

Ickford News

I delayed writing a newsletter for last week until now, knowing this was short week and intending to include both in one. Unfortunately, so much has taken place in the past 8 school days, I am in danger of forgetting an event and forgetting someone who should be thanked. Anyone who came to the Celebration Assembly this afternoon, will have witnessed my incredible faux pas when I missed out the Admin staff in my 'thank you' notes with Mrs Rhodes present. Rest assured I have sent her an apology (I hope she accepts it) and I am extremely grateful for her work and support.

Let's return to last week and the KS1 Nativity. I enjoyed the evening performance having resisted the temptation to peek in at rehearsal or watch the daytime presentation and what a performance it was! The Christian Nativity story was told but in such a way as to engage and include everyone and I have no doubt that whatever deity you might offer prayers to, they would have approved. The children never cease to amaze me and 'Prickly Hay' was full of song, dance, humour and wonderful acting.

Although some of our youngest were certainly tired during the evening, you would never have guessed it the next day, Christmas Jumper and Jar Day! Yes, that Mme Basnett (Queen of Christmas) event that brings out the bad taste in some of us and promotes bad teeth in all of us! However, she is always forgiven because of the money the decorated sweet jars bring in for the Christmas Fayre which took place on Friday evening.

This year's Fayre was just what we needed and even though the PTA had exhausted themselves with our fundraising dinner, they were fully behind leader Jackie Thomas and sidekick Mr Tank Stevens in organising this event. I am afraid that I do not know the final amount of money raised but really that is less

important than the fact everyone got together and shared a good time. There are so many people to thank that I can't risk trying to name them all and forgetting someone (see start of newsletter) so please accept that, if you helped set up, run a stall, clear away, ensured the comfort of Father Christmas who made a special appearance, then I am genuinely grateful.

So, to this week and what a great start! The KS2 Carol Concert was magnificent and although I am probably somewhat biased, it was an occasion that truly reflected the sheer quality of everything we try to do at Ickford. The commitment shown by the parents to bring children back to school knowing that these events are so much part of our fabric and tradition is wonderful and sends a message to the children that we are a community and we make small sacrifices for each other and our school. The singing was joyous and the readings delivered with confidence. A huge thank you to Mrs Shackleton for giving up his time and to Miss Vukomanovic who gave up her voice rehearsing the children.



All of that singing must have up generated huge appetites but these were fully satiated on Tuesday at the Christmas lunch. Sadly, a crisis in the engine room prevented me from joining in but I know from everyone that the children loved the somewhat raucous affair and were sent into raptures when good old Father Christmas turned up again! Either he is

lost or thinking of applying for a place in Reception next year! Whilst I know lots of parents took time out to help with the lunch (and I thank you all) I have to give a special mention and express my gratitude to Mrs Anzarouth and Mrs Kendall the brains behind the outfit and the ladies who organised the whole thing.

Finally, we arrive at today and the much anticipated trip to the Panto. This is a trip engineered for the entertainment of Mme Basnett cleverly disguised by taking all of the children with her. Having been starved of corny gags and 'he's behind you,' for two years, one could see the excitement and sheer joy in her face as she first glimpsed Robin Hood and his Merry Men (a strange penchant for men in tights I fear) as they jostled on to the stage. By all accounts, the children enjoyed themselves as well!

We have come to the end of the first term. If I am honest, it has been long and difficult but a couple of things reminded me of why we do the job and what matters most. Firstly, the little girl who told me yesterday that she had just had the 'best time of her life' (the lunch) and today the little boy in tears as we left the panto because he, was 'enjoying it so much he didn't want it to end'.

Thank you to everyone who has been supportive and I hope that you all enjoy a happy holiday period and a peaceful New Year.

Mr Ronane

STOP PRESS

As I am writing this, an email has popped up to say that the Fayre raised £2200 an amazing amount, thank you all.

I should also congratulate Mrs Preston who you have elected to be a Parent Trustee. I look forwards to working with her next year.

Ickford News from the office

Dates for your diary...

5th January	Children return to school. Uniform not PE kit
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This Week's Celebration Assembly

Hall of Fame:

Music Award:

Kirk O'Malley

Timothy Issitt

Florence Arnold

Gwilym Walters

Chloe Makris

PE Award:

Jacob Alfrey

Anabel Stevens

Georgina Preston

Timothy Issitt

Isla Thomas

Faye Kitchen

Elin Roberts

Lucy Hird

Ella Cooke

Beau Llewellyn

Cloe Betteley

Rose Dighton

French Award:

Oliver Evemy

Ronin Reeve

Charlie Kendall

Asiya Hassine
Georgina Preston
Florence Arnold
Aiden Barnes
James Kendall
Chloe Betteley



Deutsch Award:

Anna Kerry

Latin Award:

Daisy Coke



Headteachers Award:

Henry Preston

Isabella Saunders

Thomas Betteley

Beau Llewellyn

Tiana Mose-Dixon



Special Achievement Awards

Matilda Stow

Chloe Makris

Harry Middleton

**TIDDINGTON
GARAGE**

**Wakelin
Electrical
Services**