

# Ickford News

Having been taunted by certain members of staff (who will remain nameless) for producing a 'cryptic' and somewhat 'profound' newsletter last week, I shall try and ensure a more effusive and whimsical tone this week rather in the style of Mme Basnett when she hands out her class awards! Considering most of the week's star performers are members of her class, it is, I suppose, fitting.



Remember these?  Well they became these 



Yes, having won the area league and the regional finals, our Netball Team wrapped it up today by becoming the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes County Champions. The fourth Ickford team in the past 6 years to reach the County Finals (Covid stole two years) and the third to win them.

Netball, possibly because independent schools also enter, is the most hotly contested of the sports played amongst the County schools and we have produced some very good players

over the past ten years. As I have said before, some will carry on playing and some may not but, all of them can look back with fond memories of playing and winning with their friends.

They have worked incredibly hard to achieve their success and been absolutely committed to each other. It has not been easy and there has certainly been some sweat and tears along the way but I am very proud of all of them and they deserve their 'time in the sun'.

That magnificent celestial body has certainly been a bit hit and miss this week but thankfully it chose to put its hat on and come out for outdoor learning today making life a lot easier for Mrs Honey and the team. Quite bizarrely, I also received an email this morning informing me that it is 'Outdoor Classroom Day' a, "global movement to make time outdoors part of every child's day!" Now, I am not sure who designates these special days but I will agree that the children like to get out and, as long as there is purpose, then this is valuable learning time.

Next week is a big one and, again, I have Mrs Honey to thank for putting together the timetable for this year's Science Week. The theme is water, the colourless (almost) chemical substance that makes up 71% of our planet, up to 60% of our bodies and approximately 80% of the human brain! I sometimes think that there has been a miscalculation with mine and it's actually a higher percentage! (Mme Basnett's is displaced by prosecco 😊)

Regardless of who is the more diluted, it promises to be a good week of challenges, experiments and a great day out at the Think Tank in Birmingham. Due to Covid, it has been a while since we got the whole school out together and I am really looking forward to it and excited to venture once again into the world of science.

The dreaded pandemic has also robbed us of our Key Stage 2 Summer Concert for the past two years and I am delighted that this event will take place in front of a live audience this year on June 24<sup>th</sup>. The wonderful virtuoso, Mrs Shackleton is already biting her nails and fretting (pun) about the organisation but we know, as they say in the world of show business she is so accustomed to. "It will be alright on the night." I have great faith in her and no doubt that she will be commandeering the assistance of her husband and the lovely Miss Grant to wave their batons and tinkle the ivories.

An unusually early newsletter but for good reason. There is a French Café in the morning and it would be good to see plenty of people there. These small but regular events are great for keeping a bit of community spirit going and helping to raise some much-needed funds. I want our school to continue producing, athletes, musicians, scientists and linguists and to ensure that, every now and again, the team working here are able to share a cup of coffee and a croissant with you. Vive la France!

Mr Ronane

## News from the Office

### Dates for your diary...

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

### School Lottery

**A winner within school every week!**

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