**ICKFORD NEWS** The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness is certainly intent on ensuring choice of suitable attire is difficult and I felt very sorry for Ben Sayer and his sodden band of helpers yesterday who kicked off this year's fundraising with a car wash. Many thanks to anyone who did bring their car along in spite of inclement conditions. I am sure some money was raised even though the queue never quite snake around the village as it has done in the past.

Anyone new to the school may not be aware of the sterling work the PTA has done in the past, raising extra funds towards school projects as well as ensuring a school community and support network. Last year however, has to be marked out as an exceptional year in terms of funding raised with Ben and the committee the driving force behind several events and initiatives that saw in excess of 14k raised and every classroom fitted with the latest smart screen technology.

I was delighted when I popped my head around the staffroom door last Wednesday evening, to see several new parents faces at the AGM as the success of the PTA relies on new parents getting involved. Whilst there is an elected committee, membership of the PTA itself, is not exclusive and every parent is automatically a member by default. What the committee need is some help particularly when the two big fundraisers of the year, the Christmas and Summer Fayres, are being organised. Last year Ben showed just what can be achieved when everyone mucks in and does a little bit. It would be wonderful to see the support again this year.

One steady fundraiser that takes very little effort is the School Lottery. There are details at the end of the newsletter as to how you can join this scheme and if you do nothing else this year, signing up for the lottery can have a significant impact on fundraising and, you never know, you might even win it!

On Friday next week there is the first film night of the year and I believe the film is Peter Rabbit. These evenings have proved a real success for both adults and children alike and you can either join the children watching the film sharing some popcorn or relax with a tipple of your fancy in the pop up bar. I have had every intention of watching the film on past nights but never seem to be able to get past the bar!

Mme Basnett provided free popcorn and drinks for her own class this week when she gave up her time after school to show the Oscar winning film, 'Darkest Hour' as part of the Year 6 history research into the first and second world wars. Another example of our teachers giving of their time to ensure the children get the best learning experiences.

### **Celebration Assembly**

Each Friday we have a Celebration Assembly and I am grateful to all of the parents, family and friends who come and make it a special part of each week. However, it is important to remember that the assembly is first and foremost for the pupils and staff in school to reflect on the achievements of the week and to fulfil our statutory duty to have an act of worship each day. Pre-school age children are welcome but should not disrupt the assembly or distract from the main purpose. Unfortunately, it was very difficult to hear each teacher

speak last Friday because of the noise of the pre-school age children or the toys they had chosen to bring and I have had a request for the staff to point this out.

#### **Harvest Festival**

The school will have its Harvest Festival service at St Nicholas' Church tomorrow, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm. Parents are welcome to attend but please arrive before the service starts.

Mr Ronane

# **Ickford News** from the office

### Dates for your diary...

| 27 <sup>th</sup> September                    | Class 4 Victorian Day             |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 4 <sup>th</sup> October                       | Class 4 Trip to Holdenby<br>House |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> October<br>2.30pm             | Harvest Festival                  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> October                      | YR-Y5 Flu Vaccinations            |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> October                      | Parents Evening                   |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> October                      | Parents Evening                   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup><br>October | Half Term                         |

## **School Lottery**

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

