



IVY CHIMNEYS CHATTER



May I begin by expressing my heartfelt sadness at the tragic events that unfolded at the beginning of the week in Manchester. What should have been a truly amazing experience for young people; within seconds left children orphaned, physically injured, emotionally distraught and left parents without children.

Naturally the children may be asking questions about the Manchester bombing, so can I refer you to a video on Newsround which you may feel appropriate to watch together. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/40019250>

As Head Teacher, the realisation that children have been specifically targeted causes me a great deal of concern and I will be meeting with my senior leaders and consulting with the staff team about any additional actions required to ensure that our children are kept as safe as possible whilst on the school site and when we are out and about on school trips. I also believe that we have to maintain a sense of perspective and ensure our actions are proportionate to the level and likelihood of the current threat so we don't overly frighten or worry our children or deny them the learning opportunities that we provide at Ivy. I will provide further details about how we manage critical incidents in due course.

On a more happier note, I wanted to congratulate our Year 2 and Year 6 cohorts on the attitude shown towards the SATs tests over these past three weeks. We are delighted that with your support, the children turned up well prepared each day and put in their best effort.

Of course our Year 6s will shortly be returning to Epping following their week at Weymouth. I was fortunate to be able to visit on the Wednesday and Thursday and with plenty of encouragement from the children, enjoyed two days of

"DADS" TO SCHOOL DAY

A tradition at Ivy Chimneys is to invite a 'Dad' (uncle, grandfather, older brother, close friend) into school. Our "Dad's" to school day is taking place on 16th June and we are very much looking forward to the day. A separate letter has been sent out with further details **so please look out for this**. We require every adult to register their attendance by 8th June as it is important to know which adults to expect in school. We will be strict about this and if you **haven't registered you won't be able to attend**.

DID YOU KNOW?

Fidget Spinners are not permitted in school. We have been very clear with the children about not bringing them in at all, not even in their school bags.



@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

fabulous adventure. I think the two groups who were kayaking with me, took great pleasure in completely drenching me and watching me tumble from the kayak as we all attempted to stand up and sing heads, shoulders, knees and toes! All of the children are thoroughly enjoying their time and I think because of their positive spirit and behaviour, the staff are rather enjoying it too! May I thank Mr Jones, Miss Burton, Miss Sigston, Mrs Sitton, Linda and Bernie (the coach driver) for taking such good care of all the children and giving them a superb week with memories that will last a lifetime!



I was also able to accompany the Year 5s to the Mile End Climbing Wall where the children learnt to traverse, climb and abseil. Watching the children overcome their fear and exceed their personal target was especially rewarding. Thank you to our two parent volunteers, Mrs Sillitoe and Mrs Goodland for supporting the trip. Thank you to Mrs Leach for organising this fabulous trip.

This week has been especially warm and we are grateful to the vast majority of parents who have provided children with hats, suncream and water bottles each day. Water bottles are an essential item of school equipment these days and whilst we have water fountains for children to access at break times and lunchtimes, children need to remain hydrated during class time too.

Finally, may I wish everyone a happy and safe half term holiday. School resumes on Monday 5th June. See you then!

Jonathan Furness, Head Teacher

IMPORTANT DATES

26th May	Chestnut Class Assembly
29th-2nd June	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
5th June	RETURN TO SCHOOL
7th June	Year 6 Careers Morning
8th June	Governors' Day
9th June	FoICS Non-uniform day
15th June	FoICS KS1 Movies and Munch
16th June	"Dads" to School Day
19th June	KS1 trip to Old MacDonald Farm
22nd June	New Foundation Parents Meeting (2pm)
23rd June	Hornbeam Class Assembly
30th June	Plane Class Assembly

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