

# Ickford News

One way or another there have been plenty of rehearsals taking place for the momentous occasions afforded to us in the past week and today we managed a rehearsal of our own when we had a whole school assembly and handed out the first awards of the year. I am always taken aback by the speed at which Miss Vukomanovic is able to get the new children in the Early Years, able to join the rest of the school and delighted to see every child in attendance this morning. Next week, we shall welcome parents to join us and hopefully precede assembly with a French Café and a chance for new parents to meet others.

Whilst the Friday assembly is our chance to celebrate successes, not only in terms of accomplishment but also with respect to effort and determination, it is also an act of worship. As a maintained school, there is a statutory requirement by the Government to provide, *"a daily collective worship for all registered pupils and to promote their spiritual, moral and cultural development"*. Therefore, we always have a time for reflection, our school prayer and a hymn and I hope that parents can understand this and the need to respect this part of the assembly. This year, it would be nice to get more parents joining in with the hymn and adding their dulcet tones to the children's voices.

On Monday September 26<sup>th</sup>, we shall be holding a workshop session for any parents covering 'learning phonics and learning to read'. This will begin at 7pm and will take place in Class 4 due to the Sports Hall being used for Pilates.

Although this session usually attracts the parents of children joining the Early Years, I would urge any parent with an interest in supporting their child with reading and spelling to come along and join in even if you have attended before. We have purchased a new Reading Scheme this year and adopted some new approaches to engaging children in phonics so I can assure you that there will be something new for everyone.

As I have mentioned in previous news, we are promoting reading this year and we have finalised our partnership with the Book House in Thame. If you go to the School's website, scroll down the Home Page and you will find the Book House logo. Click on the 'read more' tab and you will find a QR code to scan giving you the opportunity to purchase a book for the school (if you feel inclined to). These are still early days and I am sure we will have more information about the library soon. I also hope to get around to creating a website page dedicated to the school library and all things reading including book lists, reading challenges and ways in which you can leave a review.

I led some staff development this week focusing on developing language and the enthusiasm the teachers have for ensuring all children are exposed to rich language opportunities, is exciting. The teachers recognise that whilst cohorts may be socially diverse, no child should be disadvantaged by a paucity of vocabulary. It is our job to provide examples of high-quality literature and texts and to teach children to be like magpies, stealing words and hoarding them for their own use.

"As vocabulary is reduced, so are the number of feelings you can express, the number of events you can describe, the number of the things you can identify! Not only understanding is limited, but also experience."

Have a good weekend

Mr Ronane

## News from the Office

### Dates for your diary...

23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Return of Celebration Assembly
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Hampton Court Trip Class 4
21 <sup>st</sup> October	Last Day of Term

### 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>



## This Week's Celebration Assembly Hall of Fame

**French Award:** Kathryn Hargreaves

**PE Award:** Dylan O'Mahoney, Oliver Evemy, Grace Beckett, Jesse Jones, Elsie Thomas, Jago Miller, Orla Kerry, Thomas Ansell-Hawes, Caleb Mortimer, Edward Pentecost, Mia Makris, Faye Kitchen, Mataio Fatialofa, Harvey Chapman, Max Smith

**Music Award:** Harley Hudson, Elin Roberts, Timothy Issitt, Ethan Crispin, George Middleton

**Latin Award:** Ella Cooke

**Headteacher's Award:** Beatrice Johnson, Edward Pentecost, Sophie Pennock, Orla Kerry, Sam Anzarouth, Jude Barnes, Charlotte Hunting, Freddy Dedman, Oliver Atkins, Beau Llewellyn

## Sponsors



TIDDINGTON  
GARAGE

