

17th May 2024

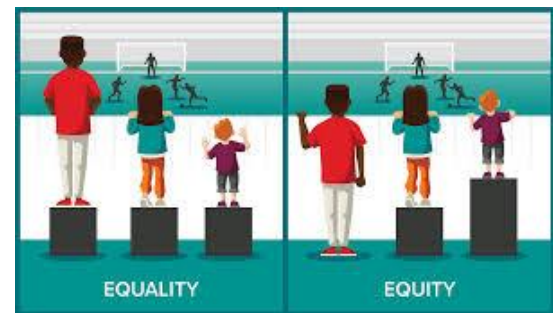
Dear families

This week, The Monkey Puzzles have completed their SATs and I wanted to share how proud of the children we are for all of their hard work, dedication and the support that they showed one another. The rest of the children across the school also pulled together to encourage the children and we thank them all for their support. Please read on to find out about the learning taking place across the school.

Stronger Together

Inclusion Pupil Conferencing

At Ilsham Academy, we foster an inclusive environment where every child feels valued and supported. Recently, we embarked on pupil conferencing sessions to gain insight into their perspectives on inclusion within our school community. Through open and meaningful dialogue, our students articulately expressed their understanding of the importance of equity and fairness in supporting all learners. Importantly, children recognised the unique needs of their peers with additional needs and demonstrated remarkable empathy and understanding towards their requirements, fostering a culture of acceptance and support among all students.



Monkey Puzzles

During their SATs week, the children have not only demonstrated resilience in their own learning and application, but they have also shown a great sense of friendship and support for each other. It has been wonderful to see their sense of encouragement, care and comradery and we are all so incredibly proud of them.

Sense of Belonging

Parking surrounding the School

Recently, we received reports of parking incidents that have caused inconvenience and safety concerns for our school community and residents of Wellswood. We understand that drop-off and pick-up times can be busy, but it's crucial that we all adhere to parking regulations to ensure the safety of everyone involved.

Please remember to park within marked bays and observe parking restrictions on Ilsham Road. Blocking junctions or parking outside designated areas can obstruct traffic flow and pose hazards to pedestrians and other road users.

We kindly ask for your cooperation in maintaining a safe and respectful environment around our school premises. Your compliance with parking regulations not only ensures the safety of our students but also fosters positive relationships with the local community.



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FLOURISHING FUTURES

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Let's work together to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone in our school community.

Removing Barriers

Snack Cafe maths in the Willows

There has been lots of maths learning in the Willow's this week. We find every opportunity to develop the children's knowledge of number sense and patterns in numbers. This week at the snack cafe the children have been exploring the number 10, and finding ways to partition 10 into two groups, using the 'part, part, whole' model. The children love this challenge and use this opportunity to investigate the different ways that their friends have made 10! Well done, Willows!



Awesome Animals in the Rowans

This week, the Rowans took on the role of scientists to learn about animal classifications. Using scientific enquiry skills, they asked questions to identify, sort, and classify different animals. Each child brought in a stuffed animal, and together we identified them by asking specific questions. We then classified the animals into various groups, such as those with legs vs. without legs, with fur vs. without fur, and with wings vs. with tails. It was a fun and educational experience that enhanced their understanding of animal diversity.



Choir Performance at the Devon County Show

Today saw the schools choir perform at the Devon County Show for the second year in a row. This is a fantastic opportunity for our children, and it was incredible to see children from EYFS all the way to Year 6 perform with such enthusiasm and joy.

They were fortunate enough to spend the rest of their day exploring the Devon County Show and all it had to offer.

A huge well done to our Choir as they were outstanding. It was an incredibly proud moment to see them on the stage shining so brightly.



Realising the Possible

Art in The Beeches

The children have been learning about the famous artist Lonnie Holley in our unit this half term, who is known for creating remarkable sculptures found from objects in the environment. Inspired by Holley's work, the children took on the challenge of creating their own sculptures using everyday materials such as recycled paper, cardboard, and plastic. We also went on a hunt in our school garden for some natural resources to use. They let their imaginations run wild as they transformed these materials into unique and creative pieces of art. After completing their sculptures, the children engaged in a thoughtful evaluation of their work. We are continuously impressed by the creativity and talent of our class, and we are thrilled to see them inspired by artists like Lonnie Holley. We certainly have some budding artists in our class family.



