



NEWSLETTER

Friday 17th October 2025

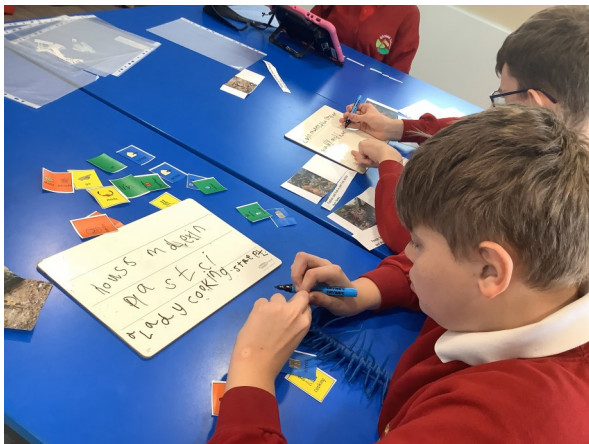
WEEKLY CLASS FOCUS



This half term, the Cello pupils have embarked on a vibrant journey to learn all about India. They have explored the country's geography, culture, food, wildlife and everyday life.

They located India on maps and atlases and learned about its flag—its colours, patterns and symbolism.

They discovered India's diverse landscapes, including the Himalayas, Ganges River, Red Fort, Qutub Minar and the iconic Taj Mahal. They explored India's climate and major cities, comparing urban and rural life. They also learned about Indian households and compared schools in villages and cities—children were amazed to hear that some classes have 56 pupils!



The pupils studied India's rich wildlife, including tigers, elephants and peacocks. They smelled a variety of Indian spices and made delicious dishes such as chapatis with dipping sauce, vegetable pakoras, mango lassi (a mango milk drink) and coconut ladoo.

Tie-dyeing in art was a colourful success! Pupils loved experimenting with vibrant colours and patterns. In PE, they learned a lively Indian dance routine—fun, energetic, and full of rhythm!



They read *Nikhil and Jay: Off to India* in small groups and built descriptive sentences using words and symbols, inspired by photos of India. In maths, they focused on directions and 3D shapes, linking their learning to real-world contexts.

We're so proud of how engaged and enthusiastic the children have been throughout this exciting topic!

SUKKOT

We celebrated the autumn harvest in a slightly different way this year, by holding an assembly demonstrating how other countries celebrate/give thanks for their fortunes.



This year Sukkot was celebrated by the Jewish faith between sunset on 6th October and sunrise on 13th October. It is a time to remember when the Jewish people wandered the desert, trying to find a place to live a long time ago. To get ready for the Sukkot they start to build a Sukkah—which is a Hebrew word for a kind of hut or tent. It can be made from a variety of materials although the roof must be made from materials found on the ground, such as branches, plants, etc.

As part of the Sukkot celebrations, Jewish people use something called the Four Kinds— lulav (palm branch), aravot (willow branch); hadassim (the flower myrtle) and etrog (a lemon-like fruit) which are held and moved in different directions. They also eat special food including bread dipped in honey, and light candles. They spend most of the week in the Sukkah and eat all their meals there.

ANDOVER FOOD BANK

To celebrate the harvest the Icknield way, we are collecting for the Andover Food Bank at the moment. If you feel able to make a donation, please send in items to the school next week or maybe do a little extra shopping over the half term. We would like to send the donations to the Food Bank during the first week back from our half term (w/c 3rd November). A list of the preferable, non-perishable, items are listed below:



Tinned: Meat, fish, vegetables, potatoes, soup, rice pudding, custard or fruit.

Pasta sauce, cereal, powdered custard, biscuits, long life milk, instant potatoes

ICKNIELD'S GOVERNING BODY

Following a Full Governors' Meeting earlier this week, we are taking this opportunity to thank Donna Davies who has served as a Staff School Governor for the past four years. Donna has been involved in many decision-making meetings and was also involved in the last Ofsted inspection –which had an outstanding outcome!



