



## Ivy Life

We are now at the end of a busy month and my first at Ivy Lane. Every day, I am learning more about the running of the school. The children continue to impress me with their behaviour and I see children on a regular basis in my office receiving Headteacher awards.

Today, we were due to say a sad goodbye to Mrs Gough (Y5 TA) as she leaves us to pursue a career in pastoral care at a secondary school. However, the heavy snow and school closure hasn't enabled us to give her the send-off she deserves, to which both all the staff and Mrs Gough herself are very sad about. We will try to arrange for her to come back so we can do this. After working at Ivy Lane for a very impressive 13 years, she will be greatly missed by all the children and staff and I am sure you will join us all in wishing her the very best for the future and good luck in her new job.

Both Y3 Griffiths and Walliams children have performed their class assemblies to parents and other pupils over the past couple of weeks. I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the results of all the hard work that the children (and their teachers and TAs) put into these class assemblies. Thank you so much to all the parents who have supported their children by coming to see them perform and for donating some wonderful cakes. Thanks also to the FOILS team for providing refreshment after both assemblies.

After school clubs started again last week – they include clubs such as Instrumental, Gardening, Drama, Lego, Football, Netball and many more and it has been wonderful to see that the children are all enjoying attending their clubs. Thank you to all the teachers who take time to provide these fantastic clubs and opportunities for our children.



I hope you all enjoyed the 'snow day', fully understood the reasons for closing the school and were able to make alternative childcare arrangements if you needed to. The safety of our children and staff is our main priority and the roads/paths leading up to and within the school grounds were treacherous today. The weather certainly



deteriorated throughout the day but it paved way for some excellent snow angels and snowmen!

## Final TD Day Announced

The final TD Day for this school year will take place on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June** – school will be closed for children on that day.

## Open Classroom and Parents' Evenings

Please come along to Open Classrooms on **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> February** from 3-5pm. Teachers will be available for you to meet with and children's books will be on display for you to look at and discuss. Mrs Lammin (Head of School) and Mrs Phillips (SENCo) will also be available.

## Reporting Absences & End of Day Messages

Can we please remind parents to contact the school office before 8.40am if their child is going to be away from school due to illness/medical appointments. If your child has suffered with sickness and/or diarrhoea, they must be off school for a full 48 hours after the last episode.

If you need to get a message to your child, due to change in collection arrangements for instance at the end of the school day, please ensure where possible that you contact the school office before 2.30pm. Many thanks for your co-operation.

## Year 5 Healthy Snack Workshop



On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February the Year 5 children will be taking part in a Healthy Snack Workshop run by The Farm Cookery School. They will be learning all about healthy snacks and will then spend time in groups cooking some healthy recipes.

I'm sure the children will look forward to telling their parents all about it and will share their experience in the next newsletter.

## Year 1 Walk Around Chippenham



Year 1 have been learning about houses this term. They have learnt about the different types of buildings/houses and some of the materials used to make them. On Tuesday 22nd January, they went on a walk around Chippenham to identify the different houses and investigate the materials used to build them. On the walk they found detached, semi-detached and terraced houses as well as flats and bungalows. By the end of the walk, the children were confidently identifying the materials used and some of the different types of houses.



## Year 2 Sheldon School Art Teacher Visit



Year 2 were very lucky recently to have an artist visit from Sheldon School as part of the Primary Outreach Programme. Mr Anderton (Art Teacher) taught them how to make a print using polystyrene, ink and rollers. First they carefully observed their shell and then lightly drew



it with a pencil onto the polystyrene. Next they pressed down firmly to leave an indentation, creating the shell stamp and used rollers to roll ink over the stamp. Then they pressed the shell stamp onto paper to reveal a beautiful print and after that washed off the ink and chose a different colour to roll onto the stamp. Finally they placed the stamp on top of the first print and used a dry roller to press down firmly, before revealing the finished article which was a beautiful shell print using two different coloured inks. The children thoroughly enjoyed their experience.

