

5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear families

Welcome back! It has been wonderful to see everyone back at school over the Christmas period and there has been plenty happening across the school to share with you all.



### **Stronger Together**

#### **To grow and flourish wherever you are planted**

In our staff meeting this week, the team came together to reflect on our school's vision, "To grow and flourish wherever you are planted." With a shared commitment to nurturing the growth of every child, we spent valuable time delving into the Church of England's vision for education. Together, we engaged in thoughtful discussions, collectively unpicking the principles that underpin our mission, aligning our commitment to educational excellence with the Christian vision at the heart of our school. As a result, we have identified meaningful next steps to ensure that every child in our care is provided with the support and encouragement needed to truly flourish. We look forward to embracing these steps and continuing our journey of fostering a nurturing environment for all.

### **Sense of Belonging**

#### **Belonging to a Community in the Rowans**

As our children grow, they start to recognise the importance of being part of a group and understanding the rules that may come with this. As global citizens, this week our focus has been on helping them understand the significance of rules in various scenarios. We discussed places like schools, swimming pools and football clubs, where rules ensure safety, promote learning and teach them to understand right from wrong. The children explored rules in various places and learned that rules are there for a reason and they can be decided by parents, teacher or even the government. This has begun to support the children in understanding the role they play in fostering a sense of belonging and the safety of everyone in their community.

### **Removing Barriers**

#### **Artwork in the Willows**

This week the children have been introduced to the work of a local artist. The children immersed themselves in the world of artist Yvonne Coomber, captivated by her vibrant use of colours. They learnt all about primary colours and how she uses these to make new colours and never uses colours straight from the pot, as she likes to mix them together. The children eagerly experimented, blending primary colours with brushes and even their fingers, joyfully discovering the art of crafting new shades.



**Ilsham C of E Academy**  
Ilsham Road, Torquay,  
Devon, TQ1 2JQ  
**T:** 01803 292313 **E:** [ilsham@lapsw.org](mailto:ilsham@lapsw.org)  
**W:** [ilsham-lap.co.uk](http://ilsham-lap.co.uk)



# **FLOURISHING FUTURES**

### Exploring the Romans in the Maples

This week in History, the Maples had their first lesson exploring their new unit of the Romans. They spent the lesson exploring the key question 'Who were the Romans and where did they come from?'. The children were able to make connections with their previous History unit of the Stone Age to the Iron Age, when they looked at the timeline to see when in History the Roman Empire ruled. Throughout the lesson, they were raising questions that created an in-depth discussion amongst all children in the class which was an exciting way to kick off the Roman unit. It was lovely to see how eager the children were to put their new knowledge in their books during their independent work.

### History in the Beeches

Our Year Twos have had a fantastic first week back and have blown us away with their incredible passion for learning in all lessons across the curriculum. As a class of very keen historians, they were eager to dive straight into our new history unit this term which focuses on the Great Fire of London. During our session this week, the class examined a range of historic images to determine what life was like in London during the 1600s. The children were tasked with creating a collage to represent a street scene of London during this period of time. They worked hard to represent the confined conditions that many families were living in and we were blown away at their creativity this week.

### Realising the Possible

#### The Black Art Movement, Womens' Rights and Climate Change in Monkey Puzzles

This week, the children in Year 6 have been focussing on inequality within our world and those people who have been inspirational in bringing about change, impacting on how we live now and our lives in the future.

As historians, they have started to learn about the inequality between classes and gender in the Victorian Era and have worked to use sources to deepen their understanding.

As artists, we have been focussing on Lubaina Himid, a key black, female artist who championed the way for female black artists in the 1980's and paved the way for them to have their work recognised and viewed. She was also renown for addressing inequalities within race, gender and classes during this time.

Finally, the children have been continuing their work on climate change, researching key information and statistics to support their persuasive writing.

The children have been incredible at voicing their views this week and it has been wonderful to see how their understanding that they, as individuals, are able to change the world.

### Brian Pollard's Art in The Hollies

This week the children have had their introduction into the work of local artist Brian Pollard. We discussed his use of colour and subject, and the emotions these colours evoke in us when we look at his work. We compared his work to that of Henry Moore, whom we studied last term, and discussed how each artist made us feel different emotions and how each artist holds a different place in art history. Building on from the work with colour that the children did in Year 3, they then

completed a colour wheel using primary colours then mixed their own secondary and tertiary colours.



### Science in the Oaks

Oaks have had a brilliant first week back at school – every child has returned motivated to learn following their break. In Science, the class have started their new Forces topics. We began by exploring what a force is and the different types of force at work in our world. We discussed the work of Issac Newton and the difference between mass and weight. The children enjoyed using force metres to measure forces in the classroom and observing different forces in action (including, gravity, upthrust and air resistance). I was very impressed with how the class worked scientifically in their groups to take and record accurate measurements.





Enjoy the weekend,  
Mr Grinsill and The Ilsham Team

### Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance %
The Willows	100
The Rowans	90
The Beeches	93.7
The Maples	89.1
The Hollies	100
The Oaks	100
The Monkey Puzzles	100
Whole School	96.3

## School Awards

Class	 <b>Star of the Week</b>	 <b>Presentation Award</b>
Willows	Hugo, for settling into Ilsham so well and being a wonderful new member to the Willows family. Thank you, Hugo!	Jayden, for taking much more care and thought over the presentation of your work. Well done, Jayden.
Rowans	Ophelia – you are a true role model to all in our school family. Our school values shine through in all that you do and your enthusiastic approach to life is infectious.	Ariya – You have shown a great improvement in the presentation of your work and your positive attitude towards learning. Keep it up!
Beeches	Matilda – you always answer questions with such enthusiasm and have such a passion for learning.	Kyla – for taking so much care and pride in your maths work. Your presentation has been stunning!
Maples	Thomas – for your enthusiasm in all lessons and the thought provoking questions you contribute to class discussions.	Harry – for taking pride and care in your handwriting and presentation in all lessons.
Hollies	Bane – For his incredibly positive learning attitude and showing enthusiasm across all subjects, including handwriting.	Louie – for transforming his handwriting over the Christmas break. Beautiful letter formation Louie, keep it up :-)
Oaks	Logan and George – you have both had such a positive start to your new school. We are very pleased to have you as part of Oaks Class!	Paige for taking great care with her presentation in handwriting lessons and across the curriculum.
Monkey Puzzles	Charlee- for his focus and love for learning this week. He has worked incredibly hard, and it has been wonderful	Sophia- for excellent presentation in all areas of the curriculum, particularly English.

## Diary Dates

18<sup>th</sup> January – Year 3 and Year 6 trip to Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra  
 8th February – PTFA Valentine's Disco  
 23rd February – Fire Service visit Year 2 and Year 5  
 28th February – 1st March – Year 4 Residential  
 4th and 5th March – PTFA Superhero Stall for Mother's Day  
 11th – 15th March – Scholastic Book Fair  
 18th April x 5 weeks (Thursdays) – Year 5 Swimming  
 22nd – 25th April – Year 5 Bikeability Level 2