

# Ilkeshall Newsletter

September 2019

## Upcoming Events

- Wednesday 18th September – PTA AGM
- Friday 27th September – MacMillan Coffee Afternoon and Book Fair
- Friday 11th October – Harvest Festival
- Tuesday 15th October - Eagle Owls - Meet the Greeks (tbc)

## Reminders

- Please return your GDPR and acceptable use policies ASAP thank you.
- Parent Mail is now up and running, but if you do have any problems please let us know.

## Welcome Back!

This year I will be sending out a newsletter in the third week of the month to share all the exciting things that are happening in our school this year and celebrate our school's successes. Other information will continue to be sent out on the school app as we do now. As this is a new format, feedback is most welcome and if there is anything else you would like on the newsletter please let me know.



## A Huge Thank you!

To the Sparshott, Revell and Mitchell families for giving up their Sunday to start the renovation of our pond and wildlife area. The staging into the water is a brilliant addition to the area and will make pond dipping much easier and safer



## All Change in Little Owls

The room has been redecorated and Mrs Stacey, Mrs Dwyer and Mrs Swanston have spent a lot of time over the summer completely reorganising the Little Owls classroom. There is a beautiful new home corner and the classroom is now zoned off into different areas for the children to 'Discover and Do.' Our new Little Owls have settled in really well and are making really good use of their super new space.



## What a Summer!

It's been a busy summer in school. There has been lots of building and decorating work and we are really pleased with the results. The children's' toilets have been completely refurbished and look (and smell) fantastic! The cubicles are much higher to allow for greater privacy and the toilets are now at a better height for the older children to use comfortably.

## An Ilketshall success story!

We received the fabulous news over the holidays that one of our Yr 6 students from last year, Zoe Payne, has been shortlisted for the 2019 Betjamen Poetry Prize. Her entry is one of only 50 on the shortlist, chosen from 1000s of entries. We will hear if she has made the top 6 finalists in the next couple of weeks, so fingers crossed. Either way her poem will be published and we look forward to seeing it in print. Here is Zoe's entry:

### **A Poet's World**

**Bare black portal to my own world,  
Hop scotched stones dotted the water,**

**This is the  
land of a poet,  
One step, two  
step, three step,**

**Little ripples  
spread the surface,**

**Silhouettes of shoals, darting by,**

**Minute florets  
lined the water's edge,**

**This is my world,  
Watch the  
water,**

**Small vortex back to reality,**

**I am the ruler  
of this world,**

**A majestic curtain of water watches over me,**

**Look into the future,**

**Contemplate  
your soul,**

**Over time ivy  
winds,**

**Over the ancient stone,**

**Icicles tower into the lagoon,**

**Words form in  
front of my eyes,**

**This is the  
land of a poet. Zoe Payne (ll)**

## Spotlight Child

As part of the implementation of our new behaviour management system each day teachers will choose a child as a focus for the day. At the end of the day, if their behaviour is amazing, the teacher will give them a Spotlight sticker and a message will be sent home on Tapestry or Seesaw. If they don't succeed, we start again with a different child. The Spotlight child's won't be named unless they succeed and so there will be no sense of failure.

## Hot Chocolate Fridays

On a Friday afternoon, one or two children from each class who have made amazing behaviour choices during the week will be chosen by their class teacher for 'Hot Chocolate Friday.' We will celebrate their success with Hot Chocolate ( or a non-dairy equivalent). They will also have their photo on the Hot Chocolate Friday Hall of Fame. A copy of our new Whole School Relationship Policy giving further information about our new behaviour management system will be sent out following this newsletter.

## Knowledge Organisers

Over the next few weeks you will be receiving 'Knowledge Organisers' from your child's teacher, these will detail some of the key learning for your child this term and some of the key concepts we will be teaching, so you will be able to talk to your child about their learning. Over the last year we have been completely redeveloping our school curriculum and if you wish to see any further details on what we are teaching, these are available on our website. <http://islschool.co.uk>