

# Instow News

Volume 1, Issue 18

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Aim High



Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Instow - Arromanches Twinning Association:**

Back in the Second World War, soldiers practised landing their craft at Instow and surrounding beaches, in order to prepare for the D-Day Landings near Arromanches on the north coast of France in 1944.

Since the 1970's the two towns of Instow (and surrounding villages) and Arromanches (and its surrounding neighbourhoods) have forged positive links by visiting each other's town every other year, staying with a host family. This September (2014) the residents of Arromanches will be visiting Instow for a long weekend of celebrations and outings; while the year after, September 2015, we residents of this area have been invited for a long weekend at Arromanches.

Two organisers of this wonderful family and friends exchange have invited the families of our school to become involved. The exchange offers many benefits of language learning, as well as befriending a French family and learning about their life. A reasonable cost is involved from each family which includes travel, food, outings, entrance fees etc. You do not have to be able to speak French - that is all part of the adventure! The school supports exchange in order to widen our experiences of intercultural understanding as part of Instow community.



If you think your family would be interested in becoming involved in this wonderful opportunity for the future please complete the slip below and we can organise an information evening to find out more.

**Internet Safety Week:** Next week as part of your child's learning, they will be looking at the national initiative designed to keep children safe on the internet. We aim to keep children safe in school through our restricted use facility on the Learnpads used in class. Please do look on the following website for your own information on this initiative:  
<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2014>

**School Meals:** You may have heard in the news that the government is concerned over children's health and fitness. As part of the initiatives schools are being asked to provide free school meals to infant pupils from September 2014. We will keep you informed of this opportunity and co-incidentally, I have been able to secure the assistance of a Catering Guru running Devon and Cornwall to

come and work with our school as part of a pilot project, to see how we can offer hot meals on site in the future. More news to follow in the coming weeks. Please see the attached Spring and Summer Term menu as well.

## **Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers**

It's that time of year again! Hopefully you've seen the banner on the front fence and the collecting box is down by the hall. Please collect as many vouchers as you can and remind grandparents, aunts and uncle, neighbours and friends that we'd love to receive theirs too! The resources that we can purchase with these vouchers are always fantastic and support many curriculum areas and playtime activities. Thank you.

## **PTFA Meeting:**

On Monday morning 10<sup>th</sup> February, after you drop your child to school, why not come along to the school hall for 9.00 - 9.10 and find out about ways of becoming involved in our PTFA. All parents are members and the more people who are involved the better it is for our children. At this meeting we are deciding what type of activities we can organise for the Spring and Summer Terms. There might even be biscuits with your tea!

## **Football at Sandymere:**

The next football tournament at Sandymere is on Wednesday p.m. 12<sup>th</sup> February. If your child is involved they should show you a letter with permission slip.

**KS1 Art Club Message:** If your child attends KS1 Art Club, please ensure you can pick up your child promptly by 4.15, as Miss Beer has another after-school commitment later. Many thanks, From Miss Beer.

**Parent's Evening:** Here are the dates for our next parent's evenings when we will be able to discuss your child's progress in the school hall, with classrooms open to look around: We will set up appointment sheets after the half term break.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 4.00 - 6.00

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 5.00 - 7.00

**February 14th Love 'Red' Day** :Our next fundraiser is for the Antony Nolan Trust. We are asking everyone to wear red or pink to school on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and to donate at least £1.00 to the Antony Nolan Trust. Our funds will contribute towards the valuable research work going on in order to fight blood cancer and bone marrow disorders. See their website for more information and how you can help: <http://www.anthonynolan.org/>

**Half-Term:** Remember that we have half term break soon, breaking up on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February. The children are due back on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February

## Next Nearly New Sale at Roundswell:

Don't forget to book in the Nearly New Sale at Roundswell on Saturday morning 1<sup>st</sup> March. Stall holders should have already booked. This fundraiser for our school is run in partnership with other local schools as part our links with the wider community. See Simone for details.

**Class 1:** In Class One we have had a busy week! We have been reading non-fiction books and writing about Australia. We have investigated number bonds to ten, and beyond, and started putting together subtraction number sentences. The children have printed beautiful butterflies and enjoyed playing with the small world.

