



SUPERSTAR CERTIFICATES – Friday 16 October James Randle, Aaliyah Bowden, Oliver Way, Hazel Holden, Joey Barker, Millie Hatfield, Ben Southern, Robyn Fisher-Greene, Eilidh Schnoor, Jazmin-Rae Richardson, Marty Stafford, Alba Knight-Climent, Ruben Taylor, Lexi Moore, Fraser Carter, Sklya Spellman, Jasmine Rogers, Etienne Pomeroy, Isabelle Fisher-Greene, Mia Osborne, Megan Luscombe, Taylor Hort, Austin Child & Lucy Barham Thursday 22 October Gracie Richardson, Leon Welsh, George Nott, Maiya Webber, Henry Williams, Emmie Newcombe, Harrison Walker-Cox, Lily Randle, Ollie Taylor, Deanna Turner, Meredith Holdstock, Ted Luscombe, Oliver Harris, Rosie Barraclough, Lilly Grant, Leo Ledger, Riley Chatfield, Arthur Prior, Jasmine Josee, Izzy Owen, Zack Harris & Katelyn Saxby.



HEAD TEACHER UPDATE - At the end of a busy half term, it is important to reflect on where we were as a school half a term ago. During the last week of the summer term we said a staggered goodbye to our children as they accessed school on their year group's allocated day (before some of them then returned the next day for Educare). We had approximately 100 children on site every day as part of our partial reopening plan. Meanwhile, I had just received approval from the trust to move to 14 classes for this academic year and was preparing for the interviews to fill these vacancies.

This week, Mrs Hunter and I have completed a round of lesson observations and feel incredibly positive and proud of the teaching and learning across the school. The children have settled back into school so well and the smaller, single age classes are already impacting positively on their progress. Assessments this term have shown that some of our children have some gaps in their learning relating to lockdown but our teachers are busy adapting their plans and provision to close these gaps by the end of the school year. In many areas, these gaps are much smaller than anticipated which is an indication of the great job that you all did to support your children during lockdown. We finish the half term with an incredible average attendance of 98.33% across the school which includes an amazing 99.54% attendance in reception.

I would like to congratulate Mr Tuckwell and Miss Walker on the completion of their national leadership awards. Mr Tuckwell has completed a National Senior Leadership Award which included developing approaches to promote reading for pleasure – we look forward to sharing some of these strategies with you later in the term. Miss Walker has completed her National Special Needs Qualification which will further support the excellent start she has made as SENDCo at Woodlands.

I hope that you all valued your remote parents' evening appointment this week. Feedback from my teachers was exceptionally positive. We need to be creative at the moment to maintain your connection to the classroom and look forward to continually work with you to secure the best outcomes for your children.

I hope you all have a great half term. **Steve Bone**

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS - The children will have their photographs taken on Tuesday 17 November. Unfortunately this term we are unable to take any sibling photos for either siblings within school or those outside Woodlands. We hope to be able to offer this next year.



HARVEST FESTIVAL – This year we are unable to hold our traditional Harvest Festival of a whole school assembly with songs but on **Friday 6 November** we will still be celebrating in our class bubbles and preparing year group hampers with items for Ivybridge Food Bank. Items can be passed into your child's classroom from Monday 2 November. Out of date products will not be accepted, so please check before sending them in. The Food Bank have been generously supplied with pasta, beans, tinned meat & fish, tinned pulses/beans, tea and pasta sauce, so due to limited storage, they are unable to keep any more stored. They have therefore asked if we could please refrain from sending those items to them but would gratefully receive anything from the following list.



Harvest items this year include: **packets of dried mash potato/instant mash, fruit juice, sponge pudding, custard, tinned spaghetti, chocolate/sweet treats, crisps, tinned fruit/veg/potatoes and rice pudding.**

REMEMBRANCE – Lloyds Bank have set a challenge to all Ivybridge Primary Schools. They have asked if the children can draw a picture that can be placed in the window of the bank of a poppy or anything that reminds them of Remembrance Day, in the absence of a parade this year. They would like to be able to cover all of the windows with the pictures. Please drop the pictures directly to the bank for them to display. Thank you.



We will be selling poppies and other items but we will have to limit the bands & keyrings to one per child and once they have been sold, we are unable to get anymore. These will be available from Monday 2 November to each of the class bubbles. The suggested prices are: Snap bands at £1.50, silicone wristbands at £1.00, zip pulls & poppy keyrings at 50p each and any donation for a traditional poppy.



NEXT STEPS - YEAR 6 SECONDARY TRANSFER 2021 – Although the children have only just started in Year 6, the online application facility for transfer to secondary school is now available. You must submit an application by Saturday 31 October 2020 at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline or contact the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 where an adviser will be happy to assist you. National Allocation Day will be Monday 1 March 2021.

SAFEGUARDING – CONTACT DETAILS – We have recently been given guidance that we need to hold at least three contacts for your child. Please email school with details (name, telephone number, stating if they are a relative or other contact) if you know we only hold one or two contacts on your child’s records. The additional contacts can be a relative, family friend or anyone you are happy for the school to contact. We will only use this contact if we cannot reach the first or second contact we already have on record.

‘**Friends Against Scams**’ is an online training session with lots of information about how to spot and prevent being scammed. This is more relevant than ever in today’s climate. The initiative has been running for 4 years and they are running an awareness campaign and part of this is to try and get as many people signed up as a Friend Against Scams. Please see the following link for more information www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/elearning/DST



SEND - Young Minds - Gaming Information and advice to help you and your family create a healthy culture around gaming and to help you support your child if they're struggling. As a parent, however, you may sometimes feel worried about the feelings and behaviours your child experiences around gaming, as well as the amount of time they spend online. Go to the website where Young Minds answer common questions from parents, share the experiences of young people and suggest ideas for what you can do next.

https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/parents-guide-to-support-gaming/?utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=SocialSignIn

Speech & Language Team - They have two Facebook pages: one for pre-school aged children and one for school aged children with hints & tips, fun & practical ideas on how to develop your child’s speech and language skills: <https://www.facebook.com/cfhdpreschoolst/> and <https://www.facebook.com/Devon-School-AgeSpeech-Language-Therapy-107022904440340/>

Autism Assessment Team - For parents who have a child diagnosed with autism or who are on the autism pathway: <https://www.facebook.com/CFHDAutism/> Children’s Learning Disability Team - For people who are supporting a child or young person who has a learning disability: <https://www.facebook.com/CFHDChildrensLD/>

DIARY DATES

October 2020

Friday 23 October Non Pupil Day – Start of Half Term

November 2020

Monday 2 November First Day of the Second Half of Term

Wednesday 4 November Year 6 Girls Football After School Club (last session Wednesday 16 December)

TBC Flu Nasal Vaccination

Monday 9-12 November Year 6 Bikeability Week – details to follow

Tuesday 10 November Cauliflower Christmas Card Deadline – artwork to be handed in

Tuesday 17 November Tempest Individual Photos

December 2020

Tuesday 15 December FS & KS1 Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday 16 December KS2 Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 18 December Last Day of the Autumn Term

January 2021

Monday 4 January Non Pupil Day

Tuesday 5 January First Day of the Spring Term

