

ISP SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Jan/Feb Issue No.2



HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Happy New Year! Wow, the time has flown by since our last newsletter. I think it would be fair to say that it's been challenging for both staff and pupils here since returning from Christmas break. Unfortunately, Covid is still very much with us and has impacted the school this term with several classes having to be closed down so staff testing positive can isolate and/or recover. The pupils have responded brilliantly and have accessed learning via Class Dojo. I'm pleased to say that our new pupils and staff are beginning to find their feet and the school is once again settling into a comfortable rhythm. Finally, it's a great opportunity to say how well the new pupils have done and how quickly they've become confident members of our school community.

Mrs Cox

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Another fantastic term here at ISP school with plenty of focus and engagement from the pupils keen to learn.

In KS2 pupils have been looking at riddle and shape in English and light and shade in Science. KS3 have been learning about author 'Neil Gaiman' and reading the book 'Coraline'. They have also been learning about Britain within the years 1745-1901. In KS4 the pupils are continuing to work towards their exams that are taking place this year, completing mock papers and newspaper reports.

There have been many lunchtime clubs this term with choir continuing to be a big hit with our pupils. Some beautiful voices can often be heard coming from the classroom. Music club and Art club both also continue.

We continue to grow as a school and have had many new pupils join us since Christmas, a particularly busy and exciting term for us all.

With COVID still having an impact on our learning here at ISP we have had to close some classes this term, something that we never want to do. The pupils have continued to be resilient and committed to their learning and continued to work from home on class Dojo when needed. Hopefully we can start to see a reduction in cases as we head towards the milder temperatures and get back to our classroom learning.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

**COMIC
RELIEF**

**WORLD
BOOK
DAY**

Monday 14th February - Friday 18th February Half term

Tuesday 1st March - Pancake Day

Tuesday 1st March - MFL Day

Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day

Friday 18th March - Comic Relief

Friday 18th March - Global recycling day

Tuesday 22nd March - RE Day



CHAIR OF GOVERNORS UPDATE

Happy New Year Wishes from myself and the Governing Body. It was a real delight to meet so many YP and their parents/carers at the Open Day before Christmas. I was so impressed with the YP I spoke to who showed great respect, determination and pleasure at being part of ISP School, Teynham. The displays showed a pride in the work the YP produced and it was clear that there were excellent relationships between the YP and the Staff. The interest generated in the opportunities available was lovely to see and hear, with many good ideas also being put forward on what the YP would like to experience in the future.

It is to be hoped that this strength of purpose can be continued until the end of this academic year with those YP taking exams and qualifications seeing an excellent return on their hard work and efforts!

Thank you all, Pupils/Parents/Carers/Staff, for all your efforts in supporting education at this most difficult time.

Jacqui Ward



FOCUS ON...READING.



At ISP our focus is continually on reading and ensuring that our pupils have access to a wide range of books. Our library contains a thorough selection of genres enabling our pupils to enjoy books and also choose books that are appropriate to their own individual ability. We are always encouraging our pupils to read and do so daily in class across our curriculum. This term pupils have been studying author 'Neil Gaiman' who wrote the books 'Coraline' and 'The Graveyard Book'.

It is always a pleasure to see and hear our pupils read in school. The school currently uses Accelerated Reader for assessing pupils ability, this requires pupils to read a book and then access their website to answer specific questions on the book. This enables the school to not only monitor reading ages but assess comprehension levels.

Please continue to find opportunities to read at home and log any books completed onto the system. This will support your child to make rapid progress. The link is <https://ukhosted117.renlearn.co.uk/6702235> and tutors can send you pupils usernames and passwords.

Our pupils' are more than welcome to borrow books from the library to read at home. With World Book Day approaching, all of our pupils will get a the choice of a free book.

There are so many advantages to reading, from increasing our creativity and reducing our stress levels to increasing our vocabulary and strengthening writing skills.



Harvey was recently in the 'International Sheepdog News'. Here's what he had to say about recent trials that he attended.

My name is Harvey and I have been training to be a shepherd for two years, training my three dogs Jake, Mick and Kaz. I have since won multiple sheepdog trials. Sometimes we hold the trials at my home, as I live on a farm and have other animals such as horses, sheep, dogs and goats. I also LOVE tractors!

CLASS UPDATES

PINE

Pine class have just completed their first full term and have all settled in very well. Pine have been looking at shape poetry in English we have learnt about adjectives, similes and personification. Art saw Pine class looking at Ancient Greek Art, the pupils have made these amazing shields. and made a model of the Parthenon in DT following the same theme. - Mrs Guilder

MAPLE

We have had some new members join the class that have settled in well. We have looked at developing different forms of poetry and this has been a highlight of our class this term. We have also been working on our topic activities around technology and looking at heads of companies who own major technological companies - Mr Ward

SYCAMORE

Sycamore class have been working hard in maths, developing their understanding of percentages. They are really enjoying their PE lessons too, demonstrating great resilience on the climbing wall! Well done Sycamore!- Mr Edwards

BIRCH

This term Birch class have gained some amazing team working skills. They have worked as a group to survive on a desert island and solve some mysteries in Cluedo. They have shown maturity in both citizenship and PSHE learning about our own rights both in the community and at home - Miss Loasby

ROWAN

We continue to be really proud of Rowan this term. We have welcomed two new pupils into our team and have completed some wonderful work across the curriculum. Our highlights have been our creativity in art and DT and certainly our rewards morning for earning 5000 dojo points! - Mr Burrows and Mr Savva

ACER

The new year began with Acer Class students diving into the gothic book, Coraline written by Neil Gaiman. Mr Jenkinson has brought his passion for photography into computing lessons, with students creating a whole range of creative photographs. From atmospheric black and white pictures of the local wildlife to staged still-life images, Acer Class has flexed its creative muscle.- Mr Jenkinson

WILLOW

This term in Willow class we have been working on a range of tasks based on Friend or Foe by Michael Morpurgo. Pupils have completed a review of the story, diary entries from the point of view of the main characters, designed a book sleeve and written the Newspaper article that is referred to at the end of the book. - Mr Wayne

FERN

Fern Class have really impressed me with their application in lessons, particularly English and maths, as they continue their journey towards the final exams. Our little 'blip' of having to work from home for a week due to Covid hasn't fazed them at all and we came back this week ready to commence work. The focus of our learning has been tackling GCSE level maths problems and GCSE English Language topics. The quality of work produced this week in our creative writing lessons has been really excellent! Mr Holt