

Dear Parents/Carers,

Term 1 is always a whirlwind of embracing change, adapting to new routines, meeting new children and new adults, establishing boundaries and settling down again at school.

This term 1 has been no exception and we are very proud of the way our Ivy Lane children have adapted and settled over the last 7 and a half weeks. Secure routines and clear expectations that are understood by all allow quality learning to take place every day and this means children will make progress. A huge effort has gone into supporting all children to be able to follow routines and understand expectations and this is paying off and is very visible in the form of children and adults modelling Ivy Lane behaviour all around school. Our intention is that this is shown by 'everyone, everywhere' and this is beginning to be the case as we come to the end of term.

Our thanks to FOILS for organising the autumn discos last week. The children who attended these had a lot of fun. The DJ was on form with some clear dance floor hits that had everyone joining in very enthusiastically! Funds raised at this event will directly benefit your child at school.

Thank you to parents of children in Year 4, 5 and 6 who came out to play on Monday afternoon – despite the weather! It was lovely to see you and your children engaging with what is on offer for play through our OPAL initiative and clearly having a lot of fun. We have had some very positive feedback from this event. Thank you to Mr Johns and the OPAL team for organising this event.

Our Year 6 children have been put through their paces this morning as they engaged in a practical first aid session equipping them with essential skills to be able to preserve life in the event of a medical emergency. They have all participated with enthusiasm and determination - well done Year 6!

Open Classrooms was very well attended yesterday and we hope you enjoyed the opportunity to look through your children's books and see their learning journey so far. More formal parents' evening appointments will be available towards the end of November to allow detailed discussions with class teachers.

And now it is time to take a well-deserved break! Enjoy time away from school and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for term 2 on Monday 3rd November.



**Mrs H Lammin**  
**Headteacher**



Date	Event
23-31/10/25	October Half Term
04/11/25	Reception Cake Sale (See below for details)
10/11/25	Wear Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week
10/11/25	Y3 and Y5 Planetarium in school – funded by FOILS
14/11/25	Football Festival at Stanley Park (Details to follow)
21/11/25	Bikeability Group 2 Day 1 (Year 6)
25/11/25	Parents' Evening (3.30-7pm)
26/11/25	Choir to Voices Festival at Wyvern Theatre
27/11/25	Parents' Evening (3.20-5.30pm)
28/11/25	Non-uniform day—FOILS Rainbow Hamper Raffle (details to follow)
28/11/25	Bikeability Group 2 Day 2 (Year 6)
09/12/25	EYFS / KS1 Christmas Dinner Day
09/12/25	KS2 Christmas Parties (no school dinner bookings for KS2)
10/12/25	Choir to Neeld Hall for Christmas performance (Details to follow)
11/12/25	KS2 Christmas Dinner Day
11/12/25	EYFS / KS1 Christmas Parties (no school dinner bookings for EYFS/KS1)
12/12/25	Christmas Jumper Day
17/12/25	Y2 to Panto at Bristol Hippodrome (details to follow)
19/12/25	TD Day
07/01/25	Y5 to Young Voices
13/02/25	TD Day
13/04/25	TD Day
22/06/25	TD Day

### Christmas Dinner – Bookings open on Arbor

Sunflowers/Reception/Year1/Year 2

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

Year 3/Year 4/Year 5/Year 6

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December**



These will need to be booked through the 'Trips' section. See letter sent 16/10/25

All Christmas dinners should be booked by **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November**.

Dinners for Monday 8<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December should be booked through 'Meals' on Arbor as usual.

### Christmas Class Parties

Year 3/Year 4/Year 5/Year 6

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

Sunflowers/Reception/Year1/Year 2

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December**



No school dinners will be bookable on these days. Please provide a party packed lunch. Further details on Christmas Dinner letter sent 16/10/25.



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

Carle: Elana VZ,  
Rosen: Chester B,  
Donaldson: Freddie F-W,  
Hargreaves: Seren W,  
Dahl: Maya S,  
Kerr: Rupert B,  
Cowell: Ryan W,  
Griffiths: Harry F,  
Morpurgo: Alden B,  
Zephaniah: Lily G,  
Pullman: Primrose B,  
Riddell: Pippa L,  
Lewis: Rosie M,  
Tolkien: Flower K,



Well done to the children on the Golden Ivy Leaf over the last week who joined Mrs Lammin for a

Headteacher's breakfast!  
Evellyn S, Ted G (Hargreaves)  
Hanna C (Kerr)  
Harper H , Ava T (Riddell)  
Erin H (Lewis)



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

Ned G (Sunflowers)  
Lilly W (Rosen)  
Eryk S (Hargreaves)  
Billy G (Hargreaves)  
Remy B (Kerr)  
Jasper C (Riddell)  
Conor B (Riddell)

## Birthday Books

An important part of the way we develop a strong school culture around reading is through the invitation to all children to donate a book to school to mark their birthday each year.

These new books are always enthusiastically publicised in our weekly celebration assembly and the children who have kindly donated a book are thanked. These book donations help us to keep a fresh stock of books coming through and ensure the books match children's current interests.

In most cases, the books that are donated are fiction books. In order to boost our classroom collections of non-fiction books, we would like to encourage children to select a **non-fiction title** when donating a birthday book.

Additionally, we are keen to make sure we have a good range of books that are inclusive and diverse. If consideration could be made to inclusive and diverse books we would soon have a greater range of books that allow all children to be represented in what they read.

