

12th July 2024

Dear families

We have had an extremely busy week, and it has been wonderful to share events and experiences with our Ilsham family.

Before diving into this week's newsletter, please could we take the opportunity to ask parents not to park or stop in the lane adjacent to the school at the gate that is used for The Willows children. This is a private lane, and we request that you respect that the owner needs to be able to use this for access.

Stronger Together

Sports Day

This Wednesday, our school community came together for a fantastic Sports Day! The children thoroughly enjoyed participating in their events and showcasing their impressive skills. It was a wonderful celebration of teamwork, sportsmanship, and school spirit. A heartfelt thank you to the PTFA for their unwavering support, to the parents for assisting with walking and cheering on the participants, to our dedicated staff for facilitating the day's activities, and to the children for their tremendous effort and enthusiasm. It was a day to remember, and we are grateful to everyone who contributed to its success!



Marine Litter Workshop in the Hollies

The wonderful Alex visited The Hollies again this week and delivered a workshop on 'Marine Litter'. She shared what marine litter is, how it gets into our oceans and seas and educated us on the impact this has on sea life. The statistics were shocking with 80% of marine litter coming from plastic, and 80% of that coming from the land. The children illustrated the durability of plastic by carrying out an experiment. In three bottles filled with water, the children put in a paper towel, a cotton bud and a wet wipe. After vigorously shaking the bottles, the children could see that all three objects were entirely intact, with no sign of them breaking down. To end the session, we went out on a litter pick outside of the school grounds. This is something the children said they would like to do more often as they said that they felt like they were 'making a difference'.



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FLOURISHING FUTURES

Sense of Belonging

School Council

This week, our School Council had the pleasure of being joined by our Trust Estates Manager, Mr. Court, and Catering Manager, Mrs. Carter, to discuss the findings of a recent waste audit conducted with SWISCO. The children presented their findings with enthusiasm and insight, highlighting areas where we can reduce waste and improve sustainability. As a result of this productive meeting, we have identified several innovative approaches that we will be trialling. We are eager to see the positive impact these initiatives will have and plan to measure the results at the start of the next academic year. Stay tuned for updates on our progress towards a greener, more sustainable Ilsham Academy!



A Lovely Community Offer



Portofino



Schools out for Summer
Free ice cream hour

Wednesday 24th July
Come in your school uniform between
3pm to 4 pm to receive your free ice cream
(including teachers & staff)

'Recycle Devon' Workshop with The Beeches

This week in The Beeches, the children were super excited to be taking part in a composting and planting workshop with Alex (who we met last week in an assembly) from Recycle Devon. Alex began by talking to us all about waste and composting. Showing us where waste that isn't recycled goes now and what happens when we compost in a compost bin! We learnt about the different minibeasts that live in compost bins, if they were carnivores, omnivores or herbivores and we also shared our knowledge of what a plant needs to thrive – Alex was super impressed. The children enjoyed three engaging activities in a little carousel, making some little signs for their pots, exploring some real minibeasts with magnifying glasses and planting some different seeds. This hands-on experience was not only educational but also a great way to learn about sustainability and the environment around us.



Removing Barriers

Creating Nutritious Snacks/drink in the Rowans

This week in design and technology, the Rowans brought their designs to life by creating nutritious snacks and drinks. The children utilized their skills in peeling, grating, and chopping to prepare healthy options, thoughtfully presenting them with care. We were fortunate to receive a generous fruit donation from Mr. D'Aprano of Roots Vegetables. The children had such a colourful array of fruit to choose from. At the end of the lesson, the children enjoyed their delicious creations together. The Rowans would like to say a big thank you to Mr D'Aprano!



Realise the Possible

Civic Award in Monkey Puzzles

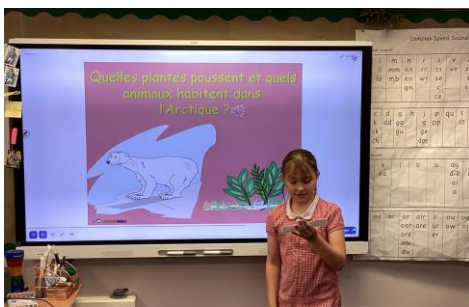
This week, we would like to share the amazing achievements of some of our children in Year 6 as they attended an award ceremony at St. Cuthbert Mayne to receive their Civic Award. A group of children have been working towards gaining this award throughout the year, supporting charities, learning new skills, demonstrating aspects of community partnership and making a difference to our environment (to name but a few areas in which they have applied themselves and made a difference!)

We are so incredibly proud of the children, and we know that they will take this learning with them as they continue to develop as positive, active citizens of the future. Well done to everyone who took part; you are amazing!



French in the Oaks

This half term, the class have been learning to use slightly more complex language and read more sophisticated writing using a wider range of vocabulary. They have learned the knowledge and skills to present both orally and in written form about various plants and animals that live in five very different habitats in French. This week, the class put these skills into use by creating their own presentations for the rest of the class in French about which animals and which plants lives in a particular habitat. It was brilliant to see the children presenting confidently.





DT in the Maples

This half term, the Maples have been learning all about pneumatic toys. The children can confidently say what pneumatics are and how and where they are used. Over the past few weeks, the children have been planning and designing their pneumatic toys with the focus of creating a toy for a child who loves dinosaurs. The past few days, the class have been working hard to make and evaluate them. This is them in action and we will be sure to share the final outcomes with you.



Mr Grinsill and The Ilsham Team

School Awards

| Class |  Star of the Week |  Presentation Award |
|----------------|--|---|
| Willows | To be announced | To be announced |
| Rowans | Lottie – For your heart warming compassion towards others and your wonderful sportsmanship on our Sports Day. | Kaiden – for a great recount of 'The gingerbread man' story in RWInc. Keep up the hard work! |
| Beeches | Holly is our star this week, for being polite and kind to others around her. I also enjoyed reading your research on spider monkeys! Well done, Holly! | Reuben, for your presentation in your books. Ensuring you are forming your letters beautifully and focusing on neat handwriting. Well done, keep it up! |
| Maples | Harry for always having outstanding behaviour and demonstrating the school values in all that he does. Well done, Harry. | Ptolemy for always putting 110% effort into ensuring his handwriting and overall presentation is high quality in all of his work. |
| Hollies | Sienna – for her dedicated work with the school – what a wonderful representative. | Joab – For forming beautiful cursive hand writing and presenting his work in a careful considered manner. |
| Oaks | James for always showing excellent levels of focus in class and always pushing himself to succeed highly. | Stone for working hard on his joined writing and presenting his work beautifully in English. |
| Monkey Puzzles | All of Year 6 are stars this week as they supported and celebrated each others' huge achievements when receiving their SATs results. They are all incredible young people! | Victoria- for always striving to present work in beautifully presented ways. |

Weekly Attendance

| Class | Attendance % |
|--------------------|--------------|
| The Willows | 94.25 |
| The Rowans | 92.12 |
| The Beeches | 93.83 |
| The Maples | 96.39 |
| The Hollies | 94.5 |
| The Oaks | 95.3 |
| The Monkey Puzzles | 93.4 |
| Whole School | 94.26 |

Diary Dates

23rd July – Year 6 Leavers' Service, 1.30pm at St Matthias Church

19th July – PTFA Summer Fair at **Isham Academy (change of venue)**, 3pm