



# Istead Rise Primary Celebration Newsletter

Friday 15th September 2023



Headteacher Mr S Payne

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs M Clark

Telephone: 01474 833177

Email: [irpoffice@swale.at](mailto:irpoffice@swale.at)

Website: [www.isteadrise.org.uk](http://www.isteadrise.org.uk)

Twitter: [@IsteadRisePS](https://twitter.com/IsteadRisePS)

Facebook: [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/IsteadRisePS)

You can find lots of useful information and all up to date letters on our website

[Here](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday 26th September  
E-Safety Workshop  
9.10am - 10.10am

Wednesday 27th September  
Parent Drop-Ins  
Years 1 to 6

Friday 29th September  
Macmillan Coffee Event

Thursday 5th October FIRPS  
AGM 2.15pm

Friday 20th October  
Show Racism  
The Red Card

Friday 20th October  
End of Term 1

Monday 30th October  
Term 2 Begins

Thursday 2nd November  
School Photographer

Wednesday 8th November  
Flu Immunisations  
Whole School

Thursday 9th November  
Whole School  
Parent Consultations

Dear Istead Rise Families,

It has been a pleasure to welcome children and families back for the new school year!

We have all been extremely impressed by how well, and how quickly, our pupils have settled into their new classes. It is wonderful to see classrooms full of smiling faces, with children smoothly settling into new routines and already showing a great enthusiasm for learning.

An extra special well done and welcome to our new Reception children and families who have made a fantastic start to life at Istead Rise. We're very glad to have you all with us!

We hope you enjoy catching up on what children have been learning about so far this year!

**Don't miss out on the free Internet Safety Training we've arranged for ALL Parents/Carers. It is engaging, up to date and practical - This is a not to be missed training session for all our Parents and Carers. We look forward to seeing you!**

**Date: Tuesday 26th September  
Time: 9:10am - 10:10am**

**Venue: KS2 Hall, please enter via the school office**



**E-Safety Workshop**



**Term Dates  
23-24**

**Term Dates  
24-25**

**Nourish**  
contract catering

Our children are now being catered for by Nourish Contract Catering. You can find a copy of the lunch menu via this link

[School Lunch Menu](#)

**Online  
Safety  
Newsletter**





During the summer holidays, Ruby of Cherry Class had 17" of her hair cut off in aid of the 'Little Princess Trust'. Ruby raised an incredible £625

for the charity who will use Ruby's hair to make wigs for children suffering from cancer. We are all so proud of you, Ruby. This is an incredible thing to do for such a worthy cause.



# AGM

## Annual General Meeting

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Stay informed and get involved.

Come and support FIRPS at our AGM and enjoy a free drink and cake at the same time  
Key Stage 2 Hall

Istead Rise Primary School  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 14:15.

Please complete the link below to confirm attendance or to sign up

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdJPwC3jO5gw->



Parenikind  
Member Association

### FIRPS AGM Nomination Form

### Plant A Little Daffodil



TO BOOK:  
Call us on  
01474 814199

FREE TRIALS  
THIS SEPTEMBER!



Meopham Leisure Centre, Wrotham Road,  
Meopham, Kent, DA13 0AH

Plant a little daffodil  
with Millbrook  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September and  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October



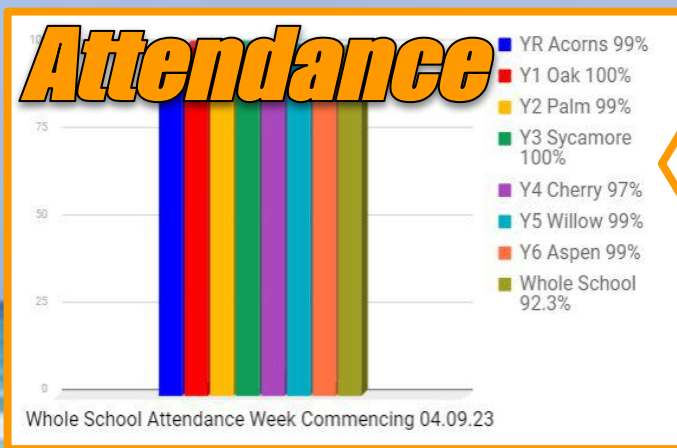
Let Millbrook inspire your children  
and help them learn more about gardening  
with our FREE workshop!

Book now to avoid disappointment!  
[millbrookgc.co.uk](http://millbrookgc.co.uk)

Millbrook Minis  
Fun events and workshops for kids...



