'. More information about what the children are learning this year can be found by [clicking here](#).

Good luck to Mrs Love, Mrs Sarnago-Orchard, Mrs Gough & Mrs Ward & any of our parents taking part in Chippenham Half Marathon on Sunday.

Clubs information will be sent out by e-mail this Friday. With a quick deadline for request of next Tuesday - as we aim to start clubs on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September. There will be no clubs from the w/b Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October (due to Parents' Evenings and a 3 day final week of term) until the first week of term 2.

Finally, from next week, Thursday will be the new day for e-mails and the newsletter – except this Friday we will be sending out clubs information!

## YR Parents Coffee Morning

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September all YR parents are invited to a coffee morning straight after drop off which is being organised by FOILS (Friends Of Ivy Lane School) in Ivy Hall. This is a great opportunity for our new parents to forge links with other parents and hear more about Ivy Lane School.

## Parent Handbook

A revised version is attached.

## Dinner Menu Term 1 & 2

A copy of the school dinner menu for terms 1&2 is also attached for your information.

## Tuck Shop



Meet the two teams of children who will be running the tuck shop for Terms 1 and 2.

The school tuck shop is open every morning during break time for KS2 children and offers a choice of fruit or a tasty snack with milk for just 50p or if you'd prefer water its 30p.



## Term Dates

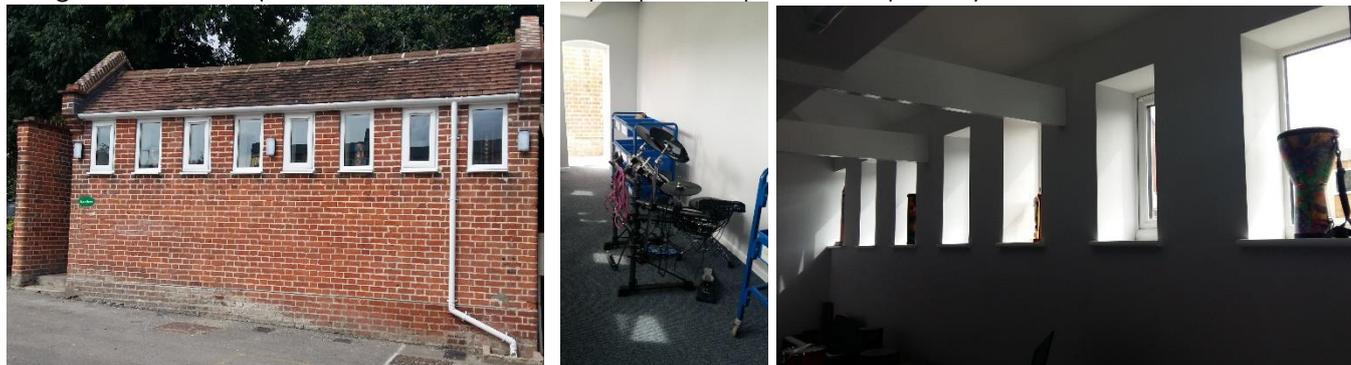
A calendar with the term dates for this year is attached. It includes the training days when schools are closed to pupils. We will inform you of this as soon as arrangements have been made. Next year's term dates are also attached (without any TD Days) - in case you are booking holidays early!

## Pickwick Academy Trust

Our conversion to academy and joining Pickwick Academy Trust took place over the summer break alongside three other local schools. We hope to see a positive impact over the coming months. Please read the attached letter from the newly formed board. We will continue to have a local governing body chaired by Ros Darby with representation from parents.

## Music Room

The transformation from disused outside toilet block to a gleaming Music Room is complete. This will ensure we grow out music provision and value a very important part of the primary and wider curriculum



## Summer Reading Challenge

Chippenham Library have asked us to let you know that children have a couple of days left to complete the Summer Reading Challenge at the library. It finishes at 4:45pm this Saturday (9<sup>th</sup> September).

## Uniform

The children certainly look very smart and part of 'Team Ivy Lane' in their uniform this week. Can I thank parents for their support in ensuring all children wear the correct uniform every day and providing the correct PE kit - indoor (daps) and outdoor footwear (trainers) and shorts for Term 1.

## Harvest Collection

We will be holding our annual Harvest Assembly on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> October. Dry and tinned food donations are welcomed and some of the children will deliver the collection to the Chippenham Food Bank at The Salvation Army.

## Ride for Simon Oldacres

A group, including Sophie Oldacres and other parents are embarking on a 2-day fundraising cycle ride in memory of Simon. The event will be taking place on 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> September. Starting in Solihull (where Simon was born and raised) covering 72 miles on Day 1 and from Gloucester to Chippenham on Day 2 (62 miles).

If any parents and children (competent with road cycling) would like to join the group, from Biddestone (or earlier en-route) to the finish at John Coles Park, please contact the school office and we'll put you in touch with Brian Walker or Sophie.

Alternatively, if you'd just like to sponsor the ride here is the link (with further details)

<https://tinyurl.com/y8d3bxo4>

## LABELS

Please can all items children bring in to school (uniform, bags, coats, water bottles, lunchboxes) be clearly labelled so we can endeavour to return them to their owners when misplaced.

## Weekly Teacher Changes

Mr Little, who taught at Ivy Lane earlier in the year for several months, will be teaching in Byars Class every Thursday in Term 1.

## Postcards

A big thank you to all the children who sent postcards to their teachers during the summer holiday. It sounds as if Joseph, Tess Ferris, Thomas Davis, Cora Deery, Josh Bailey, Ester and Joseph Oldacres all had an amazing time. We also has a card from Mr Prosser telling us about his honeymoon in America.

## Y1 Parents Introduction to Year 1 Meeting

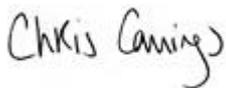
The parents of children in Hargreaves and Donaldson classes are invited to an Introduction to Year 1 meeting that will take place in Hargreaves Class on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 2:30pm. Mrs Stenning, Mrs Reynolds and Miss Butcher will be giving an informal introduction to the Year 1 curriculum and expectations, as well as covering topics such as home learning, reading and phonics (more in-depth workshops on these will follow later in the year). This is also an opportunity for parents to ask any questions about life in Year 1. We hope to see many of you there!

## Dates

Please find below a few significant dates over the coming weeks. These and other school/FOILS events will be updated on our website's School Diary shortly.

Day	Date	Event
Tuesday	12 <sup>th</sup> September	Clubs Request deadline
Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup> September	YR Parents' Coffee Morning @ 8.45am (Ivy Hall)
Tuesday	19 <sup>th</sup> September	Club Starts
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup> September	Y1 Parents' Curriculum Talk
Wednesday	4 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Assembly (donations by 9am please)
Wednesday	4 <sup>th</sup> October	Walliams' Class Parents' Evening (3 -7.30pm)
Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup> October	Lucky Tray Day (Census Day)
Monday	9 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening 3.15-5pm (except Walliams)
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening 3.30-7pm (except Walliams)
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup> October	School Photographs – individual and Ivy Lane siblings
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup> October	YR Parents 'Dine with your child' End of Term 1
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup> October	End of Term 1

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Cannings  
Headteacher



To volunteer for FOILS or pass on any suggestions for fund raising ideas/events – please e-mail our FOILS team on: [Foils@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:Foils@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk).