



# IVY CHIMNEYS CHATTER



We have had a very challenging week and I would like to share my appreciation of the whole school community for showing great resilience and determination to ensure we can open school as normal. Mr White, Mr Jones and a parent volunteer, Mr Leader, made a sterling effort to clear snow from around the school site each morning. Without them, we wouldn't have been able to open. I must also extend my thanks to the parent volunteers who worked to grit and clear snow from the pavements outside the school gates. Your efforts were valiant and appreciated. My staff team have been super supportive and showed great determination to arrive in school each morning and teach our children. Lastly, I'd like to thank the parent community for their unwavering commitment to bringing children to school and picking them up when we made the difficult decision to close early yesterday.



The governing body have asked if I would include their comments in this edition of the Chatter.

*"The Governors would like to extend their thanks to the staff of Ivy Chimneys for their efforts this week in keeping*

*the school opening under rather challenging circumstances. Additionally, the Governors wish to thank students and parents for your commitment to attending school despite commuting difficulties and special thanks to those parents who helped staff clear pathways so the school could remain open. This was yet further evidence of the brilliant community we have in our school."*

We are fully anticipating that warmer weather will arrive over the weekend bringing an end to the bitterly cold temperatures, snow and ice. We will have to continue to watch the forecast to see how quickly the weather improves.

As a result of the cold weather, our decision to postpone World Book Day celebrations until next Thursday 8th March seemed to be a sensible one. I was acutely aware that some children would be unable to attend and join in the fun. It also felt too cold for children to be travelling and to be in school wearing only lightweight costumes.

Whilst I am impressed by the children's commitment to attend school and achieve their 100% attendance, I'd like to reassure parents of those children who couldn't attend school over the last few days, that our end of year attendance reward will reflect those children with attendance over 96.5% (our current school attendance target.) We will not unfairly penalise your child from an attendance reward in the Summer term because they were absent due to snow.

Jonathan Furness, Head Teacher

## LEARNING CONFERENCES

Last week, you should have received a letter inviting you to book an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher. Learning Conferences are taking place on Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th March. Remember that you book your appointment times online via the ParentMail app. If you have any difficulties, please contact the school office.

## MOTHERS' DAY ACTIVITIES

We are very much looking to welcoming "mums" into school next Friday 9th March. We have put together a schedule of activities in order to avoid clashes for parents who have more than one child in school. We have written a separate letter detailing the timings and arrangements on this day. Please confirm your attendance by completing the online form.

@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

## IMPORTANT DATES

Thurs 8th Mar	World Book Day (rescheduled)
Fri 9th Mar	Birch Class Assembly Mothers' Day activities (letter to follow)
Tues 13th & Thurs 15th Mar	Learning Conferences 3:50pm to 7pm
Fri 16th Mar	Larch Class Assembly
Tues 20th Mar	Year 3/4 Dress Rehearsal
Wed 21st Mar	Year 3/4 Performance "What a Knight" 1:30pm & 6pm
Fri 23rd Mar	Beech Class Assembly
<b>Tel:</b>	<b>01992 573518</b>
<b>Absence Tel:</b>	<b>01992 578162</b>
<b>Fax:</b>	<b>01992 560417</b>
<b>email:</b>	<b><a href="mailto:admin@ivychimneys.essex.sch.uk">admin@ivychimneys.essex.sch.uk</a></b>
<b>website:</b>	<b><a href="http://www.ivychimneys.net">www.ivychimneys.net</a></b>
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