Visit [millbrookgc.co.uk](http://millbrookgc.co.uk) for all our events.



## Attendance Class Awards

W/C 04.09.23  
 KS1 - Oak 100%  
 KS2 - Sycamore 100%  
 W/C 11.09.23  
 KS1 - Acorns & Palm  
 KS2 - Willow

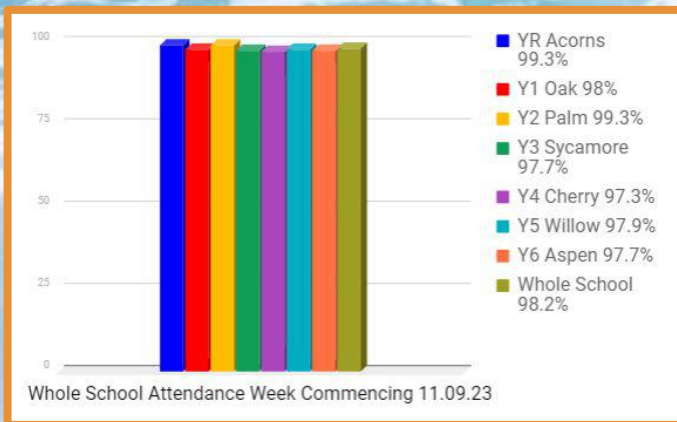
The link below will take you to a copy of our recent attendance letter. Last year the children enjoyed a number of good attendance incentives which we will be continuing with this year. Being in school everyday will support your child's achievement, wellbeing and wider development.

[Working together to improve punctuality and attendance](#)

## Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....



# SEND & Inclusion

Hello and welcome to the new school year at Istead Rise Primary School. Hopefully your child will be settling well into their new class and forming positive relationships with their new teacher and support staff.

At Istead Rise we evaluate our SEND provision at the end of terms 1,3 and 5.

We do this, in-part, so the children's interventions run smoothly from term 6 into term 1. The majority of children who receive SEND interventions, will have continued their additional support as of last week.

Starting on **Wednesday 20th September**, Mrs Andreou, our Inclusion Leader, will be running a weekly **SEND and Inclusion Surgery**. 10-minute, bookable appointments, between 2pm and 3pm to discuss anything SEND and Inclusion related. It can be general queries or relating to something specific about your child. The Surgery is open to all parents, not just to those with children on the SEND register. Please book your 10-minute slot by contacting the school office.

Starting next week on Monday 18th September, we will be running the **Lunchtime Chill Zone**. As an alternative to the naturally busy, loud and energetic playground environment, children may access the Lunchtime Chill Zone.

Children from years 3 to 6 can spend their time doing quiet, calm activities such as drawing, colouring, Lego, quiet board games, puzzles, chess and using the fabulously stocked library to find their new favourite book.

Mr Meredith has talked to the children about the Chill Zone in assembly today. Please chat with your child about whether this is something they will find beneficial. Children do not have to attend every day, only when they feel they'd like an alternative to the playground.



On Wednesday this week, as part of our commitment to promote good mental health and wellbeing for our pupils, we welcomed **Captain Wonderweb and the Self-Esteem Machine!**

Years 1 to 6 were treated to an interactive performance, helping to empower them to develop strong minds and nurture self esteem.

The feedback from all year groups was incredibly positive. We're sure the children would love to tell you about the performance, (if they haven't done so already.) Please use this link to see the [post-show video](#) for children and parents by The Self-Esteem Machine.

## Ifield Smile Training Workshops For Parents, Carers and Families:

Weds 18/10/23 - 9:30 - 11:30am  
**Exploring and Improving Communication Skills.**

Thurs 16/11/23 - 9:30 - 11:30am - **Basics For Behaviour**

Thurs 07/12/23 - 9:30 - 12pm  
**Starting The Autism Journey**

Fri 12/01/24 - 9:30 - 12:30pm - **Sleep Solutions Forum**

Tues 23/01/24 - 9:30 - 11:30am - **Understanding Dyslexia**

Tues 19/03/24 - 9:30 - 12:30pm - **Anxiety and Autism**

Weds 15/05/24 - 9:30 - 12:30pm  
**Autistic Girls - Exploring Difference**

If you would like further information, or to make a booking, please email the Smile team at [smile@ifield.kent.sch.uk](mailto:smile@ifield.kent.sch.uk) or call on 01474 536924

## Support Groups Working With Children with SEND

Autism South East  
[www.autismsoutheast.co.uk](http://www.autismsoutheast.co.uk)



[Gravesend Children's  
Centres and Early Help](#)



Kent Autistic Trust  
<https://www.kentautistictrust.org/>



— the —  
**kent autistic trust**  
a better life, a better future

# Acorns



## Our new beginnings at school



Welcome to our new little Acorn children! Coming to a new school can be quite daunting but we have to say, the children have settled in very quickly and enjoyed an array of learning experiences. They have spent some time in the school's library, ridden bikes, climbed the outdoor wall, made people using stickle bricks, played a game of bingo and even stood up in front of the whole class talking about and sharing what they had been learning during the day. I can't tell you how much I am proud of their achievements!



