

Iron Acton CEVC Primary School
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Headteacher: Mike Riches



16th July 2019

Dear families,

At the end of another year, I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support of the school. It has been a fantastic year packed full of many amazing events and incredible learning opportunities. The benefits of the partnership with Hawkesbury have surpassed my expectations – please find out more in the governor information letter. I am so grateful to every member of staff for the significant contribution they have played towards enabling the school to continue to move forward.

Thank you and well done to all of the children, too. Our Year 6 children, in particular, have all done exceptionally well in their recent end of Key Stage SATs tests – a significant achievement, more information about which will be shared in the new academic year. We will say goodbye and good luck to these children this Friday at our Leavers' Service.

We will be sending home all belongings from school this Thursday. This includes all uniform, book bags, PE kits, etc. so we can make sure the school is tidy and ready for decorating over the summer. **Children will not need to bring anything (except a packed lunch, if applicable) into school on Friday, Monday or Tuesday but must still wear school uniform and school shoes.**

Mrs Bagnall has organised **one final event** which will take place on Monday and Tuesday of next week. A separate letter has been sent out with details about this.

I wish you all a very happy summer holiday. School begins again on **Tuesday 3rd September, 8.55am.**

Mike Riches

Leavers' service

All families across the school are warmly invited to join us for this event. It will take place on **Friday 19th July at 2pm in St James the Less Church.** We will be saying goodbye to our wonderful year 6 children and recognising the contribution that have made to the school. Several other children will be presented with end of year awards. Children will take any belongings to church so can leave straight after the service.

Celebrating recent events

Well done to all children in Eagles & Golden Eagles Classes who managed to put together a wonderful **end of year performance** within a very limited time frame. Thank you Mrs Bagnall, Miss Abley, Mrs Detzler, Mrs Pilgrim & Mrs Sparey who worked hard to prepare them.

A big thank you goes to Mr Brown after organising his first **sports day** alongside our Swift Sports coaches. The event went incredibly well and overall scores have now been shared with the children.

Thank you also to Friends, in particular Amy and Kate, for organising **Actonbury** last Friday. Another superb social event which raised much needed funding for the school.

We were pleased to join together with members of St James the Less Church on Sunday at school for the July **family service.** Many children from school shared a sketch they had prepared and sang a variety of songs they had been taught by Father Malcolm.

New apprentice Teaching Assistant

A new apprentice will join the team in September. Miss Jess Bateman was successful at a recent interview and will work predominantly with our youngest children from September for one year whilst she completed her apprenticeship. We look forward to welcoming Miss Bateman to Iron Acton.

Class names for September

After much debate and the casting of votes, our Year 3 & 4 class (Mr Brown, Mrs Detzler & Mrs England) will be called **Buzzards** from September. All classes will be named as follows:

Reception – Barn Owls

Year 1 & 2 – Falcons

Year 3 & 4 – Buzzards

Year 5 & 6 – Golden Eagles

Horticultural show

Last week, all children worked with Sally Aries to prepare a hand-made contribution to be entered into the Horticultural Show which takes place on Saturday 14th September (booklets were sent out to families who do not live in the village yesterday). Kestrels painted pebbles, Falcons made book marks, Eagles made mobiles with natural materials and Golden Eagles made dream catchers.

Please do come along to see the children's creations at the horticultural show and share in this community event.

School uniform

All school uniform orders need to be placed by Monday 5th August to be here in time for September

Please visit the website below to place any orders:

<http://www.initiallyours.co.uk/index.htm>

Healthy packed lunches

Our school council recently carried out research and delivered an assembly all about healthy packed lunches. Please see the healthy lunchbox ideas on the change 4 life website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

Farmvention

We have planned the following into our STEM activities calendar for next year. If you are at a loose end over the summer and would like to have a go, we encourage you and your child to get involved and start thinking about Farmvention.

Farmvention (when farming meets invention) is a national STEM competition run by NFU Education and aimed at primary school children. The competition runs for the duration of the Autumn term 2019 so schools may want to add it to their STEM planning or even set it as a challenge for the summer holidays.

There are three exciting problem-based challenges that can be entered by individual children or in teams. Each challenge is designed to make children think about the day to day issues faced by farmers and growers in England and Wales as well as the wider environmental challenges faced by the worlds growing population. This year's challenges are:

- To design a garment using wool, the wonder fabric
- To create a street food dish that takes inspiration from across the globe but uses local produce as the star ingredient
- To design a machine that would be found on a farm in the year 2040

Each challenge is supported by curriculum linked resources created in partnership with the Association for Science Education (ASE) – [sign up here](#) to receive your free pack later this month.

There are a host of amazing prizes for the winning schools. Winners will present their ideas at a prestigious event at the Houses of Parliament, as well as winning fully-funded farm visits and much more. All entrants will become certified 'farmventors' and receive a reward pack including a certificate and mini prize. For more information go to: www.farmvention.com

A promo video can be found and downloaded from here: <https://www.farmvention.com/videos/2019.mp4>