



IVY LANE SCHOOL
School Newsletter #9
WEDNESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2024



Dear Parents/Carers of Ivy Lane,

As we near the end of Term 3, we reflect on the fantastic learning and exciting out of school opportunities– as evidenced by the length of this newsletter! Read on to find out about our trips to the SS Great Britain, Chippenham Museum, our performance at Chippenham Dance Festival and finally our Year 5 classes that took part in 'Young Voices' and sang their hearts out at The Resorts World Arena in Birmingham as part of a choir of over 6,000 children!

At the end of this week, we are waving goodbye to Mrs Porter who has worked at Ivy lane for the past 2 and half years, in the role of TA, Ivy Kidz Supervisor and Learning tutor. Mrs Porter has secured a new job as a Safe Space Support Worker at Swindon Women's Aid. We know she will be great in her new position; however, she will be hugely missed! Following recruitment earlier this week, we are delighted to be welcoming a new member of staff to join our teaching assistant team based in Year 1, later on in term 4. Alongside this, we will be welcoming Mrs Vernon after half-term, who is an experienced teacher and is looking to take a step back from the role to focus more on her young family and move into supporting children as a Teaching Assistant and Learning Tutor. She will be based in Year 6 as a TA and a Learning Tutor for Year 2 and 6.

One final important message to send to all of our families as we head into the half-term holiday, is surrounding the importance of road safety. Sadly, whilst on their scooter journey to school, one of our year 6 children was knocked down by a car. The child was using a zebra crossing safely however the driver was not paying full attention. Fortunately, the child was wearing a helmet and only experienced some minor bruising. We cannot stress enough to our families to ensure all children are wearing appropriate safety gear when riding on bikes/scooters to and from school.

A reminder that on Friday 9th February we have a Training Day and so school is closed to children. We wish all our families a safe and happy time away from school and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 20th February, refreshed, recharged and ready to do it all over again!

Best wishes,

Mrs H Lammin
Head Teacher

PLEASE SEE THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR USEFUL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TD Days 23/24

**Friday 1st September, Wednesday 20th December, Friday 9th February,
Thursday 28th March, and Monday 24th June**

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR 2024

We would like to give you prior warning of the school closing at 1.30pm on Wednesday 24th July 2024.

This will mean that there will be no Ivy Kidz provision on that day.



Due to staffing challenges, we will not be able to accept any late bookings for Ivy Kidz. Please ensure all sessions are booked within the 2 week booking deadline. Text reminders and emails are sent out weekly to advise about dates that the Ivy Kidz booking system on SchoolMoney will be closing.

A gentle reminder that pick-up times for Ivy Kidz is **5.30pm**. Please ensure your child is collected promptly.

Please use the out of hours number to call Ivy Kidz **after 3pm** for any emergencies or late collections. The number is: **01249 460822**. Please do not call this number during the school day. Many thanks.

PARENT/CARERS HELPERS

Many thanks to all the families who have kindly given up their time so far this school year to help with school trips/sports events.

We do try to give our children as many experiences as possible outside of the classroom. However, certainly in Reception and KS1, the adult to pupil ratio is particularly high so without adult volunteers these trips would not be able to go ahead.

We really do appreciate your help, so please keep on volunteering if you can.



CHANGE OF DETAILS

Please inform the school office of any change in address, phone numbers and email addresses so we can amend our records.



MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Just a gentle reminder to parents/carers to inform the school office prior to any medical appointment booked for your child during the school day.

If possible, we would request that an email is sent to admin@ivyane.wilts.sch.uk letting us know dates and collection/drop off times. Please also provide a copy of any appointment letters you may have been sent for our absence records.

DOGS OUTSIDE SCHOOL GATES

There have been a couple of occasions recently where dogs have been tied up outside of the school gates.

Could we politely request that dogs are not left tied up and unattended outside any of the school gates leading on the school site.

Many thanks for your co-operation.



**Save the
Children**

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Apologies for the delay in sharing that the total amount raised for Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day was **£285.44** Thank you again for your generous donations for such a worthy cause.

PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2024

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

TESCO

Kids eat free with a purchase of 60p+ from From Mon 12th - Fri 23rd February 2024

SAINSBURY'S CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

GREENE KING PUBS

Kids Eat Free all-day with the purchase of an adult's meal. Deal, Monday-Friday, between Mon 12th - Friday 23rd February 2024

TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase a full priced adult's main meal (App needed)

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

YO! SUSHI

From Mon 12th - Fri 23rd February 2024 kids eat free with every £10 adult spend

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

At Dobbies, for every adult breakfast or lunch purchase, kids eat for FREE. Every Day!

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.



Planning is underway already for our next fundraising events including the Spring Disco, a Cake Sale and the Summer Fayre.

Thanks to your generous support FOILS is providing more exciting experiences in 2024. In March, the whole of Y4 are off to London to see The Lion King on the annual theatre trip.

We have granted £1000 in funding to pay for a range of educational resources to enhance learning activities and to increase ICT equipment. We will also be paying for a leaver's hoodie for every child in Y6.

FOILS need your help to continue...

We are looking for a new Chair and Secretary to start in September. Kim and Jill are stepping down from these roles at the end of the summer term. The new recruits will join our Treasurer Sophie and our team of volunteers. As a registered charity FOILS must have the 3 Trustee posts filled to continue operating.

We are now asking any parents or carers who are interested in these voluntary positions to get in contact to find out more. Just email FOILS@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk and we can answer any questions or arrange to have a chat. You don't need any specific skills to apply.

This is your chance to make a difference to the children at Ivy Lane by bringing energy, enthusiasm and fresh ideas. We look forward to hearing from you!

CHILDRENS ATTENDANCE

Dear Parents and Carers,

The below is an excerpt from the Children's Commissioner's Attendance Audit.

Improving school attendance is an absolute priority for the Children's Commissioner. Children are offered the best start to further their ambitions, relationships and learning when they are in school.

However, despite the importance of being in school, following the pandemic school absence rates have become stuck at crisis levels. Last year, over 1 in 5 children were persistently absent, meaning they missed on average at least a day a fortnight in school.

In the Attendance Audit, the Children's Commissioner talked to hundreds of children who are regularly absent from school. Children aren't absent from school because they don't want to learn. They are desperate to learn yet everyday thousands of children find themselves without the support that they need to engage in education.

Attendance needs to be everybody's business – all agencies involved in supporting children must make tackling school absences their priority.

At Ivy Lane our children's attendance is monitored daily and each month those children whose attendance is below 96% is recorded. We only want to support our families especially if they are going through harder times. We are also very aware that at this time of year there have been numerous bugs and viruses going around as well.

If you are concerned about your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact our Pastoral Manager - Mrs Adams.

It is a statutory requirement for schools, that if your child's attendance has fallen below expected levels you should receive a letter and be invited into the school to see if there is anything we can do to help.

If you would like further information the following websites are useful:

[Briefing on school attendance in England | Children's Commissioner for England \(childrenscommissioner.gov.uk\)](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/briefing-on-school-attendance-in-england/)

[School attendance and absence: Overview - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-and-absence/overview)



BIRTHDAY BOOKS

Thank you to those who have donated books to their classes reading corner in celebration of their birthday:

Marlene P (Carle)
Kairah T (Donaldson)
Charlotte B (Dahl)
Charlie S (Griffiths)
Cara W (Walliams)

Mrs Angell (Milligan)



STAR OF THE WEEK

Well done to these children who have impressed their class teachers over the last two weeks.

