

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

Throughout Term 1 and this term, I have been immensely proud of our pupils' progress in all areas of their learning. I am delighted to share our pupils' strengths and progress were recognised when Ofsted visited Ifield School on 1st and 2nd November 2023. Inspectors were very complimentary about our school community and in particular the quality of education delivered and the high-quality relationships our pupils and staff have with each other. I hope Ofsted will publish the report before the end of this term, so that we can share the outcome with you all before Christmas.

I have been delighted to welcome so many parents to events and celebrations at Ifield School so far this academic year, namely Ifield's Annual Funday, Harvest Festival celebrations, PE Enrichment Open Afternoon. It has been a real privilege to experience these purposeful and joyful moments with our whole school community. I equally hope parents enjoyed our Stay and Learn sessions this week. This has been a new opportunity introduced this academic year for parents to join their child's learning and welcome your feedback. I look forward to welcoming parents to our scheduled Parents' Evening throughout the next two weeks.

I am sure that our pupils and their families will join me in recognising and thanking all staff and Governors at Ifield School for their time, energy and commitment each and every day. Our staff continue to amaze me in all they do and how they collectively provide such fantastic opportunities for our pupils.

And finally, a special mention to our pupils, who bring such life to the school and demonstrate each day how well they learn and progress.

Very best wishes,

Maddie Arnold-Jones
Headteacher

COMMUNITY BASED LEARNING

SCIENCE



LITERACY AND COMPUTING



Harvest Festival

On 16th and 18th October, Ifield School celebrated Harvest Festival with two separate festivals for Primary and Secondary. Reverend Ted of Holy Family Church visited on both occasions and kindly shared a few words. All pupils performed fantastically well through creating artwork, dancing, rapping and singing. All pupils and staff practiced their Makaton signing to perfection and even began to teach parents who were in attendance. Thank you to everyone who donated food for our Harvest Festival. This has been delivered to the Gravesham Food Bank. Finally, a special thank you to all parents who attended the festivals.



Introducing Emily Baker, Assistant Headteacher for Primary



I am Emily Baker and I am really excited about taking on the role of Assistant Headteacher for Primary at Ifield School. I have been teaching for over 17 years and have spent 13 of those years working in Specialist settings, which include supporting pupils with SEMH needs and profound, severe and Complex learning needs. For the past 5 years, I have been fortunate to have been Assistant Headteacher in both Specialist and Mainstream settings.

My main degree is in Printed Textiles, and before completing my PGCE, I was a freelance Textile Designer. This creativity has enabled me to teach in a hands on, creative and holistic way and allows me to think creatively about how individual pupils can learn. I am passionate about learning through play and using 'The Arts' to develop and enhance each pupils' learning journey.

I am really looking forward to working alongside you all and together, ensuring all our pupils thrive.

Introducing Jayne Field, Early Years and Key Stage 1 Lead



I am Jayne Field and I am the new Early Years and Key Stage 1 lead at Ifield School. I am excited to take up this post in Ifield School and am looking forward to working as part of a great team. I have previously supported the Ifield Specialist Nursery based at Kings Farm School one day a week for a couple of terms so am pleased to recognise some familiar faces.

I have a Bachelor of Education Honours Degree in Human Movement Studies (PE) and Dance and have been teaching for over 25 years. I have taught mainly in Specialist Schools, teaching at Milestone School for many years both as a Nursery teacher and later as Key Stage 3, 4 and FE Lead. Whilst at Milestone I led the Outreach Team as part of the Specialist Schools Status, supporting local schools. I have also led an SRP with Communication and Interaction as its specialism. More recently I have been a Specialist Teacher in Medway for Early Years, then in Dartford for Early Years and Communication & Interaction.

Introducing Victoria Butler, Key Stage 3 Lead



My name is Victoria Butler and I am the Key Stage 3 Lead at Ifield School. Since joining Ifield in 2021, I have taught in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 and this year will be teaching in Key Stage 3.

Since 2009, I have taught in a number of mainstream schools across Kent and Medway. My previous roles have included Key Stage Lead, SENCO, Deputy Safeguarding Lead and Early Help Lead. During this time, I have continued my own education, completing a variety of qualifications; OCR Level 5 Specialist Teacher in Specific Learning Difficulties, National Award for Special Educational Needs Co-ordination and National Professional Qualification in Senior Leadership (NPQSL).

I am really looking forward to joining the Secondary Department at Ifield and working as part of a great team in partnership with students, parents and carers. I am passionate about supporting our young people to achieve their best, with high self-esteem and respect for others in the community, so that they are able to take their place in society with confidence and pride.

Fancy Dress Disco

Thank you to everyone who came to our PTFA Fancy Dress Disco on Friday 13th October. Lots of pupils dressed in fancy dress and it was lovely to see the variety of costumes. Hot dogs, cookies and glow wands were very popular. We raised over £200.00 which will contribute towards a portable stage for our wonderful array of performances.



Save The Dates - Term 2 - 2023

Children in Need Non-Uniform Day	- Friday 17 th November
Parents Evening	- Thursday 23 rd November 4pm- 7pm
Parents Evening at Sixth Form	- Monday 27 th November 4pm- 6pm
Christmas Market	- Friday 8 th December 3.30pm- 5:30pm

Dates for Christmas Performances and Lunches will be shared soon!