

Dear Parents and Carers,

As term 1 draws to a close, this newsletter celebrates the many fabulous experiences and achievements our Ivy Lane children have enjoyed since September.

Firstly, it is wonderful to see our new reception cohort so settled into their school routine now. They are engaging well with our OPAL offer at lunch times, making progress with early reading, have enjoyed their first outdoor learning day and have even been out and about on their first school trip to Chippenham Library. We are very proud of the way they have adapted to life at Ivy Lane.

This term has seen us celebrate Harvest Festival and go 'bonkers about conkers'! All year groups have completed their first enquiry of the school year and taken part in varied challenges that have included creating a classroom in a shoe box, leading a fascinating presentation on the science of sound, creating hats or planning and making imaginative magnetic games.

All classes have taken part in outdoor learning days, making the most of our beautiful school grounds and forest school area. We have also participated in 'Hello Yellow' day and considered the importance of our own and other's mental health.

Year 6 had a fantastic opportunity to learn the life saving skill of CPR last week, practising on resuscitation training dummies under the direction and supervision of members of Skills for Life. That's definitely 'learning for life'!

Our OPAL stay and play event for reception and KS1 children last Friday was a sunny success and we have had some lovely feedback from parents and grandparents who came to join in with the wide range of play options our OPAL provision now offers.

We sent a Year 5/6 hockey team to the first inter school sports event of the year and got off to a very successful start with this fixture – well done to the team that represented Ivy Lane so brilliantly. Staying on a sporty theme, the first 'Sports Person of the term' trophies and certificates have been awarded too – celebrating a range of sporting achievements and progress either in the pool, on the pitch or court, or in gymnastics.

The FOILS silent discos last week gave children a chance to dance and have fun at the end of a packed term! Thank you to FOILS and our parent volunteers who work hard to put on these events and raise money for further exciting experiences.

It's no wonder everyone is feeling a little weary now and ready for a break! School closes today at 3pm and reopens on Monday 2nd November.

We are looking forward to welcoming our new Admin Assistant after half term. Mrs Cresswell will be joining the Ivy Lane team on Monday 2nd November – please do bear with the admin team during this period of training in the office.

I wish you a relaxing holiday. Take time to help children recharge – term 2 will be action-packed too!

Helen Fahey - Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Fahey
Deputy Headteacher





*New dates in green

Date	Event
22-30/10/26	October Half Term
03/11/26	Wiltshire Council Walk Safe Sessions with Y1, Y3 and Y6
04/11/26	Student Nasal Flu Vaccinations (details have been emailed)
05-06/11/26	Y6 Bikeability (Group 1)
09/11/26	Wiltshire Council Walk Safe Practical Session with Y3
10/11/26	Y3 and Y5 Planetarium in school (FOILS-funded event)
10/11/26	Parents' Evening (3.30-7pm) Bookings can now be made via Arbor
12/11/26	Parents' Evening (3.20-5.30pm) Bookings can now be made via Arbor
13/11/26	Reception Outdoor Learning (details to follow)
12-13/11/26	Y6 Bikeability (Group 2)
16/11/26	Odd Socks Day (see information below)
17/11/26	Sunflowers Parents Evening
19-20/11/26	Y6 Bikeability (Group 3)
20/11/26	Y3 Inclusion Sports Event at Hardenhuish
02/12/26	Choir to Voices Festival @ Wiltshire Music Festival
03/12/26	Carle visit to St Andrews Church (pm) (details to follow in YR Weekly Update)
04/12/26	Rosen visit to St Andrews Church (pm) (details to follow in YR Weekly Update)
04/12/26	Y5 Outdoor Learning (details to follow)
05/12/26	FOILS Wreath Making Event 7pm – 9pm in Ivy Hall (see information below)
09/12/26	Reception Christmas Nativity 9.30am and 2pm
10/12/26	Year 2 Christmas Production 9.30am and 2pm
15/12/26	EYFS / KS1 Christmas Dinner Day
15/12/26	KS2 Cinema Experience
15/12/26	KS2 Christmas Parties (no school dinner bookings for KS2)
16/12/26	KS2 Christmas Dinner Day
16/12/26	EYFS / KS1 Christmas Parties (no school dinner bookings for EYFS/KS1)
18/12/26	TD Day
14/01/27	Y5 to Young Voices (details to follow)
12/02/27	TD Day
03/03/27	Y4 Lion King theatre trip (details to follow)
04/03/27	World Book Day (details to follow)
28/06/27	TD Day
23/07/27	TD Day

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

The School Immunisation Team will be in school on **Wednesday 4th November** to administer the nasal flu vaccinations to children in Reception up to Year 6. If you have still not registered for your child to receive this vaccination, please scan the QR code below. You can register right up until the morning of the visit. We have been made aware that this year's parental uptake is quite low, so please do consider signing your child up for this vaccination to help protect them from the flu season.

