



Newsletter 19

2 February 2024



Growing together to build our future

Message from the Headteacher

We are getting closer to half term and we have had a very busy week in school!



This week, Year 2 met lots of exciting animals when they were visited by the animal encounter company Crazy Creatures. The children have been learning about habitats, animal adaptation and food chains in class so having the opportunity to experience these animals in person was amazing for the children. The Orchid Preying Mantis and the Royal Python were firm favourites!



Year 4 have been to visit Broadstone Middle School as part of the transition activities that take place between us and our local middle schools. The children enjoyed meeting some of the teachers and students at Broadstone Middle while taking part in a Poetry Cafe. They created, drew and named their own dragon before using rhyming language to create a poem about their fearsome beast after listening to some inspiring examples from the children at Broadstone Middle School.

A fantastic finish to our Traditional Tales topic for our Reception children today. The children brought to life the characters from these favourite stories, from knights and princesses to Robin Hood, they all looked absolutely fantastic. Thank you for supporting us and joining in the fun and adding enchantment to our school day. What a super way to foster imagination and create lasting memories for our children.



Next week is Children's Mental Health Week which is about empowering children by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. On Monday our whole school assembly will be using the resources with the theme 'My voice matters'. Please see [here](#) for resources you can use at home and get involved

Have a lovely 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	96.12%
Year 4	95.24%
Year 3	96.43%
Year 2	97.1%
Year 1	98.31%
Reception	96.17%

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.



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.

Feeling grounded

Help your child to feel grounded in their environment rather than focussed on their worries. Ask them to name five things they can see. Four things they can feel. Three things they can hear. Two things they can smell. And one thing they can taste.

Encourage them to use this exercise whenever their emotions feel too big.



Forthcoming Diary Dates SPRING TERM 2024

February 2024

Wednesday 7th February - Celebration of Learning - Families invited to see their child's learning 2.45-3.15pm

Thursday 8th February - Year 4 PGL Trip Meeting in Fox's classroom - 2.45pm

Monday 12th - Friday 16th February - Half Term

Monday 19th February - Staff training day (no children in school)

Tuesday 27th February - Parents evening (bookings to go live on Parentmail at 6pm 7/2/24)

Thursday 29th February - Parents evening (bookings to go live on Parentmail at 6pm 7/2/24)

March 2024

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day - dress up as your favourite book character

Wednesday 27th March - Last day of term

Thursday 28th March - Staff training day (no children in school)

June 2024

Friday 14th June - Sports Day - morning only

Tuesday 18th June - Reserve Sports Day

Friday 21st June - Staff training day (no children in school)

July 2024

Monday 1st to Wednesday 3rd July - Year 4 PGL Residential

Friday 12th July - PTA Summer Fair

Tuesday 23rd July - Last day of term. 3.15pm finish.