

Volume 3: February 2023

# IVINGSWOOD NEWS

A round-up of recent events at Ivingswood Academy



Find out what each class has been learning this month and keep up to date on school news.

## Spring Term 1 News

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2023. It has been a fantastic start to the new year. As always at this time of year, I find it hard to believe that we already find ourselves halfway through the school year.

Our school rugby team has been playing each week with the final tournament just yesterday. Mrs Beulah has been impressed with how well the school team have developed throughout the term and the teamwork the players have displayed. Next half term will be girls football.

Our annual Keeping Safe Week finished today with pupils and staff wearing bright colours to 'Be Safe, Be Seen.'

I wish you all a happy and safe half term break. School reopens on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

Claire Flynn  
Deputy Headteacher



## Catkin Class Miss Rose, Mrs Beaulah, Miss Hayes, and Mrs Zain

Nursery have been exploring space this term. We have made rockets, planets, stars and underpants for our aliens! Children have built their own rockets to fly to the moon with our large wooden blocks and big cardboard boxes. We have been singing some new rhymes so, ask us to sing **Chop Chop** or our **Popcorn** song! We have all had great fun enjoying the big playground and developing our scooter and trike riding skills. We have celebrated some children being toilet trained and had a very special "bin the dummy" ceremony!



## Snowdrop Mrs Allen, Mrs Richardson, and Mrs Woolnough

Reception have been working very hard this half-term on developing their reading and writing skills. A big thank you to parents and carers for all your hard work reading at home, it really does make a huge difference. Our favourite story this half-term has been Owl Babies and we have created our own story maps which were great fun. The children worked in pairs and this required a great deal of co-operation and turn-taking which they managed very well. Most children can now retell the story without a grown-up! We have also been investigating and comparing the capacity of different containers using breakfast cereal, which proved lots of fun but a little messy. The winter weather has continued to surprise us but our favourite days are when we go hunting outside to look for signs that Jack Frost has visited our outside area.

This week we had a brilliant trip out to look at houses and homes in the local area and a big thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to help us. We had a great time and the children enjoyed sharing where they lived with their classmates while we weaved around the local area. We were very proud of how well the children behaved and how far they managed to walk!

Keeping Safe Week has been a brilliant opportunity to explore how to keep ourselves safe and who can help us if we have an emergency or just need someone to talk to about how we are feeling.

We are still looking for volunteers to come into class and read or play alongside our Reception children so please contact Mrs Allen if you have any time you can spare.



## Bluebell Class Miss Brookes, Mrs Akhtar and Miss Christie

Bluebell class have had a very busy start to 2023 we are really proud of how the children have been showing our value of aspire with their new learning, particularly in writing and phonics. I want to say a big thank you to all the adults at home that have been reading with their children and watching the phonics videos we send home daily – the impact this has had is really clear. We've been learning to write more descriptive sentences and I'm very impressed with how many adventurous adjectives and impactful verbs we have been including in our independent writing!

Our topic this term is 'Whizzpoppers', which focuses on the life and stories of Roald Dahl. We have really enjoyed starting our art this week and have been gripped by our class reader, the BFG. We are so excited to learn more about the wonderful worlds he creates on our trip to the Roald Dahl children's gallery in Aylesbury.



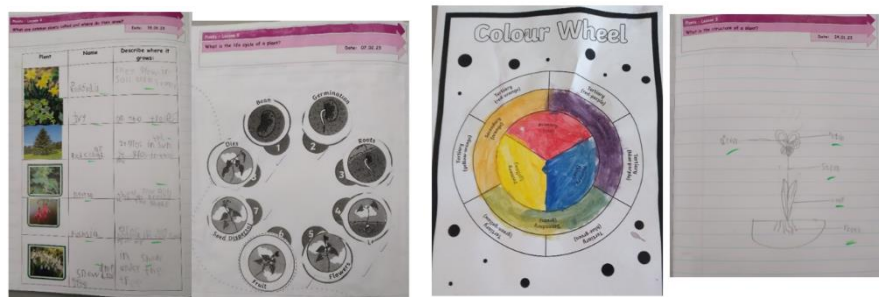
## Lavender Class Mrs Bell, Mrs Gomm and Miss Bi

Year 2 have been working extremely hard this half term. In maths we were learning about money and we have had many opportunities to use our addition and subtraction using pounds and pence. More recently, we have been learning about multiplication and division. We have learnt our 2 times tables and look forward to learning 5 and 10 times tables after half term. The children have been really trying to problem solve the best way to find out our multiplication and division questions.