## Dance Club Rehearsals



There has been a KS2 after school Dance Club running since November last year. The children have been working extremely hard during the dance sessions and have been practising their routines with their dance teacher Naomi every week. Last week they had dress rehearsals in their PJs! They will be showcasing all



their hard work at the Neeld Hall Dance Festival on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February – good luck to you all for your performance.

## Board Games

Mrs Horan (Walliams Class Teacher) would like to say a big thank you to the parents who have very kindly donated board games for the children to use during their after school club.

## Birthday Books

A huge thank you to all the children and staff who have donated books to the school library over the last two years or so. We now have an amazing selection of fiction and non-fiction books for the whole school to enjoy.

We are currently updating reading corners in each classroom with new soft furnishings and we are very grateful to FOILS for their generous donation to allow us to improve these areas. As part of these improvements we would like birthday books to now go to the class of the child or adult who has donated them. This will mean that we have a fresh and exciting selection of books in each classroom as well as in our library. Please make sure that your birthday book donations are age appropriate for your child's class. If you need any inspiration, take a look at the recommended reads lists for each year group on the school website. This week we have received books from Violet (Milligan) and Layla (Hughes) to add to their classroom's book corners. Thank you very much.

## Star Awards

The following children have impressed the staff recently:

Aoife O, Zoe P, (Carle) Luke M, Arlo K, (Rosen) Bryce B (Donaldson) Anya K (Hargreaves) Alfie P (Milligan)	Grace M (Dahl) Cora D (Walliams) Haddy J (Morpurgo) Alejandro S-A (Hughes)	Archie C (Byars) Isaac E (Pullman) Dylan B (Rowling) Ella G (Lewis)
--	---	--

## Celebrating Achievement

Well done to Kaitlyn and Fred for completing stages in swimming and Mitchell for gaining a yellow belt in judo. Also George has been awarded a certificate from the Uffington Signal Box at the Steam Museum for successfully operating the levers which enabled The Royal Train to progress towards Paddington Station. Sienna (Pullman) has been awarded a green Blue Peter Badge for taking care of the environment and nature by litter picking at the park – well done Sienna.

## Act of Kindness

For the month of December William B (Pullman) did a "Reverse Advent Calendar". He used his own pocket money to fill a Christmas food hamper which he gave to Sheldon Church for them to distribute. His kindness meant that a family in need in the local area could enjoy their Christmas more than they would have. William's family are extremely proud of him – well done William.

## Weekly class changes

Date	Class	Replacement Teacher
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February – pm	Hargreaves	Mrs Vowles

## FOILS News



FOILS Valentine's Disco is taking place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February in Ivy Hall. There will be two sessions:

**KS1** YR, Y1 & Y2 4.30-5.30pm £4 (incs bag with drink, sweets and a glow stick)

**KS2** Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 5.45-6.45pm £2 (drink, sweets & glow sticks can be bought on the night)

Please note: doors will open at 4:20pm and 5.35pm allowing 10-mins to get everyone in for their start times. We are looking forward to seeing you all there!

Upcoming Events:

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Quiz Night for parents and carers (more information to follow in future newsletters).

## Diary Dates

Date	Event
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Dance Festival at Neeld Hall (Dance Club members only)
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Y2 Trip to SS Great Britain
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Open Classrooms - 3.30pm–5pm
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Y2 Milligan Class Assembly and FOILS Cake Sale – 2pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Y2 Dahl Class Assembly and FOILS Cake Sale – 2pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	FOILS Valentine Discos
18 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> February	HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	TD DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Forum – 8.45am in Ivy Hall
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Y3 first swimming lesson at the Olympiad
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Hughes Class Assembly and FOILS Cake Sale – 2pm
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Y1 Donaldson Class Assembly and FOILS Cake Sale – 2pm
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 1 – 3.30pm-7pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 2 – 3.10pm-5.30pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Morpurgo Class Assembly and FOILS Cake Sale – 2pm

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Helen Lammin  
Head of School