

Iron Acton CEVC Primary School
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Headteacher: Mike Riches



7th May 2021

Dear families,

I hope you all had a good bank holiday weekend. Now that we are half way through Term 5 and getting ever closer to the end of another school year, I'd like to urge you to keep up the momentum with all that is going on at school. We ask that you continue to read to, and/or with your child each day and that you engage in the home learning conversations, which are sent home each week. Both of these things will really help your child to do as well as they can whilst at school.

Our next INSET day will take place on Friday 21st May when school will be closed to all children. The staff will be working together to develop a new set of priorities for the next academic year; they will also hear from a visiting speaker, who will focus on equalities and how we can understand and celebrate diversity in school. *Mike Riches*

Curious Linguists re-launch

In line with our Enquiry approach, we are re-launching our new Languages curriculum, Curious Linguists, on the first week of term 6 - week beginning 7th June; this will be an introduction to other languages through an exploration of culture and the language itself across the whole week. The children will be learning different aspects of the language, culture and customs with a focus around the question, "What do I have for breakfast?" We will start the week off with an assembly launch and culminate in sharing the children's work in a class assembly, details of this are to be decided.

For this launch, all children will focus on a language/country from a set continent: Barn Owls and Falcons will focus on traditional languages from Australasia, Buzzards will focus on language from South America and Golden Eagles will focus on the French language. Looking forward children in year 5/6 will be the only year group that need to focus on a specific language; the rest of the school will be focussing on key questions and will be learning about a range of different languages and cultures relating to these questions.

RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)

Earlier this term some information was shared, which related to our approach to teaching RSE. We hope you found it useful to know more about how this important aspect of education is taught. As part of our Term 6 class newsletters you will find out more about the specific content of the lessons, which form the 'Changing Me' aspect. After this we encourage you to speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions. You are also encouraged to discuss the content at home with your child.

For parents of children in Golden Eagles Class, we will be inviting you to an information session to find out more about the specific content of the lessons. This will take place on **Thursday 27th May at 4pm**. A Microsoft Teams link will be sent nearer the time.



World Book Day – Wednesday 26th May

Well, it's not World Book Day really; it's the far more important 'Iron Acton Book Day' instead! As the official day fell in the dark days of lockdown, we decided to postpone the event until we could all celebrate the wonder of books together.

By popular demand, we will be asking everyone at the school to dress up as their favourite book character. This could be a character from an un-put-downable story or alternatively a person from a favourite non-fiction book.

We will also give our pupils the opportunity to do a book swap. If you have a book that you no longer wish to keep, but feel that a member of your class/bubble may wish to have it, please bring it in. The book swap will give our pupils a chance to read something new and will also provide opportunities for plenty of book talk.

We will also be hosting a 'Books at Bedtime' event, starting at 4pm and finishing at 5pm. Children wishing to take part should come to school in their pyjamas and dressing gown, ready for an hour of book-related fun. They should also bring a mug if they would like to have a hot chocolate, which will be provided by Friends.

Volunteers in school

After a period of time without any of our regular volunteers being able to support the children in school, we are beginning to welcome them back. Every volunteer is required to carry out lateral flow tests before they come to school in the same way as the staff do; they are also required to follow our risk assessment which can be found on the school website: <https://www.ironactonprimaryschool.co.uk/about/covid-19/>

If you are interested in supporting the work of the school by volunteering or if you know of anyone else who is please do contact the school office.

Friends update

The latest Friends fundraising event took place at Algars Manor as part of their annual open gardens event. Over £750 was raised for the school through the selling of refreshments which was amazing! Thank you to all those involved.

A date has now been booked for the end of year disco in the Parish Hall. This will take place on Friday 16th July at 6pm. More details will be shared nearer the time. This will also be an opportunity to send our Year 6 children off to secondary school.

Friends will be hosting a BBQ event at the Parish Hall on Saturday 4th September during the afternoon. Please save the date.

Staffing

Mr Phillip Brown has been appointed as our new caretaker after Pat Taylor recently retired. Mr Brown will begin with us after half term and will work each day cleaning the school as well as carrying out important tasks to keep the school well cared for, tidy and safe.



Computing survey

Miss Abley has put together the following survey about Computing and online safety. We ask that all parents complete the survey so that we can work alongside you in order to keep children safe online. The survey can be found at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LWWWSLV>

Children and Young People Mental Health Awareness – session for parents and carers

The session offers an introduction to mental health and emotional wellbeing, it covers what mental health is, spotting early warning signs, what we can do to support young people and also looks at self-care for parents. Click on the link to book a space.

Thursday 13 May (16.30 – 18.00) [View Details | South Gloucestershire CPD Online \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)

Thursday 16 September (19.00 – 20.30) [View Details | South Gloucestershire CPD Online \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)

You can find a range of resources to support with mental health at the following link:

[Nature Guide for Parents and Caregivers.pdf \(mentalhealth.org.uk\)](#)

Walk to school week

This year's national walk to school week will take place from 17th May – 21st May. We encourage you to walk every day if you can. We will be challenging each class to see if they can have the highest proportion of children walking to school over the week, even if this is from the Parish Hall.



Dates for your diary

Event	Date and time	Information
Walk to school week	17.05.21 – 21.05.21	
INSET day	21.05.21	School will be closed to children.
World Book Day	26.05.21	Children will be invited to dress up this year.
Books at bedtime event	26.05.21 4.00pm	Children will be invited back into school to share some stories with their class wearing their pyjamas if they choose.
Year 5/6 RSE parent information session	27.05.21 4.00pm	A Teams link will be sent nearer the time.
Last day of Term 5	28.05.21 3.15pm	
First day of Term 6	07.06.21 8.55am	
Year 6 residential	14.06.21 – 16.06.21	
INSET day	21.06.21	School will be closed to children.
Health week	22.06.21 – 25.06.21	
Class photos	28.06.21	
Sports day	02.07.21, pm	This date has changed once again to ensure our Year 6 children can attend.
Key Stage 2 performance	07.07.21 1.30pm	A decision will be made nearer the time about how this will be shared with families; we hope to have a small audience in the Parish Hall. Buzzards and Golden Eagles to be involved.
Angel Heart Theatre visit (in the Parish Hall)	12.07.21	All children will be invited to watch this performance during the school day.
Year 6 leavers' service	16.07.21 2.00pm	
Last day of Term 6	21.07.21 3.15pm	

