

24th November 2023

Dear families,

Earlier this week, we re-shared details of our Christmas home learning opportunities with our local community. We have received a few entries for the two projects, but we are hopeful of spreading more cheer within the local community.

Please do ask the school office or class teacher if you require more details and hand in any completed designs to the school office when they are ready. We look forward to receiving more contributions.

Stronger Together

Communication and Interaction training

On Monday, our dedicated staff collaborated with the staff team from Warberry Academy. Together, our teachers and support staff engaged in a professional development session focused on communication and interaction strategies, as well as trauma-informed approaches to support our most vulnerable children. This collaborative effort underscores our commitment to providing the best possible support for every child's unique needs. By sharing insights, expertise, and best practices, our schools are collectively working towards nurturing environments where every child can thrive. We extend our appreciation to the staff at Warberry Academy for their invaluable contributions and look forward to continued collaboration for the benefit of our students.

Constructing toys in the Rowans

Miss Hughes, our site supervisor, joined the Year One children to add excitement and share her expertise as they collaborated on constructing their creative push/pull toy designs. The classroom buzzed with energy and learning as they brought their ideas to life, fostering both teamwork and imaginative exploration. The children applied their understanding of wheels, axles and axle holders with enthusiasm. Their hands-on exploration and experimentation allowed them to effectively incorporate these elements into their push/ pull toy designs, showcasing a practical application of their knowledge in a playful context.



Ilsham C of E Academy
Ilsham Road, Torquay,
Devon, TQ1 2JQ
T: 01803 292313 **E:** ilsham@lapsw.org
W: ilsham-lap.co.uk



FLOURISHING FUTURES



Sense of Belonging

Turning Heads CIC collaboration

We are thrilled to announce the exciting collaboration between Ilsham Academy and Turning Heads CIC, bringing the joy of cookery sessions to our young learners! Our pupils have had the incredible opportunity to engage in hands-on cooking experiences as they made pancakes. These enriching sessions not only enhance their practical cooking skills but also foster teamwork, creativity, and a love for healthy eating.

A big thank you to Turning Heads CIC for partnering with us in this venture, contributing to the holistic development of our students. We look forward to many more delightful moments in the kitchen and the continued success of this fantastic collaboration!



Wellswood Community Street Party

Get ready for a festive celebration at the Wellswood Community Street Party on Thursday, December 14th, from 5-9pm! Join us for an evening of community spirit, charity stalls, and live music, featuring a special performance by our talented school choir at 5:30pm. The PTFA will be there with a sweet treat – don't miss their candy floss stand, raising vital funds for our school. Ilsham Academy is proud to play a key role in supporting the organization of this event, ensuring

there's plenty of family fun for everyone. Come together with neighbours, enjoy the holiday spirit, and make lasting memories at the Wellswood Community Street Party!

Picture News in the Oaks

This week in our Picture News session, Oaks class explored the question 'How can we show Compassion to Others?' We learnt how, due to the cold weather and rising costs of energy, warm spaces had been set up in various locations across the UK, including in churches, libraries, and businesses, to provide both warmth and companionship during the winter months. The children were able to identify the struggles that other may face and how these struggles might make them feel. They all suggested excellent ways in which communities could come together to help each other during winter. The children all demonstrated excellent levels of our school Value of being compassionate during their discussions.



Geography in Monkey Puzzles

This week in Monkey Puzzles, the children have been working as Geographers to continue to broaden their understanding about why people migrate, with a specific focus on North America. They used a range of maps and atlases to explore the rich variety of landscapes in this continent and began to consider how this range of topographical features may impact on migration. This learning has further supported the children this week in considering their sense of belonging within the world and deepening their understanding of diversity.



Removing Barriers

Reading for Pleasure Across the School

This week, we were lucky enough to be visited by Emily from Waterstones, Torquay to present a Reading for Pleasure Assembly. There was a real buzz in the room as she shared some of her favourite books, both old and gold and more modern, with the children. All of the children were enthused by her suggestions, and we have a few recommendations to add to our library. Following the assembly, Becky met with our Reading Ambassadors and provided some top tips about how we can promote books in our reading areas. The ambassadors will be working to implement these changes over the next few weeks.

Book Blankets in the Beeches

As part of our weekly book club, the Beeches loved engaging in this week's Book Blanket! During the session, a whole range of books were displayed on the tables around the class for the children to engage with. Independently, and in small groups, the children discussed which books they felt were most inviting; which had the most interesting opening page, and which introduced interesting characters. It was wonderful to hear the depth of discussion taking place and the children were completely mesmerised with some the books on display. I'm sure the Beeches would happily tell you their favourite book if you asked!



