Thomas Place Wellington Somerset TA21 8FP

Tel: 01823 795900 office@ikbschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr Richard Healey





Thursday 20th July 2023

Dear parents/ carers,

It is the final week of the academic year and I have been reflecting on our achievements over the past 12 months, but also over the past 3 years that have got us to where we stand today - "a school where children flourish." (Ofsted, May 2023). Please find our full Ofsted inspection report here, which excellently captures so many of the strengths of IKB and the development areas that we are already actioning to ensure continued growth: https://www.ikbschool.co.uk/uploads/files/ikb-ofsted-report-2023.pdf - we are incredibly proud of the recognition received for our learning community! 'Every Child Achieves'.

Transition

Since Easter a priority throughout IKB Bright Sparks and IKB School has been transition and ensuring that all our children have the smoothest and strongest transitions to their new year groups in September. Whether it has been through our 'growing and changing' curriculum topics, meeting new teachers, spending extended time in new classrooms, our communal lunch times, following the life cycles of school caterpillars and chicks, attending parent/ carer information events or joining us for our IKB Summer Performing Arts concert, we hope that you and your children have all felt fully supported in preparation for the 2023-24 academic year. Knowledge organisers and class newsletters for the first term in September have been sent out this week and if you do have any further questions regarding your child's transition then please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.







The Blackdown Education Partnership (BEP)

As you are all aware, from September our school will move from The Castle Partnership Trust to The Blackdown Education Partnership, merging together with the Uffculme Academy Trust. This is an exciting time, providing the opportunity to enhance our educational provision, especially for our most vulnerable pupils and families. It also allows us to invest in wider opportunities for staff development and wellbeing, and to bolster our organisational resilience at a time when education is facing significant challenge. Our commitment within the BEP will be 'Belief in every child'. As part of the merger I have successfully applied and interviewed for the position of Executive Primary Lead for the BEP and I will be taking up this role from September. I will be remaining as Headteacher for both IKB and Orchard Grove, both of which I am very proud to lead. To add further leadership capacity within the two schools, in recent months the following roles have been developed to ensure that IKB and Orchard Grove continue to thrive and I am delighted that we are growing our own leaders within our schools and the Trust:

IKB Deputy Headteacher – Miss Nicola Fahy
IKB Disadvantaged Lead – Mrs Laura White
IKB Reception and Year 1 Phase Leader – Miss Kathryn Aldridge
IKB Year 2 and Year 3 Phase Leader – Mrs Helen Hitchin
IKB Bright Sparks Nursery Manager – Mrs Caz Herrod
Orchard Grove Lead Teacher – Miss Charley Woodley
IKB and Orchard Grove SENCo – Miss Claire Marney



Leaver

In my last newsletter it was exciting to share with you the new staff members who will be joining both IKB and Orchard Grove in the next academic year, however now is the time to share with you the incredible staff member who will be leaving us at the end of this academic year. I would personally like to thank Miss Weston for her commitment to IKB during her time with us. Miss Weston has fulfilled roles in both IKB Bright Sparks and the school and has taught every single child in our setting, having a great impact both during the school day and through extra-curricular sports and clubs. Miss Weston is not going far and the children of Court Fields School will be benefitting from her as she takes up a new role in the school. We wish her well in her move.

Summer Reading Challenge - 'Every Child a Reader'

It's that time of year again and we are so excited to be promoting another Summer Reading Challenge to help fill your child's Summer with adventure, vocabulary and intrigue. Both Wellington and Taunton libraries are involved and we are challenging all our children to read 6 books across the Summer. 'Every Child Participates'.







Reading At Home:
Reading with your child or
listening to them read for 5-10
minutes per day can drastically
improve their educational
achievements, their creativity
and their life chances.

Please talk to your children about the books they enjoy: the titles, the authors and what it is about those texts they enjoy the most e.g. description, rhyming, etc.

** DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Term 6 2022-23	
Friday 21 st July	Last day of Term 6 and the end of the academic year.
Term 1 2023-24	
Monday 4 th September	INSET Day – IKB school and IKB Bright Sparks closed.
Tuesday 5 th September	INSET Day – IKB school and IKB Bright Sparks closed.
Wednesday 6 th September	First day of school for Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and IKB Bright Sparks
Wednesday 6 th September –	Home visits for Reception children from Miss Fahy and Miss Foreman. Reception children to
Friday 8 th September	attend a 'Stay and Play' at IKB on the Friday from either 13:00 – 13:45 or 14:00 – 14:45.
Week of 11 th September	Part-time week for Reception children from 8:45 – 12:00 on Monday – Thursday; 8:45 – 13:00 on
	Friday, inclusive of lunch.
Week of 18 th September	Reception children begin full-time, 8:45 – 15:15.

Mr Healey, IKB and Orchard Grove Headteacher.