

# Ickford News

Parents of children in Key stage 2 will not be surprised that this newsletter is principally a review of Friday evening's Summer Concert and I am sure those who attended will not begrudge me using some of the column space to pay homage to Mrs Shackleton!

This seems to be the year that everything came together just at the right time in terms of producing the concert. In the beginning the call to arms that went out for help with refreshments was answered immediately by an indomitable group of ladies who certainly 'delivered' (gratis) on the night. In addition, the donation of profuse amounts of 'bubbly' combined with balmy summer weather ensured that the 'more than just your average school concert' tone of the evening was undeniably set. A tone I must say, enhanced by the glamorous outfits worn by our canapé creators and teaching staff who all dressed for the occasion.

Generous sponsorship from Mrs Davis (BP Collins), Mr Ansell Hawes (Hawes Construction) and an anonymous donor, enabled us to hire a lot of lighting, tune the piano, and hire a back drop to transform the sports hall into a more suitable setting. In addition, the new stage purchased by the PTA last year meant that we had tiered areas and room for every child to be on stage together and in view of the audience.

No doubt there were a few wrong notes and we had the drama of a broken string but no-one can deny that the standard of music in relation to the age and experience of the children, was very high indeed. The number of soloists was impressive and it would be unfair to try and single out any stand out performances as all of them were

excellent. Playing as an ensemble, each class in turn demonstrated the discipline and concentration needed to perform at this level and the singing as a whole Key stage really was a celebration of musicality and a joy to behold.

Mrs Shackleton is, as I have said many times, a natural teacher and an inspirational musician. She has had to work very hard this year and I know that she has been given great support from her husband who, though he won't acknowledge it, has played a fundamental role in ensuring the success of the concert this year. They are the nicest couple one could hope to meet and provide fantastic role models for the children not only as musicians but as human beings.

Mr Sayer acted as official photographer (we are still getting to grips with GDPR) and he has promised to set up a secure web page from which you can download pictures of your choice from the evening. As ever, I must request that you do not put any of the pictures on social-media.



Our music at Ickford is very important to us. It is another opportunity for children to express themselves and whilst those are able to, excel, every child receives a valuable gift and foundation on which to build, perhaps not now but at another point in their lives.

Mr Ronane

## Dragon's Den

I had the great pleasure this week of becoming a Dragon (already was, I hear you say) and along with two fellow Dragons, enjoyed listening to the pitches of year 6 children as they tried to gain investment. Each group or individual child had created a product, researched a market and put together a business plan. The activity gave them a great opportunity to showcase their talents and to practise presentation skills that will hold them in good stead in the future. The eventual winners, Tilly and Payton combined a great product with a slick presentation but Sam Readman must also be commended for his confident presentation skills which guaranteed him second place. It was Dragon Ben Sayer who managed to gain the investment with promises of Florida Villas and chocolate fountains aboard a private jet. Underhand tactics really but that is the world of high commerce I suppose.

## Village Hall

I spoke with a very nice man from the village on Friday, Mr Will Richards who is in charge of the Village Hall. He pointed out that a sign has been erected about unauthorised parking in the hall car park but he wanted to pass on his assurance that the car park may still be used by parents dropping off and picking up children from school. Will, like all of us is keen to see school and community relationships strengthened and parking is a key issue. Please use the hall car park and walk down when possible but also make sure we respect it, look after it and don't leave vehicles there unnecessarily.

Enjoy the rest of the weekend,

Mr Ronane

# Ickford NEWS from the office

## Dates for your diary...

3 <sup>rd</sup> July 9am	Class 1 Assembly
5 <sup>th</sup> July *6-7pm	Open Evening & Art Exhibition
6 <sup>th</sup> July 5-7pm	Summer Fayre
13 <sup>th</sup> July 9am	Ballet Assembly
16 <sup>th</sup> July 1.30pm	Class 4 & 5 Play
17 <sup>th</sup> July 7pm	Class 4 & 5 Play
18 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
20 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Assembly

\* please note time change

## School Lottery

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>



## Backpacks

A reminder to all reception parents, your child will need a backpack for school in September. Please order through

ParentMail , these will then be sent home with your child.

**PE Kit**

Please ensure that your child brings their **full** PE kit into school **every** day.

**Dance**

Please see attached poster for Laszlo's School of Dance and Claydon's Academy.



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