



Ibstock Junior School

March Newsletter

It has been a very short half term but it has certainly been jam-packed at IJS. Below you will read about the numerous opportunities that your children have taken part in over the last 4 weeks. We are very proud of the range of activities that children can become involved in during their time at the school and you will be pleased to know that we have an equal amount of exciting events occurring in the Summer Term. These don't occur without the support of our children's families and the hard work of adults in school; we are very grateful that we can work together to provide such good learning experiences for children.

Mrs Craig's class will see some changes after Easter, as Mrs Craig will begin her maternity leave on Friday 12th April. We are delighted that we have been able to recruit an experienced teacher, Mrs Maria Pyatt, who will take over as class teacher. We will be using the first week back after Easter for Mrs Craig and Mrs Pyatt to work together to pass on important information and ensure that children are supported with this transition.

This morning we celebrated our most recent COLA winners. These children have all been recognised by staff because they have been working hard on this block's value—that of 'speaking confidently'. Well done to: Florence P, Finnley S, Jamie P, James C, Arthur W, Skye P, Zoe G, George C, Finley J, Thea A, Olivia W, Oliver B, Isabella D, Harry W, Ben C, Lilly C, Alex S, Imogen C, Betsy G, Cooper D, Maya S, Oscar T, Seth S, Evlyn F, Ava B, Oliver A, Abigail W, Harry P, Lily-Rose P, Isla J, Jack P, Ava P, Henry W and Chloe R. Well done also to February's newsletter quiz winners: Yr 3 Leo, Yr 4 Rohan, Yr 5 Freddie, Yr 6 Beau. Chocolates and an Ace Slip are on their way home! Watch out for the next quiz for Block 5 in April's Newsletter.

We hope all of our children can enjoy the Easter break and come back to school refreshed and ready for the next busy term. **Happy Easter and Ramadan Mubarak** to all those who celebrate and observe!

We celebrated a fantastic World Book Day at Ibstock Junior School. Our aim on this fun day is to provide children with lots of opportunities to develop their love of reading further without causing stress or costs at home; this is one of the reasons we choose to celebrate the day without choosing to dress up. Our World Book day was organized fully by our Reading Ambassadors who were simply incredible! These children organised the class door competition, took part in a teachers v them assembly (which got quite raucous at times—well on the teacher side anyway!) organized and ran a Book swap and spoke about how reading made them feel. We were delighted to receive nearly a 1000 votes regarding our amazing classroom doors and lots of comments from the authors themselves on our Twitter page.



The winning door entry was from the Astronomers class, based on the book Little Badman. This door involved the class taking part in lots of computer coding in order to work the LED lights. Astronomers class chose to celebrate with a film and popcorn afternoon!

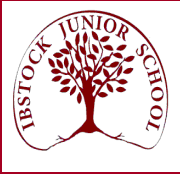
Well done and thank you to our ACE Reading Ambassadors: Abigail W, Joe P, Laya S, Isla T, Ava B, Harrison K, Lily-Rose P, Alfie W, Carly M, Elsie T, Charlie H, Tommy H and Evlyn F.



FIJS Update

Thank you for all of the donations to the Chocolate Bingo this week and thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the Easter Disco! An incredible £700 was raised. Special thanks go to Mrs Whotton and all of the FIJS volunteers who work incredibly hard to ensure these events can occur. FIJS have also provided an Easter treat for all children across the school. These have been sent home this week.





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School updates:



Thank you to all those families that contributed to the Rags2Riches clothing collection. We raised £94.20 for school funds. Austin and Arthur from year 3 have suggested we use the funds to buy books, equipment and stationery.



This year we were delighted to take 30 Year 5 and 6 children to the orienteering event at Whitwick and Coalville Leisure Centre. Despite the change in location, the teams adapted to the new map and took it in their stride brilliantly, embodying our ACE values as they made their way around the course. They thoroughly enjoyed being able to run in the wide open spaces and the mud!



Year 3 had a fantastic time becoming botanists, at Leicester Botanic Gardens. The children applied all of their learning from their Plantasia topic, as they explored different biomes, planted seeds, investigated the different uses of herbs, created sculptures, and even got to see and touch a real Californian redwood tree! The children behaved impeccably and were very respectful of all that they saw - what a great way to finish Block 4!



The history ambassadors launched Women's History Month with an inspirational assembly about amazing female figures, ranging from civil rights activists, to fashion designers, to medieval martyrs! The children spoke confidently (our COLA theme for Block 4), having spent much of their own time researching these fascinating females. Women's History Month is about celebrating the lives and achievements of significant women from our past, and our ambassadors - Brodie, Gabriel, Aafia, Ava, Aoife, and Lily - made their teachers proud with an excellent presentation to the whole school.

ROSA PARKS - BY BRODIE FLEMING



- She had to leave school at the age of 16 to take care of her dying grandmother and soon after her very sick mother.
- She refused to give up her seat for a white person on a bus - even though this was the law!
- The consequence of this - black people in Montgomery, Alabama walked everywhere. This is called a boycott: the bus companies shut down!
- This boycott was led by Martin Luther King - this was the start of the civil rights movement in the USA.
- Rosa received numerous awards - including the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996 and the Congressional Gold Medal of Honour in 1999.
- She was the first ever woman - and second black person - to lie in state in Washington DC.

This week is Neurodiversity Celebration Week! The website <https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/resource-hub> has lots of useful and interesting links and resources that you might like to explore and share. The Art Ambassadors created a super World Book Day door for Mr Lewin's door which celebrated lots of famous people who have been diagnosed with neurological conditions and have achieved great success.



Mrs Craig is keen for children to enter a competition focusing on the protection of wildlife. There will be a prize for the winner in each year group.



Please submit your poster/artwork to Mrs Craig by Monday 8th April - this gives you chance to get creative over the Easter break!

Dates to note. (New dates or changes from last newsletter in red)

Summer Term

Children return to school at 8:40am 08.04.24

Block 5 begins 08.04.23

Class Photos 26.04.23

Yr 6 SATs Week 13.05.24 - 16.05.24

Year 4 Residential 13-15.05.24

Year 4 Science visitor 03.06.24

Year 6 Residential 5-7.06.24

Yr2 to Yr 3 Transition Evening 11.06.24

Yr 3 Greek visitor in school 21.06.24

Sports Morning 25.06.24

FIJS Summer Fair 25.06.24

FIJS Disco 03.07.24

Yr 6 Leavers Assembly 09.07.24

School closes for Summer at 3:20pm 09.07.24