



IVY LANE SCHOOL
School Newsletter #10
THURSDAY 7th MARCH 2024



Dear Parents/Carers of Ivy Lane,

Following our return to school after the half-term break, school life has brought many opportunities for learning both in and outside the classroom. Year 4 are currently deep in rehearsals for their Spring Performance of Cinderella and to get them performance ready, they thoroughly enjoyed their trip to London yesterday to watch the West End musical of 'The Lion King'. This annual Year 4 trip is funded by our FOILS team, providing our children with a memorable learning experience.

Year 2 launched with a rail safety workshop, before embarking on their train trip from Chippenham to Bristol Temple Meads. We are pleased to say that through a charity called Platform, which links classrooms to local railways, the school secured this fully funded trip. The children travelled along Brunel's historic Great Western Railway and experienced going through Box Tunnel, both of which they have been learning about this term as part of their enquiry, "What did Brunel do for Great Britain?" Once they reached Temple Meads, the children took part in a Brunel workshop focussing on the Great Western Railway. They had a fantastic day, that was made more special by seeing the show of hands of children that shared that this was their first ever train ride!

At the end of this week, we welcome Mrs Shears, to our Teaching Assistant Team and will be based in Year 1, Hargreaves. Mrs Shears comes with experience working with children in both local primary schools and also overseas. We know our children and staff will make her feel welcome as she joins the Ivy Lane family. We are also pleased to share that Mr Prince, who currently works as a TA, Learning Tutor and Ivy Kidz playworker, has secured a promotion and will now work alongside Play Leader, Senora Merry, as Ivy Kidz After-School Supervisor. Also joining the Ivy Kidz playworker team is our very own Miss Milani, who works as Assistant Cook. She will switch from her chef's hat, to join the hard-working team providing quality after school care for our Ivy Lane children.

As we look ahead to the next few weeks, we have our World Book Day activities, Netball Tournament at Sheldon School, Year 1 Easter Orienteering Event at Hardenhuish, local library visits and last but not least, our annual whole school Performance Poetry event!

We look forward to welcoming you to our second Parents' Evening consultations this year, on 19th and 21st March, where the teachers will have an opportunity to discuss your child's progress. Do not forget to book your appointment slot. If you need any support with this, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

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.



A gentle reminder that we cannot accept any late bookings for Ivy Kidz due to our staff rota organisation. 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.

ALL ACTIVE ACADEMY

Last week, 4 children from each town primary school had been chosen to take part in All Active Academy at Abbeyfield School. We did Archery, Bowls and Trampolining. We came 2nd in the bowls competition and won a trophy. Written by Charlie M

The All Active was a great way to introduce some new activities to pupils that they might not have done before. The sessions they completed were Bowls – run by Tony from Chippenham Bowls club. Archery – where Up and Under kindly lent their archery kit and Trampolining.

Well done to Alfie, Charlie, Cristina and Liana for taking part.



BUMPED HEAD WRIST BANDS

If your child bumps their head during the school day, they will now have a wrist band attached to their wrist once they have been attended to by a First Aider.

This is to ensure that all members of staff at school will be able to identify any child who has bumped their head during the day, and can seek medical care if they start to show signs of concussion.

Please see below the bands we will be using, these will need to be cut off at home before returning to school the next day.



PARKING ALONG DALLAS ROAD

We have had some complaints from concerned residents with regards to parking along Dallas Road regarding their drives being blocked and also the Fire Station exit.

Please be mindful of residents when parking along the roads around the school. Parking permits are available from the School office to park in the car parks at Spanbourn Avenue and Bath road car park.

Thank you for your help and consideration with this.



BRACELET FOUND

A Pandora bracelet (with a charm on it) was found in the KS2 playground on Tuesday afternoon.

If you think this might belong to your child, please come to the school office to claim it.



This week, Year 4 are off to London to see The Lion King! The trip has been fully funded with FOILS paying for the coach and the theatre tickets. We are thrilled to be able to give children at Ivy Lane these memorable experiences and hope everyone has a fantastic day out!

The next fundraising event to look forward to is our Spring Disco after school on Tuesday 26th March for all year groups. Time for us to stock up the tuckshop with plenty of snacks and treats.

FOILS need to appoint a new Chair and Secretary to take the reins at the end of the school year. If we don't fill these voluntary Trustee roles the charity can't continue which would be a huge loss to the school.

The parents in these roles work together with the Treasurer to plan fundraising events, organise raffles, arrange year group experiences and discuss funding requests. They are supported by a wider team of volunteers.