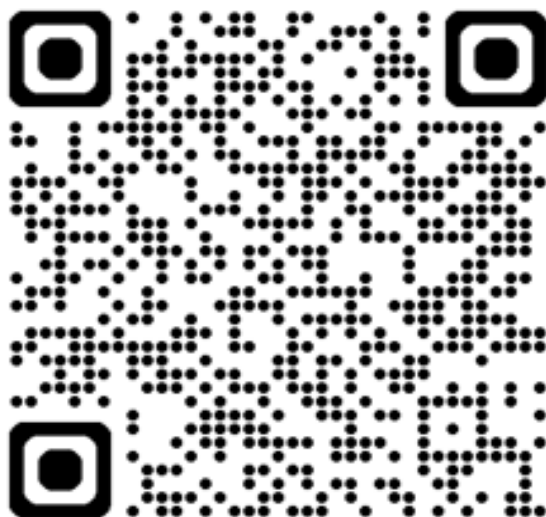


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Flu Vaccination at your child's school on the 4th November

Don't forget to complete your consent now
using the QR code below



Year Group News

<https://www.ivylane.wilts.sch.uk/page/?title=Our+Classes&pid=115>

To find out what's been happening over the last few weeks in your child's year group, take a look at the class pages on our website.



Reception Trip to Chippenham Library

The children in Reception enjoyed their first visit to Chippenham Library last week. I am sure that you will agree, from their happy faces in the photo below, that they all thoroughly enjoyed their trip. Many thanks to all the parent volunteers that gave up their time to help out – we hope you all enjoyed the visit as much as the children did!



Hockey Tournament

On Friday 9th October, ten pupils from Years 5 and 6 represented our school at a hockey festival held at the Chippenham Sports Dome. Two teams of five competed in six matches against other local Chippenham schools.

The teams enjoyed a mixture of wins and losses throughout the afternoon, but most importantly, all of the children demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, teamwork and determination. They thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to play hockey in a competitive environment and represented the school brilliantly.

A special [congratulations](#) goes to Louie and Freddie, who were both voted *Players' Player of the Team* by their teammates for their outstanding effort and positive attitude.

Well done to all involved for a fantastic afternoon of hockey!

Mrs Angell
PE Lead



Year 2 Outdoor Learning

Year 2 enjoyed a wonderful morning of outdoor learning in the sunshine. The children got creative making salt dough hedgehogs, designing fairy and elf houses and producing beautiful artwork using natural materials such as leaves. They also had great fun exploring and playing in our newly upgraded mud kitchen, making the most of the outdoor environment.



Dropping off for Breakfast Club

This is a polite plea to all parents/carers who drop their children off at Breakfast Club in the mornings. Can we please request that parents use the **drop off zone outside of Ivy Hall when bringing their child in by car and not the staff car park.** Some of our staff use the car park from 7.30am in the morning and it is sometimes proving challenging for them to access the spaces if parents are using them for drop off purposes. Thank you for your understanding with this request.



ODD SOCKS DAY

Monday 16th November - Odd Socks Day

Wear your odd socks to school and join us in celebrating what makes us all unique. Odd Socks Day is a fun opportunity to express individuality, celebrate diversity, and remind us that everyone is different and special.

No Pressure or Cost: There is no need to buy special outfits or spend money; just pull on a pair of odd socks.

Core Message: The day opens up gentle, positive conversations about how everyone is unique and why bullying is not okay.



A circular inset image showing two young boys in school uniforms running happily on a sidewalk.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2026

 **BREAK THE SILENCE**

SILENCE

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

#BREAKTHESILENCE

Monday 16 to
Friday 20 November

Starts with
ODD SOCKS DAY 2026 

Monday 16 November

#ODDSOCKSDAY



Sat 5th Dec, 7-9pm | Ivy Hall
Wreath Making



With Lucy Dowling

£30 per adult

Make and take home a Christmas wreath.

All supplies provided, welcome to bring own
embellishments.

Please bring gardening gloves.

**Mince pie & glass of mulled
wine/alternative included**

(Extra drinks available for purchase).



Booking Essential

www.ticketsource.co.uk/foils



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

Carle: Oliver N
Rosen: Risheek M
Donaldson: Elana VZ
Hargreaves: Rafa B
Dahl: Isla H
Kerr: Lyla N
Cowell: Zeynab A
Griffiths: Christopher F
Morpurgo: Vienna E
Zephaniah: Zoe C
Pullman: Noah R
Riddell: Eleanor S
Lewis: Rayan C
Tolkien: Tassi B

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

Barney S (Sunflowers)
Daisy-Mae G (Carle)
Hazel D (Carle)
Luca R (Carle)
Lysander W (Carle)
Alva D (Dahl)
Ethan Y (Dahl)
Charlie H (Kerr)
Remy B (Cowell)
Harry CS (Zephaniah)
Evie C (Lewis)



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

Valentina M-L (Griffiths)
Isobel C (Tolkien)
Remy B (Cowell)
Ned G (Carle)
Billy G (Dahl)
Eryk S (Dahl)
Rosa & Lysander R-B (Rosen & Carle)
Oscar S (Donaldson)
Lilly W (Hargreaves)
Eduard (Hargreaves)

From the
office...

Contacting the School

01249 652556

Email:

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

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



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

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

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[®]

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

#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 Email: admin@pickwickacademytrust.co.uk Twitter: @PickwickTrust