

Ickford News

I learned early on as a class teacher that I probably had to sharpen up my practice when, during a written science assessment, one of my pupils informed me that the rib cage protected our “Interval oranges” and the skull protected our “Brian”. This week, I had the pleasure of watching two children remove the internal organs (had you not worked it out?) from a dead body and prove that, in spite of the best efforts of the skull, the “Brian” can be removed via the nose using a device similar to a corkscrew. About an hour before this spectacle, I had been sitting in, what can best be described as a ‘mud hut’ surrounded by 29 children intent on lighting a campfire using flint to create a spark. If I report that the day ended watching the same children process with the stuffed body of the ‘Brian-less’ anonymous stranger whilst playing musical instruments and chanting at the tops of their voices, you may be forgiven for thinking that I had either been indulging in hallucinatory drugs or caught up in a terrifying Lord of the Flies scenario! I shall explain.

We are very fortunate at Ickford to have superb teachers who not only constantly evaluate and improve their classroom practice but also look for other ways to enrich the curriculum and add to the learning experiences of the children. Miss Mordente, new to the fold this year, is one of these teachers and I was very lucky (along with Mrs Smith) to be able to sit back and play teaching assistant for the day when she took her class to Ufton Court to learn about life in Ancient Egypt. Although I say “to learn about” I should say, “to learn more about” because I was amazed by how much the children already knew and how confident they all were in articulating what they had been taught

about in the classroom. I learned a great deal during the day and I am hoping that this coming Friday’s Big Quiz may at least have one question about the Egyptians!

We jump forwards more than 3000 years now to remark on the other highlight of the week and our success in a game that originated from another one enjoyed by Anne Boleyn and Henry VIII, ‘Real Tennis’. Of course ‘Lawn Tennis’ the game we see at Wimbledon today was developed much later than Tudor times in the nineteenth century but there was certainly nothing old fashioned about our Ickford Year 4 team who won the area competition at Waddesdon this week convincingly. Despite some of our local rivals entering several teams into the competition and being ‘vocal’ in their support, Ickford held their nerve, kept their focus and played to their strengths. I am really pleased that they were able to pick up the gold medals as testament to the effort they put in to the preparation.



In the coming week we have more very exciting things happening beginning on Monday when the children in Class 4 will be performing at the Royal Albert Hall (as one does). This is the bi-annual Echoes concert performed by schools from Buckinghamshire and, as usual, Mrs Honey has led this venture and worked hard to ensure the children are prepared.

Next Saturday it is the Bucks Primary Schools Cross Country Championship at Waddesdon Manor and we will be entering a small team hoping to emulate the success of last year when we won both the girls team title and the overall team title. This is a tough event and only the strongest survive but Mrs Vickers has been brilliant in running with the children as much as possible. They are fit and they have lots of Ickford spirit let's just hope the weather is kind and the wind is behind them.

Hopefully, the newsletter may have inspired you for a bit of historical knowledge and whet the appetite for some friendly competition. If it has then there is still time to get a seat at the Big Quiz this Friday March 22nd in Ickford Village Hall.

Mr Ronane

Ickford News from the office

Dates for your diary...

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| 18 th March | Class 4 - Echoes Performance |
| 22 nd March | PTA Quiz Night |
| 23 rd March | Waddesdon Cross Country |
| 25 th – 29 th March | 'Problem Solving Week' |
| 26 th March | Problem Solving Workshop |
| 25 th – 29 th March | Y5&6 Residential |
| 3 rd April 9am | Class 3 Assembly |
| 4 th April 8.30am | French Café |
| 4 th April 9am | Celebration Assembly |
| 5 th April | Inset Day |

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| 23 rd April | Inset Day |
| 24 th April | Summer Term Begins |

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>



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