

Ickford News

I am hopeful that a relatively small but enthused group of you have spent the last three days breaking up words into phonemes and graphemes and putting up your hands like donkey ears for 'ee' and 'or' sounds. Only the enlightened will understand what I am talking about and, should you be curious, please go to Parent resources on the School Website and watch the wonderful Mrs Cashmore on film.

It was of course good to see a number of parents at the Phonics workshop last Tuesday but, it is always a little disappointing not to get every parent of a child in Reception there, especially as I have no doubt you all want your children to read well. I was really impressed to see so many of our teaching and support staff in attendance (several of whom I have seen it all before) because it showed genuine commitment to the needs of the children and the status of reading in our school. The good news is that we shall be following this workshop up with another in November all about Maths and led by Mme Basnett.

As you know, safeguarding is a priority at the school and something that I am constantly looking to improve. It is always a tricky area because often the demands that we have to place upon people are taken as an imposition on their liberties rather than a necessary precaution to protect children and staff. If you have visited the School Office recently you may have noticed that mobile phones are no longer permitted to be visible within the school site. This is in order to mitigate risk of photographs and recordings of people in school and information that may be subject to data protection and in the office. We have also placed a supply of leaflets in the front Reception area to be given to any visitor or contractor coming on to the school site, explaining necessary safeguarding information. I would be grateful if everyone could keep their phones in pockets or bags when on the site please.

As forewarned in last week's newsletter there has been a plea for help from Jackie Thomas and Stuart Stevens the Chair of the PTA committee. I cannot emphasise enough, the importance of the fundraising activities initiated by the PTA and I would encourage anyone who has a little spare time or a particular talent to get in touch with Jackie and offer support. There are already a couple of events in the pipeline including a Halloween Disco for the children and the AGM which is an ideal opportunity to get to know how things work and a great forum for ideas.

Thank you to all those who managed to get along to the French Café this morning. The departure of Mrs Honey, albeit temporarily, appears to have interrupted adequate supplies of croissants as it was her job to purchase them I must therefore, apologise to those who were disappointed. Next time we shall order more.

Finally, the Homework Policy has been reviewed and can be found on the school website. Hopefully, it is accessible, clear and reasonable.

Have a good weekend.

Mr Ronane

Awards this Week

PE Award

Drew Wyse, Harrison O'Mahoney, Oliver Atkins, Charlie Kendall, Melek Younis, Beatrice Beckett, Issy Parsler, Jacob Dungey, Evie Evans

French Award

Drew Wyse, Jacob Alfrey, Xavier Flood, Isla Thomas, Sam Anzarouth

Latin Award

Pippa Hunting

German Award

Emily Aspden

Music Award

Babs Smith, Lucy Hird, Iyla Hitchcock

Head Teacher's Award

Jack Evans, Oliver Atkins, Phoebe Gapper, Elin Roberts, Orla Kerry



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