

Ickford News

The Monday morning assembly at the beginning of this week posed a problem to me and I suspect other Headteachers. Would I talk about the dreadful situation in Ukraine or not? I knew that I did not want to arouse any anxiety in the children but I also knew that, out of respect for all Ukrainian people, I did not want to ignore it or miss the opportunity to pray for all those caught up in the conflict.

I chose to highlight that Tuesday, March 1st was the feast day of St David, the Patron Saint of Wales and a Bishop whose last spoken words of advice to his followers included the phrase, "Do the little things". These became the starting point of my assembly and I challenged the children to think about what he may have meant and what the "little things" were that we could do.

I listened to a range of answers from the children which, without exception, all involved doing something that would have a positive effect on another person. Not one child expressed any desire to offend, be unkind, upset or hurt another in any way and we concluded that the easiest "little thing" we could all do was to smile at someone. Smiling is infectious and a smile, we decided, spreads. Lots of smiles suggests happiness and happiness makes people feel good.

Rather than think about conflict I encouraged the children to think about all the people doing "little things" at this time to help each other. I wanted them to recognise that the worst of events can often bring out the best in people and that by doing good things we can always overcome those who choose to be cruel and unkind. Our prayers have been said for all of the people in Ukraine and in particular any of our school community who have family and friends caught up in this terrible example of mans inhumanity to fellow man.

I was delighted to be back this week and appreciated the sheer fun of the after-school clubs I run. Monday and Tuesday's Badminton sessions are always well supported and on Wednesday the skipping and dance club has been enhanced by the purchase of two 'disco' lights! I might have to dig out the white suit and brush up on a few steps just to keep up with the children who seem to have choreography for every tune. There is still space for any other children who want to let their hair down for an hour either jumping rope or just having a 'boogie'!

My lunchtime club favourite has to be when Class 1 get to have the sports hall to themselves and thirty sponge balls. A teacher described it as, "organised chaos" but I was quick to correct her that there was nothing organised about it at all! I am assisted in this venture by some Year 6 children whose help I really appreciate and whose presence as role models for the youngest children is really invaluable.

In spite of short notice, our Year 6 Netball team were able to travel over to Halton Combined School for a match on Thursday. They put on a great performance against a spirited Halton side and were victorious to the tune of 23 goals to 0. Tiana Mose-Dixon was voted player of the match but Netball is the complete team sport and I was happy with everyone's performance. We have matches coming up against John Hampden School and the other unbeaten team in our league, Cuddington and Dinton so let's hope we can keep the winning momentum going and succeed in our aim of winning the league and going into the semi-finals of the overall championship.

We have a big week ahead with a year 5 and 6 residential trip to the Isle of Wight taking place whilst the rest of the school 'storm' Warwick Castle!

Have a good weekend.

Ickford News from the office

Dates for your diary...

7 th March	PGL Years 5 and 6
9 th March	Warwick Castle
11 th March	Medieval Dress up Day
17 th March	Outdoor Learning
31 st March	Outdoor Learning
24 th June	Key Stage 2 Summer Concert

School Lottery

A winner within school every week!

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<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/ickford-school>



This Week's Celebration Assembly Hall of Fame:

Music Award:

Oliver Evely

Charlie Kendall

PE Award:

William Jones

William Barber

Beatrice Beckett

Elin Roberts

Max Smith

Daisy Coke

French Award:

Alfie Peck

Brayden O'Malley

Anabel Neal

Beau Marriott

Nathaniel Wakelin

Deutsch Award:

Isla Turrell

Latin Award:

Matilda Stow

Matthieu Wolff

Headteachers Award:

Poppy Rhodes

Beatrix Walters

Faye Kitchen

Brayden O'Malley

Gabriel Walker

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