

Iron Acton CEVC Primary School
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Headteacher: Mike Riches



10th September 2021

Welcome back

It has been fantastic to welcome everyone back to school over the last week. This year we have been joined by 15 new Reception children, as well as 4 new children to Golden Eagles Class: welcome to Petra, Hugo, Ryley and Joshua. We are delighted you have all chosen to come to Iron Acton, where you will be very welcome. It has been great to see the way all children have settled into a new year group and for many a new class. Please do come and speak to a member of staff if you have any comments or questions – there is always somebody around to help if needed.

We are pleased to welcome two new members of staff to the team this year: Mrs Claire Foley and Mrs Kerry Simmons have joined our lunchbreak supervisor team.

Over the next few days, you should receive a termly overview from your child's class teacher, which outlines the learning for the term ahead. Class newsletters were sent out during the summer term to help you prepare for a new school year. Parents of children starting Barn Owls Class (Reception) will receive a welcome letter from Mrs Wood and Mrs Lyall.

At the beginning of this new school year, we would like to remind you of our vision and values.

Our vision:

At Iron Acton we are striving to have the 'Courage to Care'

Every member of the school family takes active care of themselves, each other, their learning, their community and the environment, even when this is hard.

Our values:

Listening, nurturing, welcoming, celebrating

Thank you to all for your ongoing support. We look forward to working alongside you throughout this academic year.

Mike Riches

Governor news

At the end of last year, our Chair of Governors – Ellie Blanch, stood down after carrying out the role for 6 years. Ellie was thanked for her hard work and commitment to the school during our Year 6 Leavers' Service. Iona Cooper has been appointed to this role for the next academic year. Iona has been a Governor for 4 years and worked closely alongside Ellie last year, so is fully prepared for the role.

Two other Governors stood down from their role at the end of last year. We thank Jill Bendeaux and Ken Hull for their work as Governors. Over coming weeks we will be appointing new people to these important leadership roles.

For more information about Governance and to find out what the role entails, please see our school website:

<https://www.ironactonprimaryschool.co.uk/about/governance-2/>

Important Covid updates and reminders

1. If your child displays one of the 3 main symptoms of Covid (a new, continuous cough, a high temperature, loss or change to taste or smell), a PCR test must be booked straightaway. They must isolate until the result is received. NHS Track and Trace will advise of any next steps. If they test negative they can return to school as soon as they are well enough to do so.
 2. Schools are no longer part of the Track and Trace process. This will be dealt with solely by the NHS. If your child is a close contact of a positive case in school, you may be contacted by Track and Trace and advised to get your child tested using a PCR test.
 3. Lateral flow tests (carried out at home) are designed to pick up asymptomatic cases so should not be used when symptoms are present.
 4. It may be that you hear of other children testing positive at school. We will not necessarily inform families every time a child tests positive, unless there is something you need to do or unless our measures in school change. We understand that this may cause some level of concern for some, but please rest assured that we work closely alongside the Local Authority public health team in these instances to track and monitor patterns and to enhance measures to reduce the spread.
- If you have any questions about any of the above information, please speak to a member of staff.

Hawkesbury Upton 5K

All families are invited to take part in the Hawkesbury Upton 5K run which takes place on Saturday 25th September at 11am. This is a fundraising event for our partner school's PTA. Please take a look at the website for more information and to register for your place. <https://www.hu5k.org/>

Parking

The roads outside school get very busy at the beginning and end of the school day. We ask that everyone takes great care when parking and manoeuvring outside the school to avoid any accidents.

The Lamb Pub car park is often quiet first thing in the morning and can be used at that time, but it often gets very busy at pick up time. The owners of the pub are very accommodating and have always allowed school to use the car park, but they ask that those picking up are mindful of their customers and their need to prioritise parking for them. They also ask that those who use the car park are reminded that they do so at their own risk.

We encourage everyone to walk, scoot or cycle when they possibly can. If you live too far to do this, we invite you to park further away from school – on Holly Hill Road, at the Parish Hall or at The White Hart. This will keep congestion to a minimum and ensure the children are kept safe when crossing the road.

INSET days

Our first two INSET days of the year will take place on **Monday 20th September** and **Friday 22nd October**. School will be closed to children on both of these days, whilst the staff take part in training.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Both clubs are up and running. Please contact the school office to book a place.

Breakfast Club begins at 7.45am and costs £4 per session. After School Club runs from 3.15pm until 6pm and costs £8.50 per session.



Curious Computing – 2021/2022

This year sees the introduction of our new approach to Computing. Following the success of our Federation-wide implementation of Curious City, we have aligned Computing to create a coherent approach to our learning. We are very excited to become engineers and explore the fascinating world of Curious Computing. The approach spans from EYFS to Year 6.

Online Safety is at the forefront of our new approach and will be taught in all classes in Term 1. Please visit www.common sense media.org, which has a 'Parents Ultimate Guide' with plenty of information about a variety of games and different topics, sorted by age range. This is an American website, however, it is still a fountain of knowledge.

If you have any particular questions or concerns about your child's online presence and use of technology then please contact the school.

Miss Abley and Mr Bryant

Admissions

We are beginning to show new families around the school in preparation for those who are due to start school in Reception 2022. If you have a child who is due to start please apply online at: <https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=GLu6GUIMkpw&familychannel=2-2&channel=family> If you know of anyone who may be interested in coming to Iron Acton, please encourage them to contact the school office; we will be holding individual showrounds over the next few months.

We are currently full or oversubscribed in most year groups except Year 4. We are looking to take more children in this year, so please do let anyone know if they are interested.

Wellies

We ask that all children have a pair of wellies, football boots (KS2 only) or old trainers (KS2 only), which fit them in school so they can wear on the field in wet weather. All children have an outdoor named wellie peg upon which to put these items.

Pupil premium funding – are you eligible?

Each child who is in receipt of benefits-related free school meals attracts additional funding to the school. We receive £1,345 for every child who is eligible and this is used in multiple ways to support your child, for example through additional class support, subsidised school trips, music lessons and other support to improve educational outcomes.

If you think you are eligible, applications must be submitted by the end of September for the school to qualify and receive this funding. If you have any questions please contact the school office or see: <https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=yp4evwg7Duw#free>



Term 1 dates for the diary

Event	Date and time	Information
Reception children in full time	13.09.21 8.55am – 3.15pm	
INSET day	20.09.21	School will be closed for staff training.
Year 5/6 swimming begins	28.09.21	A letter will be sent out to confirm details.
Black History Month begins	01.10.21	
Harvest service	08.10.21 2pm	This will take place at church. We hope to invite all families to attend.
Robin Hood theatre visit	11.10.21	This will take place in the Iron Acton Parish Hall for all children.
Parent / teacher meetings	18.10.21 20.10.21	Appointment times will be shared nearer the time. Please do speak to your child's class teacher before this date if you have any questions or if you'd like to know more about how your child is doing at school.
Flu immunisations for all children	19.10.21	Consent forms and further information will be shared nearer the time.
Outdoor learning day	21.10.21	We aim to spend the whole day learning whilst outside.
Final day of Term 1	21.10.21 3.15pm	
INSET day	22.10.21	School will be closed for staff training.
First day of Term 2	01.11.21 8.55am	

Dates can also be found on our school website: <https://www.ironactonprimaryschool.co.uk/news/>

