

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2026

## ☀️ This Week at Irlam Primary

Another busy week has flown by! There is a lot to share this week, including some important reminders about keeping our children safe, happy and ready to learn.

Before all of that, though, we wanted to celebrate some of our wonderful children who have taken on special responsibilities so far across school this year.

### 💖 Roles & responsibilities (so far...!!)



Head Boy: Leo Cheung

Head Girl: Erin Hoyle (awaiting jumper that fits!)

Deputy HBs: Freddie Ingham; Toby Heaton

Deputy HGs: Scarlett Massey (also awaiting jumper that fits!); Scarlett Perryman



We are incredibly proud of the children who have stepped forward so far to take on these roles. They are already doing a wonderful job of representing our school and being positive role models for others. Well done everyone! ☀️

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

These children were voted onto the council by their peers as part of understanding Democracy (one of the British Values taught within the curriculum). Children were asked to vote for someone that they trusted, who was respectful and followed school rules – and who would be willing to put pupils' views forward to the staff. Very well done to you all!



2N- Polly Adamson

2B-Hallie Crane

3P- Conner Russell-Broadbent

3F-Lucia Matthews

4D-Teddy Moore

4G-Alex Scott

5H- Luke Hind and Thomas Longmate

5W-Holly Lowes

6B- Libbie Mae Burrows

6H- Leo Stacey



## PEER MENTORS

Peer Mentors were chosen by their class teacher and Mrs Rollings – and have been trained by Mrs Rollings to help other children in school with any problems they may be having e.g. finding a friend on the playground; feeling upset about something. Obviously, very caring, empathetic children



Erin Brady

Paige Danson

Penelope Mastin

Roux Sullivan

Eva Scallan Bell

Celesse Kharouf

(New jumpers for some so they don't come down to their knees!!!)

## **SCHOOL LIBRARIANS**

These 5 children successfully applied to be school librarians and have been trained to help Mrs Sidebotham run the school library. They all love reading and books – and I know they will make a fabulous job! Well done!

Pixie Williamson, Tiara Mahmoudloo, Olivia Jones, Sofia Sanchez, Cheryl Chick



## **Dates for Your Diary (updates or new entries in red)**

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct</b>   | Dress to Express! (Children can come in anything they love to wear! Provided it's suitable for primary school!!) £1 donation towards the Xmas Fair.                                                                             |
| <b>Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>  | <b>Year 1 local walk</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>   | Wear something yellow with your school uniform – to celebrate Mental Health Day. (Socks / hairbands/badges/ bangles/ yellow face stripes)                                                                                       |
| <b>Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>  | British Values Week in school                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> | Individual Photographs<br><b>Pm 5W to ICA – History</b>                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Thur 15<sup>th</sup></b>     | <b>Pm 5H to ICA - History</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>  | <b>Fire service to talk to Y6 in the school hall</b>                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>  | Parents' Evening 3.30-7pm<br><b>Launch Day for Rocksteady Music Crew (added recently) This is an exciting new enterprise and you will hear details following the launch!</b><br><b>Basketball competition at ICA (1.30-3pm)</b> |

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| <b>Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> | Parents' Evening 3.30-5pm                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Oct</b>  | Flu Jabs<br><br><b>Art Council workshops Y5/Y6</b>                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct</b>  | Non Uniform Day – Collection of bottles for our Christmas Fair<br><br>Parent assembly for Year 1 at 9.15am<br><br>Break up for half term at 3.15pm and return to school on Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November at 8.45am. |
| <b>Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov</b>  | Anti-Bullying week                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Thur 5<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>  | <b>Librarian in to talk to EYFS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>   | Collection of sweets for the Christmas Fair – winning class to receive a cinema afternoon in school. (No jars please – due to allergens in school; thank you)                                                          |
| <b>Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>   | Talk Consent to Y6: workshop for primary pupils on 'Challenging sexism and harmful stereotypes.'<br><br><b>Y3/Y4 football competition (in collaboration with ICA and Liverpool FC)</b>                                 |
| <b>Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>  | School Discos for KS1 and KS2 (details nearer the time)                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>  | Collection throughout the week of toiletries or anything that we can use as a raffle prize for the Fair – in return for a chance to enter our prize draw on Friday! Each donation gets a raffle ticket.                |
| <b>Tues 17<sup>th</sup></b>     | <b>5W to ICA – Geography</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>  | Open Evening for all new Nursery starters in September 2027 ( 5-6.30pm)                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Thur 19<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> | <b>5H to ICA - Geography</b>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>  | Children in Need – crazy hair/ spots day! Donations to -CIN                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>  | <b>Dodgeball competition (not sure of ages as yet)</b>                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Thur 26<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> | <b>5H to ICA - Spanish</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>  | Collection of chocolate/s for the Fair – and wear your slippers in school for the day!                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>  | <b>5W to ICA - Spanish</b>                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>   | Collection of sweets/cakes for the Fair – in exchange for non uniform day!                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Sat 5<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>   | CHRISTMAS FAIR 11am-1pm                                                                                                                                                                                                |

|                                  |                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>   | <b>Year 5 to ICA - Music</b>                                                                                         |
| <b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>    | 10am Carols at St Johns with the Choir – parents welcome!<br>Evening Carol Concert (6.30-8pm)                        |
| <b>Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> | Christmas Nativity for Reception parents at 9.15am                                                                   |
| <b>Tues 15<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>  | Breakfast with Santa - 8am – details nearer the time                                                                 |
| <b>Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>   | Breakfast with Santa - 8am – details nearer the time<br><br>am: EYFS party<br><br>Pm: LKS2 party                     |
| <b>Thur 17<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>  | Xmas Jumper Day / Christmas Bingo<br><br>am: KS1 party<br><br>pm: UKS2 party                                         |
| <b>Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>   | Wear something Christmassy! Break up for Christmas at 3.15pm and return to school on Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January |

**Pop these dates somewhere safe! As always, we'll send further information about individual events nearer the time.**

## Attendance & Punctuality: Every Minute Matters

Being in school **every day and on time** really does matter. Thank you to the vast majority of our families who make sure their children are here, settled and ready to learn each morning.

