



**IVY LANE SCHOOL**  
**Virtual School Newsletter #6**  
**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020**



Dear all our fabulous families of Ivy Lane,

We have made it to the final week of Term 5. For me, this term has simply flown by and with each day, has brought another update or change. It has certainly been a tough week, however the spirit and support of the Ivy Lane team have continued to do what they do best.

Throughout last week, we received further updates and guidance on the possibility of wider opening of schools from 1<sup>st</sup> June. The press coverage has been quite negative and I am sure as parents, you have so many questions and concerns. Behind the scenes, schools up and down the country are working hard to prepare for a potential opening. We want nothing more than to welcome more of our Ivy Lane family back, however, we need to make sure we mitigate any risks to children, staff, and families. The physical, emotional, and mental well-being are the highest priority for us all.

We are re-visiting risk assessments now, based on the guidance. There will be many changes that will have to take place at school and I will be honest, it will be anything but 'normal' for a while. Some of the scenarios we are exploring are; class sizes and learning groups smaller in size, staggered start days for year groups, movement around school will be limited, staggered daily start and finish times, wider adults are not permitted onto school site, potential rota system to accommodate small groups, adapted classrooms with limited furniture and resources to reduce the risk and enable distancing.

These are just a few of the adaptations we would have to make. We have carried out an initial survey to our parents of children in key year groups of reception, year 1 and 6. Thank you for all your comments and questions. Later this week, we will send out further details and more of a plan that indicates what control measures will be put in place for our staff, children and parents, which will hopefully answer a lot of those questions. We will then seek further views of those three key year groups, on whether you would be sending your children to school, if and when we continue with a phased wider opening.

We still continue to provide home learning activities, regular contact via Seesaw and phone calls home. To that end, after week 4 of term 5, I continue to be so impressed with the range of learning and engagement on Seesaw you have with your class teachers. I know they have made contact with you all and they are all missing their classes very much. Thank you to all our families for your continued support during these different and challenging times – we really appreciate all that you are doing for our children.

The keyworker and vulnerable children have just completed week 7. Our daily exercise now includes Cosmic yoga, even Harry Potter yoga, alongside the trusted favourite of Joe Wicks. The children have been artists, creating work in the style of Hockney and Picasso, Scientists on minibeast hunts, creating catapults and designing a game where social distancing can be carried out.

We will be in touch again very soon.

Stay safe everyone. We miss you all!

Best Wishes

**Mrs H Lammin**

Head of School

### Look at the new EYFS reading bench!

Mrs Kay and her son, Ollie and have been busy at home making a reading bench for the EYFS garden. It's now finished and just needs a few cushions.

Thank you! We cannot wait for the children to be able to use this.



Whilst looking through all the fabulous learning on Seesaw, I came across this poem and wanted to share.

### An Acrostic Poem on Lockdown

- Lovely time spending with family
- Occupying yourself and keeping busy
- Clapping the NHS on Thursday nights
- Key workers working and saving the world
- Dangerous virus attacking the world
- Outdoor activities once a day
- Waiting for the pandemic to end
- No more football matches

*Written by Lucca P in Rowling Class*

### An update about our foster elephant Tamiyoi

As a foster parent of Tamiyoi, we have received a letter to personally share with you, which is an exciting update on her graduation from the Nairobi Nursery to the SWT's Voi Reintegration Unit in Tsavo, marking a big moment in her gradual journey back to the wild.

Please see the attached letter for full details. The children will be particularly excited to read about it.



Don't forget to post any poetry that you may have written about life at this time, onto your Seesaw journal and make sure you ask for it to be shown to Mrs Lammin!



## Well-Being

### Guidance on supporting young people's health and wellbeing

This week is 'Mental Health Awareness Week' and the theme this year is kindness. We know that during this difficult time there are a lot of incredibly kind acts happening in our school and within the wider community.