Well done to you all

Vaishnav T, Margot G (Carle)
Sarah B-C, Mabel G (Rosen)
Sara C, Finley L-S (Donaldson)
Emilia N, Florence B (Hargreaves)
Charlotte B, Roman H (Dahl)
Charlie P, Ted C (Milligan)
Cora G, Isobel C (Griffiths)
Anita Y, Leo S (Walliams)
Huw J, Amelia T (Hughes)
Carnie M, George G (Morpurgo)
Logan P, Azaria F (Pullman)
Whole of Byars for their amazing behaviour at Young Voices, Dylan R (Byars)
Aidan K, Riley C (Lewis)
Kieran S, Noah M (Rowling)

Wiltshire Young Musicians

Helping young people make music since 1990

Calling all musicians under 19 years

String & Wind groups

Highly qualified and inspirational tutors Performance Opportunities

Junior (Grades 0 - 2) & Intermediate Strings (Grades 2 - 5) in Wootton Bassett @ Noremarsch School

Junior (Grades 0 - 2) & Intermediate Wind (Grades 2 - 5) in Chippenham @ Kings Lodge Primary School

www.wiltshreyoungmusicians.org.uk
Info@wiltshreyoungmusicians.org.uk

FREE MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

Supporting the wellbeing of children has never been so important. To assist you in doing this, SSS Learning Ltd have produced two fantastic free parental resources:

[Child Mental Health & Wellbeing - 10 Top Tips for Parents](#)
[Parents' Mental Health & Wellbeing - 10 Top Tips for Parents](#)

I am sure parents/carers will find these free resources both informative and supportive.

WILTSHIRE SUPPORT SERVICES

Wiltshire Autism Assessment Service
If your child is known to WASS and you would like some support with the service, please visit the website to find a range of useful links, resources, and information.
<https://wiltshirechildrensservices.co.uk/waas/>

Wiltshire Parent Carers Council
The Wiltshire Parent Carer Council (WPCC) can provide advice about local sources of support and information for families of children with special educational needs.
https://www.wiltshireparentcarercouncil.co.uk/en/Contact_us

Free School meals

Please ask even if your child is of Infant school age.

Do you receive any of the following?

- Income support
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and your income (as calculated by the Inland Revenue) is less than £16,190
- Universal Credit
- Receiving support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- In the Armed Forces

If you can answer yes to any of the above you may qualify for free school meals/Pupil Premium

The school office will help with your application. If your application is successful not only will your child receive free school meals, but our school will receive £1,300 additional funding (per child). This is called Pupil Premium.

All applications are confidential.

Want to apply?

Not sure?

Ask at the office

MESSAGES FROM OUR AMAZING CLASS TEACHERS THIS WEEK

DONALDSON

&

Hargreaves

We are coming towards the end of our history enquiry; Who helps who? The children have been learning about Princess Campbell and Florence Nightingale and have been using historical language to compare photographs and events. To conclude our enquiry, we are looking forward to parents coming in and speaking with the children about how they help others.

In Maths, we have been focusing on fluently knowing all number bonds to 10 as this is helping us now that we are looking at number bonds to 20.

In English, the children have been using alliteration and adjectives to add greater detail to their stories and make them more exciting. We have been impressed with the children's stamina and perseverance. We know you will enjoy reading their wonderful stories when you are invited in for Open Classrooms.

Milligan **DAHL**

Year 2 have been out and about this term, finding out why Brunel is a significant historical figure. A couple of weeks ago, we went for a short walk around Chippenham to look at his impact on our town. We discovered the railway bridge is actually called the Western Arches and we also found the house where Brunel stayed when he visited the town. We then walked up Station Hill and found his site office.

Last week, we had a super trip to Bristol last week to visit the SS Great Britain, another of Brunel's great achievements. We took part in a workshop where we learnt why the SSGB is such a special ship and then we had a look around the ship itself.

This week we've been inspired by Brunel and we have had a go at being engineers - designing and building our own (paper) bridges.

In Maths this term we have been learning about money. Over the past few weeks we have become more confident at making amounts of money using pounds and pence and we've had a go at giving change. It can be a tricky concept, so if you have any coins at home that you could use to practise counting or making amounts with that would be great!

Well done on all your effort this term Year 2!

From

Mrs Angell, Mrs Fahey, Mrs Reynolds and the rest of the Year 2 team





Griffiths

&

Williams

It's been a busy term in Year 3! The children have thoroughly enjoyed starting their swimming lessons at the Olympiad. They have impressed us with their enthusiasm and determination. Well done everyone!

