

The Ickworth Spark - Issue 1



Welcome to our monthly newsletter!

Dear Families,

It has been a pleasure to welcome everyone back for the start of a new academic year. The school has been full of happy faces and excitement as children have returned ready to learn and embrace new challenges.

The beginning of a new year is always a busy time and it has been a joy to see the children engaging so positively with their learning, participating in new opportunities and demonstrating our school values of **Respect, Challenge, Resilience** and **Confidence**.

At Ickworth Park, we really value the strong partnerships we have with our families. We look forward to another successful year together.

Mrs Reynolds

Deputy Headteacher

Diary Dates and School Events

Please take a moment to check the diary dates included on your child's class newsletter. Class timetables and long term overviews, as well as class newsletters can be found [here](#). As we move further into the autumn term, we have a number of exciting events planned including a **KS2 STEM trip to Adastral Park**, the **PTA disco**, a **Year 1 trip to St Leonards Church** and many more! These opportunities allow children to enrich their learning, share their achievements and continue building positive relationships across our school community.

Class newsletters: [here](#)

Please also keep an eye on Class Dojo for any updates or additional information relating to upcoming events.

Things looking a little different...

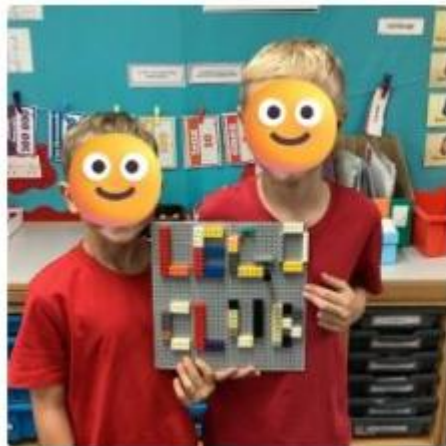
You may notice that our newsletter and school website look a little different this year.

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding and protecting the privacy of everyone in our school community, we are moving towards using photographs that do not clearly show individuals' faces. This means you may see photographs taken from behind, images that focus on learning activities rather than children, or pictures where faces have been covered with emojis.

You will continue to see photographs of children on Class Dojo. Unlike our website and newsletter, Class Dojo is a closed communication platform that is only accessible to approved family members and school staff. This allows us to share more personalised updates about learning and special moments whilst maintaining a secure environment for our school community.

Thank you for your support as we introduce this approach across both our newsletter and school website.

What have we been up to in school?



LEGO Club

LEGO Club has been a huge success and is proving incredibly popular with children across the school.

Through building and creating together, children are developing important skills such as teamwork, problem-solving and resilience, all whilst having great fun!

Year 2 - History

Year 2 enjoyed welcoming some very special visitors into school as part of their history topic.

The children loved hearing about what life was like when their grandparents were younger and asking thoughtful questions about how things have changed over time.



Sports Kit Grant

At the end of the summer term, Ickworth Park were successful in applying for funding from Safesmart to design £500 worth of sports kit!

Last week, members of Years 6 wore the school kit for their first sports fixture of the year. We were incredibly proud of how well they represented the school, alongside how smart they looked.

Attendance

Attendance remains a key priority at Ickworth Park. Being in school every day supports children's learning, friendships and sense of belonging. Thank you to families for helping us maintain strong attendance and ensuring children arrive at school ready to learn.

We are mindful that there will be occasions when children are unwell and should remain at home to recover. We also recognise that some educational opportunities, such as secondary school transition visits, are an important part of children's future preparation. Our expectation is simply that children attend school whenever they are well enough to do so, allowing them to make the most of their learning opportunities.

Congratulations to the classes who have won the weekly 100% attendance awards so far this term:

Beech and Lime!

Monthly Attendance

Elm - 91.8%

Beech - 96.8%

Oak - 97.9%

Lime - 97.7%

Hazel - 98.5%

Willow - 98.3%

Larch - 96.3%

Keeping our School Community Safe & Junior Road Safety Officers

As the new school year gets underway, we would like to thank families for their support in helping children arrive at school safely each day.

We kindly ask families to be mindful when parking around the school site, particularly during drop-off and collection times. Please avoid parking on pavements, blocking driveways or stopping in areas that could make it difficult for children and families to cross safely.

This term, we will also be electing our new Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs). The children selected for this important role will work alongside staff and our wider school community to promote road safety and encourage safe travel to and from school. We are looking forward to seeing the positive ideas and initiatives they bring throughout the year!

SEND

At Ickworth Park, we are committed to ensuring that every child feels part of an inclusive and supportive community.

Our SEND provision continues to focus on identifying needs early, working closely with families and ensuring that the right support is in place for each child. This term, staff have been working hard to establish supportive routines and ensure successful transitions into new classes. If you are a parent of a child with SEND, please look out for a Dojo message from your child's class teacher inviting you to discuss your child's autumn Learning Plan.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's needs, please do contact me through the school office or via sendco@ickworthparkprimary.org.uk

The school website is also a great resource for families looking for a little bit of guidance or extra support. Click [here](#) to find out more.

You can find further information about SEND on our website [here](#)