Wiltshire Council would love to hear about any impressive acts of kindness that you have experienced. If you are able to share your stories they will look to add them into their weekly newsletter. Please send a maximum of 200 words by email to [events@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:events@wiltshire.gov.uk) – include a picture if you want and they will share them. If you are happy for them to share them on our main social media accounts please also advise in your email.

As well as sharing your stories of kindness, we will also be sharing a daily act of kindness activity on Seesaw this week which you might like to do. Please look on Seesaw to see a lovely long list of acts of kindness....I wonder how many you will tick off?

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>

*Mrs Poolman (Mental Health and Well-being Lead)*

Mrs Tottle and Mrs Burton are always available to have a chat if you need it.

Please see our website for contact details.



## Book Swap

We hope that some of our families took the opportunity to utilise our 'bring and swap' last week.

The table by Ivy Hall with a selection of books to borrow or swap, will continue every day.

You will not need to sign the books out or anything - they are all freebies or donations. This will hopefully be a way to keep some children reading and something else to do whilst out on daily exercise.



## THE WORLD RECORD

Rob Biddulph is a famed author and illustrator of children's books. You may know him from his #DrawWithRob lessons that have gone viral across families during lockdown (and shared by BBC and CBS). Or you may know him from one of his books like Odd Dog Out.

On 21st May, Rob will teach the world a 30 minute art lesson where we learn to draw a much loved character.

To beat the Guinness World Records title for largest online art lesson at least 10,000 people need to tune in to draw with Rob for a full 30 minutes on 21st May at 4PM BST.

Learn to draw with World Book Day author and illustrator, Rob Biddulph, break the Guinness World Records title for largest online art lesson ever and raise money to fight COVID-19!

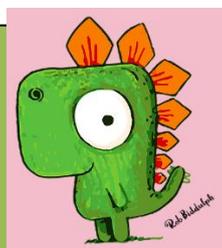
Visit <https://www.artworldrecords.com/> to register. If you take part, let us know on Seesaw.

The Wiltshire  
**WELLBEING HUB**  
For vulnerable people in need of support

**0300 003 4576**

✉ [wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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## Staffing

Next term, we welcome back two teachers returning from maternity leave. Mrs Schonfeld, Assistant Head, will be based in Griffiths for the rest of the school year and Miss Barass will return to school initially in the role of PPA cover teacher Monday to Wednesday. During the current situation within school, both teachers will continue to support home learning and also our key worker provision.

We would like to say a huge thank you and sad farewell to Miss Neill, who has taught Griffiths Class since September. We will make sure that all the children have an opportunity to say a proper farewell, once we are all back in school safely.

During next term, we will start to organise staffing and class allocation for the next academic year. This doesn't seem right to even start thinking about it when we do not have all our fabulous children in school. We will continue to keep you informed with regards to this.



## Birthdays

We would like to wish these children a very Happy Ivy Lane Birthday for this coming week....

### May

Max C (Lewis)  
Harriet W (Hughes)  
Oliver K (Rosen)  
Nyah S (Hughes)  
Imogen B (Hargreaves)  
Maxwell O (Hargreaves)

Mrs McCracken  
Mrs Metcalf

## COVID-19 Parent Information

The DfE has provided a list of FAQs for parents and carers which is useful and is regularly updated.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

The Department for Education has launched a helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email:

DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)



## Stars of the Week

The teachers found it hard to pick just one 'star' from each class. Well done to these children who have impressed their class teachers last week. A special certificate is winging its way to you in the post.

Eve W (Carle)  
Chloe P (Rosen)  
Bailey M (Donaldson)  
Olivia H (Hargreaves)  
Mia C-M & Tom W (Dahl)  
George B (Milligan)  
Grace M (Griffiths)  
Ava S (Walliams)  
Lucy H (Hughes)  
Noah L (Morpurgo)  
Evie H (Byars)  
Alejandro S-O (Pullman)  
Isaac D B (Lewis)  
Ewan M (Rowling)

**Well done to you all**

**Messages from our amazing class teachers this week.**

**DAHL**

Hi Dahl Class,

We hope that you have all enjoyed the sunny weather this weekend!

