

Ingleby Mill Newsletter January 2023



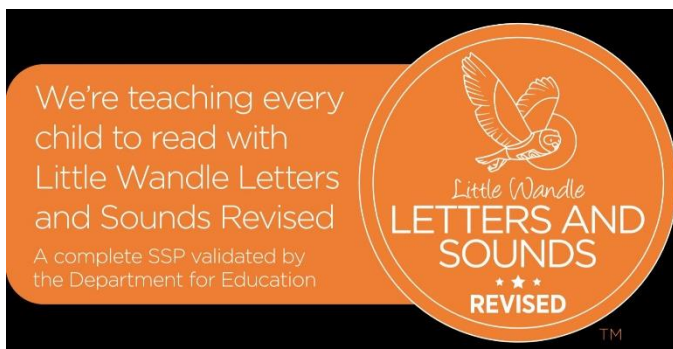
Happy New Year everyone. I hope all of our children are well rested after Christmas and are excited to be back at school.

I want to start this first newsletter of 2023 by saying well done to children and staff for the wonderful Christmas performances and events at the end of last term. It was lovely to be able to invite parents into school properly to celebrate Christmas after three years of restrictions.

We are looking forward to a purposeful and successful Spring term. In assemblies this term we are focusing on some of the inspirational quotes that are painted on the walls around school. Last week we thought about the quote that is painted on the wall in our main hall – ***‘Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow’*** (Anthony J. D’Angelo). And this week we are focusing on the wonderful world of reading with a quote painted on the wall in our computer suite from Dr Seuss ***‘The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.’***

Little Wandle – happy reading!

The reading theme in assembly this week, fits in well with the launch of our new early reading programme ‘Little Wandle’ in reception, year 1 and year 2.



We now have a golden reading hour each morning in these year groups between 9.00 and 10.00am. For half an hour of this time, the children have whole class phonics teaching. Teaching phonics is not new, we have always done so in these year groups, but the programme we are following now is exciting and new. The other half hour of our golden hour on

Mondays to Wednesdays is when the children read one of our new Little Wandle books in small adult-led groups. The children in reception, year 1 and year 2 have all been assessed for their starting point within the scheme so that they are reading books that they can decode according to their phonic knowledge. Each week, by the time this book comes home for homework the children will have read it three times in their small group with a different focus each day; ie Mon – decoding, Tues – prosody (this means reading with expression and fluency), Wed – comprehension. Children should therefore be able to read their book to you at home independently, with confidence, fluency and expression. Please praise them for this and let them build up their confidence by reading it to as many members of the family as possible. Children will also bring home a book marked ‘Read with me’. This is a book they will not have seen and will not be fully decodable and so may contain words that they cannot yet read fluently. In this case just help them along or read together so children continue to enjoy reading with others and develop their love of books and a desire to read for pleasure. There are starter books and foundation phonics activities in the Little Wandle programme for children in nursery, and Mrs Richardson has already begun to introduce children in our nursery to this and she is talking to parents about it during nursery parents meetings this week.



Attendance

Some parents will have received letters about your child’s attendance at the end of last term. In line with our attendance policy and legal requirements for schools, we carry out a whole school attendance check each term. The first letter parents receive is to make them aware that attendance has fallen below national thresholds. It does not put into question the genuineness of absences it is simply my duty at this point to raise awareness and to remind parents that they can contact school if there is anything we can do to support with more regular attendance. In subsequent termly checks, if attendance has not improved then a second letter is sent out inviting parents to a meeting in school to discuss absences. Similar attendance policies and procedures are in place in all schools as we all have to follow the same regulations and guidance. Procedures were put on

hold, or reduced, during the national pandemic as attendance for many children across the country fell below thresholds as a result of isolating or recovering from COVID. We are now in the phase of 'living with COVID' and so schools are required to meet attendance thresholds once more. If you would like to discuss your child's attendance at any point please contact me in school or via email imbeth.atkinson@inglebymill.org.uk

I have a worry, concern issue....

