

# Ilsington C of E Primary School Newsletter

19th April 2024

[www.ilsington.thelink.academy](http://www.ilsington.thelink.academy)



Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome the children back this week, I am pleased to report that they have bounced back into class happily, despite a number of cases of chickenpox and slapped cheek virus over the Easter period. We have been delighted to have been able to get out onto the field again when the weather has been fine.

Early next week, we hope to be able to tell you who our next Academy Head will be in September following interviews held this week and we look forward to being able to introduce you to them in the near future.

Now that the weather is (hopefully!) starting to improve, we are turning our attentions towards our outdoor spaces that we are incredibly lucky to have here at Ilsington.

Mrs C and Mrs Harrod were busy over the holiday giving the EYFS outdoor area a revamp and it is looking really welcoming this term. The sensory garden and planting is springing to life on the school field once more and the newly renovated school pond is beginning to show signs of life too, with the newts back once again. The local wildlife warden has visited the school recently and as we found signs of hedgehogs visiting the site, she has kindly installed a special hedgehog house in a corner of the field.



We plan to reseed the wildflower border again soon to encourage the growth of more meadow flowers and at the same time each class will be caring for their own batch of Painted Lady butterflies, the eggs will be arriving by post soon. These will be cared for and then released as butterflies onto the field.

The children are very interested in supporting bumblebees and butterflies on the school site and so we are launching a little homework project which involves them creating recycled planters for the school. If you want to get involved with your child, you might like to create planters made from a repurposed item and plant them with bright flowers or herbs to attract pollinators.

Lavender, daisies, grape hyacinth, heather, primrose, pansies could all be used. Thomas and Emily Mann have already created these fantastic planters using a football and old boots and an old drain pipe- perhaps you will feel inspired too! (Don't forget to drill a hole to allow for drainage)



I hope that you all enjoy your weekend together with your children and look forward to seeing you on Monday morning.

Kind regards

*Sam McCarthy-Patmore*

Academy Head.

