

# Isham C of E Academy

## February Newsletter 2015



### Welcome

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the New Year and may I take this opportunity to wish any of you that I haven't already seen on the school gate a Happy New Year! Wow... it hardly seems possible that we are racing towards half term. What a busy start to the year it has been though; please make sure you take a look at the class newsletters on the website to get a real flavour of what everyone has been up to. We would like to take this opportunity to formally welcome Miss Hylands to Isham Academy. Some of you will have noticed that both Mrs Palmer and Mrs Cooke will soon be welcoming new additions to their respective families and although neither is going on maternity just yet we wanted to share their happy news with you. Mrs Smith will continue as the Willows class teacher as she has been all year therefore ensuring the smoothest possible transition for your children.

### RWinc Model School Presentation

We were delighted to welcome Leah Sanders and Anne George from RWinc in for a special celebration on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January where they presented us with our Model School award. We truly are fabulous readers!



### Bikeability

The Hollies braved some very cold weather in order to take part in the Level 1 Bikeability course. I am delighted to say that despite the freezing conditions everyone was awarded a certificate and fabulous badge which were presented during Celebration Act of Worship.

### Parent Questionnaires and Pupil Surveys

Each year, at the start of the Spring Term, we carry out our parent and pupil questionnaires. These provide an invaluable opportunity for us to gauge what things are going well and that you, as families, value and what things you feel we could review or tweak to ensure that our partnership with you continues to grow and get stronger. Thank you to all of you who took the time to fill these in and we will let you know the results in a future newsletter.

### Digital Champions



The children pictured are our proud Isham digital champions! They went through a rigorous process in order to achieve their new positions!

They had to apply to Mr Funnel with clear reasons why they should be a digital champion. The success criteria included;

- A clearly stated set of reasons why they should be a Digital Champion.
- What makes them especially suited to this role (interest in computers/ knowledge of E-Safety/ they help their families at home with technology)
- A list of Qualities describing the kind of person they would want to learn from (patient, respectful, helpful, inspiring) and how they think they show those qualities.

### Coffee mornings

The Family Support team (Mr Kime and Mrs Full) are keen to know how they can encourage greater numbers to their coffee mornings and therefore if you have any suggestions please pass them onto the office for their attention. We are keen to work with outside agencies who may support you, as families, or just give you the opportunity to meet together in an informal way. Our next coffee morning is Feb 10th and the Willows and Rowans will be inviting their parents. The Willows and Rowans will be singing and making crafts!



**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March** is Comic Relief Day, to support this charitable event this day will be a Mufti Day so children come dressed in something red. £1 donation please.

### PTFA

The PTFA are currently busy organizing numerous events for the Spring Term including: If you would like more details please contact the PTFA – Mrs Barfield, Mrs Bailey or Mrs Butler.



### Footballing Success

A huge congratulations to our Year 3/4 team who have achieved great success in their last couple of matches – winning by a whopping 8-0 against St Margaret's Clitheroe and 2-1 against Brixham! Well done!

### 'Why We Can't Live Without Books'

Well done to everyone who took part in the World Book Day Competition entitled 'Why We Can't Live Without Books'. You certainly proved how important books are to us and as always your creativity shone through! The overall winner was Max Renton from the Hollies for an inspirational video clip.

### Digital Champions continued:

This was sent to the computing team along with presentations and the most impressive were selected as digital representatives. Part of their role will be to evaluate new software and then peer to peer teaching across the school. They will be required to talk to visitors about computing at the Learning Academy Partnership.

They will also be required to have a good knowledge of e-safety and be able to share this with others.

The ICT team have uploaded the winning presentations for all to see on our website so please take a moment to have a look.

On that note: It is E-Safety Week on the 9<sup>th</sup> February so all classes will be focusing on the importance of keeping safe online.

