

# Ickford News

The red breast whistles from a garden croft;  
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

Soon, raffle tickets held aloft;

It's cash for tat and dodgy mince pies!

(First 2 lines John Keats 1819, last 2 lines, John Ronane 2021)

Forgive my dreadful attempt at humour and poetry but yes, it is that time of year when I must bang the drum of support for the PTA committee who have, thrust upon them, the arduous task of organising our Christmas Fayre which this year takes place on Friday December 10<sup>th</sup>. Though Keats' Ode to Autumn is still resonant, it will not be long before Mme Basnett our very own, Festive Fairy, will be insisting on a tree in her classroom and blaring out her cheesy Christmas soundtrack to the 1980s. There will be more details to follow but, if anyone is keen to have a part in the organisation, I am sure Jackie Thomas our new but indomitable, PTA Chair would welcome any support offered.

As a precursor to this morning's exercise in Francophilia (coffee and croissants) the outdoor learning activity for the 4 house groups was to create their own French Café using only natural materials and their imaginations. I still find uplifting the way in which the children mix so well in their house groups and the efforts of the older children to look after and indeed 'teach' the youngest ones. The only resource given to each group was a black board and a piece of chalk to help them in displaying their café menu in French of course. Mme Basnett was given the honour of assessing each café and awards were given for the most creativity and the best use of French language. It was amazing to see how the children's imaginations manifested in what they created and, out of the trees, the grass, the log piles and the fallen branches emerged, petite street cafés, adorned with sophisticated décor, pianos, nonchalant pianists, temperamental serving staff and

stressed French Chefs! One enterprising young man made my day when he served Mme B some escargot that he had found, still living!

I was pleased to see the return of some competitive sport at last and this week, our Year 5 and 6 Netball team played their first match of the county competition against Oakley C of E Primary. They played really well and won 35 – 1 but, most importantly, they were magnanimous in their victory and ensured that the opposition did not feel humiliated. Ickford children are well aware that although we celebrate success and compete to win, we always respect our opponents and appreciate the efforts of others. Next Tuesday, our Year 3 /4 Netball teams take on Brill School here at Ickford. Two 'local derbies' in quick succession, let's hope the magnanimity continues and I don't regret my words!

I have shown quite a few prospective new parents around this week and the diary is becoming quite full of these events. I try to welcome and to give them a tour of the school personally to all potential admissions and each visit can last at least one hour so it does take up a significant amount of time. Nevertheless, I think it is worthwhile mainly because I can answer any questions directly and also, I can clarify expectations before people make the difficult decision of which school to choose. The tour is not a sales pitch and in fact, it doesn't really need to be. The children and their accomplishments sell the school for me. In truth, I never get bored with showing people around because it reminds me just how good the learning environment is and how high the standard of teaching.

Have a good weekend.

Mr Ronane

# Ickford News from the office

## Dates for your diary...

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>November | Yr. ¾ Netball Matches     |
| 26 <sup>th</sup><br>November | Fundraiser Meal           |
| 30 <sup>th</sup><br>November | Bletchley Park<br>Class 5 |
| 5 <sup>th</sup><br>December  | St Nicholas Play          |
| 7 <sup>th</sup><br>December  | Nativity<br>1.30pm        |
| 9 <sup>th</sup><br>December  | Nativity<br>7pm           |
| 10 <sup>th</sup><br>December | Christmas Fayre<br>5.30pm |
| 13 <sup>th</sup><br>December | Christmas Carols<br>6pm   |
| 14 <sup>th</sup><br>December | Christmas Lunch           |
| 15 <sup>th</sup><br>December | Robin Hood<br>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/lott ery/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:

Alistair Robinson  
Barnaby Potter  
Phoebe Merritt  
Phoebe Boardman  
Rose Dighton

#### PE Award:

Teddy Meritt  
Bryony Ellis  
Timothy Issitt  
Aiden Barnes  
Percy Jenkins  
Max Smith  
Gabriel Walker  
Ben Readman

#### French Award:

Poppy Rhodes  
Ella Aben  
Bryony Ellis  
George Jones  
Isabelle Parsler  
Phoebe Boardman

Chloe Parsler

#### Latin Award:

Matilda Stow

**Headteachers Award:**

Alistair Robinson

Emily Coxon

George Jones

Harvey Chapman

Dominic Green

**Outdoor Learning:**

Poppy Rhodes

Sam Anzarouth

Chloe Betteley

Rose Dighton

**Sound Investigation:**

Megan Jones

Isla Turrell

Darci Turrell

Amber Chadbone

Chloe Betteley

Matilda Stow

Anna Kerry

**Sponsors**



**Uniform**

Please remember that all uniform must be clearly labelled with the child's name. It is really difficult to reunite children with articles of clothing unless they have a name on.

Only school hats are permitted please. I recognise that there is new legislation about branded school uniform but we are in line with this and we can insist on only branded school hats.

Thank you.