As part of our enquiry 'How can we find out about people in the past?' the children have been learning about how pictures, portraits and photos can help us learn about the past. The children are currently writing some amazing stories based on our class 'defeat the monster' text. We can't wait to read the finished products!

We had a wonderful time visiting the museum on Thursday, and the children were brilliant historians and asking lots of questions. They were able to look at and hold many different artefacts to help them learn about people in the past. Their manners were impeccable and they were superb ambassadors for Ivy Lane.

A big thank you from everyone to the parents who gave up their time to help us take the children - we really appreciate it.

Thank you for all your continued support at home.
The Year 3 Team





Hughes & morpurgo

Year 4 have been working hard focusing on multiplication and division this term using a variety of strategies such as part whole models and place value grids to support. Thank you for continuing to practise times tables at home, fluency in times tables really helps to support pupils in their day to day maths learning.

As part of our enquiry 'Who stood here before us' pupils have been conducting research on the Normans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. Pupils have also worked hard to sculpt a bust of one of these historic figures out of clay and have prepared a monologue to accompany their figure which depicts what life was like at that time.

Y4 team 😊

BYARS & PULLMAN

Y5 attended Young Voices last week, here is a report from James R and Arlo K on behalf of Y5.

We got on the bus and left for Young Voices. Everyone was singing on the bus practising. When we arrived at the arena we had our lunch then we went on to practise with the Young Voices team, for about 4 hours. Then we had our dinner in our seats and saw our parents sat opposite us. For Sky Fall of Stars the lights went down and phones and torches came on and waved from side to side – it was amazing!!! When we sang Revolting Children that was another memorable moment as all the children were jumping up and down!

It was then time to go home, we eventually made it back to Chippenham at around 11:30!

IT WAS THE BEST EXPERIENCE WE'VE HAD WITH SCHOOL EVER!!





Lewis & ROWLING

Year 6 have had a successful and hard-working Term 3. We have started to think about our assessments in May, and all of the children have responded with a superb attitude. We have also completed some great writing recently, with everybody's books looking their best ever. Well done Year 6.

We are now looking forward to continuing our D/T project, where we will design and build bridges based on Victorian designs. We will use Modroc for this – messy but great fun!

Next week we will also perform two exciting events. Firstly, a French fashion show! And also, the children will perform their gymnastics displays that they have been doing in our P.E. lessons.

Mr MacMahon & Mrs Storey.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Date	Event
09/02/24	TD Day
22/02/24	Y2 Platform Train Trip
06/03/24	Y4 Lion King Trip Lyceum Theatre - London
19/03/24	Parents Evening 3.20-5.30pm
21/03/24	Parents Evening 3.30-7pm
26/03/24	FOILS Spring disco Year Reception-2 4.15-5.15pm Year 3-6 5.30-6.30pm
28/03/24	TD Day
24/06/24	TD day
01- 03/07/24	Y6 Residential to Hooke Court
06/07/24	FOILS Summer Fayre 12-3pm
10/07/24	Open Classrooms 3-5pm
11/07/24	FOILS Summer Disco Year Reception-2 4.15-5.15pm Year 3-5 5.30-6.30pm
18/07/24	Y6 Ivy Fest 5-6.30pm
24/07/24	Y6 Leavers Assembly 9.30am
24/07/24	End of Term 1.30pm finish – there will be no Ivy Kidz available

TD Days 23/24

Friday 1st September, Wednesday 20th December, Friday 9th February, Thursday 28th March and Monday 24th June

Wiltshire's Wellbeing Hub

The Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub is available to anyone who is struggling during this difficult time – and will now be available on Saturdays.

The hub can help and provide support to those who perhaps don't have a network around them, and also signpost them to where additional help is available in their local area.

Hundreds of community groups, run by volunteers, are still set up across the county, providing invaluable assistance to those who need it.



The Wiltshire
WELLBEING HUB
For vulnerable people in need of support

0300 003 4576

✉ wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk

#WiltshireTogether

Wiltshire Council

Part of Pickwick Academy Trust Vision: *"to work together to provide the best schools and outcomes for our children"* Registered office: Pound Pill, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9YW, Companies House No: 07557894

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