

Iron Acton CEVC Primary School
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Headteacher: Mike Riches



12th November 2021

New school term

We have had a very positive start back to this new school term – thank you all for your support. Covid cases appear to be reducing in the area and we have had very few confirmed cases. We do ask that all families remain vigilant to the 3 main symptoms and we will need to send children home to receive a PCR test should any of these symptoms present during the school day. We appreciate this can be inconvenient, but it is essential we keep on top of this to ensure cases do not increase within our school.

Carbon dioxide monitors have also now been delivered to the school, which means we can keep a close eye on ventilation levels in each classroom. Through the winter months, this will help us to manage the balance between keeping a steady flow of ventilation and keeping the classrooms warm enough for children to learn in.

Non-uniform day

Today, we have invited all children to attend school in clothes that are not part of their school uniform. The main aim is to collect donations for the tombola, which will take place at the Friends Christmas Fair on 4th December. These can be taken straight to classrooms.

We have also decided to tie this in with this year's BBC Children in Need programme, which will be shown on Friday 19th November. Children have been invited to bring donations of money for this in today as well.

Anti-bullying week

Next week, the school will be holding an anti-bullying focus throughout the week. This is in conjunction with the national anti-bullying week, which many schools across the country will mark in some way. Mrs Wilson has organised a range of opportunities to help children to understand what bullying is and what they can do if they or someone else they know is being bullied.

Please note: we are very careful to explain to children that bullying is related to ongoing, more serious incidents, either physical or verbal in nature. We recognise that children always fall in and out of friendships and have minor disputes from time to time and that this is separate from bullying.

We are asking all children to wear odd socks on Monday 15th November to mark the start of anti-bullying week. The reason for this will be explained in more detail at the beginning of the week.



Music concert

Ms Bagnall is currently arranging for children in Key Stage 2 (Buzzards & Golden Eagles) to be involved in a small music concert on **Tuesday 23rd November at 6pm**. Any child who can play an instrument has been asked to get involved. This will also involve an opportunity to hear how Golden Eagles have been getting on with their cello lessons. All of Golden Eagles are therefore invited to attend along with children in buzzards who are performing. The concert will take place at St James the Less Church in Iron Acton. Please can performers be at the church at 5.45pm ready to set up.

Nativity services

We are planning for our Nativity services to go ahead as normal this year unless there are any last minute Covid-related issues that stop us from doing this. Children in Barn Owls and Falcons will be participating.

The services will take place on **Tuesday 7th December at 6pm** and **Wednesday 8th December at 1.30pm**. Both services will take place in the church.

To keep numbers in the audience at a suitable level, we will be issuing 2 tickets per family for each of the two performances. **We ask that you email the school office to provide us with the names of those who will be attending each performance by Wednesday 24th November.**

After this point, we will identify whether we have any additional tickets that we can allocate. Families will once again be contacted to make use of any surplus tickets if there are any.

Siblings will be unable to attend either of the performances.

Poppy donations

Thank you all for your support in donating to the poppy appeal this year. We have collected £95 which will be sent to the Royal British Legion.

Next INSET day

Our next INSET day will take place on **Monday 22nd November**. School will be closed to all children whilst the staff take part in a development day focused on our approach to teaching writing.

Christmas Windows 2021 – a message from the organisers

Windows 2020 was amazing! Let's hope that together, we can build on this for 2021.

This year's theme is 'Music of the Christmas Season' and the residents of Iron Acton will be decorating windows, gates, doors and even gardens, to create a wonderful Christmas trail around the village. Can you guess the Christmas songs? There will be prizes for the most correct answers and of course, as always, the trail is free to attend.

The trail will open on Saturday 11th December at 5pm and the displays will remain in place until Sunday 19th December. Answer sheets (should you wish to enter) will be available from the swap box in Iron Acton and both The Lamb and The White Hart. You are also welcome to enjoy the trail without entering an answer sheet. A night that is sure to get you into the Christmas spirit...we hope to see you there!



Friends Fundraising

Christmas card designs have been sent home with your children along with order forms. If you would like to place any orders, please remember this should be done by 20th November 2021.

Additional funds can be raised for the school by using Easy Fundraising. When you do your Christmas shopping this year. Over 6,000 shops and sites will donate to Friends of Iron Acton Primary School for FREE when you use easyfundraising to shop with them. You can raise donations for us when you buy anything from decorations and festive food to gifts like toys, jewellery, tech, experiences and more!

These donations really help us and all you have to do is use easyfundraising for things you will be buying anyway. #ThisMeansMore than gifts for loved ones, it means donations that help make a difference! Sign up today:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ironactonprimary/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-ghtms21-e1

Parenting advice and support

The following website contains a whole range of helpful advice and support for all families:

[Place2Be: Parenting Smart: Articles](#)

Some of this is in relation to mental health but it also includes information about issues such as transition to secondary school, sibling rivalry, sleep and bed wetting.

Please do also speak to a member of staff if there is anything we can help with.

Term 1 dates for the diary

Event	Date and time	Information
Remembrance family service	14.11.21 10am	All families are welcome to attend.
Anti-bullying week	15.11.21	Children will engage in activities to help them understand how to respond if they or someone they know is being bullied.
INSET day	22.11.21	School will be closed for staff training.
Christmas Fair	04.12.21	This will take place in the Parish Hall. Children will be invited to sing Christmas songs with the village choir.
Individual and sibling photographs	06.12.21	Pre-school siblings are able to attend from 8.30am.
Nativity services	07.12.21, 6.00pm 08.12.21, 1.30pm	
Christmas lunch	08.12.21	
Christingle service	10.12.21	
Church Christingle service	12.12.21 4.00pm	
Christmas parties	15.12.21 pm	Children can bring a change of clothes into school.
Last day of Term 2	17.12.21 3.15pm	
Christmas crib service	24.12.21 4pm	To take place at St James' Church.
First day of Term 3	04.01.22 8.55am	

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