



Ivy Lane School

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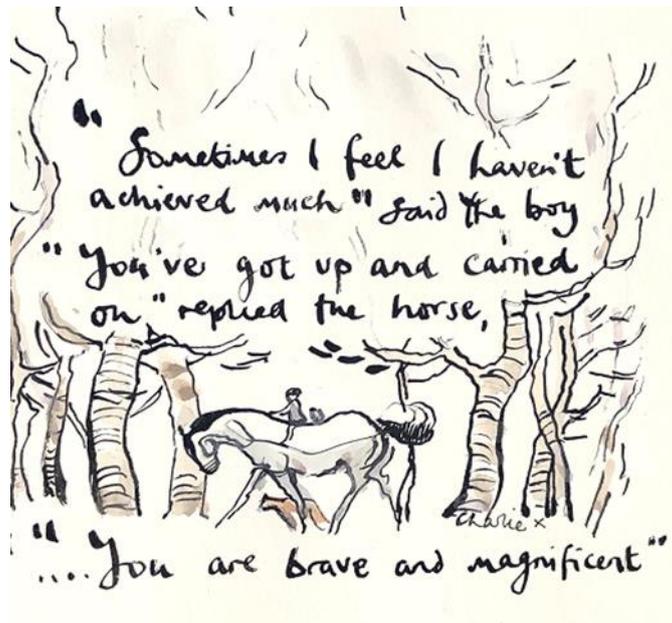
Friday 12th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

End of Term 3

Thank you

We have finally made it to the end of term 3. It has been a long term and I know it has been tough for everyone, adjusting to remote learning at home and supporting your children with this, whilst juggling the pressures of continuing to work. Also, not to mention the dark mornings, cold days and rainy weather. Well done and thank you to you all for your support. You have all done an incredible job juggling all those plates!



We took delivery 12 Chromebooks and 8 iPads this week, using the funding from the Local Authority. Following the survey that parents completed, we have distributed further devices to our families, to support with accessing the remote learning. Please contact the school, if there is anymore support you need and we will do our best to help.

We miss the children and the buzz of chatter around the school, so we hope that we will be able to welcome back all of our children to ILS very soon. Hopefully, Boris will give more of an indication of his plan for fully opening schools in his speech on the 22nd February. Unless anything changes during half-term, remote learning will resume after the break. Once we do know more, I will of course be in communication with you.



Chris Marshall

Last week, we heard some extremely upsetting news that Chris Marshall, former Headteacher at Ivy Lane for 13 years, sadly passed away. Unfortunately, she contracted Covid-19 after the New Year along with secondary pneumonia, and after 18 days battling on a ventilator, she gave up her fight on Friday 29th January 2021 at 68 years of age. Mrs Marshall left such a foot print at Ivy Lane, only retiring as Head in 2011 and some of our school community, both staff and parents, will have had a connection with her in some way during her time as Headteacher. Going forward, we will look to creating a lasting memorial in honour of her dedication to the children of Chippenham.

As a memorial to her life the family will continue to collect donations for the Southmead Hospital Charity until shortly after the 'Celebration of her life' on 22nd February 2021. All money raised, both from her son Andrew's 10K runs and the additional donations as part of the celebration of life, is to go to the wellbeing and mental health care for the staff at Southmead Hospital. For anyone that wishes to make a donation and pass on their thoughts to the family, please see the link to the Justgiving page. <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/andrew-marshall-aherne>

New build

The new building is progressing well and the TG Escapes team are working very hard, despite the very cold conditions. With each passing day, it is really starting to take shape. We now have walls, so have a real sense of the space it will provide and they will be putting the roof on, during the half-term. We are still hoping for completing towards the end of April.



The teachers will now be signing off Seesaw until Tuesday 23rd February. Everyone deserves a well-earned break from remote learning. Please make sure you all have a restful and enjoyable half term with your families. Take care, stay safe and remember we think you are all doing an amazing job.

Best Wishes

Mrs H Lammin
Head of School

