

Headteacher Message

It has been another busy and successful week at Ide Hill and I am very proud to share so many highlights with you.

Firstly, a huge well done to our Year 5 and 6 children who attended the cricket event. You achieved an excellent result and represented the school brilliantly. You should feel incredibly proud of yourselves—you truly set a wonderful example for our whole school community.

We were also treated to an incredible Year 5 assembly this week. It was an absolute pleasure to be part of. The children were so confident, clearly enjoying themselves and shared a tremendous amount of work. Parents, you should be immensely proud of them. My huge thanks go to Mrs Douglass and Miss Jacobs for putting this together—it was clear how much effort had gone into it. Thank you also to all the parents who attended and supported the children. In Collective Worship this week, we have been reflecting on the story of Saul/Paul, focusing on themes of change and forgiveness. A key message we have explored is that what matters most is not just the mistakes we make but what we choose to do next. Alongside this, we have been thinking about belonging and being part of a community—how we support one another and the positive differences we can each make.

We are very fortunate to have secured the Head Junior Coach from Sevenoaks Athletics, who is delivering one athletic session per week to every class as part of their unit—an opportunity the children are thoroughly enjoying. Class teachers are continuing to deliver the second weekly PE session as normal.

Thank you to everyone who attended and led the PTA meeting this week. It was fantastic to hear about the exciting plans ahead and to see new members getting involved. Being part of the PTA is a great way to support the school in whatever capacity you can and every contribution makes a difference. We also marked National Teacher Day this week by saying thank you to all the staff at Ide Hill. Every member of the team plays a vital role and gives so much to support our children. Thank you to everyone who sent messages, cards, and gifts—we are truly grateful for your kindness and support. I would like to take this opportunity to say how incredible our staff are. They work tirelessly day in and day out and give so much through the many extra opportunities they provide for our pupils.

A special thank you as well to our Year 1 team for organising such a fantastic trip to London. Experiences like this are invaluable. The children visited the Golden Hinde, enjoyed a walk around London and travelled on the clipper to Greenwich. It was a brilliant day and the children represented the school beautifully throughout.

We are also very proud of three of our Year 5 pupils who are attending a debating event at Sevenoaks School. Debating helps children develop confidence, critical thinking and the ability to express their ideas clearly—skills that are central to oracy. At Ide Hill, we place great importance on building opportunities for speaking and listening across the curriculum and this event is a wonderful extension of that work. This week, Kent Fire and Rescue visited the school to work with all classes. These were excellent sessions, delivered in an engaging and age-appropriate way. The children learned about the role of the fire service, how to call 999, fire prevention and how to stay safe in the event of a fire at home. Please do take some time to talk with your children about what they learned.

Throughout this term, classes have also been taking part in RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) lessons. The children have approached this important learning with maturity and curiosity. They may come home with questions and we encourage you to talk openly with them. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend.

Parking and Site Safety

We would like to thank those families who consistently park considerately but it is disappointing once again that there continue to be ongoing issues, with staff needing to speak to a number of the same parents. As the weather improves, we strongly encourage families to park a little further away and enjoy walking to school—there is a particularly lovely route through the woods from the shop. Walking not only supports wellbeing through exercise but also provides valuable time together at the start and end of the day. We kindly ask everyone to be respectful to our neighbours and to each other by parking responsibly—this includes not blocking driveways, narrowing the road, mounting the curb or stopping in areas where visibility for crossing is reduced, such as on the corner of the roundabout. We are seeing an increasing number of children walking independently

or with younger siblings and unsafe parking or stopping poses a significant risk. Finally, we would be keen to revisit a 'walking bus' after school but this will only be possible with parental volunteers. If you are able to support even once a week, please do let the school office know.

Sports Day Reminder – Friday 26th June

Sports Day is fast approaching, and we're looking forward to a fantastic day of fun and teamwork! We would greatly appreciate the support of any parents who are able to help with the morning set-up.

We are looking for volunteers to assist with:

- Marking out and setting up the boundary lines
- Putting up 2 gazebos
- Helping with parking by directing cars into the field and guiding vehicles into parking spaces

Set-up will begin at 8:00am. If you are able to help, please let the office know. Thank you for your continued support—we can't wait for a wonderful Sports Day!

Talent Show 2026

It's that time of year again – our School Talent Show will take place on 9th July!

We would love to encourage all children to share their talents and take part. Musical performances are always very welcome, but we'd also love to see

dancers, comedians, magicians, gymnasts, poets, storytellers, or any other special skill or talent your child would like to showcase.

Taking part is a wonderful opportunity to build confidence, have fun, and celebrate the amazing talents within our school community. We look forward to seeing a fantastic variety of performances!



Summer savings for families

The Great British Summer Savings scheme is running from 25 June to 1 September 2026, helping families feel a bit less squeezed this summer.

The new scheme includes reduced VAT on days out, including tickets at attractions like soft play, adventure centres and theme parks, children's tickets for theatres and cinemas, and children's meals in restaurants. Children aged 5 to 15 in England will also

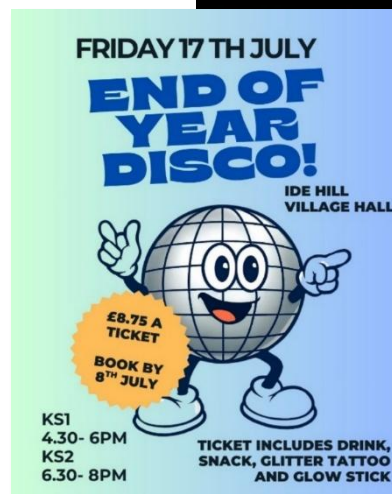
be able to travel free on local bus services throughout August. For further information about the scheme visit Summer Savings. If helpful, please share this with parents, carers and families through your usual channels. This is in addition to further support available to families, with more information available at [Cost of Living Help](#).

A HUGE THANK YOU FROM ALL OF THE STAFF

We were all blown away by your generosity on Thank a Teacher Day. The flowers, plants, treats and hand made cards and letters were all so thoughtful. We all feel very lucky to work in such a special school supported by our wonderful community!



We would be grateful for any donations of children's sun hats for when children forget to bring theirs in!





QUIZ NIGHT

IDE HILL VILLAGE HALL



LAST FEW
SPOTS
LEFT!



TO HELP SAVE LENI'S LIFE

Join us for a quiz night to have fun & raise money for life-saving treatment for Leni - a brave, local two-year old girl battling Sanfilippo Syndrome, also known as Childhood Dementia.

7 PM | 26 June | £15 per person / £120 table of 8

Tickets include a home-cooked chilli con carne (veggie option available).
Cash bar offering beer, wine & soft drinks.

**Contact Richard to book: 07397090960 /
northnorfolkcottage@hotmail.co.uk**