Yet again this week you have delighted us with your creativity and commitment to home-learning. Lots of you have also shared with us the "Wellness Jars" that you have made at home full of things that you're looking forward to doing when lockdown ends.

We know for some of you that this has been the toughest week so far, please remember how proud we are of all of you and it won't be long until you can start to do some of the things you have put into your jar.

Take care Dahl Class and we look forward to seeing pictures of your home-learning on Seesaw again this week.

Mrs Poolman & Mrs Reynolds

**DONALDSON**

We have been treated to another week of fantastic videos yet again! We have been truly blown away by your creativity in bringing your learning to life through your interests, such as Lego times tables or Star Wars weather forecasts. You have wowed us with your confident, entertaining weather forecast performances, using props and in some very exciting locations, such as in a tree house.

Your self-portraits have been an absolute joy to see and some of them truly would not have looked out of place on the wall of an art gallery. We were very impressed with your creativity, whichever method you chose for your portrait, whether it be sketching, using natural materials or even Lego and toys.

It has been another great week weather wise and it is so nice to see so many of you taking your learning outdoors. We have loved seeing your happy faces and have been so impressed by your perseverance and positive attitude to learning once again. Well done for another fabulous week Donaldson Class.

The Donaldson team.

**Walliams**

Hello Walliams Class

We hope you are all keeping well. It has been such a creative week on Seesaw - you are such an inventive bunch!

You have made the most amazing tree collages, using natural materials. Thank goodness we have been able to capture them on camera as sadly they will not last long. We have so enjoyed the pictures of your shops. What fabulous shopkeepers you have made, pricing up your goods and giving change. Lots of you are continuing to persevere with telling the time. Well done for trying so hard with this important skill. In Science, we have seen the most wonderful 3D skeletons and there have been some brilliant research skills on display to find out more about the Anglo Saxons.

Lots of you completed the 'I am an amazing person' poster and we couldn't agree more. We think you are all AMAZING!

Stay safe and keep sharing what you are up to.

Mrs Horan & Mrs Bull

**ROWLING**

Greetings to all the superstars of 6 Rowling.

This week I have spent some days on a first aid course, which was really interesting and have seen that you are continuing your fantastic learning as well. The presentations about WW2 have been spectacular as have the poems you have provided.

I have been blown away by how much you have achieved and it was lovely to speak to some more of you this week on the phones.

Hopefully not too long before we all see each other again, and I for one, can't bloomin' wait!

Mr Johns

**Hughes**

Hello Hughes Class!

Thank you for sharing another packed week of home learning adventures with us. You are so inventive, creative and enthusiastic! Many of you are impressive presenters in front of the camera too. Thank you for sending your videos, they absolutely make our day.

Thank you for posting your investigations into area and perimeter and a huge well done to all of you who had a go at the bedroom plan challenge! This was tricky but we can see that you are using your grown up learning partners really well to help you out. This is important - we all need a helping hand to be successful and learn new things.

Keep going Hughes Class! Keep smiling and laughing and enjoying the sunshine whenever you can. Keep in touch on Seesaw and we will be sure to send a message back to you.

Mrs Fahey & Mrs Metcalf

**Lewis**

After another week of our school closure, Lewis class have been able to maintain their fantastic learning once again. Such a huge effort has been shown, and some incredible learning has again taken place.

With a focus on V.E. day this week, I have enjoyed receiving some excellent projects that have even included V.J. day in some cases. I have also received some great learning from other areas of the curriculum; lots of excellent poetry on the continued Lockdown situation, as well as many posts showing excellent Arithmetic and Maths learning too. So, another fantastic week!

A huge well done to all members of Lewis class.

Mr MacMahon

**Carle**

Hello Carle class,

The penultimate week of Term 5 & it appears to have been another busy one for you all. We have thoroughly enjoyed sharing in your bug hunts, reading your super bug books, sharing your bug hotels & visiting all of your other fantastic learning.

