



IVY CHIMNEYS CHATTER



Schools are really amazing places to work and I continue to feel a huge privilege to work here, especially on World Book Day where there is so much support from families. Of course World Book Day is all about celebrating, recognising and developing a 'love of reading' whether that's a good novel, newspaper or non-fiction book. This morning the children took part in a parade in front of their classmates, and later will participate in a reading buddy session with a partner class and other focussed reading activities.

The best dressed winners are pictured below and will be able to choose their prizes from the book fayre when it arrives next Wednesday. Our thanks to Carole and Wendy for judging a very tough competition and special thanks to FOICs for once again funding the prizes.



*Well done to our winners:
Oscar L, Tilly M,
Tabitha B, Herbie S,
Charlie B, Devon P,
Bella S and Tommy S.*

In fact, in this edition, I wanted to draw parents' attention to the enormous contribution that the FOICs have made towards our school in recent months.

Firstly, the full cost of at least one of the school trips during the year, is subsidised by the FOICs. This isn't always apparent, but with the rising cost of coach hire or entrance fees, some of our trips would cost in excess of £20. FOICs subsidise this to the sum of £10 for each child in the school for the year. That's £3050. They have also supplied the high

HOPES AND HIGHLIGHTS WINNERS

Well done to Izzy (Yr 2), Anabela (Yr 4), Guy (EYFS) and Alfie (Year 4) for winning the Highlights of 2016 and Hopes for 2017 competition. We received lots of excellent, high quality entries in both written and video formats. A special mention to Miya (Yr 4) and Amelia H (Yr 6) who didn't win, but were close runners up.



DID YOU KNOW?

We notify parents if their child has a Gold Award on Thursdays. If, for whatever reason, it isn't convenient or possible to attend the Achievement Assembly the following day, you may defer this to the following week. Please use Class Dojo to contact teachers and let them know.

@IC_EYFS @IC_Chestnut @IC_Birch @IC_Elm
@IC_Rowan @IC_Hornbeam @IC_Plane @IC_Maple
@IC_Beech @IC_Walnut @IC_Office @IC_Council @FOICs

visibility jackets that the children and staff wear when they are on trips.

The all weather surface outside Chestnut, Elm and Birch has been paid for entirely by the FOICs. This amounts to a £19k investment in better play and learning spaces for children. Coupled with lots of additional resources to help make indoor and outdoor play much more enjoyable with wet weather games, hoops, skipping ropes, balls and new picnic table tops.

The Learning Lab renovation project provides a fantastic learning space which is the envy of staff from other schools who come to visit Ivy. Writeable desks and a large interactive screen makes this room an exciting place in which to learn for staff and children. Project cost: £500

Of course, shortly after I arrived as HT, our iPads have made an enormous contribution to teaching and learning. Nearly four years on, all of these devices are still working brilliantly. This investment alone totalled £15k.

All of this simply couldn't have been achieved or afforded without your generous support of time attending and volunteering at events, encouragement to your children to participate and money that you give to the school. "Thank you" from everyone who has helped make this school the best in the area for everyone to enjoy. In passing, we are always on the look out for matched funding, do look to see if your company has a matched funding scheme.
<http://www.foics.org/how-can-you-help>

Last week, we received a letter from Buckingham Palace in response to a letter written by children in Woolcraft club. Whilst the Queen didn't reply personally, it is rather endearing to know that the children's efforts have been recognised nonetheless.

Jonathan Furness, Head Teacher

IMPORTANT DATES

Fri 3rd Mar	Walnut Class Assembly SATs meeting for Year 6 parents (2:30pm)
Wed 8th Mar	Book Fair arrives
Fri 10th Mar	Larch Class Assembly
14th & 16th Mar	Learning Conferences (3:50 - 6:20pm)
Fri 17th Mar	Birch Class Assembly
Fri 24th Mar	Beech Class Assembly
Thurs 30th Mar	FOICs Easter Discos
Fri 31st Mar	Chestnut Class Assembly
3rd - 17th Apr	EASTER HOLIDAY
18th Apr	Non Pupil Day
19th Apr	First day back for all children

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