Next week, we are hoping to do our beach trip and plan to walk the children down to Instow beach on the morning of Thursday 13th February. As before, we are very keen to have volunteers to walk down and back with us. If you are able to help please sign up in class on Wednesday 12th February, or send a note into school with your child. Many thanks!

We are also looking for any parents/carers/grandparents who are able to commit to a weekly afternoon at school helping out in Class One with afternoon activities. If you feel that you might be able to help, please come and talk to us! We particularly need volunteers on a Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon.



## Class 2:

This week we have been learning all about space. So far we have learnt that the sun is a star and that it only looks so big because it is relatively close to us. We have also begun to understand that our planet spins on an axis and that is why we have day and night. The children are all very inquisitive and want to find out even more, so we are beginning a research project which will build up to writing our very own information book containing contents page, factual sentences and diagrams with labels.

As part of our research, if you do have any space books at home that you would be happy for the children to use, we would be very grateful for them next week.

This week in maths we have begun to develop an understanding of multiplication. We have thought of multiplication as 'lots of', as well as repeated addition. We will be focusing on learning our 2, 5 and 10 times tables through investigations and problem solving.

You can support your child at home by working with them to create what we call arrays.

**Multiplication Using Arrays**

Multiplying is the same as repeated addition. This array shows  $3 \times 5$  but we could also write this down as  $5 + 5 + 5$



An array does not need to use counters or dots. It can be displayed using different items - the answer will be the same.



In Science we have been learning all about materials. We have decided that we would like to investigate what materials would be suitable for an astronaut's spacesuit. To help us with this project we will need a

selection of different fabrics, paper, card, bubble wrap etc. to study. If you have anything like this at home we would be grateful for your help.

On Thursday we were really excited to have a visit from Miss Graves who came to find out all about our learning. Miss Graves had the opportunity to help us with our literacy and numeracy and she was very impressed with all of our progress. We are all looking forward to her return to class two on a Thursday and Friday after half term.

### **Class 3:**



This week, we have continued with our text “Fantastic Mr Fox” and have learnt about writing dialogue and using adverbs to make writing exciting.



In maths, we have been playing games, listening to songs and using our new Learnpads to help us to learn and remember the 4 x tables. Topmarks is a particularly good website to find online games which children can then practise at home.

I have also updated Studyladder and there are lots of new maths and literacy activities now to choose from.

Mrs Turner

---

### **Class 4:**

Judge Sam and his Jury led our Courtroom drama to hear evidence regarding who was to blame for the sinking of the Titanic. Today they adjourned and their verdict is due soon. We will let you know the outcome next week!

In addition, the children have been developing their own dance routine based upon our topic - Water. They have been developing their skills in movement, control and fluid sequences in order to produce an imaginative dance motif.



## **Class 5:**

This week we have been challenged by the ancient story of Gilgamesh the Hero. The children worked hard trying to summarise the opening of the story and then used their own adjectives, adverbs and similes to describe the main characters. They have also been finishing off their wonderful boot designs.



Next week is internet safety week so we have designed and made posters to be displayed around the school to raise awareness and provide useful tips to other children, parents and visitors to our school - look out for them in the week ahead.

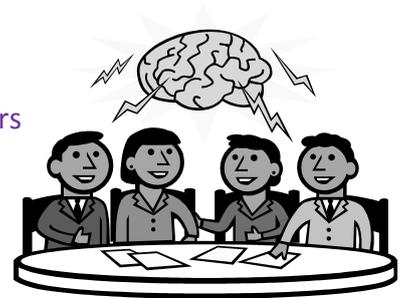
As part of our water topic we will be doing a mini project on bottled water, it would be helpful if every child could bring in a small bottle of water on Monday to support this. It would be great to have a wide range of brands - thank you.

## **NEWS FROM OUR INSTOW GOVERNORS**

Recently we have been looking at ways in which we can improve our communications and links with parents, carers, staff and the children. This will be a bit of a work in progress over the next few months (please bear with us!) but our aim is to make sure you are aware of developments affecting the school and your children.