It has particularly impressed us hearing how helpful you have been around the home and we can see that you have some very tasty recipes you have been making.

We cannot wait to see more next week & look forward to speaking to you too.

Stay safe and keep smiling!

Mrs Kay & Mrs Gunner

**Milligan**

Hello, Milligan Class

What a great week of learning! Thank you for sharing with me on Seesaw.

In Science we have been learning about plants and what seeds need for them to grow. We have been exploring different seeds and bulbs. Lots of you have been discussing your learning with an adult using the correct vocabulary with some amazing drawings! I know some of you have found this week challenging, keeping going we are all in this together. I'm super proud of the learning you have done so far.

Take care look after yourself and others.

Miss you all

Miss Murray

## Hargreaves

Hi Hargreaves Class,

A huge well done to everybody that has posted on Seesaw. We have reached over 1000 posts on our class journal and I could not be happier. Your wonderful learning has continued to make me feel so proud. Please keep posting your learning on Seesaw so that I can continue to be a part of your journey.

This week the sun has stayed shining and a lot of you have made the most of this. Some of you have been outside creating fantastic art using chalk and natural materials. Some of you have even been practising your phonics outside. It is wonderful to see so many happy faces, enjoying their learning.

Keep up the hard work.

Miss Burrows

## ROSEN

Hi Rosen Class,

I hope that you have all enjoyed the sunny weather this weekend! This week has really flown by but you have all continued to delight me with your creativity and enthusiasm to your home learning.

This week you have been mini beast investigators. You have found lots of different types of mini beasts and have been able to name and identify the ones that you found. Lots of you then did some mini beast writing, which was amazing because you remembered to write in sentences and use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces!! Some of you also made beautiful mini beast homes and hotels - the mini beasts in Chippenham have been very lucky this week!

Take care Rosen Class and I look forward to seeing pictures of your home learning on Seesaw again this week.

From, Miss Orchard

## PULLMAN

I hope you've all been able to get out more and hopefully see a few family members. You continue to impress with your variety of learning and enthusiasm.

Your learning has come in different forms: drawings and information on the life cycle of a butterfly, some beautiful pieces of art, and scrumptious pictures of cooking. There were voice recordings of time-telling in Spanish, greetings in French, photos of volume and capacity containers from your homes and expressing your knowledge and opinions on music and creativity in Ancient Greece.

I thoroughly enjoyed the videos and photos you have sent through, displaying smiling faces involving various activities. It's very uplifting to see this on a daily basis so do keep sharing. The individual messages video from you was enjoyed immensely. Thank you!

Look after yourselves and your family. I hope to see you soon.

Mr Green

## morpurgo

Well done for another week of incredible learning Morpurgo Class!

Some of the highlights have included a ukulele concert for hamsters, some homemade Top Trumps, some baking (although none was saved for me) and children sharing all the fantastic reading they have done with me.

I've spent much of the weekend smashing up concrete in our garden but haven't been very successful so if anyone has any concrete breaking tips then please let me know! It's been lovely to bump into some of you at a safe distance while out walking and nice to hear what you're all up to.

Keep it up Morpurgo, you should all be really proud of yourselves. Take care and stay safe,

Mr F



I hope you have all had a fantastic weekend of sunshine!

Last week, you shared so much high quality learning with me throughout the week; butterfly life cycle projects, two colour art, ferocious catapults and (my favourites) your letters to Boris Johnson. I think we should just let you guys run the country!

This week is the last week of term before our half term break, so be ready to finish the term with some fun and challenging tasks!

Keep smiling

Mrs Storey



Thank you for all your hard work this week, you have continued to make me proud with all you are doing.

I have loved seeing videos of your shops and that you have been involving siblings and your parents. Also, I have really enjoyed seeing all of your creative tree collages and home-made skeletons!

As well as, lots of great spelling and times table practice in the sunshine - keep it up!

Miss Neill



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