



February 2024 – Newsletter

Message from the Head Teacher

It has been wonderful to see some sunshine, after the half term break. Please do keep sending in a light, waterproof coat though, as we are still experiencing sudden showers!



Please could I remind all parents, that jewellery is not permitted in school. There seems to be a huge number of necklaces and bracelets being worn at school. While we enjoy seeing the children's own individual style, this should be saved for times outside of school. The reason we have a uniform, is so that children all look the same (within reason) and there is no stigma to not having the current style or named items. We want everyone to be as equal as possible.

Please also make sure that you keep away from named items, even during PE. The usual sweatshirt or fleece can be worn for PE sessions, over the day. Don't forget to look through the free clothing rail, if you do not have a school, burgundy sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece. There are some lovely items on the rail and we do enjoy offering them to a second home, rather than placing them in landfill sites!

My only other reminder, is that school starts at 8.50am and everyone should be waiting in the playground lines, at this time. As mentioned on the class dojo main page, it is important to be in school and ready for learning at the correct time. Some classes use the first 10 or 15 minutes for spelling practice, handwriting, times table skills, phonic revisits or other settling time tasks. If your child does not arrive until 9am, then they are marked on the register as unauthorised and they are missing out of these learning opportunities. Missing these 10-minute sessions each day adds up to almost an hour of lost learning per week!

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Deacon.

Collective Worship



In our collective worship time, the children and staff have been learning about the Christian value of, Justice.

This is not just about fairness, but instead about everyone having what they need, and also speaking out for those who are not able to speak for themselves. I'm sure that you can think of lots of examples of those who have their voice oppressed, in the world today!

We will also begin to teach about Lent and the Easter story. A really good start to understanding the RE unit of learning about Salvation, will be the RE enrichment day, which will take place on the 25th February. We are looking forward to seeing all of the art pieces linked to a different part of the Easter story.



Welcome to Isleham Church of England Primary School

Our school motto is "Let your Light Shine" (Matthew 5:16) Flourishing together in a Christian Community



School Fundraiser



I have some very exciting news about our next fundraising event, Holi run/colour run. This will take place in the afternoon of the 14th March 2025, and everyone is welcome to join in – including parents and carers!

This week, I will be sending an order form home for you to purchase items for the event, and by purchasing the items from us, you would be helping to raise funds for much needed interactive whiteboards in school.

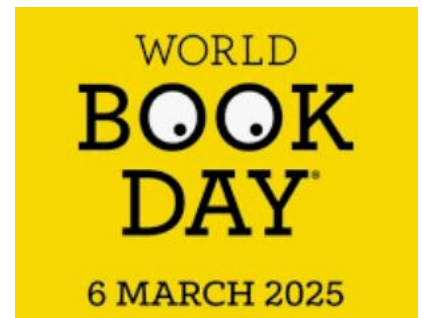
Of course if you cannot afford, or do not want to purchase the items from the school you may send in your own equipment/clothing and just pay to take part. We do ask each participant to pay a minimum of a £3 entry fee, to cover the cost of the chalk but also help to raise funds. This event will take place instead of a sponsored event, this year. This might be time to ask wider family members to donate or help your child to purchase the white t-shirt from the school. (A little like sponsorship)

To take part, each participant will need to be wearing; a white t-shirt, old trousers, trainers, and sunglasses/glasses. Of course, if you are willing to purchase some fun glasses, and/or a white t-shirt, then the school will raise even more funds and save you the trouble of organising! There will also be a cake stall and some other fun items to purchase on the day of the event.



We aim to start the run at 3pm with everyone leaving their belongings at various points across the school playground/outside space. (We don't want any colour dust in school, if at all possible!) Please join your child at 3pm, if you would like to take part too, or just want to watch. Then the school will all go to the field for the run. We aim to be finished by 3.30pm, when you can take your child home.

World Book Day



Don't forget that next week, on the 6th March the school will be supporting world book day.

We ask you to dress your child(ren) in a book character, from a fantasy tale, for the day. They will then take part in a variety of book related tasks, moving around in their house teams.

If you are wondering what you could dress your child as, what about a gnome, fairy, dragon, hobbit, unicorn, mermaid, the Gruffalo, Amelia Fang, or a character from the Enchanted tree. The list is endless!





Swimming Pool

Now that we have been able to gather the views of a variety of the community (parent forum, requests for comments, governor's discussion, PTFA discussion) in regards to the refurbishment of the swimming pool, it has been decided to decommission the school pool, and find an alternative swimming provider.

I know that most parents would like to keep the pool running, but it is just not cost effective, especially in these times of shrinking budgets and high costs for utilities.

We will now find a local pool to offer swimming lessons for Key Stage 2 pupils, and let you know more details.



Reading with Basil



I just wanted to share with you a heart-warming picture of a pupil from school, reading with our 'pets as therapy dog', Basil.

For those pupils who have had the opportunity to read with him over the years, this is the type of interaction that he has with them. He is a calm and settled dog, who is a gentle giant. To be honest, he usually licks my chin when he is in school!

We believe that this will be his final year of volunteering, so we all need to enjoy him in school, while he is still visiting!



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