A Visit to Devon County Show for Hollies

We are thrilled to share the wonderful experience The Hollies had on their visit to the Devon County Show! This trip was a fantastic opportunity to enrich our science curriculum, specifically the topic of "Animals Including Humans."

The Devon County Show is renowned for its diverse array of animal exhibits, and we had the chance to see and interact with a variety of animals up close. From farmyard friends like sheep, cows, and pigs to more exotic species, the children were able to observe and learn about different animal characteristics and behaviours. We also got to see animal displays and the judging process in action. A highlight for us all, however, was watching our choir perform on one of the stages. We were very proud of their performance, and it was great to be in the audience to support them.

Computing in the Oaks

During Summer 1, our focus in computing has been on creating vector drawings. This week, the class worked on developing their understanding of layers and how they are used in vector drawings. They discovered that each object is built on a new layer and that these layers can be moved forwards and backwards to create effective vector drawings. The class observed how in nature there are lots of different layers. By layering other objects in front of their drawing, the class learnt how to make their own images blend in more. We are thoroughly enjoying this unit and I was impressed with the class's skills of resizing, alignment, copy and paste, zoom, and fill.





Historians in the Maples

As Historians, the Maples have spent this half term exploring the key question of 'how did Ancient Greece contribute to Modern Day life?' They have looked at who the ancient Greeks were, where they lived, how they were governed and how they became so powerful in the 5th and 6th century BC. We ended off this unit by looking at why the Olympics were so popular during this period and how it had contributed to the Olympics we know today. The children were really immersed in exploring how the events took place during this time and the similarities and differences to the events that we have in our Olympics in the modern day. They are already eager to start learning about other periods of time in History as they move into year 4.

Enjoy the weekend.

Mr Grinsill and The Ilsham Team

School Awards

Class	 Star of the Week	 Presentation Award
Willows	Leon – for being fabulous in his learning this week and trying his best at everything! Well done, Leon and keep it up!	Zev – for making sure his letters are much smaller and sitting them on the line. Well done, Zev!
Rowans	James and Ophelia- for both playing your part and working as fantastic talk partners – keep it up!	Nellie – for your super sentence writing this week and checking your writing to make sure they make sense – keep it up!
Beeches	Jasper is our star this week for his perseverance and determination in our Maths sessions. You are using your equipment independently and trying your best to answer the questions – well done!	Stephanie is our presentation superstar this week for her wonderful handwriting and presentation in all her books and her fabulous independent write in English.
Maples	Millie - For being more resilient in lessons and showing a huge growth in confidence in Maths. Well done Millie.	Ethan – for showing a huge improvement in his handwriting. It is now being joined at a high-quality standard in all your work. Well done Ethan.
Hollies	Hugo has shown great learning behaviours this week.	Dawson always takes great care over his handwriting and presentation with beautiful letter formation. Well done!
Oaks	Daisy – for her constantly brilliant learning behaviours and the determination she shows to succeed in every lesson. Great work Daisy!	Paige for working extremely hard to improve her joined handwriting both in class and at home.
Monkey Puzzles	All of Year 6 for their amazing attitude towards SATs this week and their support of each other.	Everyone has been incredible in their application this week- well done.

Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance %
The Willows	100
The Rowans	94.67
The Beeches	91.67
The Maples	100

The Hollies	92.59
The Oaks	100
The Monkey Puzzles	98
Whole School	96.70

Diary Dates

Next week:

24th May – Wear Odd Socks to support fundraising for Operation Smile (suggested donation of £1 per child)

After half term:

10th and 11th June – PTFA Superhero Stall for Father's Day
 14th June x 4 weeks (Fridays) – Year 6 Tennis sessions at Cary Park
 2nd July – Year 5 and Year 6 trip to London
 4th July – Transition Day
 5th July – Year 1 and Year 2 trip to Paignton Zoo
 9th July – ASD and ADHD Workshop for Parents, 8.50am
 10th July – Sports Day
 12th July – EYFS trip to Dawlish Warren
 18th July – Reserve Sports Day
 19th July – PTFA Summer Fair at St Matthias Church, 3pm
 23rd July – Year 6 Leavers' Service, St Matthias Church, 1.30pm