

# Ickford News

“We have a one in a million chance of getting out of here!”

“Then there’s a chance.”

Any film buffs amongst you may recognise those lines, others may have been involved in stopping the breakout last weekend.

I am not referring to children here or anything to do with the C-19 word, this was far more disturbing. I worked away on Saturday, filling the skip and clearing the old climbing frame but stopped and went elsewhere for an hour or so. I came back later and carried on and all seemed at peace with the world. It was a bright, fresh autumn day and chickens roamed the field, scratching happily. Unbeknown to me, in the time I was away, pandemonium had broken out in Ickford because our feathered friends had taken the opportunity to make a run for it! It appears I have to thank some parents who live in the village and took part in the round up whilst I remained in blissful ignorance of the drama unfolding.

Is ignorance always bliss? Each year, in November and when Armistice Day occurs during the school week the question as to whether we should teach children about the First and Second World Wars and about conflicts past, arises. We have kept this History topic in our curriculum for the children in Year 6 and, in my opinion, it is one they show a huge interest in and get a great deal from. Furthermore, we always recognise Armistice Day and, as a school, we dedicate some time to remembering all the men and women of every nationality that have made the ultimate sacrifice or continue to serve in the Armed Forces. This year was no exception and on Wednesday, Year 6 led a very dignified and meaningful assembly of remembrance and the whole school observed a 2 minutes silence for the fallen. Peace is bliss and I hope

that in ensuring we do our part to engage children in the story of the past, they will recognise the mistakes and help build a better future.

Rather than build, I have been demolishing and I have finally managed to remove the old climbing frame from the playground. We are now in the process of trying to replace it which, though not easy at the moment, is certainly a goal. I know that the children enjoy having something to climb on and somewhere, when we are not able to use the field, to create those castles. The school field however, remains high on my list of priorities and a meeting I had today, confirmed why.

It was a very enjoyable meeting at lunch time (that is not something I say often) but today I met the new School Council representatives from each year group and we discussed how we are going to use them to good effect this academic year. I was immediately impressed by the earnestness each child has about the role and the sense of pride at being elected representatives. Our conversation mainly revolved around the development of our outdoor space and the ways in which to promote the best use of our immediate environment for the benefit of everyone. I excused myself from the meeting leaving the children to discuss and record their ideas and I am delighted to have received the minutes from them. Their ideas are listed below:

## School Council Meeting

Present: Jake Fletton, Zara Smith, Ryan Roberts, Mathieu Wolff, Katherine Hargreaves, Ella Cooke, Emily Aspden, Harry Weedon, Harry Middleton, Melek Younis, Jacob Shannon,

## Developing our outside space is good because:

We can get fresh air and crucial vitamin D

We get exercise and have fun with our friends

We can relax, explore and help wildlife

### What we want to add

Bird boxes

Bird feeders

Bug Hotels

Compost bins

A gardening Club

Vegetable patches

Somewhere to sell our vegetables

Huts for small animals

More football nets

I think the children have come up with some good and certainly achievable ideas. I am hoping that the new Council will be able to get the Ickford Citizen Blog back up and running and give a regular update on the progress developing our outdoor space as well as school life in general from their point of view. In future, rather than add their minutes, I also hope that they can write their own page of the newsletter but this is a good start and they are an impressive team.

I am very fortunate in that I have several 'impressive teams' around me and I want to continue to thank all of the staff at Ickford, whatever their role, for the dedication they have shown during this period of pandemic and further lockdown. Regardless of what you may read or hear in the press, they are not reluctant to be at school, morale is high and they have made your children's education their priority. That's teachers, teaching assistants, admin staff, midday supervisors, Latin teachers and music teachers.

Have a good weekend.

Mr Ronane

## Ickford News from the office

### Dates for your diary...

|                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> December  | *No Y5/6 Badminton*             |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December | Class 5 visit to Bletchley Park |
| 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!

<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.

### Uniform

Please ensure that all items of uniform are clearly labelled with the child's name.



## This Weeks Celebration Assembly

### Hall of Fame:

#### Music Award:

Babs Smith  
Anabel Stevens  
Dillon Woods  
George Wallace

#### PE Award:

Bruce Dingle  
Florence Arnold  
Harvey Chapman  
Megan Jones  
Georgina Palmer

#### French Award:

William Wallace  
Georgina Preston  
Dillon Woods  
Oscar Addis

Gethin Walters

#### German Award:

Zara Smith

#### Latin Award:

Zara Luckhurst

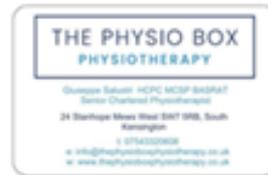
#### Headteachers Award:

Jacob Shannon  
Alice Blackwell  
Jackson Marriott  
Amber Chadbone  
Pippa Harding

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If anyone would like to be included in the list, please contact the office.