

Ickford News

It has been, quite literally, all systems go as we entered the final half term of the year particularly on the sporting front. Our success in area competitions again this year has ensured that we have more teams than ever before competing in the Regional Finals at Stoke Mandeville Stadium on June 19th when we shall contest Hockey, Tennis, Netball and two different Badminton competitions. At this level of competition, we are up against schools from sports partnerships across a large part of Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes most with far greater resources and much larger pupil numbers than us but we will remain undaunted and I have no doubt that every child selected to compete will try their very best and represent their school with the necessary spirit, determination and humility. Before the finals we also have a Year 6 tennis tournament next week, some late cross-country races at Sandhills School in Oxford and a Cricket tournament in Waddesdon. Winning isn't everything but wanting to win is!

I am delighted to announce that Higgins Building Services Limited have become the main sponsor of our Summer Concert and also joint sponsors of the Icenet Netball team that provides Netball for past pupils. Higgins are a company that specialises in heating, plumbing and mechanical engineering services working in education, residential properties and industry. They will be moving the Headquarters to Thame in June and, having installed a new heating system at Ickford School, they are keen to support us as part of their commitment to the community. Director, Neil Moysey and Project Manager Keith Westwood are really nice people and we have found their services to be first class so, if anyone is looking for a company that

can deal with large scale engineering projects, please do get in touch with them and mention Ickford School. Who knows, you may get a discount!

I have spent most of the week in a tracksuit trying to organise practices and team selection amongst the older children. However today, I was really fortunate to be able to accompany all of the Key Stage 1 children to the Oxford City training facility near Headington where Ignite Sports are based and where the children took part in a multi-skills festival. For those of you who don't know, Justin and Louise Merritt, parents of Phoebe (Class 1) are the Owners and Managing Directors of Ignite and it was through them that we got the opportunity to take part in this venture.

Having been fairly good weather all week, it was always a safe bet that today the heavens would open and sure enough they did just that! Fortunately, 3G pitches, porous netball courts and a few hundred determined children ensured that the event went ahead and I have to say a huge thank you to the staff from Ickford who came with me for being prepared to get soaked, smile and support all morning. It really was great fun and I was very proud that every Ickford child not only showed real resilience but also the team spirit and comradery to help each other achieve success.

Thank fully, it was better weather on Thursday when we were treated to the 'Butterfly Lady' thanks to the generosity of the Dighton family whom I believe won this opportunity and made sure that Ickford got the benefit. Each class was treated to a live moth and butterfly workshop and the feedback from children and staff has been good.

Finally, we had a very interesting workshop for the year 6 pupils about e-safety, something we do on a regular basis as it is an area of growing concern in this day and age. The lady leading the session was very good but both she and Mme Basnett were surprised at just how much time some children claim to spend on line every day, gaming. I accept that this is part of the modern world but I do think that, like anything, moderation and monitoring are imperative. We have in the past and will continue to do so (hopefully early next year) provided workshops for all of the children and all parents about being safe on-line and understanding the potential dangers of the internet and how to protect children and young people. I am hoping that MacAfee will be able to do this for us.

Have a good weekend,

Mr Ronane

A plug



Scott Green, a past pupil and brother of Dominic in Class 3, has been selected to represent his Scout troop at Eurojam to be held in Poland next year. In order to do this, Scott must independently raise quite a substantial amount of money to cover his travel and accommodation. I have agreed that he can set up a 'cake sale' at the school gate next Wednesday so, if you have some spare shillings please buy a cake or throw some money into the pot to help Scott on his way. Thank you.

Flute Lessons

We have a very lovely Flute teacher, Anne Renshaw who travels up from Cornwall each week to give flute lessons in the area. Anne loves coming to Ickford but has

only one pupil left (Trixie) who is leaving at the end of July. Anne has asked if I could send out a message that she is available if children would like to learn the flute but sadly we will lose her if not. She really is a very lovely lady and a superb teacher so, if you are interested at all please see Mrs Addis for more details.

Ickford NEWS from the office

Dates for your diary...

11 th June	School Photos
18 th June 7.30pm	Secondary school transfer meeting for Y5 parents
21 st June 6pm	Summer Concert
4 th July 9am	KS1 Recorder Assembly
5 th July	Summer Fayre
11 th July 6-7.30pm	Open Evening & Art Exhibition
17 th July	Sports Day
22 nd July	Class 4 & 5 Play for grandparents & preschool children
23 rd July	Class 4 & 5 Play - No preschool aged children
24 th July 9am	Leavers Assembly

**** Please note date change**

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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