

## Ickford News

Intermittent wind and rain threatened to stop the event and at times legs and hearts felt heavy and bodies tired but, in the end, everyone finished and celebrated knowing that Ickford had not cowed in the face of challenge. Obviously, I am describing the end of the first half term, a long one, a strange one and one I thought we may not have been able to complete, a report on the cross country will follow!

Whilst there may have been some different challenges this half term, one that had the potential for the greatest impact was the impending departure of Mrs Addis from the office. She has been here for five years and in that time, I have relied on her support and organisation immensely. The whole staff team are sad to see her go but we wish her well in her new position and, as her sons, Finlay and Oscar, are still here, we know that we shall keep in touch even if it is through the fence for the time being. I am not sure that she realised running a market stall was in the job description and for some of you the last image of Mrs Addis may be selling eggs and football boots outside of the school gate this week. If her new job doesn't work out maybe a suitcase full of cheap goods and a permanent 'pitch' by the gates could keep her in training shoes in the future! Mrs Rhodes will replace her in the office and I am sure that you will make her feel welcome and understand that the job will take some getting used to.

Against the odds we managed to hold our first competitive sports event this year and the House Cross Country was keenly contested by all year groups even though KS1 were forced indoors by the inclement weather conditions. We managed to combine the event with the Sports Partnership 'virtual' event but it meant we were restricted to the recreation ground so that the track would be measured

accurately and the runners' times recorded. As usual, there were some great races but regardless of their time or finishing position, every child gained points for taking part and representing their House. The overall winners were Blue House and the current House point standings can be seen on the school website. The individual race winners are at the end of the newsletter and I shall keep you informed if any of our times secured prizes in the Sports Partnership Competition. I must say I prefer the normal format of running against other schools rather than relying on people posting 'honest' times but, fingers crossed someone may pick up another medal.

Thank you to all parents who attended the meetings during the week and took the opportunity to talk to their children's class teacher. These meetings went well and I think we managed to keep everyone safe. It is really important to not only give an update on progress and show some of the work in school, but also to explain to parents where there are areas for development or improvement and how they can help. One major difference caused by Covid-19 that I noticed was that I didn't get to speak to many parents after their meetings as I normally do and to hear their feedback. Those that have been in touch seem really positive and pleased with how their children have managed to come back to school in quite different circumstances yet still flourish.

I am very proud of the teachers and every member of staff who work hard to maintain the high standards we have set ourselves. I hope they get a decent rest next week and I hope that we will be open again after half term. I shall be keeping an eye on the news and in touch with the Local Authority and you can be certain that it will take a quite a lot to break Ickford spirit.

Have a good week,

Mr Ronane

## Violins

Mrs Shackleton has requested I send a message to everyone who intends to purchase a violin for a child. Whilst, we welcome the enthusiasm and support in terms of resources, she is concerned that the quality and size of a violin is not correct for children. She is concerned that some parents are spending money on unsuitable instruments and has asked that anyone thinking of a purchase consults with her first so as to get the correct size and an instrument that offers good value in terms of cost and use. She can be contacted directly at:

eshackleton@ickford.org.uk

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



## Breakfast Club

Please remember to book your child's place for breakfast club with the school office by Friday at midday for the following week. Entry to breakfast club will be via Gate A by the Recreation Ground.

## Ickford NEWS from the office

### Dates for your diary...

26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term
2 <sup>nd</sup> November	School Photos
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Y6 Secondary Transfer Testing
5 <sup>th</sup> November	Y6 Secondary Transfer Testing
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Class 5 visit to Bletchley Park
7 <sup>th</sup> November	*No Y5/6 Badminton*
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Inset Day

## 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!



## This Weeks Celebration Assembly

### Hall of Fame:

#### Music Award:

Sienna Jones  
Bryony Ellis  
Molly Harding  
William Arnold  
Zara Luckhurst

#### PE Award:

Grace Beckett  
Harry Weedon  
Amelia Hargreaves  
Sophie Crafts

Eleanor Hagues

#### French Award:

Luna Russell-Dyson  
Thomas Betteley  
Emily Aspden