Realising the Possible

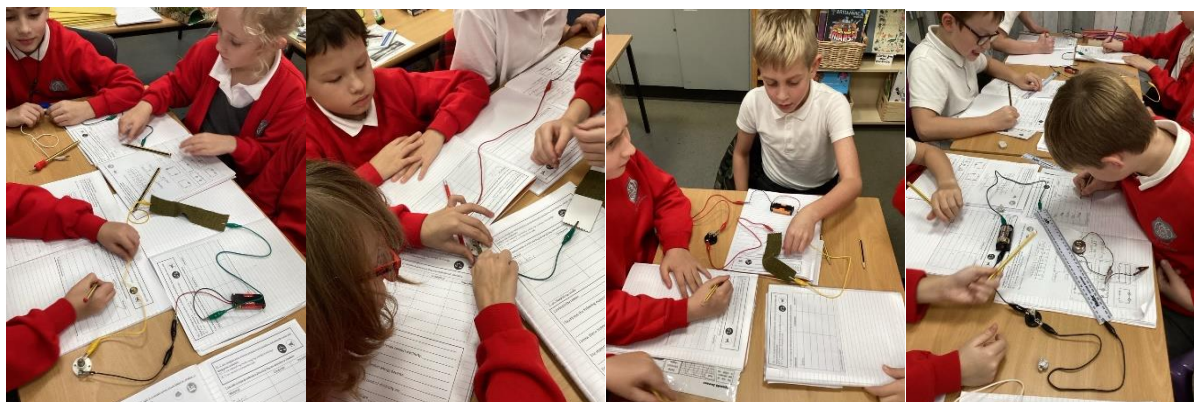
Floating and sinking in The Willows

In the Willows, the children engaged in a hands-on exploration of floating and sinking. Together, we delved into discussions about the properties of various objects, gaining a deeper understanding of why some things float and some sink. Prior to testing, the children eagerly made predictions, enhancing their scientific curiosity. This interactive approach not only made learning enjoyable but also allowed the children to predict, observe and justify why and how things could float and sink.



Electrical circuits in The Hollies

Using simple circuits, the budding scientists connected batteries to wires and tested different objects from metals to plastics, fabrics to wood, predicting whether each material would conduct electricity or act as an insulator. They shared ideas, compared results, and engaged in lively discussions, fostering a supportive and inquisitive atmosphere where everyone's contributions were valued. Through this hands-on experience, the children not only grasped the fundamental concepts of conductors and insulators but also honed their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. They learned that scientific exploration involves making predictions, conducting experiments, and drawing conclusions based on evidence—an invaluable lesson that extends far beyond the classroom.



Local football

Exciting news for our young football enthusiasts! This Christmas holiday, local football coaching opportunities are available for our budding athletes. Whether they're aiming to refine their skills, stay active, or simply have fun on the field, these coaching sessions provide an excellent chance for our students to continue their football journey during the break. Check out the details and consider enrolling your child in these fantastic sessions to keep their passion for the sport alive over the holidays. Lace up those boots and let the football fun continue!



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FOOTBALL CAMPS

CHRISTMAS CAMP

20th - 21st - 27th & 28th DECEMBER

Higher Audley Avenue
Windmill Hill Torquay

BOYS & GIRLS
5 - 14 Years Old

PRICE
£24 per day
£80 for the 4 days

DISCOUNT
For multiple days & siblings

Fully Qualified Ex-Professional FA Coaches

CONTACT
Fozzy - 07818 058846

Fun & Games
Competitions
Technical Development
Specialists Coaching

LEVELE YOUR PLAY

Football skills in the Maples

Year 3 have been taking part in a variety of activities in their PE lessons where they are focusing on enhancing their football skills. The emphasis is on developing essential skills such as passing, receiving and finding space. This week, they were focusing on refining their passing techniques.

They were learning the importance of using the instep for accurate and controlled passes. This fundamental skill forms the basis of effective teamwork when playing a game of football. It was amazing to see such a strong sense of sportsmanship in every group. Lots of the children were encouraging one another to keep persevering and trying again.



Christmas Jumper Concert

On Thursday 7th December, the school choir will be performing at the Palace Theatre Paignton as part of the Blossom's Music School concert. The performance begins at 7pm and concludes at 9pm. We would welcome as many people to come and support us as possible; it promises to be a wonderfully festive event!

If you would like to come along, you can book tickets here: [Christmas Jumper concert - Events in Paignton - The Palace Theatre Paignton](#)



Tickets are priced at: Adult £9.50 Senior £8 Child £6.50

Please remember, if booking tickets, that you book for **Thursday 7th December** as there are two events listed. We hope to see you there!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Grinsill and The Ilsham Team

School Awards

Class	 Star of the Week	 Presentation Award
Willows	Ariya – For trying her best in everything she does, and for giving great answers to questions.	Frank – for trying so hard with his letter formation and making his letters much smaller in size. Well done, Frank!
Rowans	Will C – you have shown a wonderfully positive attitude to your learning this week. It was also great to see you use you map reading skills for your Geography fieldwork this week as well.	Ophelia – for trying really hard with your letter and number formation this week and always trying your best in all of your learning.
Beeches	Mikolaj – for always having such fabulous ideas in our English lessons and for consistently presenting your work beautifully.	Joshua – for working hard with your letter formation and for working hard to ensure work is presented neatly.
Maples	Lincoln for always showing compassion and respect to his peers. He is always enthusiastic about helping people in lessons and encourages his peers to persevere. Well done Lincoln!	Oskar for showing unbelievable progress with his handwriting in such as short amount of time. Well done Oskar!
Hollies	Sebastien – for wholeheartedly embracing outdoor cooking with the wonderful leaders from Talking Heads charity. Your enthusiasm was wonderful, and I can't wait to see what you cook up next!	Grace is working on her letter formation and ensuring her capital letters look like capital letters, we are seeing improvements daily, well done!
Oaks	Bence for demonstrating excellent learning behaviours in each and every lesson. I am always impressed at the way you challenge and apply yourself to your learning and ensure you absorb and assimilate every piece of information. Great work!	Meghan for always working hard to ensure that your work is neatly presented across the curriculum. Well done Meghan!

Monkey Puzzles	Colton- for exceptional effort in Maths this week. I am so proud of all that he does and how hard he tries in all areas of learning. Well done Colton!	Jeremy- for always carefully considering presentation in all areas of the curriculum. Well done Jeremy!
-------------------	--	---

Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance %
The Willows	97.92%
The Rowans	99%
The Beeches	96.88%
The Maples	98.37%
The Hollies	99%
The Oaks	99%
The Monkey Puzzles	97.6%
Whole School	98.26%