## Topic

Our topic this term is 'All About Me'. This topic is a fantastic opportunity for us to learn more about your child and their interests. If you have any photos of your child as a baby and toddler we would love to see them. We would also like to see photos of your child with their family. Sharing photos together promotes communication and language learning and supports your child in understanding everyone is unique.



## Communication and Language/Understanding the World

The children have fun this week, drawing themselves and members of their family. They shared their family portraits, naming and describing people who are familiar to them. The children also learned about the similarities and differences between families.



# Forest School



Reception class had their first visit to the forest this week. After sensibly walking across the top field they made their way into basecamp. I was super impressed with their counting when we did our fire number (the total amount of children and adults in the forest.) The class went on an exploration of the site to familiarise themselves with the different areas. I am looking forward to the adventures that we will all have this term. Thank you for supporting your child with a change of footwear as this will allow the children to enjoy the wet weather and mud.



What a super start to the new term and new school year! The children have settled in really well.

In English this week we have been reading the story 'After the Storm' by Nick Butterworth and using this to write a description of the animals using adjectives and conjunctions.

In Maths, we have been working with numbers and objects ensuring that we count them correctly and are able to sort them into the correct groups too.

For Geography this term we will be learning about 'Our Country'. The children have already told us lots of facts about London.

In Science, we have been learning that we are mammals and have sorted animals into different group headings; birds, fish, mammals, amphibians, reptiles and insects.

In Art, the children have been exploring lines and mark making to make waves.

Year 2 have had a fantastic start to the new term! We have been working hard to understand place value in maths. Using Base 10, we have partitioned 2 digit numbers into their tens and ones and have used them to help us count in 10s.

In Science, we have sorted objects based on their materials and properties. We worked in groups to discuss what might happen if objects were made of other materials and why this would not be suitable. In a few weeks, we will be using this new knowledge to test spoons made of chocolate, ice and jelly!

All of the adults in Year 2 have been so impressed with how the children have settled and started the new year, Keep up the great work!



# Sycamore

Wow! Sycamore class have made an amazing start to the new school year. We are so proud of how well the children have settled into the junior school. They have quickly settled into routines and working hard in all lessons.

In maths, we are focussing on place value and understanding hundreds, tens and ones. The children are enjoying the English sequence of work and building up to writing an information text about tigers. In geography, we learned the four countries included in the UK and the capital cities, and recently compared what London streets looked like in the Roman era and 21st century. Our science topic this term is forces and magnets and the children have enjoyed investigating how objects move.

# Cherry

What a fantastic start to the new year Cherry have had! It's been a busy start to the year and Cherry are raising their game to meet the new challenges.

In Guided Reading we have focused on traditional tales, beginning with an alternative version of Hansel and Gretel and this week we have looked at a Slavic story about Baba Yaga. This reading links to our first English sequence, where we are writing a new version of Hansel and Gretel. In this we have focused on expanded



noun phrases using new and sophisticated vocabulary, while making sure that our basic punctuation is in place. We have also looked at how to correctly punctuate direct speech - ask your children to sing you the song we learnt to remember how!

In Maths we have been focusing on place value, looking at different ways of partitioning numbers up to 10,000 including flexible partitioning, which was something new for them.

In Science this term we are looking at forces and this week investigated how friction can cause a car to travel further or less, something the children really enjoyed. Mr Tyler is really pleased at how they have started swimming, and the excitement from the children for the first session was amazing.

For Geography this year we have looked at the placement of the equator and the countries that run across it, as well as looking at lines of latitude and longitude, where we had to find where in the world we were, from a set of coordinated numbers.

If Cherry continue to apply themselves as they have so far, it's going to be a very enjoyable and successful year. Well done on such a great start!



3 100,001 ✓  
are hundred thousand and one ✓

4 you can only show a  
2 pt line graph or a line  
at the point and suppose  
else

challenge 21

When written in words, what is  
the two numbers that include  
the letter 'y'?

