

Ickford News

I hope that you are all enjoying your extended 'Coronation' weekend and that you were able to make the most of the little sunshine that was sandwiched (with a little cucumber, in a neat triangle and crusts removed) between the predictably murky, English, May days. Congratulations to King Charles III who has already lived longer than his Carolean predecessors Charles I (49) and Charles II (54) but will have to be King until he is 99 if he is to reign for as long. I wonder if, as he processed along Whitehall on Saturday, he spared any thought for Charles I who was executed for treason on the site of the Banqueting Hall, the oldest building in the street.

I developed a much greater interest in the previous Charlies when I came to Ickford because of their close connection to Oxford where Charles I set up Court (and Parliament) during the Civil War. Many significant battles took place in and around the fields not far from the School and it was in Thame that the Parliamentary commanders, based troops and to where John Hampden made his way when wounded in the Battle of Chalgrove. Unfortunately, for him, he did not survive and died in a house in Thame High Street.

The national curriculum recommends that children should study a local history project and, over a number of years, I have seen plenty of local studies that amount to little more than noting some old houses, the local church and a war memorial. I am pushing for a change in our Ickford curriculum map that will include the English Civil War, Charles I and II and of course, that pantomime villain Oliver Cromwell and his New Model Army. Our children have witnessed a time of significance in history but, for now, the significance may be lost on them. I hope that, having celebrated at school, with their friends, when they look back, it will be a happy memory in their personal history.

Thank you to everyone who helped organise the party on Friday. To everyone who made food, set up tables, served at tables, cleared away tables, served drinks, or just came along to join in. It was perfect and just what I had hoped for.



I want to wish good luck to all of our Year 6 children who begin their SATs tomorrow. My advice to them is simply to look at any test as an opportunity to show just how much they know and how confident they are in their ability. They have nothing to be anxious about and nothing really to prove, all they need to do is to come in refreshed, relaxed and ready to rock. There you go children, a quick example of alliteration that may come in handy this week! Although, help from me is the last thing you need as you all know far more than I did at your age and possibly at this age!

Mr Ronane

News from the Office

French Award

Jacob Brookfield, Beatrix Walters, Beatrice Beckett, Pippa Hunting

P.E. Award

Oliver Atkins, Anna Roberts, Fred Ellis, Phoebe Gapper, William Harris, Anabel Neal, Isla Thomas, Emily Jay-Friday, Gwilym Walters

Latin Award

Max Smith

Music Award

Henry Hurn, Ethan Crispin, Melek Younis, Isla Thomas, Sophie Vorotyntsova

Headteacher's Award

Henry Hurn, Babs Smith, Georgina Preston, Isla Thomas, Sam Pierpoint

News from the PTA

Jackie has asked that I promote some really important fundraising sources that can be of benefit to you and to the school.



First the School Lottery which, Jackie informs me, we have a target of 120 tickets, but only have 48 of these currently active (and a large chunk of whom aren't even current parents.) The School Lottery is a fantastic way to bring Parents, Carers, Teachers and the wider community together, in partnership with our school, and at the same time give something back. We hope to raise funds that can support and enrich the education of our children - we aim to provide extra resources for the children, improve the school environment as well as run extra-curricular activities such as music, art and sport. Your support is greatly appreciated and we wish you good luck! <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/ickford-school> As Jackie wrote,

"If we can increase the ticket sales, then prize money increases as does the donation to the school. Win win!"

The second fund raising stream is **Easyfundraising**. Jackie says: For those that would like to, there are ways you can support the PTA and the School, requiring minimum effort, and even costing nothing! Did you know that whenever you buy anything online, from your weekly shop to your annual holiday, you could be raising free donations for Ickford School with **Easyfundraising**? There are over 7,000 brands on board ready to donate including; eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds. More details can be found using this link: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ickford/>

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