

Headteacher Message

As we come to the end of an incredibly busy and rewarding term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on all that we have achieved together as a school community.

Celebrating Our Successes

Pupil Achievements:

Our children have represented Ide Hill admirably in a range of sporting fixtures, showing great team spirit and determination.

We were delighted to welcome Sevenoaks School for collaborative drama, reading, and music events, strengthening our links and providing fantastic opportunities for our children.

Community and Events:

The PTA has been wonderful as always, organising memorable events such as the Christmas Fair, which brought our community together in celebration and joy. We have welcomed new children to our school, and our open mornings were a great success, with lots of positive feedback from visiting families.

Christmas events have been a real highlight – including the Nativity, Christmas craft day, Christmas lunch, and jumper day.



Learning and Growth:

Pupil progress meetings and book looks have shown the fantastic learning taking place across the school.

We have had successful monitoring visits from governors and Kent school improvement advisors, affirming the excellent work being done.

Special Moments:

The sparkle and shine event was a joy. It has meant so much to have parents and families join us for so many events, including parents evenings and a successful SEND parents morning.



Living Our Values

As a Christian school, this time of year is especially meaningful, reminding us of our values and the importance of community and kindness. We have introduced our new behaviour policy, now fully aligned with Nurture UK principles and our vision to "do everything in love," focusing on love, respect, and responsibility. The children have responded well to this and we look forward to having a parent event in the new year to talk more about it.

The Good Samaritan and Anti-Bullying Week

The parable of the Good Samaritan was a central focus during anti-bullying week, helping us reflect deeply on how we care for one another. This powerful story reminded our children that being a good neighbour means showing compassion to everyone, regardless of differences, and standing up for those who need our help. Throughout the term, we have seen this message come alive in our school community as children have demonstrated kindness, included others in their play, and looked out for those who might be feeling lonely or vulnerable. The parable has encouraged our pupils to be active bystanders – not walking past when someone needs help, but stopping to offer support, friendship, and care, just as the Good Samaritan did.

The Christmas Story and Time Together

As we approach Christmas, we are reminded of the greatest gift of all – the birth of Jesus Christ. The Christmas story speaks to us of hope, peace, and God's love for all people. It reminds us of the importance of family, togetherness, and taking time to appreciate what truly matters.

During this holiday season, we encourage all our families to embrace the spirit of Christmas by spending quality time together. Whether it's sharing meals, reading the Christmas story, attending church services, or simply enjoying each other's company, these moments of connection are precious. In our VERY busy world, Christmas offers us a wonderful opportunity to pause, reflect on our blessings, and strengthen the bonds of love within our families – mirroring the love that God showed us through the gift of His son.

Thank You to Our Dedicated Team

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to our exceptional teachers and

governors for their unwavering hard work, dedication, support, and commitment throughout this term. The countless hours you dedicate – both seen and unseen – to ensuring our children thrive academically and socially do not go unnoticed. I am immensely proud to be part of such a wonderful team. Your collective efforts embody our Christian values and make Ide Hill School the special place it is. Thank you for everything you do.

Next Steps & Looking Ahead

Spring Term Key Dates:

We will be in touch early next term with information about upcoming events and opportunities for families to get involved. Keep looking at the updated termly events in the newsletters.

Feedback:

We always welcome your feedback. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact me at the school office or via email. We will also be sending out our yearly parent survey in the new year, Support:

If you need any support over the holidays, please remember you can find useful links and information on our school website or email headteacher@ide-hill.kent.sch.uk (please note emails will not be checked daily and not all will be replied to until we return)

A huge thank you for all of the generous gifts and Christmas well wishes. Wishing You a Joyful Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thank you for your ongoing support, encouragement, and involvement in school life. What a wonderful community we have!!!



Message from Anne Fletcher – Chair of Governors

What a term Ide Hill has had. Events have ranged from Sparkle and Shine to the fabulous Christmas Craft Day. In December the fabulous annual Christmas Fair was held. It was hugely enjoyed by all there, at which many of you worked incredibly hard to raise money as well as providing so much fun for the children.

Between us the Governors have been into the school regularly, meeting with staff and pupils; some also come in on a weekly basis to read with the children. It has been an eventful few months with both the outside space and hall being transformed and, more recently, both the Year 2 and Year 3 classrooms were painted and re-carpeted.

Last week I, together with other Governors, attended the absolutely delightful KS1 Nativity. The children, and their teachers, worked so hard to produce such a

wonderful performance. It was quite extraordinary what was achieved by everyone involved and it was a total joy to watch.

On behalf of the whole school community I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lizzie Alexander, Jeanine Johnson, the Senior Leadership team together with the entire staff team for all they do for your children. I would like to wish them, and indeed all of you, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I am very much looking forward to 2026.

- Anne Fletcher

Sparkle Event

On Thursday, we held our now annual staff Sparkle Day where staff competed to be the best dressed in Ide Hill Primary School. The children were over



the moon with all of the sparkles, fairy lights and tinsel on display!

Special shout out to Miss Alexander for showing us all her creative side with her sparkly tablecloth masterpiece!



Staff and children voted for the best dressed and the results were as follows:

Official vote:

- 1st: Miss Rose
- 2nd: Miss Alexander
- 3rd: Mrs Warner
- 4th: Mrs Sandler
- 5th: Mrs Farrar
- 6th: Mrs Harland
- 7th: Mrs Marshall
- 8th: Mrs Drysdale

Children's votes:

- 1st: Mr Howse
- 2nd: Miss Rose
- 3rd: Miss Alexander

Thank you

A big thank you to Barbara Millfields of Edenbridge Parish Church for these beautiful handmade knitted Christmas decorations which were given to each child in the school.



Young Cooks

Please see the link below for information regarding the Young Cooks Competition for 2026 [Young Cooks Competition - Social Enterprise Kent](#)