An excellent booklist for both non-fiction and diverse books can be found here <https://ukla.org/ukla-book-awards-longlist-2026/> if you need some guidance in making book choices that would help us to fill the gaps we have noticed in our book collections.

Similarly, <https://empathylab.uk/rfe/> has an excellent list of books that are representative of all.

We will of course continue to welcome ALL book donations. However, we hope this information may be helpful to you if you want to support your child in donating a birthday book but are unsure about what to choose.

Thank you for supporting our 'Birthday Books' initiative.



## Blue Peter Music Badge!

At Ivy Lane, we hold a strong appreciation for music and the talents of our children. We encourage all musically active children to apply for a Blue Peter badge—including those who are learning an instrument, singing, or taking part in a musical performance. This badge will represent and celebrate the fantastic skill they are developing.

To get your hands on this badge, designed by Ed Sheeran, all you need to do is complete a form to detail your passion for music, musical instruments or performing and answer some questions about music. Follow the link to read more and to apply:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/bp-music-badge>

This Blue Peter badge allows you to gain access to over 200 attractions around the country for free! Some of these attractions include Cheddar Gorge, Cornish Seal Sanctuary, Fox Talbot Museum and Avon Valley Railway.

If you achieve this badge, please bring it into school. We would be delighted to recognise and share your achievement!



## Blue Peter Green badge!

As a very green fingered school with regular outdoor learning activities in all year groups, I thought that this would be a great opportunity for every child.

The badge will allow you free entry to many places and attractions across the UK from theme parks to castles, zoos to museums, high adrenalin sports to relaxing gardens. Go to <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/attractions> to explore.

### How to get a Green badge

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/findoutmore/blue-peter-apply-for-a-green-badge>

Are you passionate about nature and the environment? Have you done something to help protect our planet, or encouraged other to help? Then maybe it's time to earn your Blue Peter Green badge.

Get your parent or guardian to help you fill out your form and personal details.

Tell us what you do to protect the environment and why being green is important to you.

Include a photo or video of yourself taking part in a green activity or create some artwork inspired by the environment, conservation or nature.

Please contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Gunner if you would like help with this.

Good luck and enjoy!



## Reception Cake Sale

We plan to do a bake sale on **Tuesday 4th November** to raise funds for much needed new resources in reception.

We would kindly ask if **all Reception Parents could donate a bake** that we can then sell to the whole school at 3pm the same day. Any bake is welcome, **bought or homemade!**

We would just like to remind you that we are a **nut free school** so will not be able to accept any bake including nuts.

Please bring in your baked goods on the morning of Tuesday 4th November.

We would also like to encourage all of the school community to bring cash and support us by buying a tasty treat!

We thank you in advance with your support in helping us maintain such a lovely Early Years environment.



# New signs in our wildlife and outdoor learning areas

A huge thank you to FOILS for funding the new signs in our wildlife and outdoor learning areas. We are sure the children will enjoy using them to identify plants, animals and small creatures.



Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November



From the office...

## Contacting the School

01249 652556

### Email Mrs Jones

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

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



### Dietary / Medical Needs

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



### Medicines

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



### Lost Property

Please remember to **name** 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@ivyane.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:assistantadmin@ivyane.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. Reminders are sent out weekly to advise about dates that the Wrap Around bookings on Arbor 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@ivyane.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:ivykidz@ivyane.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 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.

**Call the WPCC Helpline**

**01225 764 647**

**10.00am - 5.00pm**

**Monday - Friday**

[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:

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

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

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

### Wiltshire's Wellbeing Hub

The Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub can help:

- put people in touch with community groups who can help and provide a warm space
- signpost to sources of financial support and foodbanks
- provide advice to those experiencing loneliness
- advise people on cost-of-living crisis
- signpost customers to any appropriate schemes through the Household Support Fund (HSF)

# mapac<sup>®</sup>

School Uniform can be ordered here:

<https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/ivyaneSN1>



## 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

## 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, Corsham, 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

# Green Libraries Week

27 October – 1 November

At Chippenham Library

Seeds of change  
make a difference  
with your library



Come along and celebrate libraries week with us. Write about your favourite books and colour in some artwork to decorate our displays, complete the green trail and join in with the following drop-in activities.

## Communal Build a Garden with Bricks

From 25 October – 1 November

Help build a garden using bricks and tons of imagination!

## Green Themed Rhymetimes

Our regular rhymetimes with lots of nature songs-spaces are limited

## Let's Get Leafy

31 October 2:00-3:00

With Spurgeon's Family Hub – create picture frames, crowns and more! Halloween colouring also available

1 November 11:00-11:30

## Natural World-Themed Storytime

Come along and listen to stories about our wonderful world

For more information, please contact Chippenham Library, 01249 650536



Join us for a free morning of crafts, games, warm drinks, worship, community, and toast!

St Peter's Church, SN14 0LL

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October

10am-12pm

All ages welcome



# LIGHT PARTY



31ST OCTOBER

6 - 7.30PM

★ ST PAUL'S CHURCH ★

(Malmesbury road, Chippenham)

Come in fancy dress and your best dancing shoes!  
Crafts, disco, hot dogs, glow sticks and lots of fun!  
An alternative to Halloween, All ages welcomed especially  
those 0-11 years old.

Please bring an adult with you.

No need to sign up, just turn up. And it's FREE!



[www.stpaulsweb.org.uk](http://www.stpaulsweb.org.uk) Registered Charity No: 1131637

