

Iron Acton CEVC Primary School
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http://www.ironactonprimaryschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Mike Riches



4th February 2022

Remaining events for this term

Children's mental health week – w/c 07.02.22

Through the week, we will be providing all children with opportunities to improve their own mental health and to develop the skills needed to look after themselves. During the week, we have organised the following:

- Children will be invited to engage in daily mindfulness activities; examples will be sent home to enable you to participate too
- Friends have provided funds for an afternoon of arts, crafts and relaxation. This money will be spent on activities and resources; hot chocolate and biscuits have also been provided by Friends
- Mrs Wilson (our mental health lead) will deliver a whole school assembly
- Any other opportunities to support and improve mental health as they arise

Safer Internet day – 08.02.22

Teachers will deliver an age appropriate assembly to their classes to help them reflect upon and develop skills to use the Internet safely. This will focus specifically on gaming. The UK Safer Internet Centre website includes a range of useful guides and resources to support parents and carers: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Dress to Express – 10.02.22 (please note new date)

All children are invited to 'dress to express' for the day. We have moved this date to Thursday to avoid PE day with Future Stars – we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. Donations can be brought in on Thursday to be made to Place2Be, a charitable organisation raising awareness and supporting Children's mental health.

Book Fair – w/c 14.02.22

Outdoor learning day – 18.02.22

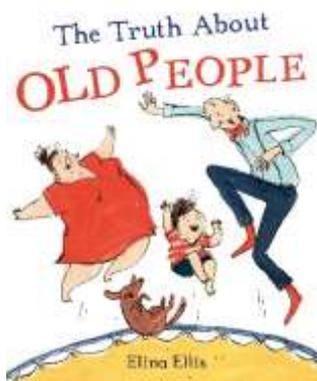
As part of this term's outdoor learning day, we will be taking the children to Chilwood in Iron Acton to plant trees. If you still have your oak trees that were sent home earlier this year, we ask that you now to send these back in to school on the morning of the final day of term, so they can be planted. If you do not have one, please do not worry – we have plenty more that can be used instead.

Final day of term – 18.02.22

All children will need to wear their PE kits on this day, which also coincides with outdoor learning day. Please bear in mind they will need to walk to Chilwood in Iron Acton, so will need suitable footwear and a coat.



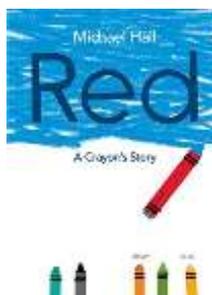
No Outsiders



KS2 have been continuing their weekly No Outsiders assemblies. This term so far, we have explored stereotypes and how they can be wrong. We have read *The Truth About Old People* by Elina Ellis and discussed stereotypes we often hear, such as girls liking pink and princesses and boys liking football. The children were keen to point out that not everyone fits into stereotypes and it can make someone feel like an outsider if people expect them to conform to stereotypes when they don't.



We have also read a news story highlighting how name calling can be damaging, causing shame in the victim. We heard how one individual reclaimed the homophobic term he was bullied with at school by naming his business after it; prompting the childhood bullies to write letters of apology to him.



We have read *Red, A Crayon's Story* by Michael Hall. The whole school took part in this, finding out about a crayon who looks red but can only colour in blue. This was distressing for the crayon as he cannot get it 'right'. This brought about a great discussion about being who you are and identity.

It has been wonderful hearing the children use the language of No Outsiders around the school and in their conversations with both adults and children. Well done for your pride in your diversity Iron Acton!



World Book Day – 03.03.22

World Book Day takes place on the first week back next term. The teachers will provide a range of activities for the children to get involved in so that we can promote and develop a love of reading. As you may be aware, we only ask the children to dress up every other year and this year we **will not** be asking them to dress up. We will return to dressing up in 2023.

Monkhouse school uniform supplier – message from Mrs Parry

I have recently met with Joe Quinn who is the area sales manager for Monkhouse. I raised some issues from parents at our school.

There have been supply chain issues from abroad, which have impacted supply. I expressed my concern over availability and delivery. The distribution network has been restructured, so that uniform is now posted from a central distribution centre rather than sent locally and this will improve delivery timescales. If there are any specific issues, please do let the school know and we can pass the concerns on, or if you have any feedback please let us know. Helen Parry.

Is it worth noting that if you have uniform delivered direct to the school in term time the delivery is free. Thank you.

LGBT history month

February is LGBT history month; the month is designed to 'educate out prejudice and make LGBT people visible in all their rich diversity' The LGBT history month website has a range of resources and activities available for schools and parents to help them to do this. Please take a look at the parent/carer page for more information: <https://lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Fromside Listeners

Father Malcolm and Jo Strange, both of whom work closely with our school as well as the church have developed a team of trained listeners, who can be contacted by any member of our school community to discuss any matters, which may be concerning them. If you or anyone you know of would benefit from using this service, please contact Malcolm and Jo on:

01454 775529

m.strange@fromsidechurches.org.uk

jofourleaf@gmail.com

Exciting news!

We'd like to congratulate Mr Brown and his partner, who are expecting their first baby in May 2022. Wishing them all the best.



Courage to Care certificates

Since the last newsletter, the following children have received recognition for their learning through our Courage to Care certificates:

Barn Owls

William - improving his presentation in writing

Falcons

Caiden – taking care for his maths

Buzzards

Mya – always trying hard with everything she does

Golden Eagles

Petra – making an improvement in writing

Church school partnership award

We are very pleased to have achieved the 'Church School Partnership Award', which has been given to us by the Diocese of Bristol. This highlights the positive work that the school and the church in Iron Acton do collaboratively and the impact of the work of Father Malcolm, Father Dave and their team. Thank you to all those who were able to complete our recent survey – this really helped to share some evidence of the work we have been doing.

Friends 2022 Challenge

A sponsorship form has been sent home with the children this week for the Friends 2022 Challenge. This will be a fun challenge for the month of February, using the number 22 as inspiration for raising sponsorship that will be used to fund new technology for the classrooms at school.

The class that raises the most wins a prize!

We hope the children enjoy taking up the challenge.

Friends of Iron Acton



Term 3 and 4 dates for the diary

Event	Date and time	Information
Children's mental health week begins	07.02.22	
Safer Internet day	08.02.22	
Dress to Express day	10.02.22	Please note change of date to avoid PE day on Friday.
Book Fair	14.02.22	
Outdoor learning day	18.02.22	
Final day of Term 3	18.02.22	
INSET day	28.02.22	
First day of Term 4	01.03.22	
World Book Day	03.03.22	
Parent / teacher meetings	08.03.22 09.03.22	Appointment times will be arranged before the end of Term 2.
Easter service	08.04.22	
Last day of Term 4	08.04.22	
First day of Term 5	25.04.22	

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



'Courage to Care'

Listening, Welcoming, Nurturing, Celebrating