If you are interested in joining the FOILS team as Chair or Secretary, please email FOILS@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk to ask any questions or arrange a chat. Thank you!



DANCE FESTIVAL

On Tuesday 6th February, a group of us from Miss Blackman's dance club went to the dance festival which took place in the Neeld Hall. The theme was 'Around The World'. There were 16 other groups taking part. The songs we danced to were; Jai Ho (India), Samba (Brazil), Waka Waka (Africa) and Jerusalem (Israel). We had lots of fun and enjoyed dancing to an audience. We'd like to thank our dance coaches, Miss Blackman, Miss Morcombe and our comperes Charlie M and Anya K.

Written by Ella F, Poppy K & Iris L Year 6



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](#)
[\[childrenscommissioner.gov.uk\]](http://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)



WORLD THINKING DAY & FOUNDERS DAY

Children who attend Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, were given the opportunity to celebrate World Thinking Day and Founders day on 22nd February by wearing their uniforms. World Thinking Day is a chance to connect with 10 million Girl Guides and Scouts across the globe. Founders' Day, marks the birthday of Robert Baden-Powell the founder of the Boy Scouts movement.



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

Media release

12-week consultation opens for proposed new Community Safety Plan

A 12-week consultation has been launched for Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority's proposed new Community Safety Plan.

The plan sets out the priorities and challenges for Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service from now until 2028, covering areas such as prevention, protection, response, governance and people.

Chief Fire Officer Ben Ansell said: "The plan details how we intend to continue working, but also what we intend to review and do differently to meet and reduce the risks we face as an organisation. Public sector finances are under extreme pressure, so it is vital that we look at all parts of the Service to ensure that we are working as efficiently and as effectively as possible."

The consultation runs from 9am on Friday 9 February until 9am on Friday 3 May. Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority will then consider the consultation responses and the final plan at its meeting in June. Cllr Rebecca Knox, Chair of the Authority, said: "The Community Safety Plan is our 'roadmap' for the coming years, so the views of people from across our communities are essential. Whether you are a resident, a local business, a partner, a voluntary group or a charity, we would very much like to hear from you."

A copy of the draft plan, a summary video and details on how to give your views – including an online form - can be found at www.dwfire.org.uk/draft-csp-2024-28-consultation

FRIEDAY 15TH

3PM

NO NUTS PLEASE

~~NO NUTS~~

CAKE

FOOTBALL

SALE

ONLY SOP

FOOLS

RAISING MONEY FOR FOOTBALL SPORTS EQUIPMENT





BIRTHDAY BOOKS

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

Reuben L (Sunflowers)
Finn S (Carle)
Owen A (Rosen)
Charlotte B, Ben G (Donaldson)
Issy N (Hargreaves)
Ted C, Sophie R (Milligan)
Henry P (Griffiths)
Anna M (Hughes)
Ed B (Pullman)

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

Orla S-A, Christopher F (Carle)
Aria C, Thomas N (Rosen)
Mia F, Harry C-S (Donaldson)
Eloise W, Spencer C (Hargreaves)
Joseph M, Amelie L(Dahl)
Harrison B, Florence B(Milligan)
Clara W, Lucas S (Griffiths)
Remi L, Lyla S(Walliams)
Milo M-D, Oliver K (Hughes)
Aston W, Joel D(Morpurgo)
Milena S-O, Amelie B (Pullman)
Imojen B, Pippa C(Byars)
Dominic T, Oscar B (Lewis)
Tim H, Bea B (Rowling)

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



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.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Date	Event
08/03/24	YR Mother's Day Celebration at 2.15pm
15/03/24	Y6 Cake Sale (see poster above)
18/03/24	YR National Child Measurement programme
19/03/24	Parents Evening 3.20-5.30pm
20/03/24	Y4 Cinderella production at 9.30am and 1.30pm
20/03/24	Sunflowers Parents Evening
21/03/24	Parents Evening 3.30-7pm
22/03/24	Y1 Easter Orienteering Event at Hardenhuish
26/03/24	FOILS Spring disco. Reception – Y2: 4.15-5.15pm. Year 3 – 6: 5.30-6.30pm
28/03/24	TD Day
23/04/24	YR Chippenham Library Trip
24/04/24	Y5 Sheldon Taster day (one class) – Info to follow
01/05/24	Y5 Sheldon Taster day (one class) – Info to follow
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. Reception – Y2: 4.15-5.15pm. Year 3 – 6: 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

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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

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