

Friday 8 November 2024

Dear Families,

Good afternoon, welcome to this weeks parent bulletin.

**All  
Years**

**Anti-Bullying Week** – Next week our assemblies will be focusing on Anti-Bullying. On Tuesday 12 November we are asking students and staff to wear odd socks for **Odd Socks Day** with a £1.00 donation. This is a fun and light-hearted event that encourages people to embrace individuality and celebrate differences. On Friday 15 November Miss Barratt will be holding a **friendship bracelet making session** in the main hall. Bring a £1.00 donation to take part.

**Remembrance Day** – On Monday 11 November we will hold a whole school remembrance service at the Cenotaph. Students who are part of Cadets\* (Army, RAF, Navy), Guides or Scouts are encouraged to wear their uniforms for the service on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

**\* Please read the guidance that was emailed home today if your child will be wearing Army Cadets uniform.**

**Christmas Concert 2024** - Our Christmas Concert will be on Wednesday 11 December at 6pm. Tickets can be purchased on the door - £4.00 full price, £2.00 concessions. If you would like to donate prizes for our raffle please send them in to Reception. Thank you in advance for your support.

**Home Learning Timetable** – If your child is directed to work at home the Home Learning Timetable can be found on our website. It is important that when students are not at school, they keep up with the work their teacher has set for them. -

<https://www.ibstockschool.co.uk/remote-learning>

**Grab Bag Order Form** - Beat the Queue. Order your cold food grab bag via the online link by 9am on the day required. Collection from the hut at lunchtime - <https://forms.office.com/e/nZchnkYjdB>

<b>All Years</b>	<p><b>Flu Vaccination Information</b> – If a consent form has been completed and your child missed the vaccine in school, the immunisation team will email you regarding a 2<sup>nd</sup> opportunity that will be at either the pharmacy or clinic.</p> <p>If you missed completing a flu consent form but would like your child to receive the vaccine this can still be arranged. The consent form will re-open for you to provide consent using the <a href="#">original link</a> that was sent out. The immunisation team will email you information about a catch up session at either the community pharmacy or clinic.</p>
<b>Year 7</b>	No Year 7 updates
<b>Year 8</b>	<p><b>Battlefields Trip to Belgium and France October 2025</b> – Expressions of interest for the trip must be made by 12pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Letters have been emailed out and can also be found on our website - <a href="https://www.ibstockschool.co.uk/letters/battlefields-trip-to-belgium-and-france-october-2025">https://www.ibstockschool.co.uk/letters/battlefields-trip-to-belgium-and-france-october-2025</a></p>
<b>Year 9</b>	No Year 9 updates
<b>Year 10</b>	No Year 10 updates
<b>Year 11</b>	<p><b>Year 11 PPEs</b> - Our Y11 students have made a brilliant start to their Pre-Public Exams, working hard and showing great resilience. We are very proud of them and know they will continue to show the same maturity and commitment. Well done, Year 11!</p> <p>A reminder that the timetable can be found here: <a href="#">Y11 Pre-Public Exam Timetable - Nov 24</a></p> <p>Again, next week, students who have an afternoon examination will be allowed to leave site once their examination is finished, unless you have emailed to inform us that you wish them to remain in school. Please email <a href="mailto:exams@ibstockschool.co.uk">exams@ibstockschool.co.uk</a></p> <p>Thank you for your support during the Pre-Public Exams. We look forward to discussing the outcomes at Progress Evening on 5<sup>th</sup> December.</p>

## Dates for your diary...

Monday 4 – 15 November 2024 – Year 11 Pre-Public Exams (Trial Exams)

Monday 11 November 2024 – Remembrance Day

Tuesday 12 November 2024 – Odd Socks Day

Thursday 14 November 2024 – School Closes at 2pm

Friday 29 November 2024 – School closed to staff and students

Wednesday 11 December 2024 – Christmas Concert

## Current Vacancies

Our website has more information on current vacancies we have at the college -

<https://www.ibstockcollege.co.uk/content/vacancies.php>

At The National College, our Relationships Learning guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formally delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

- 1. LEAD BY EXAMPLE**  
As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children. They observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. They notice that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect. Even if you disagree with them, demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.
- 2. AGREE TO DISAGREE**  
Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. They may think that disagreeing is the same as being disrespectful. Teaching conflict resolution skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.
- 3. PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING**  
Teach children about the importance of active listening. This is making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even if you disagree. If you disagree with it, this makes people feel respected and allows for a better understanding of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.
- 4. ENCOURAGE THE USE OF 'I' STATEMENTS**  
If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use 'I' statements during the discussion. Having their thoughts and feelings using statements like 'I feel...' or 'I think...' can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.
- 5. FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER**  
When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on criticising and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused the argument, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, 'I don't like how you interrupted me' is better than 'You're so rude'. This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to resolve the situation.
- 6. STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS**  
It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take these moments as a sign to take a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.
- 7. START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT**  
Take the opportunity to talk to children about what respect means to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people with different opinions. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour to illustrate. Being in a position to discuss the importance of giving others due regard.
- 8. SEEK COMMON GROUND**  
When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify points of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from 'digging their heels in'.
- 9. AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL**  
It's important that we make it clear to children that they must avoid name-calling, teasing or derogatory remarks to resolve a disagreement. Encourage them to use language that is gentle and helps take the temperature down. Remind them that they should calm and take breathers – as mentioned previously – and help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.
- 10. REFLECT AND LEARN**  
After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. Ask them how they would have handled the situation differently in the future. This could be done using role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

**Meet Our Expert**  
The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) is a national anti-bullying think tank. Every year, ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can thrive, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.

Source: See full version of this guide on [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com)

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