Our Attendance Lead is **Mrs Freer**, and we also work closely with an Attendance Lead from the Local Authority.

A reminder that school **cannot authorise term-time holidays** except in exceptional circumstances. We respectfully ask parents and carers to make every endeavour to arrange family holidays during the school holidays. Any penalty notice payments **do not come to school**.

Children should be in school **by 8.45am**. We are seeing a small number of children arriving late regularly, and those few minutes each morning soon add up to a significant amount of lost learning.

Regular lateness can result in penalty notices. Please also remember that **Mrs Higham and Mrs Rollings cannot regularly leave their duties to escort children to classrooms after the gates have closed**. Most importantly, arriving late means that children miss the beginning of lessons, important instructions and that calm start to the day that we want for everyone.

**Thank you for helping us make every school day count. ❤️**

## **Parent Survey: Have Your Say!**

Last week, **Mr Hinton** shared our parental survey on Class Dojo.

If you have a few minutes, we would really appreciate you completing it for us. It is a quick online form and your feedback is genuinely valuable in helping us celebrate what is working well and consider where we can become even better.

👉 <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/mjkeXsrMyd>

Thank you to everyone who has already completed it. 😊

## **Parking: Please Think Before You Park**

Unfortunately, parking around school continues to cause concern, and this week we have had some particularly worrying incidents.

One vehicle was parked **on a local resident's driveway**, understandably preventing them from accessing their own property. We have also received reports of a grey car **reversing the wrong way along Elsinore Avenue**, a one-way street. On one occasion, the vehicle came dangerously close to a parent and child walking to school.

We really don't want to be writing about a child being injured before this message is taken seriously.

Please **park legally, safely and considerately**, even if this means parking a little further away and walking the last part of the journey.

Complaints about parking and driving around school have recently been made to both the **Council and local Police**.

We know that the overwhelming majority of our families drive and park responsibly. Thank you. We simply ask everyone to think: **Is where I am parking, or how I am driving, putting somebody else's child at risk?**



## A Reminder About Playfighting

We know that children sometimes see playfighting as harmless fun, but it can very quickly result in someone becoming hurt, upset or angry.

The children have been reminded that **playfighting is not permitted in school**. Children who continue to playfight after being reminded will receive an appropriate consequence in line with our school rules.

Please reinforce this message at home too. Thank you for your support.

## Playground Equipment Before & After School

A quick safety reminder that children **must not use the play equipment on either playground before or after school**.

Our playground equipment is intended to be used when appropriate staff supervision is in place. We therefore ask parents and carers to ensure that children stay off the equipment at drop-off and collection times.

Thank you for helping us to keep everyone safe. 😊

# Our Behaviour Doesn't Stop at the School Gate

Our **Behaviour and Relationships Policy**, which can be found on the school website, explains our expectations for children's behaviour both **in school and within our local community**.

When children are wearing an Irlam Primary uniform, they represent our school, and inappropriate behaviour within the community may therefore result in consequences in school.

Education is about far more than reading, writing and maths. Part of our job, working alongside you as parents and carers, is helping children learn how to **make good choices, treat others with kindness, show respect and take responsibility for their actions**. These are the qualities they will need as they grow into confident, responsible young people.

Please remind your children about those little things that make such a difference: **lovely manners, kindness, consideration and respect for others**.

The vast majority of our children demonstrate these qualities brilliantly, day in and day out, and we are extremely proud of them. 

Thank you for working alongside us to maintain the standards that we all want for our children.

## Social Media & Children's Devices

We are asking parents and carers for some help with something that is increasingly affecting children's friendships in school: **social media and messaging outside school**.

Please regularly monitor what your child is accessing and doing on their phone, tablet or other devices.

We regularly find that disagreements which have happened online at home are then brought into school the following morning. By that point, friendships have been damaged, children are upset and school staff are left trying to resolve something that began outside school.

Primary-aged children can find online conversations and group chats particularly difficult to navigate. Messages can be misunderstood, unkind comments can spread quickly and children don't always have the maturity to recognise when they should step away and ask an adult for help.

**Parents and carers have a really important role to play in knowing which apps children are using, who they are communicating with and what is being shared.**

School will always support children when friendship issues affect their wellbeing in school, but we cannot supervise children's social-media use at home. Your help with this makes an enormous difference.

## Thought for the Weekend: Be Thankful

After **ALL** those reminders, let's finish with something lovely! 😊

Our theme this week has been **thankfulness**.

Sometimes we spend so much time thinking about what we don't have, what has gone wrong or what we want next that we forget to notice all the good things already around us.

This weekend, perhaps ask everyone in your family one simple question:

**“What are three things you are thankful for today?”**

They don't have to be big things.

A hug.

A best friend.

A warm home.

Someone making you laugh.

A muddy walk.

Your favourite tea.

Five minutes of peace and quiet! 😊

There is *always* something to be thankful for if we take the time to notice it.



**“Enjoy the little things, because one day you may look back and realise they were the big things.”** 💖

Have a lovely weekend everyone, and as always, **thank you for your continued support of our school and our wonderful children** 😊

Mrs Darwin