Donna Davies

Donna is making way for our newly elected Staff School Governor, Kerry Morley. Kerry has worked at the school for 12 years and has accumulated a substantial amount of experience in the various classes she has worked in throughout the school. We look forward to her joining the team.



Kerry Morley

Meanwhile, we also are saying goodbye to Doug Searle who has served a short term as a Governor. We are very grateful for the knowledge and input he brought to the table and wish him well in his further endeavours.



Doug Searle

Currently we have vacancies for two School governors. If you know of anyone who would be interested in becoming a School Governor, or would like more information regarding what this position entails, please contact the school. We have a two-hour meeting each half term which is usually held after school hours.

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK

Matthew HB, Maracas 9 yrs old

BIRTHDAYS BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEKEND...

Ruby, Harp 17 yrs old

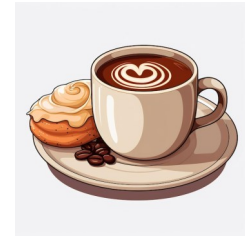


REMINDERS

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS

—OLD AND NEW!

The next Parent Coffee Group being held at school is at 1.30pm on **Wednesday 22nd October.**



PARENTS' EVENING

Thursday 23rd October

If you have not already done so, please could you remember to contact your child's class teacher, via ClassDojo, to arrange a suitable time for you to have a discussion, either via a video call or in person.



There will be representatives in the hall from independent Futures, Purple Oak Support, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Andover College, plus help is available with EFL, ClassDojo and family issues.

FOOD BANK VOUCHERS

If you are in need of Food Bank vouchers, please contact Sharon Portsmouth, our Family Support Practitioner.



ALL REQUESTS WILL BE TREATED CONFIDENTIALLY

Her contact details are as follows:

School office: 01264 365297

Mobile: 07895 984 244 (call or text)

Email: sharon.portsmouth@ickniel.hants.sch.uk

There is also the option of contacting Sharon via Classdojo.

SIGNS AND SYMBOLS OF THE WEEK



year		today	tomorrow	yesterday
week	next week	last week	month	year

AUTUMN TERM 2025



OCTOBER

- 20th Christmas Shoebox collection week
- 22nd Parents' Coffee Group (1.30pm)
- 23rd Parents' Evening and exhibition of support groups
- 24th **INSET DAY (FE students only—not Cello)**
- 27th **HALF TERM WEEK (WHOLE SCHOOL)**

NOVEMBER

- 21st Children in Need
- 25th Governor Training (4pm-6pm)
- 28th School photographer (individual & family photos)

DECEMBER

- 3rd FE Christmas market
- 9th Full Governors' Meeting
- 5th Hampshire Music Special Celebration, Winchester
- 11th Nativity—St Mary's Church, Andover
- 15th Hanukkah theme week
- 16th House Reward Trip—Pantomime at Basingstoke
- 18th Christmas Lunch (+ special guest)

SUPERSTAR OF THE WEEK

The following students have been awarded the Class Star of the Week Award

Chimes - Phoebe
Drum - Zachary O
Maracas - Chloe W
Tambourine - Jesse
Triangle - Archie R
Trumpet - Chloe Sm
Oboe - Jakey
Banjo - Tiger
Harp - Ben
Cello - James D



The School Superstar of the Week is JAMES!!!

James has had a fantastic half term at the FE Centre. He is a sociable and happy student who brings great energy to the classroom. His enthusiasm for science, history and geography is clear and he enjoys engaging in conversations, sharing stories and photos. James has formed new friendships and is enjoying social activities such as playing Uno.

He also brings a great sense of humour to the classroom, often telling jokes and making others smile. His love for walks and holidays with his family adds a lovely personal touch to his contributions in class.

FE PPICC CHAMPIONS

(Personal, Physical, Independence, Cognitive, Communication)

CHAMPIONS



Gus

&

Tim

