

Dear Parents/Carers,

And there goes term 4! We hope we have also waved off winter and welcomed spring. Our children have certainly been enjoying the warm sunshine over recent weeks, both here on school grounds or further afield.

Our reception cohort had their first two trips offsite in the same week last week, visiting Cotswold Wildlife Park one day and then walking all the way to Hardenhuish for a fun Easter egg hunt just two days later. They also found time to celebrate their lovely Mums for Mother's day, welcoming them into school for songs and flowers.

Year 2 have been out and about in Chippenham, taking part in a history walk that allowed them to follow in the footsteps of Brunel and visit sites where he worked and stayed right here in our town.

Year 4 are rightly proud of their impressive performance of Roald Dahl's Three Little Pigs this week. The hard work they have put in to learning songs, words and routines was very clear to see, resulting in a slick and professional performance that wowed their audiences. Congratulations to everyone in Year 4. You absolutely smashed it!

Every class from Sunflowers to Year 6 has been involved in our wonderful performance poetry event today. Whilst this remains a festival rather than a competition, there is such commitment and enthusiasm right across the school towards delivering a polished and entertaining poem and this year was no exception. It was, as always, a hugely entertaining and inclusive Ivy Lane event.

We have also said goodbye to Ms Anker today, waving her off to her retirement with a tear in our eye but grateful thanks in our hearts for the important part she has played in the lives of so many Ivy Lane children over the last 20 years! Happy retirement Ms Anker—don't be a stranger!

The chicks have hatched in time to have many cuddles and fascinated observers as we look forward to our Easter holidays. I wish you all a very happy Easter. Enjoy the break and hopefully a continuation of the lovely spring sunshine.

We will be here to welcome you back to school on **Wednesday 23rd April**.

**Mrs H Lammin**  
Headteacher



## A Few Gentle Reminders

**Items from home:** We are seeing an increase in children bringing items into school from home, i.e. small plastic toys, cuddly toys etc. We would kindly ask you to please check your child's bags before school and remind them not to bring items in from home. As well as being a distraction during the school day, these items may get broken, lost or even given to another child which could result in a child becoming upset.

**Jewellery:** Can we please remind parents/carers that, in line with our School Uniform policy, the only jewellery a child is permitted to wear to school is stud earrings. We have seen an increase in bracelets and necklaces also being worn which could be broken or lost if worn to school.

Thank you for your support.

Date	Event
22/04/25	TD Day
24/04/25	Year 5 Taster Day at Sheldon (Byars class)
30/04/25	Year 5 Taster Day at Sheldon (Pullman class)
06/05/25	Y1 Trip to Roves Farm
10/05/25	FOILS Brick Show
12/05/25	Year 6 SATs Week
13/06/25	Sports Day
23/06/25	TD Day
26/06/25	Y6 Production 9.30am and 6pm
30/06/25— 02/07/25	Y6 Residential to Hooke Court
05/07/25	FOILS Summer Fair 12-3pm
10/07/25	FOILS Summer Discos
17/07/25	Y6 Ivy Fest, 5-6.30pm
24/07/25	Y6 Leavers Assembly, 9.30am
24/07/25	End of term. Early finish at 1.30pm

The **Art Bytes** website is open for parents to vote!

The winning child receives a prize, but the school who gets the most votes also wins a prize so it would be great to get as many votes as possible for Ivy Lane! <https://artbytes.co.uk/schools/ivy-lane-school-507/>



# VOTE NOW

FOR YOUR FAVOURITE ARTWORK ONLINE  
FROM THUR 3 APRIL - MON 28 APRIL 2025

The artwork from each school with the most votes wins a place in the Art Bytes virtual gallery exhibition.

The primary and secondary school with the most votes cast each win a Community Engagement Award.



[ARTBYTES.CO.UK/BROWSE-SCHOOLS](https://artbytes.co.uk/browse-schools)





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

Keanu V, Alix C, Arabella R (Carle)

Naliah L, Charlie H (Rosen)

Orla S-A (Donaldson)

Margot G, Jude S (Hargreaves)

Charlotte B, Clemmie C, Sara C (Dahl)

Margot C, Dorothy F (Milligan)

Ted C, Ariana D (Griffiths)

Karim D, Mark M (Walliams)

Orlaith B, Penelope C (Hughes)

Clara W (Morpurgo)

Isla M (Byars)

Grace P (Pullman)

Macie L (Lewis)

Pippa C (Rowling)

Well done to the children on the **Golden Ivy Leaf** over the last two weeks and joined Mrs Lammin for a Headteacher's breakfast!

