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Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to IKB! On behalf of all the staff at IKB and IKB Bright Sparks we hope that you have enjoyed a fun and restful Summer and that your children are healthy and raring to go to begin the 2021-22 academic year. The team here at IKB cannot wait to see you all again!

Monday 6th September marks the beginning of term 1 of the academic year and will begin with a staff training INSET day. Our Bright Sparks nursery will be open as normal from Tuesday 7th September for those children booked in. We have lots of new children joining IKB Bright Sparks all the time and enquiries for September and beyond are pouring in. Please give us plenty of notice if you have a child who wants to start with us, or if you want to change your child's sessions. Tuesday 7th September will also see our Year 1 children returning to spend their first day with Miss Aldridge and Miss Hawkins, their new class teacher and teaching assistant respectively – remember that the Year 1 classroom is around the back of the school. There will be plenty of IKB staff members at the school gates and on the playgrounds at the start of the day on Tuesday 7th September to ensure you all get to where you need to go! Our new reception children will be visited throughout the first week of term by Miss Fahy, class teacher, and Miss Evans, teaching assistant, who will be conducting home visits to every family at the allotted times that have been agreed. Reception children and parents/ carers will be visiting IKB on the afternoon of Friday 10th September for our 'Stay and Play' sessions, designed for the children and their adults to familiarise themselves with the setting and ask any questions before the reception part-time week begins on Monday 13th September. All reception and Year 1 parents/ carers were sent their term 1 class newsletters and knowledge organisers before the Summer holidays to help families familiarise themselves with the staff, the topics, the learning, key vocabulary, etc that their children will be experiencing in term 1.

Upon your child's return to IKB can we please ask that everything that belongs to them is labelled with their full names please. Every day things inevitably get misplaced and it really does make things so much easier to locate and return to their rightful owner when they have a name in/ on. Please regularly check name tags and stickers that you label your child's things with too as we find that over time some do fall out. In terms of equipment, it is really important that the children have everything they need in school with them each day – PE kits, forest school gear, a change of clothes in case of accidents, book bags, packed lunch boxes (if necessary), reading books, reading records, coats, etc – if you do have any questions about any of these things then please ask your child's class teacher or teaching assistant who will be able to help you.

Our values at IKB align with those of The Castle Partnership Trust – The Castle School, Court Fields, Wellesley Park and IKB. We are so proud to be working alongside these other schools to provide such great opportunities for young people throughout the Wellington and Taunton areas. The Trust is founded on the principles of giving every child in our local community the very highest education, to see themselves as successful, to participate in enrichment and learning and to be full citizens locally, regionally, nationally and globally.

At IKB: **Every Child Achieves** **Every Child Belongs** **Every Child Participates**



IKB is committed to the principle that every child will feel a sense of belonging and that they are important and contribute in their own unique way as well as collectively building a positive, enthusiastic, supportive community that is based on mutual respect.

At IKB we are also incredibly proud of our IKB Attributes – a set of 6 qualities that every member of our IKB community (children, staff, parents/ carers, stakeholders) demonstrate to ensure that we thrive as a learning community:



We are POSITIVE – in our relationships with others and the values that we share

We are ENGAGED – in our learning, our wider school activities and our community

We are RESPONSIBLE – for the way we conduct ourselves in school and amongst the community

We are RESPECTFUL – to everyone that we meet and to the property and resources that we share

We are RESILIENT – when things might not go the way we want and come back stronger

We RISE TO CHALLENGES – to learn more about ourselves and to strive for further achievement

**** DATES FOR THE DIARY ****

TERM 1	
Monday 6 th September	Staff training INSET day. Children are not in school.
Tuesday 7 th September	School open to Nursery and Year 1 children. Wrap around care begins – bookings via Parent Mail.
7 th - 10 th September	Reception home visits taking place.
Wednesday 8 th September	Year 1 WOW day to launch their term 1 topic.
Friday 10 th September	Reception 'Stay and Play' sessions during the afternoon.
Week of 13 th September	Reception part-time week – 8:45 – 12:00. Friday 17 th September 8:45 – 13:00 (inclusive of lunch).
Week of 20 th September	Reception full-time week – 8:45 – 15:15.
Week of 20 th September	Year 1 after school clubs begin. Please visit Parent Mail to sign up if you haven't already.
Monday 20 th September	Reception WOW day to launch their term 1 topic.
Tuesday 21 st September	** Very important for nursery and reception parents** Tapestry workshop for parents/ carers with Miss Fahy at IKB: Either 8:50 – 9:10 or 14:45 – 15:05.
Wednesday 22 nd September	National Fitness Day – all IKB children will participate in a range of activities throughout the day.
Saturday 25th September	Wellington Street Fair from 10:00 – 16:00. IKB will have a stall so please look out for us!
Friday 1 st October	First forest school session for Reception.
Monday 11 th October	Celebrating World Mental Health Day (10 th October) – yoga and wellness activities for all children.
Tuesday 19 th October	Last day of term 1.
20 th + 21 st October	Staff training INSET days. Children are not in school.
Friday 22 nd October	Additional bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

As always, thank you for your continued trust and support. We are looking forward to another successful year. Remember, learning doesn't just happen in the classroom, so seize all opportunities for learning that you come across with your children.

Mr Healey, IKB Headteacher