As well as the Isham website please remember that the Learning Academy Partnership also has a website that you can check out at [www.lapsw.co.uk](http://www.lapsw.co.uk)

For your Calendar	9 <sup>th</sup> February Rowans Phonic Parent meeting	9 <sup>th</sup> February E Safety Week begins	9 <sup>th</sup> February Year 5 & 6 Football Match	11 <sup>th</sup> February PTFA School Disco	11 <sup>th</sup> February Year 6 Trip	12 <sup>th</sup> February Year 2 Trip
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## Worship

### Humility – our Christian value



### Humility

As we embark on an exciting and action packed new term this is an opportunity to reflect on the successes of last term and look forward to new challenges and events coming up in the term ahead.

In our Act of Worship we have been learning about why people make New Year Resolutions and ones that we might make focusing on our learning attitudes and how we treat others.

The overarching Christian Value we will be focusing on this term will be Humility. Through Family Groups and Acts of Worship we will explore what it means to be truly Humble. The children will learn that Jesus was both Servant and King and that he demonstrated this through his life, death and resurrection. We will think about how to demonstrate humility through attitudes and actions.

### An inspiring Curriculum at Ilsham

As always, we have lots to look forward to during the coming term not least the rich variety of Extra Curricular Clubs on offer including some brand new ones! Dance, Handball, Arts and Craft, Film Club as well as the return of the ever popular clubs – TUFC Football Coaching, Samba, Scratch, Gardening, Choir, and Chess. For a small school this truly is an amazingly rich variety of after school provision so please ensure that you encourage your child to branch out and try something different.

We also have many events for you to take part in over the coming term. Please check the Diary dates at the bottom of the monthly newsletters for specific information and be sure to check online for your class monthly newsletters.

#### Enriching Curriculum:

By now I am sure that you will have explored the curriculum booklet for your child/ren and these give you a really clear picture of what your child will learning about during the Spring Term. Our teachers plan what they are going to teach in order to ensure that your child makes maximum progress academically whilst also developing them in all areas of experience. The enriching opportunities that we offer our children all serve to fit this core aim:

*“Primary education is a critical stage in children’s development – it shapes them for life. As well as giving them the essential tools for learning, primary education is about children experiencing the joy of discovery, solving problems, being creative in writing, art, music, developing their self-confidence as learners and maturing socially and emotionally.” (taken from National College of School Leadership)*

We endeavor, through the opportunities that we provide, to ensure that our curriculum enables our children to think creatively and critically, to solve problems and make a difference for the better. We want to give them the opportunity to become creative, innovative, enterprising and capable of leadership to equip them for their future lives as workers and citizens.”

### Child of the Month:



Mrs Bone presenting the Child of the Month cups to Aeryn Beasley, Lucy Hornsby, Phoebe Sidebottom & Lorenzo Gay.

Our Spring Term enrichment opportunities include, to name but a few:

LAP Choir to perform at the Riviera Centre, Drumming Workshop, Life Education, Bike-ability, Pre-Historic Day, Dinosaur World visit, Greek Mythology Day, Clive Pig author visit, Eamon Riley author visit, School Library Service, Kents Cavern visit, E-Safety Week.

**ROAD SAFETY** – Sarah Green, Assistant Road Safety Officer Torbay Council Road Safety Team has asked us to pass this on... “The school zigzags and double yellow lines are placed outside schools to provide better visibility at the entrance to schools, in which children can cross the road; they can see motorists and motorists can see them.

It is your responsibility to find an appropriate safe place to park at school times even if it means leaving slightly earlier in order to walk that bit further to school. I respectfully remind you that there will be a zero tolerance for parking on zigzags or double yellow lines at your school.”



### Act of Worship

Parents will be invited to their children’s Act of Worship followed by open classrooms on the following dates:

Willows – 12<sup>th</sup> June  
Rowans – 19<sup>th</sup> June  
Beeches – 26<sup>th</sup> June  
Maples – 3<sup>rd</sup> July  
Hollies – 10<sup>th</sup> July  
Oaks – 17<sup>th</sup> July  
Monkey Puzzles Leavers Service  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 2pm  
**Thank you...**

And finally a huge thank you for helping us to raise £143.33 for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.