



Newsletter 18

26 January 2024



Growing together to build our future

Message from the Headteacher

We are approaching the end of January and those small signs of spring are beginning to appear. After a long month, the increasingly lighter mornings and evenings are very welcome to us all.

This week Year 1 walked into Wimborne to visit East Dorset Museum as part of their learning experience based on Toys in the past. The children loved the opportunity to see and handle artefacts from the past and were asking superb questions to learn more. They took part in a range of workshops including creating peg dolls, playing traditional games, looking at toys from the past and attending a Victorian school. The staff were incredibly impressed with the children's behaviour and how they represented the school and a big thank you to parents who helped on the trip.

Over the past two weeks, at the end of the week, the PTA have been offering 'cosy coats' on the playground at the end of the day. Thank you to the PTA for enabling a simple but fantastic way for us to recycle and reuse children's coats. You have donated so many coats which now belong to another child - free of charge! A brilliant idea that has been incredibly well received. If you have any other ideas of ways we can make a difference, please get in touch.

Our next celebration of learning is fast approaching. Please make sure you have **Wednesday 7th February 2.45-3.15** in your diaries to visit your child's classroom and learning.

World Book Day is fast approaching on Thursday 7th March. We would like to invite all children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. The staff theme this year is Fairy Tales and people are planning their costumes already.

Lastly, we have had some recent communications from local residents regarding parking in the streets close to school. We kindly ask that all parents park safely and legally. Please do not park on double yellow lines or obstruct driveways and be respectful of residents and their property. Please also be reminded that parents should not be parking in the staff car park. Thank you for your understanding and supporting our community.

Have a lovely weekend,

Katharine Anstey
Headteacher

This is a school for everyone. Everyone is welcome.



Safeguarding and Online Safety

Through partnership working with BCP Council, Dorset Police and the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group the Partnership has put together a briefing document with key information for parents/carers with more information about risks linked to county lines and exploitation.

If you have any serious concerns about a child, particularly if you think they may be suffering or at risk of suffering harm, please share this information promptly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead Team. If you are unable to contact a member of the school team and you wish to pass on serious concern, please call the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01202 735046 We are an Operation Encompass school, to find out more please follow the link [here](#).

Open conversation is best when negotiating online safety with children and young people. Find guidance on these conversations here from the NSPCC <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

Privacy Notice

Initio Learning Trust is committed to protecting the privacy and security of personal information. The privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about pupils, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), section 537A of the Education Act 1996 and section 83 of the Children Act 1989. Please find the document [here](#) on the school website.

Policies can be found on our school website and contact the school office if you require documents in different formats.

Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child's attendance in school and being on time every day. Good attendance in school is a top priority and our expectation is that pupils attend school every day for every session. We believe that regular, uninterrupted attendance secures the best possible learning achievement for all our children and we are committed to working in partnership with families to achieve this. Schools are expected to monitor all pupils' attendance records closely and to pass these on to the receiving school when pupils transfer.

This week's attendance

Whole School	96.09%
Year 4	95.18%
Year 3	96.32%
Year 2	97.01%
Year 1	95.79%
Reception	96.12%

When will absences not be authorised?

The school will not authorise absence for any of the following reasons:

holidays, shopping, looking after other members of the family, minding the house, birthdays or similar events.

Children will be marked in as late after 8.55 am and children arriving after 9.15 am are recorded as an unauthorised absence. We carefully monitor pupils who arrive late for school and work with parents and carers to improve punctuality.

Do you have a comment, thought or question you would like to share with the school?

Please use the link [here](#) to access our communication form.

Is your child eligible for Pupil Premium funding?

You may be entitled to financial support towards uniform, trips, an extracurricular activity, milk and school meals.

Use the link [here](#) to check.

Debi Day Care - Inset Day - Monday 19th February 2024

Subject to demand, childcare at Debi Day Care, Before & After School Club, will be available between the hours of 0845-1515 hours at the Merley Community Centre @ £25/child. Both indoor and outdoor activities will be provided for the children, together with light snacks and drinks. All welcome to attend.

For more information please either telephone or email debidaycare@btinternet.com



CHILDREN'S MENTAL WELLBEING

It's never too early to talk to your children about mental health, as starting off with good habits can help them manage their wellbeing better as they grow up. Teaching them healthy coping mechanisms early on will mean they understand how to cope with periods of low mood and not great mental health.

Each week we will include a different suggestion to help connect with your child and support the development of their mental health.

Finger Breathing

Breathing is a powerful thing. It can be used to fuel our bodies by breathing more heavily when we use energy, but it can also be used to make us feel calm and centred.

By using breathing techniques to improve our mental health, we can ensure we take just a few moments out of our day to re-centre.

Finger breathing is a technique you can use with children to help them do just that. To use it, you simply sit with your hand open facing you. Place the index (pointer) finger of your other hand at the base of your thumb on your open hand. As you breathe in, trace the upward lines of your fingers. As you breathe out, use controlled breaths while you trace back around and down your fingers.

This is a way of getting children to take five deep breaths with a simple, healthy focus point for their mind.



Forthcoming Diary Dates SPRING TERM 2024

January 2024

Wednesday 31st January - Crazy Creatures visit to Year 2 classes

February 2024

Wednesday 7th February - Celebration of Learning - Families invited to see their child's learning 2.45-3.15pm

Thursday 8th February - Year 4 PGL Trip Meeting in Fox's classroom - 2.45pm

Monday 12th - Friday 16th February - Half Term

Monday 19th February - Staff training day (no children in school)

Tuesday 27th February - Parents evening (bookings to go live on Parentmail at 6pm 7/2/24)

Thursday 29th February - Parents evening (bookings to go live on Parentmail at 6pm 7/2/24)

March 2024

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day - dress up as your favourite book character

Wednesday 27th March - Last day of term

Thursday 28th March - Staff training day (no children in school)

June 2024

Friday 14th June - Sports Day

Tuesday 18th June - Reserve Sports Day

Friday 21st June - Staff training day (no children in school)

July 2024

Monday 1st to Wednesday 3rd July - Year 4 PGL Residential

Friday 12th July - PTA Summer Fair

An Introduction to Autism and Neurodiversity for Parents

Led by Kate Tuck & Jackie Horne

Linwood Training, Support & Advice

This session will provide parents with a basic overview of how Autism and Neurodiversity may present in children and young people.

- Information about Autism and Neurodiversity including the 3 areas of difference.
- Parent input "What I wish I had known".
- Young person input "My experiences".



Please note that your child does not need a diagnosis to attend this session. No charge to attend. This course is open to families who live in BCP.

Please email ; jackiehorne@linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk for session details / availability.