

Ipplepen Primary School

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Thursday 28th January

As we head towards the start of February, I am delighted to be able to write my first newsletter as Head of School here at Ipplepen. I am incredibly proud to be here as Head of School and although the start of the term has not been easy for anyone, I am very grateful for all the positivity and openness I have encountered from everyone within the school community.

As mentioned in previous letters I have been really impressed by how well everyone has engaged with the school this term. I have also appreciated your patience, understanding and constructive comments as we have put systems in place for remote learning. The staff have worked incredibly hard to support all our pupils since the start of term and I feel engagement in online learning through Google classroom and Tapestry is going from strength to strength.

As always, we are here for you if you need any advice, guidance, or support. Do please contact us. You can be assured that the staff here, will continue to strive to provide support and deliver the best education we can for your child/children during this difficult time. I look forward to meeting more of you in the coming weeks whether that be in person or virtually.

All my very best to you all.

Marcus West



Upcoming School Events

February:

**Mon 1st –
Fri 5th:** Children's Mental Health Week

**Mon 15th -
Fri 19th
(Inclusive)** Half Term

March:

Thur 4th: World Book Day

**Mon 8th-
Fri 12th:** National Science Week

**Week Beg
Mon 22nd :** Online Parent evenings.

April:

Thur 1st: Last day of Term

**Fri 2nd –
Fri 16th:
(inclusive)** Easter Holidays

Mon 19th: First day of summer term

Remote Learning

– here are some top tips-

- Ensure you establish a daily routine at home and use the daily timetable each class has set to keep on top of their daily learning.
- Encourage breaks through the day and get some fresh air or exercise.
- Take an interest in your child's learning and support them whenever they need a helping hand. Make sure you monitor their online activity.
- Most importantly, look after your child's wellbeing and mental health. Remote learning means that they will not get the same social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Our Live lessons will try to support your child and give them opportunity to connect with their classmates.

We fully appreciate that these are difficult times, and we know that home learning is not the easiest job, especially if you are having to balance your own working from home.

Just remember.....

you are doing an amazing job!

Just a few reminders

Contacting the School Office - As most of you are aware, myself and the office ladies (Caroline and Kate) are manning the gates in the mornings and afternoons, so if you need to speak to any of us at these times, please catch us on the gates. We are all usually back in our offices by 9am, if you need to call us, or alternatively email us at admin@ipplepen-primary.devon.sch.uk

Rights Respecting Article - Each month we consider a different article, this month we are focusing on Article 31: The right to rest, play and have access to affordable arts and culture.

Children's Mental Health Week 1st - 7th Feb 2021

Mental health is a big issue for many people at the moment and we are very keen to continue the work we are already doing in school to support children's mental health.



During the week classes will take time to discuss mental health at an age-appropriate level and look at resources to help this. There will be optional activities added to google classroom during the week also.

Do please remember to take a break section of the google classroom as well for ideas to help look after ourselves.

I am attaching a leaflet with further information and tips for parents & carers to talk to children about mental health. Please take the time to read the leaflet.