Sunflowers: Oscar S

Hargreaves: Ava U

Dahl: Harry C-S

Hughes: Curtis T

Byars: Lilah R-W, Anna M

Pullman: Cerys J, Aston W, Joel D

Lewis: Milena S-O, Seryn T, Mira P,

Freddie B, Arlo K

Rowling: Aayan I, Inara M, Dylan R,

Lucas A, Kaitlyn W



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

George B (Carle)

Fern B (Dahl)

Hazel D (Milligan)

Rowan D (Milligan)

Primrose B (Hughes)

Connie B (Rowling)



# Reception Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park

Carle and Rosen class had an amazing trip to The Cotswold Wildlife Park.

We spotted many animals including rhinos, zebras, monkeys, camels and giraffes and learnt some interesting facts.

In our workshop the children got to touch and feel some animal artefacts and were interested to learn about why snakes shed their skin.

The children showed amazing Ivy Lane behaviour with super manners and good choices.

We all enjoyed our first of many exciting Ivy Lane adventures off the school site!









## Year 2 Trip to STEAM Museum

On 21st March, Dahl Class went on a train trip to the STEAM Museum in Swindon.



STEAM 





## Year 2 History Walk around Chippenham



### Thank you FOILS!

Thank you to everyone involved in FOILS. We really appreciate your hard work and dedication to raising funds to benefit the children at Ivy Lane school.



We are extremely grateful that FOILS are funding new percussion instruments for our music room, which will be available for all classes to use.

Thank you FOILS!



## Netball Team

On Friday 14th March 2025, the Ivy Lane netball team walked up to Sheldon School to take part in the Chippenham Schools Partnership High-five netball tournament. 9 schools were taking part from Chippenham and the villages and we all had the chance to play every other team! We took 2 teams from Ivy Lane. Team 1 was Niamh, Lola, Megan, Clara, Seryn, Milena and Seren. Team 2 was Sophina, Ruby, Emmeline, Imi, Macie, Carys and Azaria.

We had so much fun playing so much netball in the sunshine. Team 1 won 3 matches and lost 5, whilst team 2 won 5 matches, drew 1 and only lost 2 - which meant they came in at 4th place - only just behind the top three, with only a few points in it!

We had really nice weather (we appreciated the breeze so we didn't get too hot) and it was a really fun morning. *(Niamh O)*



## Girls Football

Well done to the Year 4/5 girls on their first football match.

We travelled to Charter School for a pre-tournament fixture, although they were nervous they played really well. At half time Ivy Lane were losing 3-0, however they really got really stuck in for the second half and won the match, scoring a whopping 5 goals!! Anita scoring 4 goals and Harper securing a penalty following a Charter hand ball. Fantastic team work and determination from the girls! Especially after only having two training sessions.

Final score was **3-5** to Ivy Lane! A huge well done to the girls!







# OUTDOOR LEARNING

Whilst lots of changes are happening around our outdoor environment to enrich our children's OPAL experiences during playtimes, we want to extend this into the wildlife area (where the pond is) and eventually open it up for playtimes as well as more regular use during outdoor learning sessions.

Mrs Smith and Mrs Gunner will be working with their clubs during the summer term to make a start on proposed improvements within the wildlife area, including making a herb garden, bird feeders and bug hotels, and much more. It will become a quiet space for children to enjoy nature when they need a break from the busyness of the day.

Mrs Smith has been busy emailing and composing letters to local businesses, begging for any donations of resources, but unfortunately without success. Therefore, we would like to ask our lovely families if you have any of the following items laying around in your gardens or sheds which you would be able to donate: **wind chimes, bird feeding tables, bird food, bird baths, metal stakes with flowers/bugs on top, any hardy plants which need minimal maintenance (including lavender,) wildflower seeds, large mirrors, hand trowels, magnifying glasses, bags of soil.**

We can paint and upcycle items but they do need to be in a good condition to ensure they won't need replacing too soon. If **any donations could be left in or next to the labelled container at the bottom of the stairs to the Reception/Year 1 classrooms**, we would be very grateful.

## Pebbles Please!



Please **can all children** bring a large pebble into school for the start of term 5 (after the Easter holidays.)

This will be a great reason to get out and explore our local outdoors during the holidays.

If anyone has one or two spare pebbles, please do send them in. After the spring break, children will be painting their pebbles during their outdoor learning sessions to create a colourful pebble path in our wildlife area.



# Free Breakfast at Morrisons over Easter Holidays

Morrisons has for years, been playing a part in the community, offering support to local schools and groups.

We are delighted to announce that we are running a school holidays programme in our Café during the Easter break which might be of interest to some of your families.

From Monday 7th April for three weeks, customers can come in to our Café at any time and get a free bowl of cereal and a piece of fresh fruit. All they need to do is mention the 'Kellogg's Breakfast Club' to a member of our Café team.

