

Ivy Life

The last two weeks have had a buzz of excitement for learning around school, with a special Pickwick Academy Trust Collaboration Day this week. This was an event where all five schools in the trust completed similar learning activities in year groups and shared what they had created with each other. The children really enjoyed the day and have been speaking very animatedly about their experiences. Fiona Allen, the CEO of the trust, also visited and wanted you to know that, "I was fortunate to visit all five schools on Wednesday and was able to see all the children engaged in learning activities across the Trust ... it was just brilliant!" We look forward to more collaboration taking place soon.

Work is progressing nicely with the trim trail which is being installed in the Reception garden area. We are hoping that the children in Carle and Rosen classes will be able to have fun playing on the equipment next week – photos to follow in the next newsletter.

Just a gentle reminder that after school clubs have now finished, apart from the KS1 and KS2 Dance Clubs which take place on a Monday and Thursday and these clubs finish on Monday 20th May (KS1) and Thursday 23rd May (KS2). For terms 5 and 6 there will be a reduced amount of clubs as we like to encourage children to take full advantage of the Spring and Summer weather (fingers crossed we will see lots of sunshine after our Easter holidays!). A letter will be emailed to parents shortly with further information on the clubs available and how to book.

Baby News at ILS



We are absolutely thrilled to announce the safe arrival of two Ivy Lane babies in the last couple of weeks.

Mr Prosser (Y6 Lewis) and his wife Harriet, are pleased to announce the arrival of their baby daughter, Seren Evie (see picture left) who was born on 14th March.

Mrs Stenning (Y1 Donaldson) and her husband Tom, are pleased to announce the arrival of their baby daughter, Ivy Rose who was born on 20th March.

Everyone is doing well and I am sure you will join us all in sending our huge congratulations. We are all looking forward to meeting the new arrivals soon.

Parents Evenings

The staff are looking forward to meeting many of you next Tuesday 26th and Thursday 28th March for Parents Evenings. The children's books will be available for you to read outside the classroom either before or following the appointment. Chairs will be ready outside the appropriate classroom. Please note that Griffiths and Walliams classes will have their waiting area upstairs, you are welcome to walk straight up. Mrs Lammin and Mrs Phillips will be available on both evenings if you wish to discuss any concerns with them.

Year 1 Library Trip

The children in Year 1 will be taking a trip to Chippenham Library on Friday 29th March from 8.45am until 11.15am. If you have some spare time on that morning and would like to help with this trip, please either contact the school office or add your name to the list in the classrooms.

Year 6 Science



On the 11th and 12th March 2019, as part of Science Week, a biochemist visited Year 6 at Ivy Lane School from Bristol University. The scientist's name was Dr McKinnon and we had a mind-blowing discussion about how our DNA makes us unique although it is 99% similar to the person next to you! So that means that the DNA of twins is 99.9999% similar. There are only four letters in the DNA alphabet which are A, T, C and G. As well as all of this, during our science workshop, we



extracted DNA from a kiwi fruit by mashing it up then heating it, before adding an ice cold alcohol solution. We actually saw the kiwi's DNA. We all loved the session and felt so inspired. Thank you to Dr McKinnon for infusing us with the excitement of science. Written by Channel A and Jack B

Social Media

We understand the change that social media has made to communication and can all value the positive use of platforms like Facebook and Twitter; however, schools have also witnessed the damage and distress that negative postings can cause.

As part of our 'working together' approach, we request that social media will not be used to comment in such a way that brings Ivy Lane, any of our pupils or wider-school community into disrepute. We have other approaches to resolving issues, which we know have a more positive outcome.

If your child has access to social media sites and apps (especially via unsupervised mobile devices) then we would value your support in reiterating the guidance we offer (see below). The general recommendations say that any child should be, at a minimum, 13 years old for many platforms and it is strongly advised that parents monitor what is being sent. Primary-aged children can lack the emotional maturity to use social media without incident or risk.

Children using Social Media Guidance:

- Don't write anything online that you wouldn't say to the person directly (if you wouldn't say it in the playground, in front of your parent or teacher, please don't say it all)
- Act responsibly towards yourself and others whether online or offline
- **Think** before you say things that will hurt others online
- **Think** before you post online - once you post something online it can last forever as it can be saved and shared by others
- Do not share anything which might get you or your friends into trouble today or which you might regret in the future
- Check privacy settings –insure accounts are private (some apps and sites automatically create public accounts)

For more information please see www.internetmatters.org.

Comic Relief – Dance-a-thon



The Children did their bit for Comic Relief this year by wearing something red and taking part in a dance-a-thon last Friday. It was great to see all the children enjoying themselves and busting some fabulous moves throughout the day - the only problem was that some of the children weren't too keen on the musical choices made by teachers!

