

Ickford News

On Tuesday we began a new sporting venture when, for the first time, children from Years 3 and 4 played competitive Netball against Brill School. The new league has been set up by our School Sports Partnership and I am really pleased that both A and B teams won convincingly. Although, there are restrictions on the number of boys that can play in league matches, we did have 3 taking part, Aiden, Dylan and Oliver and we also have boys playing for the Year 5/6 teams, Harry, Gwilym and Gabriel. I am not naïve enough to think that boys playing Netball is accepted as the norm everywhere and I know that in some schools it is not considered a 'boys' sport unlike football or rugby. However, I am very proud of the fact that at Ickford, our boys are not ridiculed and instead see the value of playing the game and the opportunity to represent their school at sport.

Only this week, Mr Fatialofa, our resident ex professional Rugby player (Exeter Chiefs, Bristol Bears) and probably one of the most laid-back men in the world, shared his thoughts about the value of Netball for those who also play other sports. We both agree it is fantastic for learning about finding and creating space, ball skills and working as a team. I can assure you, nobody is going to tease him about enjoying Netball!

We had a visit this week from the Rabbi Zvi someone who has been to the school in previous years and comes in to deliver workshops sessions to the children about the Jewish faith. He is well received and the children seem to enjoy learning about the traditions and beliefs. I know that some parents have already been asked to include Challah bread to their weekly shop!

In what I suppose is a stark contrast, I continue to teach our Year 6 children about the Golden Age of Islam and the Islamic faith

and this is also a popular lesson. Although we are not a 'church school', we do have a Christian ethos and we are in fact obliged by the Department for Education to have a daily act of worship. Nevertheless, it is really important that we continue to support the children in learning about different faiths and cultures in our society. It is also important to teach them to respect others and the choices that they make. I am not keen on the word, 'tolerate' as it suggests 'putting up with something' so I prefer to think that we can 'celebrate' differences and be grateful for them.

I was very proud of the fact that one pupil came to me this morning and her first words were, "Mr Ronane, although I don't celebrate Christmas, I made something in art club using the moon and stars, instead of Christmas trees." We then had a fairly long conversation about the merits of Islamic art (she is 6) and how she is proud of her faith and heritage.

I recognise that Ickford is a uniform school and that we have stringent rules to ensure this but this is for practical and social purposes. Purposes that ensure unity and a safe environment within which children can grow as individuals. We teach them to be kind and respectful to everyone so that our boys can play Netball and our children of different faiths can talk about their beliefs and customs without fear of ridicule.

Have a good weekend.

Mr Ronane



Ickford News from the office

Dates for your diary...

26 th November	Fundraiser Meal
30 th November	Bletchley Park Class 5
2 nd December	Outdoor Learning
3 rd December	French Café 8.30am
5 th December	St Nicholas Play Ickford Church 10am
7 th December	KS1 Nativity 2pm
9 th December	KS1 Nativity 7pm
10 th December	Jar and Christmas Jumper Day
10 th December	Christmas Fayre 5.30-7.30pm
13 th December	KS2 Christmas Carols and Readings - Sports Hall 6pm
14 th December	Christmas Lunch
15 th December	Robin Hood Pantomime
15 th December	Christmas Celebration Assembly 2.30pm

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:

Poppy Rhodes
Elizabeth Smith
Philippa Hunting
Sophie Winspear
Chloe Betteley

PE Award:

Elsie Thomas
Bella Hawkins
Charlie Kendall
Isla Thomas
Stanley Johnson
Sophie Pennock
Louis Raeburn
Lucas Jayasekara
Megan Jones

French Award:

Grace Beckett
Ethan Crispin
Melek Younis
Eliza Gapper

Stella Stanfield

William Arnold

Deutsch Award:

Daisy Coke

Latin Award:

Chloe Parsler

Headteachers Award:

Teddy Merritt

Babs Smith

Isabelle Parsler

Gwilym Walters

Amber Chadbone



**TIDDINGTON
GARAGE**

Sponsors



Building Work

The school would like to extend the current staff room in order to create a larger room suitable for the children to learn in as well as replacing the wooden buildings on the school playground with a PE storage room and more toilets. If anyone in the building industry would like to quote for the works, I would welcome speaking to them.

If you have an interest, please contact me:

headteacher@ickford.org.uk