In science, we have been learning about plants. We have had many opportunities to have a walk outside and look at the different plants we have in school. We have learnt about what plants need to grow and the lifecycle of a plant. After half term, we will be planting some seeds and watch them grow.

We have been learning about Roald Dahl as part of our "Whizzpoppers" topic. Today we started our first art lesson where we used primary colours to make secondary and tertiary colours.

Thank you to those parents who have listened to their children read. A reminder to please listen to your child read every day as well as read them a story each day. Have a wonderful break and we look forward to having you back after half term.



## Rose Class Mrs Dunton, Miss Akhtar and Miss East

It has been wonderful to see Year 3 again and to begin our year together. We started the term with a book called Flood and created some amazing disaster stories of our own. In maths we have started 'Fast Maths' session to get quicker at answering questions. This week we are multiplying and I have been impressed by their speed and accuracy. Our new topic is called A Journey Down the Nile and the children have been finding out about rivers and the importance of the Nile. Next term we will continue with learning about the Ancient Egyptians and all the amazing things they did over 5000 years ago! In Science we have explored humans and animals and focused on skeletons and bones. The children were able to touch real animal bones and feel how strong they are. They also made muscle models to see how they move body parts by contracting and relaxing.



## Maple Class Miss Daley and Ms Batten

Year 4 returned to school with enthusiasm and determination to do well, particularly in their English unit on Float, by Daniel Miyares. They applied themselves to developing their sentence writing skills, using the model text and making it their own with some lovely examples of similes, fronted adverbials, descriptions and onomatopoeia. Well done Year 4!

We have recently finished our unit on multiplication and division and have moved onto length and perimeter. As you may be aware, Year 4 undertake a national times table test in the summer, so we would encourage the children to continue practising their times tables at home (and don't forget, we have Times Table Rockstars and MyMaths activities online to help support their learning at home as well).

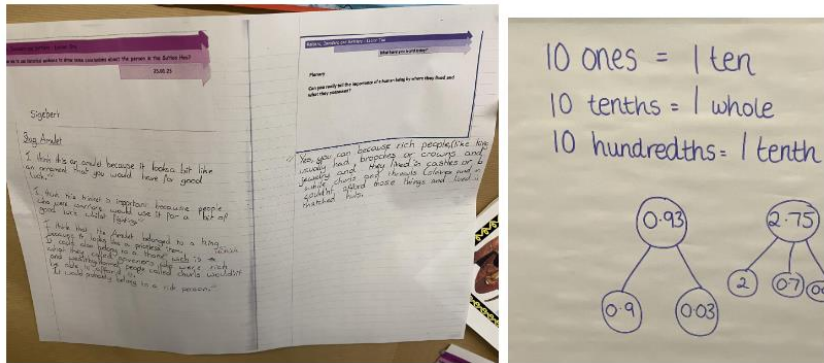
In Science we have been investigating sound- what makes sound, what sound needs in order to travel and how distance can affect sound. We will find out about ears and pitch, before moving onto our new Science topic, Living Things and Their Habitats.

This term's topic is divided into two halves – the first being all about rivers, before we travel down the Nile and into Ancient Egypt after half term! The children have really enjoyed looking at maps and identifying all the features of rivers that we have been learning about.



## Cherry Class Miss Knowler and Miss Adams

Year 5 have had an incredible kick start to the new year! We have begun our independent write in English, creating a modern version of the Highwayman. Miss Knowler is looking forward to reading these very descriptive narratives! In Maths, we have come far with solving problems involving multiplication and division. Miss Knowler is very proud of the class with their increased confidence towards Maths and looks forward to crushing Fractions! In Topic we have started exploring the elusive world of the Anglo Saxons. We have become detectives to determine what an Anglo Saxon burial ground tells us about how they raided the Romans and settled before the Vikings invaded!