101

When thinking of a number

My number  
is made up of  
7 hundreds  
12 tens and  
20 ones

What is 1,000 less than Rory's number?  
What is 10 more than Rory's number?  
Write your answers in words.

712,019  
713,190 = three  
hundred

712,190  
713,200 ✓

Seven hundred twelve  
thousand ~~and~~ are hundred  
and sixty

seven hundred thirteen  
two hundred

**Willow class have been working extremely hard and have settled really well into their new classroom and routines. We've had a lovely two weeks back at school and can't believe how quickly it's gone already!**

**The children are learning how to write a description in English and have produced some amazing group work, using sophisticated vocabulary and fronted adverbials. In reading, we have been focusing on narratives and are currently reading an extract from Harry Potter. In maths we are revisiting Place Value and the children have learnt how to read numbers up to 1,000,000 so far.**

In art we have started learning about propaganda images from the Space Race and in geography we made a map of the school grounds and used a compass to navigate our way from point to point.

What a great start to the new school year, Year 6! We have been working hard from day one! In English, we are writing a forest narrative. We have come up with lots of different similes and metaphors, used personification to add interest and detail to our writing, as well as using a variety of sentence starters. Next, we will be learning how to build suspense and we will then write our final draft.

**In Maths, we have focused on place value. We have learnt how to read and write numbers to ten million, understand the place value of numbers and will soon be moving on to ordering and comparing numbers.**

Year 6 have enjoyed Spanish so far! Our topic for this term is 'en el colegio' (at school). The children have worked hard to learn and remember how to say school subjects in Spanish, and this week, have moved on to expressing their opinions about the different subjects. We have started to learn the song 'Happy' in Music which was lots of fun! We also learnt how to properly warm up our voices like professionals!

**Well done to all of Year 6 for a super start to the term! Keep it up!**

# Forest School



Year 6 used their teamwork skills to create habitats for a forest and non-forest animal. For their activity they built a habitat thinking about where that might be - underground in burrows or high up in a tree. I was super proud of the teamwork they displayed. Archie was so excited to find a *Meconema meridionale* - an insect in the Tettigoniidae family known as the southern oak bush cricket. It commonly measures 14 to 17mm in length. Other activities enjoyed this week were the Tree Top Trump cards where children are learning the names of different trees within our forest and school grounds. I am sure they will be tree naming experts by the end of term.



**W/E 08.09**

**Most Valuable Player**

- 1st Nihaal of Cherry
- 2nd Samuel Yanis of Cherry
- 3rd Seth of Aspen

**W/E 08.09**

**Winning Class**

- 1st Aspen
- 2nd Cherry
- 3rd Willow

**W/E 15.09**

**Most Valuable Player**

- 1st Samuel Yanis of Cherry
- 2nd Jeremiah of Cherry
- 3rd Ronak of Willow

**W/E 15.09**

**Winning Class**

- 1st Cherry
- 2nd Willow
- 3rd Aspen

**Gold Mathletics**

**W/E 08.09**

**Kai of Sycamore**

***Congratulations  
for all your  
hard work!***



## ***Core Values Congratulations To All Our Winners***



**Week Ending 08.09**

**Acorns Class**

**Oliver for Respect, Ava for Independence & Kaspia for Perseverance**

**Oak Class**

**Ellie for Perseverance, Sybil Rose for Respect & Archie for Independence**

**Palm Class**

**Leo H for Respect, Ava for Perseverance & Freya for Independence**

**Sycamore Class**

**Saskia for Respect, Evelyn & Bobby for Independence**

**Cherry Class**

**Joshua for Independence, Jeremiah for Self Reflection & Matilda for Respect**

**Willow Class**

**Poppy for Respect, Tommy for Perseverance & Blake for Self Reflection**

**Aspen Class**

**Holly for Independence, Charlie W for Respect & Jim for Perseverance**

**Week Ending 15.09**

**Acorns Class**

**Rosie for Independence, Joshua for Perseverance & Cara for Self Reflection**

**Oak Class**

**Arlo for Respect, Frank for Perseverance & Seren for Self Reflection**

**Palm Class**

**Devan for Respect, Bobby for Self Reflection & Samantha for Independence**

**Sycamore Class**

**Amaia & Charlotte for Perseverance, Darcey for Respect**

**Cherry Class**

**Katelyn & Maya for Respect, Martin for Independence**

**Willow Class**

**Molly for Independence, Lyra for Respect & Tess for Self Reflection**

**Aspen Class**

**Tommy for Respect, Olivia for Perseverance & George for Independence**