



Ivy Bee Class



Autumn Newsletter 2023 – 2024

Welcome to Years 5 & 6 in Ivy Bee Class

The adults working with you this year

Class Teachers: Mrs Sharp (Mon – Wed) Mrs Johnstone (Thurs – Fri)

LSAs: Mrs Eggleton (am) Miss Moore (interventions pm)

PE: Mr Goldsmith (Sports Coach)

General Information

Following parental consultation, the times for our school day have changed slightly this year. In the mornings, the gates will be opened at **8.25am** and Ivy Bee children will be expected to come directly to the classroom via the **double doors**; the gates will be closed by **8.30am**, so if you come into school after this time, please enter via the main door and sign in with Mrs Pelosi in the office.

The school day now ends at **3pm**. Y5 and Y6 will be dismissed via the **library door**. (This is to help parents who have more than one child to collect and means that Y5 and Y6 do not walk back into the playground against the flow.) Y5 & Y6 children are allowed to walk home independently if a permission slip has been completed and returned to the office.

Emails: The email account for Ivy Bee Class will be checked as often as possible; however, if your enquiry needs an immediate acknowledgement or reply, then please contact the main school office.

teacher.ivybee@brighstoneprimary.org.uk

office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk

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Equipment: Children will be expected to bring their reading book, reading record and named water bottle in their school bag on a daily basis. Children do not need to bring in their own pencil cases and equipment, as everything they will need will be provided in class.

PE: PE days will be Tuesday and Friday. Children are still expected to wear their PE kits to school on their PE days. Children will still need to wear their school jumpers if needed and, when the weather is chilly, track suit bottoms are advisable. Earrings need to be either removed or taped up.

Golden Worship



Golden Worship takes place in the hall on Friday mornings at 8.35am, to celebrate special achievements. As usual, parents/carers of recipients will be invited in to watch their child receiving their certificate. Please sign in at the school office and then make your way round to the hall door via the school car park.

Topics



A topic web will be sent out at the beginning of every half term that explains what we will be learning and the subjects that will be focused on. This will also be available on our class page on the school website.



Homework and Reading



As reading is such a key life skill, there are high expectations for all our children to read regularly. Children will be expected to read (preferably a school book but you may read book from home, too) several times each week for periods of at least 10-15 minutes. Reading books can be changed on any day and reading diaries will be checked on a Tuesday morning. Ivy Bee children will be encouraged to choose a range of books to enjoy; some of these may be longer novels, while some may be shorter books, joke books, poetry books, graphic novels, picture books for older children, and so on.

By Years 5 & 6, most children will be fluent enough readers to read independently to themselves; however, all children benefit from reading aloud to an “audience” from time to time. Children are encouraged to complete the reading record themselves but it must be signed by an adult at home. Discussions about what has been read is just as important as the reading itself, so please make time to discuss the book – talk about if they enjoyed the book and why, whether it was funny, silly, sad, scary etc..., the plot, the characters, your child’s predictions and opinions along with any tricky or new vocabulary. It is also always beneficial for a child of any age to listen to a story being read by someone else!

Year 6 tests - SATs



At the end of Key Stage 2 in May, Year 6 sit the National Tests, known as SATs, in English (reading comprehension, writing and Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) and Maths. At this stage, we feel that the focus should be on settling the children into the new school year, but there will be a steadily increasing awareness of and preparation for them as the months progress. However, we do not wish any child to feel pressured or stressed about SATs, so please do talk to us if your child is struggling.

Attendance



At Brighstone, we expect all children to have a minimum attendance of 96.5% and to start the school day punctually. This is key to ensure that children are settled, ready and focused for their learning that day as soon as they arrive! The field gate will be locked at 8.30am, so after please enter school via the main entrance and sign in at the office.

Parents’ Evenings

We will be holding an informal “Meet and Greet” session between 5-6pm this coming Tuesday 14th September. Parents evenings for the autumn term will be held on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd November; for the spring and summer terms will take place during the week commencing 4th March and Monday 15th July.