

Iron Acton CEVC Primary School  
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**Headteacher: Mike Riches**



6<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear parents, carers and children,

I hope you have all had a wonderful half term and that you are feeling ready for the new term ahead of us. This week we are remembering the centenary of the end of World War 1. All classes are getting involved in some activities to help them to understand the meaning of this significant event. Yesterday, the oldest children were visited by parent and historian, Tim Grubb, who captivated the children with stories about local people who were involved in war. All children will be making clay poppies engraved with the names of local people who died during war. On Friday we will join together with North Road School at church for a simple service of Remembrance, led by Father Bob Latimer.

Term 2 is often a busy term with many exciting events taking place in the lead up to Christmas. On the last newsletter there were details of most of these events, the details of which you can find on the calendar section of our website: <http://www.ironactonprimaryschool.co.uk/events/>

You can also keep up to date with some of the activities that have taken place through our blog: <http://www.ironactonprimaryschool.co.uk/children/blogs/> Mike Riches, Headteacher

#### Family learning session – maths

Thank you to everyone for coming along to our maths session last term. We hope you found this to be a useful experience. The aim was to share some of the strategies and approaches used to teach maths at our school. As it is difficult to share everything during one session, there will be a further session later in the year.

#### Staffing

We are pleased to be welcoming Mrs Juliet Sparey to our team from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November. Mrs Sparey is a Teaching Assistant and will be working in Eagles class.

You may have noticed that we are still without a school crossing patrol. If you are interested in carrying out this role, please speak to the school office for more details.

#### Christmas Fair

This will take place on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November from 2pm until 4pm in the Village Hall**. There will be a range of activities and stalls for you to explore. Children have again been invited to sing a selection of Christmas songs; this will be alongside the Iron Acton village choir. All children have been practising the songs at school and we would be pleased to see as many as possible in the choir. The singing will start at 3pm.

#### Non-uniform day

There will be a non-uniform day on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November**. We ask that you bring in an item for the tombola which will be held at the Christmas fair the following day.

You can bring in anything from tinned food to chocolates and wine to toys or games. These can be placed on the table in the playground.

### Messy Church

Alongside this newsletter there is information about an initiative from our local churches called Messy Church. This will take place on the **17<sup>th</sup> November**. Please take a look at the flyer for further information.

### Welly walk

During the afternoon of **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November**, we will be holding a whole school welly walk in our local community. If you would like to come along and help please do let your child's class teacher know. We will be leaving school at 1.15pm and will be back in time for the end of the school day.

### Wellies / clothing

All children will now need to wear wellies on the field every day. Please ensure your child has wellies that fit and are labelled with their name.

We also ask that all clothing in school is labelled with your child's name.

### Family service

The next family service will take place at church **this Sunday** at the later time of **10am**. All families are invited to come along. Children who are part of cubs or brownies are invited to wear their uniform.

### Shoebboxes

If you decided to put together a shoebox to be sent to a child in another country this year, these are due in on **Friday** of this week.

### Anti-bullying

We will be holding our annual anti-bullying focus day on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**. Parents are invited to a sharing assembly at 2.30pm to find out what the children have been learning about.

### Attendance

As you will be aware, excellent attendance is one of the best ways to help your child succeed at school. Each term, we will share the school's current attendance information for each class. For term 1 this is as follows:

Kestrels –	98.23%
Falcons –	97.05%
Eagles –	97.49%
Golden Eagles –	97.49%
Whole School -	97.79%

### Outdoor learning

We are continually looking at ways to improve our outdoor area and to use it effectively as a learning space.

Just before the holidays, we held our first outdoor learning day of the year. This was a huge success and all children spent the whole day learning outside. The children have told us that they thoroughly enjoyed the day and learnt a lot; the staff agree!

We have 2 further outdoor learning days planned for the year. We are also increasing the proportion of learning that takes place outside on a weekly basis.

We are very grateful to Ellie Blanch and Mrs Wood for the donation of logs to create a seating area in our woodland area on the field. This will help us to use this area even more effectively.

### Parent teacher meetings

These will take place on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November**. Sign-up sheets are on the playground. Once complete the sheets will be displayed in the window of Falcons class to enable parents to see when their appointment will take place.

Each family will receive a **10 minute appointment** with the teacher. There will also be an opportunity to look at your child's books.