There is no age limit and customers can come back on multiple days while stocks last. Morrisons have set aside 50,000 breakfasts across the country.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069376737306>



## Parking at Ivy Lane

Polite reminder, our on-site parking is a dedicated staff car park and should not be used by parents between 7.30am-5pm.

The following car parks have been made available for ILS parents to use in 2024/25:

Bath Road Car Park	Spanbourn Avenue Car Park
8.20am – 9.00am	No parking available in the morning
2.35pm - 3.10pm	2.35pm - 3.10pm

The parking scheme entitles parents/carers of Ivy Lane School pupils to use the above car parks at the stated times, providing a permit is displayed.

Permits are available from the office.

Thank you for your support.





# Messages from the Eco Council

Each month in the newsletter we will be keeping you updated on the key sustainability activities that are taking place in the UK. You might like to discuss these with your children and share any sustainability activities you have participated in with school, no matter how big or small.

## Environmental calendar



### Earth Month

Earth Month is an annual event that takes place in April to raise awareness about environmental issues and promote actions to protect the planet. The month-long celebration includes a variety of events and activities, such as community clean-ups, educational programs and sustainability-focused initiatives.

### 22nd – Earth Day

The purpose of Earth Day is to promote environmental awareness and encourage people to take action to protect the planet. This includes promoting sustainable practices such as reducing waste, conserving energy and natural resources, and supporting renewable energy sources.

### 30th – Stop Food Waste Day

The goal of Stop Food Waste Day is to highlight the economic, social and environmental impacts of food waste. It also encourages individuals, businesses and governments to take action to reduce it.





From the office...

## Contacting the School

01249 652556

Email **Mrs Jones**

[assistantadmin@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:assistantadmin@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk)

- Pick up arrangements.
- School absences
- Medical appointments
- School dinner bookings
- Wraparound care
- Club bookings
- Parking permits
- Dietary / Medical needs

Email **Mrs Nowosielski**

[admin@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk)

For all other enquiries, including admissions, and your first point of contact for any member of staff here at Ivy Lane.

### Changes to contact details

Please remember to let the school office know if there are any changes to your contact details, addresses, email addresses etc.



### Medicines

If your child needs to have any medication in school please bring it to the school office and complete a medication form.



### Dietary / Medical Needs

Please keep the office updated with any dietary or medical needs your child has. Please let us know if this changes throughout the year.



### Lost Property

Please remember to label your child's uniform and school equipment. Particularly their jumpers, cardigans, PE jumpers and water bottles.

You can look for lost items at the end of the school day. Lost property is located inside the Y4/5 entrance near the tunnel gate.

### Reporting



Absences

If your child is ill, please leave a message on our **dedicated absence line**, 01249 652556 (Option 1). It really helps us if you leave a voicemail rather than email in.

Please let us know your child's symptoms rather than saying they are 'ill' or 'sick' as we require this information for our attendance records.

For absence requests in advance, (eg. appointments / holidays external exams) please complete an absence request form, available from the office or download from the website and email in to [assistantadmin@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:assistantadmin@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk)



Please remember to let Ivy Kidz know if someone different will be collecting your child. We follow the same procedures as the school and cannot let your child go home with someone different unless we have had authorisation from parents. A gentle reminder that we cannot accept any late bookings for Ivy Kidz or Breakfast Club due to our staff rota organisation.

Please ensure all sessions are booked within the 1 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.

Phone: **01249 460822** / Email: [ivykidz@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:ivykidz@ivylane.wilts.sch.uk)

Please do not call this number during the school day.





# Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notices issued from September 2024

## Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued to each parent for each child that was absent.

For Example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

## When will a Penalty Notice fine be issued?

Penalty Notices will be considered for 5 Consecutive days of term time leave or 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period (in the same or over different academic years).

## First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days. Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

## Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

## Third Offence (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court.

Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.





### 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](https://www.wiltshireparentcarercouncil.co.uk/en/Contact-us)

### 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'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.

**Pickwick  
Academy Trust**



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

Web: [www.pickwickacademytrust.co.uk](http://www.pickwickacademytrust.co.uk) Email: [admin@pickwickacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:admin@pickwickacademytrust.co.uk) Twitter: @PickwickTrust



### 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.

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

**0300 003 4576**

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

#WiltshireTogether Wiltshire Council



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Follow us on our social channels

for updates on these.

 07799 268115 (Tash)  07968 778732 (Vicky)  [info@in2sportcoaching.co.uk](mailto:info@in2sportcoaching.co.uk)

BOOK ONLINE AT  [www.in2sportcoaching.co.uk](http://www.in2sportcoaching.co.uk)

