



Head Teacher Mr P Lewin

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www.ibstockjuniorschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a great autumn term so far. The Year 3 children are fully settled and thoroughly enjoying their time at the school according to the incredibly positive feedback from Year 3 parents – thank you to them.

The Year 3 and the year 5 children are really enjoying the new building and all of the year groups are benefiting from the new studio.

School Performance

The final results from last year will shortly be released by the government and will show that the school continues to do better than most schools nationally and considerably better than most schools in Leicestershire. If you want to see the information shared with governors, simply type in SAT's results into the search bar on our website. We are particularly pleased with how well our boys did last year; some 15% better than boys nationally.

Dates

This is always a busy time of year so we have included the key dates for the rest of the term at the end of this letter. These can also be found on the website if you click calendar in the bottom right hand corner.

Behaviour

Overall behaviour at Ibstock Junior School has always been a strength since my time at the school and is regularly commented upon favourably by visitors to the school. However, as with all schools we review our behaviour policy regularly to ensure it is working effectively. Our new policy will be put on the website soon for parents to view. The main difference is the inclusion of behaviour contracts and behaviour reports to manage the behaviour of children who seriously misbehave for example by persistently breaking school policy, being racist or violent, or using the social media to bully another child. Thankfully this applies to very few children at our school, but it is still something we need to be prepared for.

Fundraising

I am delighted to be able to tell parents again how generous our families are. The children raised £536.70 for Stand Up to Cancer last month which was wonderful.

Friends of Ibstock Junior School: Please help

We are incredibly lucky to have a small team of very dedicated, very generous parents who organise events for the children and raise money for the extra facilities like playground equipment, picnic benches and seating. However, many of these parents children move on and without more volunteers, we will not have enough members to keep it going. Please, please, please approach Lisa Lingard or the office if you think that you can help at some of the key events.

Readiness for School

We are still having children arriving not being ready to learn because they do not have the correct equipment. Please ensure:

1. Your child has a PE kit on a Monday and takes it home on Friday if it needs washing.
2. Your child has a **waterproof** coat everyday (they can take it off if they are hot).
3. Your child only wears stud earrings at school and preferably takes them out on a PE day. If this is not possible please make sure they can take them out independently.
4. Your child wears school uniform which includes black or grey socks and no jeans (full details are on the website).

Recruiting

Due to our expanding numbers we are currently looking to appoint two lunchtime supervisors and we are also looking for relief cover. If you think you would like to join our friendly team please collect an application form from the school office or download one from our website.

Illness

We are currently experiencing a lot of illness within the school particularly sickness and a nasty chest infection. Can I please remind parents that children need be off school for 24 hours after their last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. Unfortunately this has also been affecting our staff and I want to thank parents for their understanding since we have had two members of staff off for two weeks. Mrs Craig has now returned to work and Miss Barton is hoping to be back on Monday 20th November.

Reading Challenges

Mrs Whitehouse's reading challenges are really popular, please have a look on the website for details.

A reminder of dates from the diary:

22 nd November 2017	Flu Immunisation
28 th November 2017	Macbeth Production
29 th November 2017	Dodgeball Competition
1 st December 2017	Dress down for a chocolate donation
5 th December 2017	Year 4 Production
6 th December 2017	Christmas Bingo
11 th December 2017	Year 3/5 Christmas Singing
12 th December 2017	Christmas Lunch
13 th December 2017	Year 5 visit Tamworth Castle
19 th December 2017	F.I.J.S. School Disco
20 th December 2017	Last Day of Term
9 th January 2018	Children return to school

Yours sincerely

P Lewin

Head Teacher