



Newsletter 10

17 November 2023



Growing together to build our future



Message from the Headteacher

This week is Anti Bullying week and we started on Monday with Mrs Waldron sharing this important message with all the children in assembly. The theme 'Let's make a noise' reminds everyone to speak out if they feel that bullying is taking place. We want all our children to feel confident to speak to a trusted adult both at school as well as at home. We don't always agree with others but we can always choose respect.

We have also had a very energetic week completing our Children and Need challenge to complete as a school 1000 'bearpees'. I have been so impressed to see everyone joining in and working together to complete our challenge. Absolutely fantastic! Thank you to everyone for making a difference and raising awareness and funds for this fantastic charity. Mrs Baldwin asked a group of KS1 children if they had enjoyed the challenge, they gave a resounding 'YES!'

In our community, some families may have been celebrating Diwali this week and our Reception children, as part of their curriculum, have been learning about this celebration of light. For those celebrating Diwali, we wish you love, laughter and happiness.

Have a wonderful weekend

Katharine Anstey
Headteacher

This is a school for everyone. Everyone is welcome.



Safeguarding and Online Safety

Through partnership working with BCP Council, Dorset Police and the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group the Partnership has put together a briefing document with key information for parents/carers with more information about risks linked to county lines and exploitation.

If you have any serious concerns about a child, particularly if you think they may be suffering or at risk of suffering harm, please share this information promptly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead Team. If you are unable to contact a member of the school team and you wish to pass on serious concern, please call the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01202 735046 We are an Operation Encompass school, to find out more please follow the link [here](#).

Open conversation is best when negotiating online safety with children and young people. Find guidance on these conversations here from the NSPCC <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

Privacy Notice

Initio Learning Trust is committed to protecting the privacy and security of personal information. The privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about pupils, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), section 537A of the Education Act 1996 and section 83 of the Children Act 1989. Please find the document [here](#) on the school website.

Policies can be found on our school website and contact the school office if you require documents in different formats.

Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child's attendance in school and being on time every day. Good attendance in school is a top priority and our expectation is that pupils attend school every day for every session. We believe that regular, uninterrupted attendance secures the best possible learning achievement for all our children and we are committed to working in partnership with families to achieve this. Schools are expected to monitor all pupils' attendance records closely and to pass these on to the receiving school when pupils transfer.

This week's attendance

Whole School	95.96%
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When will absences not be authorised?

The school will not authorise absence for any of the following reasons: holidays, shopping, looking after other members of the family, minding the house, birthdays or similar events.

Children will be marked in as late after 8.55 am and children arriving after 9.15 am are recorded as an unauthorised absence. We carefully monitor pupils who arrive late for school and work with parents and carers to improve punctuality.

Do you have a comment, thought or question you would like to share with the school?

Please use the link [here](#) to access our communication form.

Is your child eligible for Pupil Premium funding?

You may be entitled to financial support towards uniform, trips, an extracurricular activity, milk and school meals. Use the link [here](#) to check.

Forthcoming Diary Dates AUTUMN TERM 2023



December 2023

Friday 1st December - Merley PTA Elfridges event

Wednesday 6th December - Christmas performance (YR, 1,2) 9.15 am

Wednesday 6th December - Christmas performance (YR, 1,2) 2 pm

Thursday 7th December - Christmas performance (YR, 1,2) 2 pm

Friday 8th December - Christmas performance (YR, 1,2) 9.15 am

Monday 11th December Year 4 Christmas service Lantern Church 2pm- Year 4 families welcome

Tuesday 12th December - Year 3 Carols around the Christmas Tree 2.30pm - Year 3 families welcome in the Hall

Tuesday 12th December - Christmas Jumper day - please come to school in uniform but with a festive jumper

Wednesday 13th December - Christmas party day - non school uniform - party clothes but appropriate shoes to go out to play.

Thursday 14th December - Christingle service at the Lantern Church. School only.

Thursday 14th December Last day of term 3.15pm finish.

January 2024

Tuesday 2nd January - Staff training day - No pupils

Wednesday 3rd January - Term starts children return.

