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#28

Friday 23rd September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 1 is in full swing and we have so much to celebrate already:



Our New Reception Cohort

After successful home visits, a part-time week and strong transitions from nurseries and pre-schools, our Reception children are now in full-time and have made the adjustment to school life brilliantly. Thank you to all Reception families for your support with this and we hope that you have noticed your children coming home with smiles on their faces from the great learning and social opportunities they have been experiencing.

Our IKB 'Role Models'

We are very proud of our returning Bright Sparks children and our school Year 1 and Year 2 children for embracing the task of being role models for all of our new Bright Sparks and Reception children. Whether it is engagement in the classroom, walking calmly and safely through our corridors, demonstrating respectful manners in the lunch hall, or involving other children in play out on the playground, our returning children have come back with such high expectations of themselves which they are successfully modelling to all. Keep up the fantastic work team!



Awesome Attendance

During the week of 12th September every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 attended school every day for the entire week. This is an excellent achievement and one that deserves celebrating. Studies show that learning and development of all children positively correlates with positive school attendance. The more children are in school, the more progress they make, and with the fabulous teaching team we have here at IKB that progress will be even greater. Our overall attendance target for the year is 97% across the school. Currently our attendance sits at 98.8% which is a great start to the academic year – let's continue this great effort together for the rest of the year. Thank you for all your support towards whole school positive attendance.



Parent/ Carer Workshops

It has been great to see so many of you at our parent/ carer workshops so early in the academic year. To date we have had strong turnouts at both the Behaviour and Emotion Coaching workshop as well as the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check workshop. The aim of all of our workshops is to strengthen links between school and home, provide information and resources that can benefit families, and (as always) ensure that all of our families feel that they are strongly involved in the education, development and school experience of their children. We truly believe in being a school for our community and we are grateful for your support in this. Upcoming workshops include:

- 16/11/22 – Miss Fahy's Phonics Teaching Workshop @ 8:50 + 14:40 (open to all parents/ carers)
- 18/1/23 – Miss Fahy's Reading Workshop @ 8:50 + 14:40 (open to all parents/ carers)
- 9/2/23 – Mr Healey's Safer Internet Workshop @ 8:50, 14:40 + 17:30 (open to all parents/ carers)
- 29/3/23 – Miss Fahy's Maths Workshop @ 8:50 + 14:40 (open to all parents/ carers)
- 2/5/23 – Miss Aldridge's Writing Workshop @ 8:50 + 14:40 (open to all parents/ carers)

IKB Friends and Community (IKBFC)

A shout out to our IKBFC who are currently looking for new members to support our existing members and help the group grow this academic year. We have plenty of ideas for events throughout the year and we are looking for volunteers to help support in making them happen. The next IKBFC meeting is on Monday 26th September at 18:00, at IKB. Please arrive at the main entrance. We would love to see you there.

Trussell Trust Food Bank



From Monday we will be collecting again for the Trussell Trust Food Bank for Taunton, Wellington and surrounding areas. Please spread the word that IKB is a collection point for food donations any time the school is open. We were blown away by the generous donations during the past two academic years and with the current cost of living crisis we are all going through we are hoping to support more families again this year.



Our IKB Attributes:
 We are **POSITIVE**
 We are **ENGAGED**
 We are **RESPONSIBLE**
 We are **RESPECTFUL**
 We are **RESILIENT**
 We **RISE TO CHALLENGES**

Our IKB and Castle Partnership Trust Values:

Every Child Belongs

Every Child Participates

Every Child Achieves

We are thrilled to see that the popularity of our IKB Bright Sparks Nursery continues to grow within our community. So much so that our waiting list is ever increasing.

If you would like a place, then it is never too early to contact our Nursery Manager, Mrs Herrod, at brightsparks@ikbschool.co.uk

** DATES FOR THE DIARY**

| Term 1 2022-23 | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Friday 30 th September | Forest School sessions begin for Reception children. Please have a change of clothes in school. School tours for September 2023 Reception starter families with Mr Healey. |
| Week of 3 rd October | 'Wonderful Week' in IKB Bright Sparks for parents/ carers to learn alongside their children at one drop off time during the week. |
| Friday 7 th October | School tours for September 2023 Reception starter families with Mr Healey. |
| Monday 10 th October | Year 2 trip to Hooke Court. World Mental Health Day. |
| Friday 14 th October | 'Fabulous Friday' in Year 2 for parents/ carers to learn alongside their children from 14:45 – 15:10. |
| Wednesday 19 th October | Term 2 knowledge organisers and class newsletters home to parents/ carers. |
| Thursday 20 th October | Halloween dress up day followed by IKBFC Halloween disco after school – more info to follow. |
| Friday 21 st October | Last day of Term 1. |
| Week of 24 th October | IKB Bright Sparks open as normal. |
| Monday 31 st October | INSET DAY – IKB school and IKB Bright Sparks closed. |
| Tuesday 1 st November | INSET DAY – IKB school and IKB Bright Sparks closed. |
| Wednesday 2 nd November | First day of Term 2. |

Thank you for all of your support to begin this academic year. It is greatly appreciated. Mr Healey, IKB Headteacher