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Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

And just like that I am writing my final newsletter of 2022. This one certainly has a festive feel to it, but also includes plenty of information about exciting upcoming opportunities for our children and our school in 2023.

### **Xmas Performances**

It really wouldn't be Xmas at IKB and IKB Bright Sparks without our Xmas performances. A week ago we were enjoying our carols and Makaton around the Xmas tree from our Bright Sparks children and team and this was followed by 'A Bundle of Joy' from our Reception children and 'Hey Ewe' from years 1 and 2. Performances like this are always an excellent opportunity to develop our children's language and communication skills and we have been thrilled to see them all growing in confidence over the past month in these areas. A lot of preparation goes into ensuring these performances are a success and I would like to extend my thanks to all staff and parents/ carers who supported the learning of lines, the providing of costumes and the learning of songs and dance routines. Year 2 were also involved in the Wellington Xmas lights switch on, led by Mrs Hitchin and school volunteers, performing a selection of Xmas carols to the local public.



### **Community Opportunities**

This half term our children have experienced ample opportunities for learning within our community. All children had a trip to Wellington Baptist Church to learn about Advent with Pastor Sam. Our Year 2 children returned to the church later that month to support the warm space Refuge open to the Wellington community. Year 1 attended a magical performance of Sleeping Beauty at the local Taachi Morris theatre and our Reception children wrapped up warm to brave the cold and deliver their high quality written letters to Santa at the local post box. Finally, our Year 1 and Year 2 Eco Club members joined forces with the Wellington Rotary Club and participated in crocus planting on our school grounds. Upon opening, one of our priorities was to firmly establish ourselves as a school for its community and we will continue to seize opportunities to further grow in this area.



### **Santa Stopped By!**

Of all the recent visitors we have had, Santa was certainly the most popular. He visited every child, bringing books for all and promoting our commitment to 'Every Child a Reader.' He ensured that all Xmas wishes are granted. Thanks Santa! Ho ho ho!

### **Xmas Jumper Day**

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December we held our IKB Xmas jumper day which saw children and staff alike sporting colourful and Xmas themed attire. Always with a purpose in mind, we held the event to raise awareness and supplies for our local Trussell Trust foodbank that supports families across the Wellington and Taunton area. Thank you so much for the many kind donations that we received.

### Our IKB Attributes:

We are POSITIVE

We are ENGAGED

We are RESPONSIBLE

We are RESPECTFUL

We are RESILIENT

We RISE TO CHALLENGES



### Our IKB and Castle Partnership Trust Values:

Every Child Belongs

Every Child Participates

Every Child Achieves



### Jack Rutter Visit

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January we welcome Jack Rutter, a former youth footballer and now a Paralympic footballer, to IKB.

We have teamed up with Sport for Schools to highlight our IKB Attribute of Resilience and learn about how, after suffering a brain injury, Jack has found the strength to keep going and achieve success.

### \*\* DATES FOR THE DIARY\*\*

Term 3 2022-23	
Week of 19 <sup>th</sup> December	IKB Bright Sparks open as usual.
Week of 26 <sup>th</sup> December	IKB Bright Spark closed this week.
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	Bank holiday - IKB School and IKB Bright Sparks closed.
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Term 3 begins for IKB school and IKB Bright Sparks.
Week of 9 <sup>th</sup> January	'Wonderful week' in IKB Bright Sparks where parents/ carers can join to learn alongside their children for 25 minutes at drop-off during a session this week.
<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Closing date for all September 2023 primary admissions.</b>
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	'Brew Monday for Blue Monday' – opportunities for families to drop in (8:45 – 10) for tea, coffee, cake and conversation during what is known to be the most difficult day of the year.
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Miss Fahy's reading workshops for parents/ carers at 8:50 and 14:45.
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Sport for School visit from ex-youth team footballer and Paralympic footballer Jack Rutter.
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Big Garden Bird Watch weekend.
Week of 30 <sup>th</sup> January	National Storytelling Week.
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	'Fabulous Friday' in Year 2 from 8:45 – 9:10.
Week of 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Week and Children's Mental Health Week.
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Term 4 class newsletters and knowledge organisers going home to all parents/ carers.
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Mr Healey's Internet safety workshops for parents/ carers at 8:50, 14:40 and 17:30.
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 1 multi skills sports trip to Court Fields School.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of Term 3.
Week of 13 <sup>th</sup> February	IKB Bright Sparks open as usual.
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET Day – IKB School and IKB Bright Sparks closed.
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Term 4 begins for IKB school and IKB Bright Sparks.

So 2022 is coming to a close and upon reflection it has been a year that we can look back upon with immense pride, particularly in the areas of every child belonging, every child participating and every child achieving. This wouldn't be possible without the incredible dedication of the team that I am fortunate enough to lead or without the boundless trust and support that our school receives from our parents, carers and community members. The success of IKB truly is a collaborative effort and for that I am very grateful. Two staff members who I would like to wish luck for the future and extend special thanks to are Mrs Stoddart and Miss Wakely who are both leaving us at the end of term to follow new ventures. Both have been excellent additions to our team this past year and will be missed. I am pleased to announce that next term Mrs Redstone will be joining our team as a SEND teacher. Enjoy a fun, restful and safe break with family and friends. Remember that learning doesn't just happen in the classroom, so seize any opportunities for learning that you encounter with your children over the next fortnight.

Thank you, Mr Healey, IKB Headteacher