

Ickford News

I feel like a one man tug of war team trying to pull against the term running away from me already, such is the speed at which the days seem to be flying past. No newsletter last week, so my first task must be to thank Larry and his team for the superb 'street food' and Jackie, Tank and the PTA members for running the cocktail bar on April 24th. The afternoon seemed to be enjoyed by all who came along (particularly members of the Darby and Joan Club!) and went on well past the planned 4 pm finish.

The first week back after Easter always means lots to do particularly as our annual school reports are sent out. It is always interesting to read the reports and something I take pleasure in doing in spite of having to write 140 Headteacher's comments. Whilst there are a few who may need a little 'honest conversation', the huge majority of reports are very favourable and a manifestation of the purposeful teaching and learning going on in school. The targets are important and, if you can ensure that you read them and discuss them with your children, you will be supporting their progress in the summer term. If you are not sure what you can do, or how to help the children, then please don't hesitate to use the slip on the bottom of the report and make an appointment.

Our Year 6 children receive their last report from Ickford and I hope that they are all happy with them. I have to say, it is rare that I have to write much more than words of a congratulatory nature and a comment to aspire future success, such is the desire to succeed that permeates Mme Basnett's classroom on a daily basis. These children have all made significant progress during the first two terms and next week, they will complete their national tests (SATs) that I hope, will give them a little indication of how far they have come since beginning their journey in the early years.

I say, 'a little indication' deliberately because, although their Math and English prowess will be assessed and indeed set as a measurement of the school's success as well as used for their transition to Secondary School, there is so much more that they have achieved and cannot be quantified. Our aim has always been to ensure that by teaching them well, the children feel confident enough to tackle any 'test' and to treat such milestones as an opportunity to demonstrate their ability rather than agonise about the results. They will, I have no doubt, 'smash the SATs out of the park!' I say, having heard the phrase used by a member of the Royal family recently.

In other news this week, I had a meeting with a member of the Deansfield homes, sales team and the person employed to carry out their PR. Let's just say, it was a short meeting and I can clarify that we have not and most likely will not, receive any benefits from the new homes built in Ickford. It would appear they believe supporting the local community is letting children tour a building site and donating a raffle prize!

Last Tuesday, I was very grateful to parents who gave up time to form a convoy of cars in order to take Year 2 and Year 4 to a cricket participation morning at Cheersley Cricket Club. I am not sure how much was learned but I think the children enjoyed themselves and delighted in a couple of hours away from school. We have another cricket day coming up which will take place in school and involve all year groups so we look forward to more leather on willow, short square legs and silly mid ons!

Some of you may have noticed a new face in the office or a new voice on the telephone. Mrs Holmes has joined the team as the new, Finance Manager and I know she will be made very welcome by everyone. We also have a new teaching assistant in Miss Howe and the indomitable Mrs Snell (Snail depending on your year group) is now a full timer bring her very own brand of cheerfulness to our lives and terrifying anyone who dares park across a gateway!

A reminder that the school website has lots of information about all things school including, term dates, policies, Trustee meetings and several galleries of events. It is updated regularly but there are some things which take more time than others so, please be patient.

Mr Ronane

News from the Office

This Week's Celebration Assembly

Hall of Fame:

Music Award:

Oliver Atkins

Anabel Stevens

George Jones

Beau Llewellyn

Harry Johnston

PE Award:

Ronin Reeve

Latin Award:

William Arnold

Headteachers Award:

William Jones

Georgina Preston

Beatrice Beckett

Isabella Cooke

Dominic Green

Dates for your diary...

9 th -12 th May	SATs Week
12 th May	Outdoor Learning
20 th May	French Cafe
23 rd – 27 th May	Science Week
24 th May	Think Tank
30 th May	Half Term
24 th June	Key Stage 2 Summer Concert
29 th June	Secondary Transfer Meeting -Year 5
8 th July	Summer Fayre
14 th July	Sports Day - Horspath
18 th July	School Play Class 4 and 5
19 th July	School Play Class 4 and 5
20 th July	Final Celebration Assembly
21 st July	Leavers' Assembly
21 st July	Last Day of Term

Mr Bozier

It is with great sadness that we must report the death of Mr Peter Bozier the Chair of Governors at Oakley School and formerly a Headteacher of Ickford School. Some parents may remember Mr Bozier from their own days at Ickford or may have had older children at the school pre-2010. Peter was a keen tennis player and continued to play Badminton at Ickford twice a week.

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/lottery/school/ickford-school>



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