Parents are always welcome to come into school to discuss any issues they may have. This discussion can be with your child's class teacher or with Mrs Coverdale (Deputy Head Teacher, SENDCO) or myself (Head Teacher, Safeguarding Lead)

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imbeth.atkinson@inglebymill.org.uk

During the past couple of years we have supported families in a variety of ways including accessing food parcels, emergency supplies, uniform vouchers and fuel vouchers. If you have experienced difficulties in any of these areas please make contact as we might be able to help or at least to point you in the direction of someone else who can. A big thank you to the Teesside Charity for their recent help with fuel and uniform vouchers.

A recent post on our school facebook page gave contact details for our local family hub and highlighted some of the great provision available to support parents with children's behaviour, sleeping and toileting issues. Parenting is not an easy job for any of us and there is help out there - so please have a look to see if there is anything on offer to help you.

Looking Ahead – Class Assemblies

We are bringing back our class assemblies. Once a year each class from years 1-6 takes their turn to present a class assembly to an audience of other children in school and their parents in our school hall. Assemblies are scheduled for Fridays and start at 9.30am. Hopefully you will be able to join us for your child's class assembly. Here are the dates for your diary:

Fridays

10th February – South Africa Class, Y5, Mr Kirby
17th February – India Class, Y5, Mr Richardson
3rd March – Brazil Class, Y5, Mr Robinson
17th March – Darlington Class, Y1, Mrs Lewis
31st March – Scotland Class, Y3, Mrs Wilson
28th April – Greece Class, Y4, Mrs Simmonds
5th May – Middlesbrough Class, Y1, Miss Hicks
19th May – Italy Class, Y4, Mr Carter
26th May – Wales Class, Y3, Mr Rix
9th June – England Class, Y3, Miss Thornton

16th June – Sweden, Y4, Miss Claxton
23rd June – Cardiff Class Y2, Mrs Chambers
30th June – London Class, Y2, Mrs Brown

Children in all three year 6 classes will present their leavers assembly on the last day of term, Wednesday 19th July. Parents will be invited to join us for this final assembly.

Looking Ahead – Teachers Strike Action

You will have heard on the news about planned strike action by teachers in the NEU. Strike action days are planned for Wednesday 1st February, Tuesday 28th February, Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March. Based on current information from my staff, Ingleby Mill will remain fully open on all of these days. If this position changes at any point, I will update parents as soon as I possibly can.

Looking Ahead – Term dates including PD days

TERM DATES FOR THE REST OF THIS ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23

Spring term 2023

Term starts: Wed 4th January 2023
Half-term runs from: Mon 20th to Fri 24th Feb 2023
Term ends: Fri 31st March 2023

Summer term 2023

Term starts: Mon 17th April 2023
Bank holidays (school closed): Mon 1st May 2023 and Monday 8th May 2023
Half-term runs from: Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd June 2023
Term ends: Wed 19th July 2023
PD Day: Thurs 20th July 2023 (children not in school)

TERM DATES FOR 2023/24

Autumn term 2023

PD Day: Mon 4th Sept 2023 (children not in school)
Term starts: Tues 5th Sept 2023
PD Day: Fri 27th Oct 2023 (children not in school)
Half-term runs from: Mon 30th Oct – Fri 3rd Nov
Term ends: Tues 19th Dec 2023

Spring term 2024

PD Day Wed 3rd Jan 2024 (children not in school)
Term starts: Thurs 4th Jan 2024
Half-term runs from: Mon 19th to Fri 23rd Feb 2024
Term ends: Thurs 28th Mar 2024

Summer term 2024

Term starts: Mon 15th April 2024
Bank holiday (school closed): Mon 6th May 2024
Half-term runs from: Mon 27th to Fri 31st May 2024
Term ends: Fri 19th July 2024
PD Days: Mon 22nd & Tues 23rd July 2024 (children not in school)