

Ickford News

Sometimes in sport, you get the 'rub of the green' and sometimes you don't. Apparently, this phrase originates from the game of lawn bowling during Tudor times not, as I first thought, from the game of golf although when he wasn't chopping off heads, Henry played both. On Thursday, when, with 9 runs needed from 10 balls, Brayden O'Malley hooked a ball over his left shoulder and it flew towards the boundary during the Boys Open Cricket Final only to be caught by an athletic and determined Crendonite, we got our 'rub'! As the Crendon players ran to each other in (presumptuous) celebration the Umpires and the competition organisers, adjudged the ball to have crossed the boundary before the catch. Heed the warning Long Crendon, don't start celebrating because, it's not over till it's over!

The last stand by Brayden and Harvey Chapman (rivalled only by General Custer at the Battle of Little Big Horn) was the culmination of a brilliant team performance. The beautiful sunshine and back drop of Waddesdon Manor were mere extras in a selection of unbeaten matches where Max Smith, as Captain, led from the front at one point, bowling three wickets in one 5 ball over! Our 'mixed team' led by James Kendal, did not fare so well in terms of results but they were clear winners in the entertainment stakes and had lots of fun throughout the day. Next week it is the turn of the Girls Cricket team who will hope to emulate the success of the boys and join them in the County Finals in July.



In the real world of school this week, the children in Year 4 took part in the on-line multiplication tables check that is now part of the statutory assessment regime, whilst the Year 1 children took their phonics tests. Both assessments are fairly painless and carried out individually using a set format but they serve as a reminder that the Department for Education regard phonics and a knowledge of multiplication facts as fundamental. Thankfully, our children are taught well and hopefully, the great majority practise their tables on a really regular basis supported at home. This means that assessments are taken in their strides and most should have no problem in passing.

Mme Basnett has had to spend some time out of school in the past week due to her role as a Lead Literacy Moderator for the County. I enjoy the fact that Mme is so successful in this role as it gives her a really good insight into how other schools perform and enables her to report back to the staff some of the difficulties faced in some schools with challenging contexts. I'd like to think that in meeting other Headteachers she realises how lucky she is but I dare not say that!

Today (Now Sunday) I have been trying to get the school field in a state more suitable to holding a Summer BBQ. The flail mower we hired has gone some way to clearing the patches of over grown brambles and nettles but if any ladies or gentlemen have chainsaws glistening, unused but primed and ready for action and want to release their inner 'lumberjack', please feel free to come and set about the large logs on the field that need



moving. I am sure that someone has a 'boys' toy' they were given for Christmas along with a checked shirt and leather lederhosen and now yearns to use it!

It is, as I am sure you will appreciate a very busy time. Next Tuesday evening there is a meeting in school for the Year 5 parents to go through the details for the transfer test to Secondary Schools as well as sports events and the Summer Concert on Friday evening. The concert is particularly important to us and Mrs Shackleton is working extremely hard not only in school with the children but also in her own time organising piano tuners, lighting and a stage set and backdrop. She is a superstar and with the help of her husband Richard and Carrie Grant our piano teacher, she manages every year to give children the opportunity to showcase their talent. It may not be the Albert Hall or Glastonbury but, for us, it is a major event and we love it. There is then added incentive this year of trying to convince a gentleman close to us all, but shall remain anonymous (although he does not use his real name anyway and prefers the moniker of military hardware) that the violin can sound beautiful in the hands of several children. I believe a wager may have been placed with Mrs Shackleton.

Have a good end to the weekend.

Mr Ronane

Awards this Week

French Award

Riona Harrell, Frederick Ellis, Barnaby Potter, Brayden O'Malley

P.E. Award

Finlay Bennett, Finn Rouse, Henry Preston, Harry Middleton, Wilf Evans, Aiden Barnes, Eliza Gapper, Jago Miller, Max Smith

Latin Award

Abigail Hird

Music Award

Anna Roberts, Fred Ellis, Edward Pentecost, Elin Roberts, Abigail Hird,

Headteacher's Award

Jacob Brookfield, Luke Dungey, Oliver Aspden, Beau Marriott, Kathryn Hargreaves

Notes from the Office

Please ensure that you put your child's names in every piece of uniform.

Please apply sun cream to your child before they come to school if necessary.

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