

Ickford News



The week just gone was very good indeed and it is beginning to feel like we are getting back up to full steam. I just need to spend a bit more time with the children in Reception as I am still playing 'catch up' learning names and it is not something I am happy with. Usually, I would have had them memorised within the first couple of weeks of the year.

The highlight of the week for me was our Remembrance Assembly which, since taking over as Year 6 teacher (many moons ago) Mme Basnett has taken responsibility for organising. We have got used to high standards and this year was no exception to that tradition. For just fifteen minutes, the whole school paid their respects to the men and women who have sacrificed their lives in conflict and it was a moving experience to listen to the children recite, from memory, John McCrae's, In Flanders Fields preceding the Last Post played beautifully, note perfect on the flute. Megan Jones and Chloe Makris were the musicians and they should be incredibly proud of their performance, it was incredibly poignant.

Unfortunately, Class 4 were not present but I have no doubt that Mrs Honey would have reminded the class of the significance of the 11th when they visited the Henley Rivers and Rowing Museum. This trip was enjoyed by everyone and I am just really pleased that we are able to get children out again to enrich their learning. Pictures from the day should be up on the website, if not today then, very soon.

From the evolution of rivers to the evolution of our language. The fact that English has such an array of influences and constantly evolves and assimilates, makes it very difficult to master. We discussed this, amongst other things, in the parent workshop on phonics and reading that took place this week, when

trying to emphasise just how difficult learning to read and write can be. I am however, quite confident that we do it pretty well at Ickford and, judging by the number of teachers and support staff that came to the workshop, I am confident this will continue. Those of you that have endured the ignominy of the phonics session, walking the a a ant up your arm or wearing you ee - or donkey ears will know how valuable it can be to understand how we teach phonics at Ickford and how you can support your youngest as they start their language journey. If anyone needs a refresher, there is a short video on the school website under parent information, of Miss Southgate pronouncing all of the phonic sounds we use whilst sharing the actions that the children learn as an aide memoire.

Another offer of significant help was sent to me this week by Mrs Winspeare. She has taken over from Mrs Coxon looking after Ickford second hand uniform. The idea originally was to make it easier to recycle uniform items, many of which are in excellent condition, due to how quickly children seem to grow out of clothes at these ages. Families donate second hand uniform and then she passes it on to those who need it either at school, or she has now started to take the stock we have to the Recreation Ground next to school, where she parks and people are able to come and take whatever they need as replacements or extras. Mrs Winspeare tells me that, if they wish, people can donate to the school PTA, but it's just good to see so much of the uniform be recycled. My only request is that when you have uniform that you put your child's name on it please. It is difficult trying to reunite a piece of uniform with a child that is no longer in school.

Mrs Winspeare has also mentioned that we could be able to extend the service to costumes the children might need. For example, for the upcoming Victorian Day or maybe Christmas activities such as the Nativity. Normally, items are advertised on a

Facebook page named Ickford School Uniform Group, but she is not sure how many families are aware of the page hence this piece in the newsletter. Mrs Winspeare is hoping to do a series of pre-loved uniform and Victorian costumes 'Drop, Swap and Shop' sessions in the park car park this term, the first of which will be this Monday 15th November 3.30pm - 4.00pm. Be there or risk being underdressed!

There is a busy week ahead as, at last, we return to some competitive sport with a Netball Match on Wednesday. This will be the first this year for our Year 5/6 team so let's hope we can emulate some of the great teams of the past and set down a marker. We have some strong players and I am looking forward to seeing how they perform against Oakley, a school we haven't played in some time.

On Friday we hope to have our first French Café, not just of the year but, I believe for possibly two years! It will be followed by a Key Stage 2 Celebration Assembly but parents of the younger children are still very welcome to come along and share a coffee and croissant. Just remember to bring some cash as Mme Basnett is running the countries only no card policy! OOH LA LA.

Enjoy the weekend

Mr Ronane

Ickford News from the office

Dates for your diary...

19 th November	French Café 8.30 am
26 th November	Fundraiser Meal
30 th November	Bletchley Park Class 5
5 th December	St Nicholas Play

7 th December	Nativity 1:30pm
9 th December	Nativity 7pm
13 th December	Christmas Carols 6pm
14 th December	Christmas Lunch
15 th December	Robin Hood Pantomime

School Lottery

A winner within school every week!

If you would like the chance to win, and support the school, please click on the link below and get signed up!

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/ickford-school>



Breakfast Club

Please remember to book your child's place for breakfast club with the school office by Friday at midday for the following week. Entry to breakfast club will be via Gate A by the Recreation Ground.



This Week's Celebration Assembly

Hall of Fame:

Music Award:

Fred Ellis

Xavier Flood

Frank Wilkinson

Abigail Hird

Chloe Parsler

PE Award:

Alfie Peck

Babs Smith

Georgina Preston

Emily Coxon

Pippa Hunting

Thomas Betteley

Harry Middleton

Max Smith

Phoebe Boardman

Chloe Betteley

Nathaniel Wakelin

French Award:

Fred Ellis

Matilda Ousley

Florence Arnold

Amelia Hargreaves

Amber Chadbone

Deutsch Award:

Sophie Crafts

Latin Award:

Chloe Makris

Headteachers Award:

Kirk O'Malley

Melek Younis

Alistair Robinson

Philippa Hunting

Kathryn Hargreaves

Anna Kerry

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