

Ickford News

I am celebrating Mrs Honey this week for two reasons, firstly she is our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and secondly, she is, to use an old fashioned idiom, with child. I am sure you would want me to congratulate her although, I am beginning to worry that there may be something in the water!

This week we were inspected by the Local Authority's SEN and Inclusion Officer as part of a new initiative tasked with improving the service to schools. He spent an hour or so touring the school with Mrs Honey before meeting with her and Miss Mordente who is also part of our SEN team. He was a rather reserved man and his relative silence during the tour did cause Mrs Honey to be slightly apprehensive about how he would evaluate our provision.

She did not need to worry because, during the meeting, he gave a glowing report and described the school as, "The best kept secret in Bucks". He acknowledged the positive attributes of the learning environment and applauded the "calmness and lack of clutter". I am delighted with the feedback, not only because I know how hard Mrs Honey and Miss Mordente work but also because I have always believed that it is high quality teaching within the classroom that helps children who, for whatever reason, may struggle rather than being withdrawn from lessons to participate in 'low level', worksheet based, tasks. I am very proud of every teacher here for their dedication to the individual child and their determination to ensure that they all achieve to their full potential. They are of course, supported by some great non-teaching staff as well and, together with them, form a formidable team.

Our Netball team were in action this week and took part in a stand-alone tournament at Mandeville School in Aylesbury. There were some new teams amongst the opposition but also some old rivals such as Long Crendon who we had not yet played this year. We are not the tallest of teams and some of the opposition seemed to have been plucked from the land of the giants but, undeterred, the children took it game by game and managed to win the tournament undefeated and with the additional accolade of not conceding a single goal. Next Tuesday we have a league fixture here at school against Buckingham Park and, if we win, we should be top of our league and earn the chance to play the winners of the other leagues in a Regional Final. Anyone who would like to watch the match is welcome and we should be starting at approximately 3.45 pm.

As you know, the road leading up to the Recreation Ground is being resurfaced much to my relief. However, I was disappointed to hear from the contractor this morning that our entrance gates are not being included in the works in spite of the fact that they provide access not only to parents and children but also to emergency service vehicles and our fuel suppliers. The Parish Council received in excess of £120,000 from the developments in Ickford whilst the school, for whom the impact of the housing is significant, did not receive a penny. I have now been informed that, if we want our gateways included, we must share the cost, something I find difficult to believe.

Have a good weekend,

Mr Ronane

From the Office...

Headteacher's Award:

Willa Goode, William Jones, Oisin Harrell, Brayden O'Malley,

George Jones

French Award:

George Jones, Kathryn Hargreaves, Freya Weeden, Bruce Dingle, Oliver Aspden

German Award:

Sophie Vorotyntsova

Latin Award:

Gwilym Walters

Music Award:

Lacey McClurg, Beatrix Walters, Beatrice Johnson, Evie Evans, James Kendall

P.E. Award:

Willa Goode, Elin Roberts, Molly Parry, Sophie Winspear, Barnaby Potter



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