



Newsletter 11

24 November 2023



Growing together to build our future

Message from the Headteacher

We have reached that point in the school year when I start to hear Christmas songs being rehearsed around the school. It is an exciting time and we are very much looking forward to spreading some Christmas joy through the various different Christmas events we are holding.

You will have received a letter this week reminding families of the importance of good attendance in school. Children in first school are beginning their educational journey and understanding that each day in school is important. The children thrive on knowing the routines of the school day, learning in the classroom and enjoying being with friends. We appreciate your support on taking family days out at weekends and in the school holidays.

I am delighted to be able to share with you that Mrs Wheeler, class teacher in Robins (Wed - Fri), is pregnant and she and her husband are looking forward to their second child arriving in the early summer. Mrs Wheeler intends to be able to work until the end of the Spring term and we will make arrangements for her position to be covered for the second part of the week, for the summer term. I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate her and her husband on this exciting news.

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	96.08%
Year 4	95.76%
Year 3	96.04%
Year 2	96.15%
Year 1	96.63%
Reception	95.76%

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.

Fundraising for Great Ormond Street

Charlie in Year 1 Sparrows set himself a challenge to raise money for Great Ormond Street Children's Charity. Last weekend Charlie had planned to ride his newly learnt bike 17 laps (5 miles) around Poole Park track - he doubled this and rode it 34 laps (10 miles) round, he thought that this was only right seeing as he tripled his money raised totalling to £1,500! A few of his school friends even came to support him for a few laps. Well done Charlie!



CHILDREN'S MENTAL WELLBEING

It's never too early to talk to your children about mental health, as starting off with good habits can help them manage their wellbeing better as they grow up. Teaching them healthy coping mechanisms early on will mean they understand how to cope with periods of low mood and not great mental health.

Each week we will include a different suggestion to help connect with your child and support the development of their mental health.

Sleep hygiene

A good night's sleep can make all the difference when it comes to mental wellbeing and that couldn't be more true than when it comes to children.

Teach them about good sleeping habits early on, so they can get the rest that they need. That means:

- Having a regular sleeping schedule, going to bed at the same time every day even on holidays and weekends
- Turning off devices an hour before bed so can unwind and avoid screen lights
- Having a before bed ritual that can help them sleep, like reading a book or being read to

Forthcoming Diary Dates AUTUMN TERM 2023

December 2023

Friday 1st December PTA Elfridges

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.



