

14<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Dear families

Welcome back after the half-term break. It has been lovely to see all the children, who have been amazing at settling straight back into the school routine. Read on to find out more about your child's learning this week.

### **Stronger Together**

#### **NPQ Facilitation**

At Ilsham Academy, we were delighted to facilitate the National Professional Qualification programme for teachers across our School Trust. The day included a tour of our school, allowing colleagues to observe best practices in action. This opportunity fostered collaboration and the sharing of innovative teaching strategies among our staff to continue to provide the best possible education offer.

#### **Music in The Beeches**

This week in our Music lesson, The Beeches class have been busy becoming musicians. We have been learning how to play the Glockenspiel and have already mastered our B note. Our goal is to create our own music patterns and pieces using a selection of notes and share with an audience. It has been wonderful to see the children's excitement and enjoyment when playing the glockenspiels as a class, experimenting with different sounds and rhythms. When we all hit the notes at the same time, it was perfect, and the concentration faces were in full swing! We are excited to see what amazing music the Year 2's will create in the coming weeks.



### **Sense of Belonging**

#### **Pupil Questionnaire**

Our children recently completed a pupil questionnaire, and we are thrilled to share that the responses have been overwhelmingly positive – you will be able to view the report which has been sent to you. The feedback highlights significant developments from last year, reflecting our ongoing efforts to create a nurturing and effective learning environment. We are proud of the progress made and grateful for the continued support from our parents and the dedication of our staff. Together, we are fostering a community where our children can grow and flourish.



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## **FLOURISHING FUTURES**

### Geography in Hollies

Our key question this term in Geography is 'What are the key parts of the water cycle and how does it affect water moving around the Earth?' We looked at how the water cycle works and why it is vital to the Earth's ecosystems. The children completed diagrams with the main processes and also discussed the importance of conserving water, and the use of waste/collected water for jobs that don't need fresh water, watering plants for example.

### Removing Barriers

#### Preparing Fruit in the Rowans

This week in Design and Technology, the Rowans faced an exciting challenge: to design and create a healthy and delicious snack or drink made from fruits and vegetables. To start, the Rowans discussed important health and safety rules, including handwashing and safety tips for using utensils. The children were then given a variety of fruits and vegetables to work with, learning different preparation techniques such as peeling and slicing bananas and chopping carrots.



### Realise the Possible

#### RHE in Monkey Puzzles

This week in RHE, the children have been learning about Mental Health. They have focussed on explaining mental health (in terms of what it means) and also considering different emotions and how they can sometimes take over the 'thinking part' of the brain. As part of this, they have been considering strategies they can use to support themselves to be mentally healthy and how to be a good listener. This learning has helped the Year 6's to talk about their up-coming transition to secondary school and continue preparation towards their incredible futures.

#### PE in the Oaks

This week the class started their two new units of PE: Alternative Sports and Athletics. During Alternative Sports, the class worked hard to develop their teamwork, movement and throwing skills during their first lesson of dodgeball with Kinetics. In Athletics, the class focused on their running skills. They learnt how to pace themselves for longer runs and competed in sprinting races. Over the half term, they will try out a variety of sports and ensure that they are all raring to go for Sports Day.

### Maths in the Maples

This week, the children have been loving our new unit of shape. Over the past few lessons, they have learnt what a right angle is and how to identify them, all about parallel and perpendicular angles and obtuse and acute angles. They are retaining their new knowledge really well and have been able to apply this to their independent work. Many children have said this is the best unit we have done in Maths as it's fun and they're enjoying learning about different angles. This enthusiasm has been brilliant to see, and it is shining through in all our Maths lessons.

### Geography in the Willows

This week we have started our new topic 'What It's like beside the sea..' We have been reading our favourite five story 'The Wide Wide Sea' the children were really interested on how we can look after our world and the ocean and how we can play our part in protecting the animals that live in the sea. The children had a wonderful discussion about what we can do to help the planet, and they now want to do a beach clean! We then looked at pictures of different beaches and discussed man made and physical features. We thought about our own visits to the beach and what we enjoy doing at the beach. Lots of children shared photos from their beach holidays and shared their experiences with their friends. Some children drew maps of the beach and their journey to get to the beach. Well done, Willows, such a fabulous week of learning!





Enjoy the weekend,  
Mr Grinsill and The Ilsham Team

### Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance %
The Willows	93.18
The Rowans	93.82
The Beeches	96.45
The Maples	89.41
The Hollies	90.53
The Oaks	97.8
The Monkey Puzzles	96.7
Whole School	93.99

## School Awards

Class	 <b>Star of the Week</b>	 <b>Presentation Award</b>
Willows	Enzo – for sharing some amazing beach photos with the Willows and explaining your thoughts clearly.	Martha – for drawing a detailed map of your journey to school and even labelling it. Well done, Martha!
Rowans	Kaiden- you have shown great learning behaviours this week and we have been blown away by your marvellous Maths and fantastic Phonics.	Lottie – for her focus and awesome athletics this week.
Beeches	Alisha, for concentrating and having a 'ready to learn' attitude after our break. Focusing on being a respectful learner and actively listening. Well done, Alisha – what a fabulous start!	Jack T, for showing perseverance this week despite feeling poorly. You have continued to try your best with your work and engage with the lessons. Well done, Jack and we hope you feel 100% again soon.
Maples	Hugo for his dedication and enthusiasm in all lessons. Hugo has been demonstrating how to be a respectful learner in lessons by always playing his part by contributing thoughtful discussion points and actively listening.	Stella for showing a huge improvement in her handwriting. This shows the determination and resilience Stella is showing to ensure it is high quality in all of her work.
Hollies	The whole class have been incredible this week with their resilience and focus for the MTC check. Bravo Hollies!	Eda – for transforming your handwriting and consistently evaluating your own progress.
Oaks	Peter- for his increased motivation during writing and taking the time to help his friend during breaktime.	Daisy- for working extremely hard to develop her neat, joined writing.
Monkey Puzzles	Noah- for being a supportive friend in the class and for always being ready to share his ideas and opinions.	Ava- for exceptional presentation in all curriculum areas.

## Diary Dates

20th June – Parent Meeting for Year 5/6 trip to London

21st June – Year 6 Torquay Hub Activity afternoon

27th June – Years 1 & 2 trip to Meadfoot Beach

28th June – Year 4 Rounders Festival

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 – ASC 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