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Wednesday 10th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Somehow another term has flown by and we are already well into February, but you know what they say, time flies when you're having fun (whilst learning)! Launching our nursery has been such a highlight for us this term as we have been able to introduce even more children and families to our IKB community. Our nursery team have been thrilled with how well the children have settled in and by the positive feedback they have been receiving. Bright Sparks is and will always be part of IKB and I have personally really enjoyed adding even more expertise and talent to our wider IKB team. This term has also been an extremely positive one for our reception cohort and both Miss Fahy and Miss Evans have been so excited by the accelerated progress all children are making towards their own learning targets and how supportive they are to one another in how they celebrate all achievements together. Our IKB values of Every child achieves; Every child belongs; Every child participates have really resonated throughout our nursery and reception classes this term and we are incredibly proud of that.



So far at IKB Bright Sparks we have been extremely busy! The children have been settling in and making bonds and friendships with staff and with each other. We have been playing with them, getting to know their likes and dislikes and supporting each of them to begin to learn and develop with us. We have all got used to new routines and together we have been exploring our environment, looking at changes in the weather, finding out about the natural world and how things work. The children have been exploring ice, using sticks to make shapes and counting birds in the trees. We are enjoying lots of singing and encouraging the children to add their own ideas to songs, or even make up their own. We have found that our nursery children love books and stories, and as part of national storytelling week we listened to traditional stories from around the world. It was fantastic to see our older children retelling them in their own words.



A reminder of our Golden 5 targets
for all Reception children:

1. I can say the names of the letters of the alphabet.
2. I can write my name.
3. I can get dressed by myself.
4. I can count to 20 confidently.
5. I can read and write my phase 2 sounds.

Thank you for supporting!

Parent/ Carer Workshops

If you haven't checked out our latest workshops, please do.

They are available on our website, Facebook page and we have sent them to all parents/ carers individually via Parent Mail:

Reading with Miss Fahy

Internet Safety with Mr Healey



We are so pleased to see all our children demonstrating our 6 IKB attributes each day:

- We are POSITIVE
- We are ENGAGED
- We are RESPONSIBLE
- We are RESPECTFUL
- We are RESILIENT
- We RISE TO CHALLENGES



At IKB we pride ourselves on our broad, creative and experiential curriculum that allows all children to explore all subject areas as well as being challenged to smash glass ceilings through different activities in doing so. We are unapologetic about setting high expectations for our children because the sense of achievement they feel and that is written all over their faces when they do **achieve** is celebrated by every class member. The sense of **belonging** in our reception classroom this term has been a joy to witness with all children throwing themselves into **participating** in every opportunity...and they certainly had plenty of those opportunities!



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

Regrettably there are events that we had planned for parents and carers to learn alongside their children in term 4 that we have had to either postpone or cancel due to COVID-19 restrictions. Please be reassured that we will be ensuring that your children still get to experience all the events we had planned and that we will make sure we share them with you all via Tapestry and our social media pages. Below are the revised dates for your diary for term 4:

TERM 2	
Monday 22 th February	Term 4 begins with a WOW day to introduce the children to their new topic learning!
Thursday 4 th March	World book day – all children can come dressed as their favourite story book character
Monday 8 th March	International Women’s Day – ‘choose to challenge’. Our IKB women and girls can.
Tuesday 16 th March	Parents/ carers evening 1 – more information to follow
Wednesday 17 th March	Parents/ carers evening 2 – more information to follow
Wednesday 17 th March	The launch of our Easter bonnet showcase
Friday 19 th March	Red Nose Day – children can come dressed in anything that makes them smile as the theme this year is ‘share a smile’ – children can bring in a small donation to Comic Relief if they wish to
Wednesday 24 th March	Parent/ carer maths workshop with Miss Fahy will now be virtual – more info to follow
Tuesday 30 th March	Reception class photo day
Wednesday 31 st March	End of term celebration assembly with Easter bonnet showcase
Wednesday 31 st March	Nursery and reception knowledge organisers and class newsletters for term 5 to be sent home
Wednesday 31 st March	Last day of term 4 for the children
Thursday 1 st April	Staff INSET training day
Friday 2 nd April	Good Friday public holiday
Week of 5 th April	Nursery closed
Week of 12 th April	Nursery open
Monday 19 th April	Term 5 begins with a WOW day to introduce the children to their new topic learning!

Seeing the children in both our nursery and reception making great progress across all learning areas has given us such a sense of pride during term 3. We are incredibly privileged to be working with all our families and our Wellington community, even more so during such difficult times for everyone. Please rest assured that we will continue to put our children and our families first and we cannot wait to get another term started and share with you all the fantastic learning opportunities we have planned.

A huge thank you on behalf of everyone involved at Team IKB for the generous donations we have received recently to our nursery, our reception class and our forest school. We are very grateful and it has enabled us to continue to improve our learning environments for your children.

Enjoy a restful and safe break and we will look forward to seeing you all again in term 4. Remember to seize any opportunities for learning that you come across over the break, because learning doesn’t just happen in the classroom.

As always, thank you for your continued trust and support. We greatly appreciate it.

Mr Healey, IKB Headteacher