### **What We Do**

Governors are a group of volunteers who include parents, staff and members of our local community. Our principal role is to promote ongoing improvements in standards throughout the school, to help the Headteacher and staff to plan the school's strategic direction and evaluate progress. We help to set the school's aims and values and are responsible for some staff appointments. Many of our responsibilities carry a statutory requirement which means we are obliged by law to do things such as agree the annual budget. Governors have a responsibility to look after the needs of all children in the school and are not allowed to bring their own personal requests to any meeting.



The Full Governing Body meets once a term. We also have two sub committees (Learning & Standards and Resources & Premises) that meet termly. At the bottom of this article you will find a table listing the Governors and their roles.

## Communications - Latest Developments



The school is in the process of setting up a new primary school website. In the meantime, we have posted up minutes from Governors meetings for this academic year <http://www.instow-cps.devon.sch.uk/governors.html>. Do take a look as it will give you more information about the issues we deal with and how we go about making improvements to our school. You can also ask Mrs Colette Woo in the

School Office for copies of previous minutes. In the near future, we will post up written summaries of each meeting shortly after it has taken place and remind you to check the website through the school newsletter.

If you want to know more, please feel free to ask us. We are here to help. If we don't know the answer, we will know someone who does. We will shortly be producing a Governor's photo board in our entrance corridor so you can put names to faces if you don't know everyone. You can also write to the Governors (we have a pigeon hole in the school office) or send an email to [clerk@instow-cps.devon.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@instow-cps.devon.sch.uk).

All parents are also most welcome to come along and observe any of the Governor meetings, similar to Council meetings, (see dates below). These are held in school. We will make sure these are advertised in a timely fashion in the newsletter. We will be holding our AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> June where you will be able to ask questions of the governors. Please come along.

**Dates for Spring Term** The sub committees have met this term. Our next meeting is Full Governors on 27<sup>th</sup> March, 6pm. We will also be holding a Special Full Governors Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 6pm, to approve many policies that are in need of updating.

### Dates for Summer Term

6<sup>th</sup> May Resources & Premises Committee, 6pm.

22<sup>nd</sup> May Learning & Standards Committee, 6pm.

19<sup>th</sup> June Full Governors & A.G.M. for all parents, 6pm.

Thanks for reading. We will keep in touch and hope to hear from you soon. Please see below for a list of Governors.

---

## INSTOW – AROMANCHES FAMILY EXCHANGE –

Our family (however big or small) is expressing an interest to find out more about the family exchange and we would like to come along to a meeting to discover more about this opportunity:

Name of child/children \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

# Our Governors at Instow Community Primary School

Name	Role	Committee	Other
Brian Moores	Chairman Local Authority Governor	Learning & Standards Resources & Premises	Councillor for Instow Ward
Simone Kessler	Vice Chair Parent Governor Chair, Resources & Premises	Resources & Premises	Parent of Year 5 child
Claire Hill	Vice Chair Parent Governor	Learning & Standards	Parent of children in Year 5 and in Year 2
Briony Tuohey	Staff Governor	Learning & Standards	Class 5 teacher
Paula Harvest	Staff Governor	Learning & Standards	Teaching Assistant
Tracey Singer	Local Authority Governor	Learning & Standards	
Brian Hockin	Local Authority Governor	Resources & Premises	Former parent, Councillor for Bickington & Roundswell Ward
Alan Mackie	Community Governor	Learning & Standards	Former PE teacher at Park Secondary
Elaine Norton	Community Governor	Learning & Standards	Former parent at Instow
Rob Parish	Parent Governor	Resources & Premises	Parent of children in Reception and Year 4
Simon Pell	Parent Governor	Resources & Premises	Parent of children in Year 5 and in Year 3
Kate Harvey	Parent Governor	Learning & Standards	Parent of children in Year 6 and in Year 4
Colette Woo	Clerk	Learning & Standards Resources & Premises	Parent of child in Year 6 and School Administrator

This page won't disappear. Please don't print it!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Knight x