

Ifield School's Newsletter

Maddie Arnold-Jones, Headteacher



September 2023

For more news and information please visit our website: www.iffield.kent.sch.uk

Dear Ifield Families, Pupils, Governors, Staff and Friends,

Welcome to the first newsletter edition of this academic year. I hope the monthly newsletters provide our families with valuable information throughout this year. We regularly update our school's website and Facebook page, so please take time to enjoy the exciting news shared.

It has been fantastic to welcome all pupils back to school and of course our new pupils who have joined Ifield this term. Pupils have settled well into the new school year and are learning their routines and adapting exceptionally well to their new classroom environments and class teams.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all our students in Key Stage 4 and 5 who sat exams and completed accreditations last academic year, achieving a range of entry level certificates, awards and short courses. As a school, we are incredibly proud of their achievements and commend their hard work and resilience throughout last academic year.

For new families joining this year, I am delighted to welcome you to Ifield's community and very much look forward to working in partnership with you, alongside Ifield's team of dedicated staff throughout your child's educational journey. This year, we are introducing Stay and Learn sessions for all parents in Term 2, so that you are able to join your child's learning within their class. You will also have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher in Term 2. Further details regarding both events will be shared before the end of this term.

The start of a new academic year allows time to reflect and plan for the coming year. As a school, we continuously strive to better the lives of your children and prepare them for the next stage of their education.

Ifield School continues to provide an outstanding and supportive learning environment in which everyone can achieve their very best. We aim to value, support and challenge our pupils to achieve success.

Valued – We believe every individual is unique.

Challenged- We believe that pupils succeed best when staff have high expectations.

Supported- We believe that a good learning environment stems from a committed staff who work as a team to support all pupils.

Successful- We believe that success is important to every individual and to have that success recognised encourages further achievement.

After a year of recruiting an After Schools' Club and Ifield Life Co-ordinator, I am very pleased to share we will be reinstating after school clubs this academic year. We will keep our families updated when we are able to confirm a start date.

I very much look forward to working closely with you and all the lifelong learning opportunities this year will bring for your child.

Very best wishes,

Maddie Arnold-Jones
Headteacher



Parent and Carer Survey Results 2022- 2023

Thank you to parents and carers who completed our annual survey last academic year. Your feedback is very important and helps our school to continue to develop further.

We received 26.3% responses from parents and carers and therefore the results below are based on 70 responses out of a possible 266.

1. 75.7% of parents/carers agree that ***my child is happy at Ifield School.***
2. 67.1% of parents/carers agree that ***my child is safe at Ifield School.***
3. 62.9% of parents/carers agree that ***my child achieves well at Ifield School.***
4. 64.3% of parents/carers agree that ***Ifield School has high expectations for my child.***
5. 64.3% of parents/carers agree that ***Ifield School makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.***
6. 71.4% of parents/carers agree that ***there is a good range of subjects available to my child at Ifield School.***
7. 68.6% of parents/carers agree that ***Ifield School supports my child's personal development.***
8. 67.1% of parents/carers agree that ***when I have raised concerns with Ifield School they have been dealt with effectively.***
9. 75.4% of parents/carers agree that ***Ifield School is a welcoming and pleasant place to visit.***
10. 75.7% of parents/carers agree that ***I would recommend Ifield School to another parent.***



The Cedar Federation Governing Body

Ifield School is federated with King's Farm Primary School and both schools form one Governing Body. There are currently 12 Governors on the Full Governing Board of The Cedar Federation, which has the following Committees:

- Finance and Resource Management
- Leadership, Strategy and School Improvement
- Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The Governor role involves working closely with the Headteachers of both schools at a strategic level and the Governing Body has three strategic core functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

As well as attending meetings, Governors regularly visit both schools and Ifield Sixth Form looking at many aspects, including safeguarding, Health and Safety and join celebration events.

We are currently looking to appoint two new Parent Governors and would be delighted to hear from any parent who has:

- An interest in the performance of the schools
- A desire to contribute to and represent the community
- An open and enquiring mind
- The ability to look at school matters objectively
- Confidence to ask questions and join in discussions
- Willingness to listen and make informed judgements
- The ability to work well with others
- Time to spare
- Child/Children attending Ifield School or King's Farm Primary School.

If you match the above description, you may be the very person to become a Parent Governor of the Cedar Federation. Everyone has something to offer and the Governing Body welcome members from as many backgrounds and with as wide a range of interests as possible.

Ifield Funday

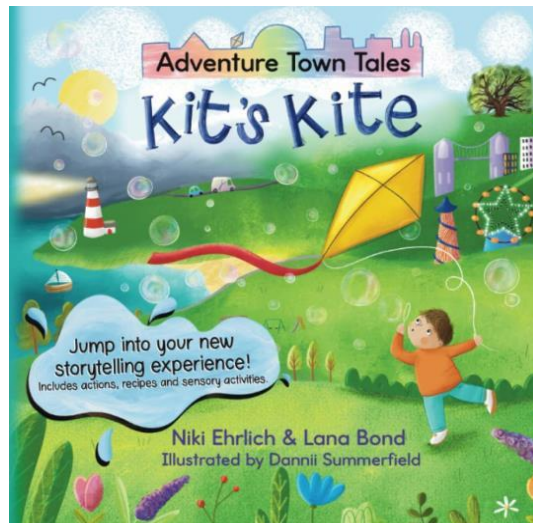
Thank you for supporting Ifield's Fun Day on Saturday 23rd September 2023. We were very lucky that the sun shone brightly. Thank you again for everyone's generosity, we made a grand total of £2,331.79 profit.

The PTFA worked hard to organise the donations of bottles, cakes, and other items so that we had a fantastic prize raffle alongside the cash prize raffle. Congratulations to all our winners.

Thank you to Ifield School staff who ran the stalls, including Beat the Goalie, the White Elephant Stall, Tin Can Alley, and lots of others. Other attractions included the popular BBQ, cakes and refreshments and an opportunity to meet Peter Rabbit!

A special thank you to the choir, it was lovely seeing staff and pupils sing together.

It was wonderful to see current pupils, former pupils and their families having fun together.



Thank you to Tina Philpot, a Teaching Assistant in Amethyst Class, for donating this book to the SLIC team. Her friend has written a book called Kit's Kite. It is a lovely story which includes ideas about how to bring the story to life by adding sensory elements and movement which will be easily accessible for many of our pupils and their families.

[Adventure Town Tales - Kit's Kite: Amazon.co.uk: Ehrlich, Niki, Bond, Lana, Summerfield, Dannii: 9798397030588: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/9798397030588)

Kirsty Jewell

Director of Therapy

Save The Dates Term 1 & 2 - 2023

Fancy Dress Disco - Friday 13th October

Primary School Harvest Festival - Monday 16th October

Primary PE Enrichment Open Afternoon- Tuesday 17th October

Secondary School Harvest Festival-Wednesday 18th October

Children in Need Non-Uniform Day - Friday 17th November

School Photographs - Wednesday 22nd November

Christmas Performance Primary - Monday 4th December

Christmas Performance Secondary - Wednesday 13th December

Christmas Market - Friday 8th December