## Oak Class Mrs Flynn, Miss Brookes and Miss Sample

Year 6 made a fantastic start to 2023. After returning from the Christmas break, they have certainly focussed hard on their learning. The Journey by Francesca Sanna was our first text in our English lessons. In this beautiful picture book, a family are forced to flee their current home as it has become unsafe due to war. After all our sentence stacking lessons, the children continued the story independently. Their finished stories were very interesting to read. More recently, the children wrote persuasive speeches to Save Our Seas. The children were able to apply what they had learnt and each one wrote a very thought provoking speech. I was very proud of their achievements. Our new topic, Raiders, Invaders and Settlers started with some Anglo-Saxon bread making and tasting. We made 'rich' bread and 'poor' bread. It was all delicious. We are looking forward to next term where we can continue our learning on this topic with a trip to the Chiltern Open Air Museum.

Years 5 and 6 enjoyed a trip to the The Elgiva in January to see 'Bugsy Malone.' All the Chesham Grammar School students who performed in the show were so talented and it was the best way to spend a Tuesday afternoon. I hope this has inspired some of the children to look at performing arts and dance when they move up to secondary school.



# Other News

## Keeping Safe Week

This week was our annual 'Keeping Safe Week.' The week started with every class working together in house groups learning different aspects of keeping safe including: healthy eating, mental health, water safety, road safety and emergency first aid. Each class teacher, teaching assistant and child had a fabulous time learning about how they need to keep themselves safe and how the choices they make can impact the safety of others around them.

Tuesday was 'Internet Safety Day' where all children learned about how to keep themselves safe online. Key Stage two enjoyed the live lesson based on gaming and creating a new 'baddie' character for an online game.

Thank you to those parents who joined me for the NSPCC online safety parent workshop on Thursday. Gail from the NSPCC had many interesting points to make about how to support children and families when using the internet, gaming and online apps. Below are some websites recommended at the parent workshop for anyone who is looking for support with online safety for their children.

- ✚ [Common Sense Media: Age-Based Media Reviews for Families | Common Sense Media](#)
- ✚ [CEOP Safety Centre](#)
- ✚ [Childline | Childline](#)
- ✚ [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

On Wednesday, Years 5 and 6 completed a 'Buddy' workshop with Maria from the NSPCC. The children enjoyed learning what to do if they ever feel unsafe and remembering who their trusted adults are.

All children from Reception to Year 6 entered a poster competition set by Councillor Rachel Matthews and Thames Valley Police. Residents and the school community are concerned about how fast some cars travel up and down Greenway. As a response to local concerns, Ivingwood were approached to design road safety banners that will be displayed at the front of the school. The designs were all so eye-catching and well thought out that it was very tricky to judge them.

Thank you to PC Lee, PC Jack and Rachel for visiting us to help us learn about road safety, help judge the competition but more importantly, let us visit the police car.



# Other News

## PTA Events

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February, our PTA hosted a fun disco event. There were plenty of groovy movers on the dance floor and games to play. Key Stage Two children were also treated to a singing performance by some Year 6 boys. A great evening had by all involved. Thank you to our PTA team who work hard to create experiences for our children. If you are interested in joining the PTA team, please speak to Jade Rance, mum to Taya (Year 4) and Keenan (Year 6).



### PTA Events 2023 – put them in your diary!

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March – BINGO night

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April – Film night

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Car boot sale

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Tuck shop

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July – Summer Fayre

# Information Board

## Upcoming Events

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day Parents drop-in reading session Come and share a book with your child from 2.45pm
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 Class assembly 9am
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 class parents are invited to come and lunch with us. More details to follow.
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3 and Year 4 class parents are invited to come and lunch with us. More details to follow.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 and Year 6 class parents are invited to come and lunch with us. More details to follow.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Class assembly 9am
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	NO clubs this week
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	End of term Reception 1.15pm Year 1 and 2 – 1.25pm Year 3 and 4 – 1.20pm Year 5 and 6 – 1.30pm