We raised an amazing £467.55 – so thank you to everyone for donating so generously to Comic Relief.

Well done everyone!

PAT Multi Skills Festival

On Tuesday this week after school, 9 children from Year 1 and Year 2 went to Queens Crescent School to take part in the PAT Multi Skills Festival. When we arrived at Queens Crescent we warmed up our muscles by doing some Zumba. There were lots of other schools there. First we got into groups and rotated doing lots of exciting activities. After that we jumped inside a ladder that was lying on the floor, threw beanbags into three hula hoops, ran in and out of beanbags, balanced beanbags on our heads and danced while throwing a beanbag into a box. I had an amazing time. Written by: Lyla M-B (Dahl Class)

Kids Tusk Presentation



On the 13th March 2019 Mrs Horan, Joseph E and myself (Scarlett B) went to Monkton Park Primary School to do a speech about Kids Tusk Force UK. It is so important to help these elephants because they are endangered and the number of deaths is growing each second as a result of poaching. Before we gave our speech Mr Rafferty (Headteacher of Monkton Park) took us on a tour around the school. We stopped at a few classes and then visited the staff room. Later in our tour we met June, who was very friendly. Then we went to the class we were presenting to. It was a very nice trip and everyone was lovely too. Finally Mr Rafferty took us through the park which was **VERY** nice. Thank you to Mrs Horan for picking me and Joe, and Monkton Park School (especially Mr Rafferty!). Written by: Scarlett B

And a big 'Thank you' from Mrs Horan to both Scarlett & Joe, who represented Ivy Lane so brilliantly on the day.

Please right click below to open the hyperlink to read lots of interesting information on the fabulous work carried out by KidsTusk/Sheldrick Wildlife Trust:

<https://www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org/>

Y4 Morpurgo Class Assembly and FOILS Cake Sale - Thursday 28th March

Morpurgo Class will be performing their special assembly for parents and family on Thursday 28th March at 2pm in Ivy Hall. Please could children bring in their yummy cake donations on the morning of the class assembly, which will be sold by FOILS, together with drinks, that afternoon. Can we please remind parents to avoid anything containing nuts and fresh cream and could you also be aware there is no parking available on site for class assemblies.

Donaldson and Hargreaves Class Assemblies and FOILS Cake Sale

Please note that Donaldson Class Assembly will now be held at 2pm on Thursday 2nd May and Hargreaves Class Assembly will be on Thursday 9th May.

Birthday Book Donations

A big thank you to Callum E, Grace P, Finn C, Lily S, Luke M & Elwood M for donating books to their classes reading corner.

Star Awards

The following children have impressed the staff recently:

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|--|--|--|
| Tommy W, Milena S-O & Freddie W (Carle) Thomas G & James R (Rosen) Viraaj K, Arthur W & Enzo H (Donaldson) Ollie S & James H (Hargreaves) Max A (Dahl) | Toby B & Isabella A (Milligan) Sophie M (Griffiths) Keira M & Layla-Rose B (Walliams) Mila C (Hughes) Farrah G & Michaela J (Morpurgo) | Emma F & Rebecca H (Byars) Lily-Rose H & Sophie S (Pullman) Hollie M & Luca C (Rowling) Tayla C (Lewis) |
|--|--|--|

And to all of Hughes Class for an outstanding class assembly showcasing all their learning.

Celebrating Achievements

Well done to Arlo K for becoming a member of The 100 Club at Chippenham library, Milena S-O, Evan C, Ella F, Connie B and Zoe P for gaining swimming certificates, Emmeline H for being awarded certificates in gymnastics and ballet, and Beth D, Cora D and Belle C for all passing their Royal Academy of Dance Grade 1 ballet exam with distinctions.

Weekly class changes

| Date | Class | Replacement Teacher |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|
| Monday 25 th March | Y4 Hughes | Mr Little |
| Monday 25 th March | Y1 Donaldson | Mrs Vowles |
| Monday 25 th March | Various | Mr Short |
| Tuesday 26 th March | Various | Mrs Singleton |
| Thursday 28 th March | Y5 Byars & Pullman | Mr Little |
| Monday 25 th – Wednesday 27 th March | Y6 Lewis | Mr Thompson |
| Friday 29 th March | Y1 Donaldson | Mrs Rafferty |

Diary Dates

| Date | Event |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 26 th March | Parents' Evening 1 – 3.30pm-7pm |
| Thursday 28 th March | Parents' Evening 2 – 3.10pm-5.30pm |
| Thursday 28 th March | Y4 Morpurgo Class Assembly and FOILS Cake Sale – 2pm |
| Thursday 4 th April | End of Term 4 – break up for Easter Holidays |
| Tuesday 23 rd April | Start of Term 5 |

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Helen Lammin
Head of School



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.