



NEWSLETTER



We hope you enjoy reading the first newsletter of the academic year. Scroll down for all 3 pages of updates and information about our fantastic school!



Forest School

All children who have taken part in Forest School lessons so far have absolutely loved it! They have made fires, toasted marshmallows, whittled wood, made bows and arrows, reclined in a hammock, problem solved, played on an obstacle course, learnt about the wildlife in the Forest School area amongst many other exciting activities.

Please could we remind parents that the children need to bring warm, waterproof clothes to school when it is their turn to attend Forest School and to leave them in school for the week.



You may have seen on our Facebook page that we have put out a plea for old wellies and any old children's waterproof clothing. Please bring any items to the school office. We thank you in advance.



House Cross Country

The weather was on our side yesterday afternoon for our first House event of the year. All children took part in the house cross country races, showing determination and perseverance, supporting one another during the event. Our newly appointed Sport Captains did a fantastic job of pace setting and leading the younger children round the course.



We are delighted to announce that Vikings were this year's winners!

Roald Dahl Day!

Well done to everyone for their fantastic costumes to celebrate Roald Dahl Day last month. See our website for photographs from the day by clicking on this link:

[King Ina Academy - Roald Dahl Day 13/09/2024](#)



OFSTED—UPDATE ON PROGRESS

You will remember that the main areas for improvement from our inspection related to **early reading** and **adapting learning to take account of what the children know and can do**

Early Reading

We are very much excited to roll out our well-designed phonics program to pupils this coming school year, on the back of last year's incredible success of **81%** of our Year 1 children passing the phonics screening test. This was higher than the national average in 2023.

Phonics teaching has already begun across the school, this now includes our new phase 1 phonics program for our youngest pupils (school starters) in Owlets.

We have recently had our first visit this academic year from The English Hub which was a positive one. Our academy is moving in the right direction to improve all pupils' attainment levels in reading. With the continued support of The English Hub this year, we aim to continue to fine tune teaching practices and assessment methods.

This school year will see more parent workshops, videos of phonics learning amongst many other things. Mrs Slade will also be providing more opportunities for children's voices to be heard regarding their phonics learning. This will not only support our developing practices to raise levels of attainment but will also help the children to take some ownership of their learning and become creators of their own destinies!

Adapting Learning

We have recently assessed the children using NFER maths and reading tests (National Foundation for Education Research tests). These are diagnostic tests that will enable us to identify gaps in children's learning and to put appropriate interventions in place for the children. We will let you know about the children's progress in due course.

We have also developed our SEND pupils' targets within their Assess Plan Do Review plans so that they are SMART targets— Specific, Measurable. Realistic, Timely . We are now looking at ways that SEND children's targets can be displayed so that they can be reminded about them when working across other subjects.

Meet our new pupil leaders!

School Council



Sport Captains



House Captains



SEND Update

We have had a very productive start to the term within our SEND department. Firstly, to welcome Mrs Crisp and Miss King to our team of fantastic teaching assistants. They have already settled in to their classes and are doing a fabulous job of supporting our young people.

SEND coffee mornings

Plans are in progress to resume our SEND coffee mornings from next half term. We would welcome any requests for themes to our coffee mornings. We could focus on a specific area of SEND for information or advice, or invite in guest presenters...please do email the school office if you have any requests or suggestions.

Wise Up Workshops

The Parent Carer forum have been granted NHS funding to continue hosting their 'Wise Up' workshops this coming academic year. They want your help to decide on what subjects to cover next year so will be running 2 sessions as part of the Let's Talk SEND and Inclusion Event. You can find out more at:

<https://somesetparentcarerforum.org.uk/2024/05/21/lets-talk-send-and-inclusion/>

Safeguarding

The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Svenson
and the school's Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Mrs Svenson



Mrs Salt



Mrs Watts



Mrs Ruddle



Mrs Stock



Mrs Crossman



Should you have a concern about a child, contact one of the above staff members on 01458 272587.

Start of the school day timings

This is to remind parents that the school gate now opens at 8.30am, giving children 15 minutes to get into school, ready for registration at 8.45am. It is important that children arrive at school on time.

Thank you

Attendance

We wish to remind parents that holidays should be taken during the school holidays and not during term time. Please note that holidays taken during term time could result in a Penalty Notice which equates to £80 per parent, per child.