

Ickford News

In 1624, the English poet and Dean of St Pauls John Donne, included in a sermon the idiomatic phrase, "No man is an island" and this really resonated with me this week when the announcement that Dave Myers, one half of the Hairy Bikers, had died. I was genuinely upset but, in truth, it was not so much the untimely loss of a seemingly genuine and talented person that affected me but more a concern for his great friend and partner Simon King who will as he said, "miss him every day." How difficult the loss must be for him.

Partnerships are so important and, as much as I try to be a leader and indeed accept overall responsibility for the school and the children, I know I am incredibly fortunate in having Madame Basnett alongside me. Those of you who come to Celebration Assembly will recognise that we enjoy a similar sense of humour and that I have a complete reliance on her organisational skills just to get through the most nerve-racking half an hour of the week! She is, as anyone who has had a child in her class will know, an outstanding teacher but more than this, she is also an excellent Deputy Head and role model for the staff. It seems an age ago that she came to Ickford, to teach French for one day per week and, within a matter of months, had stepped into the role she commands with such expertise now. I would like to think it was one of my best career decisions!

Partnerships are becoming more evident in school particularly as we retain our staff who are starting families. I am looking forward to having Miss Vukomanovic back in a couple of weeks to begin a partnership with Miss Allen in Class 2 which will, in my opinion, be very beneficial to the children. Miss 'V' has also been here for a long time and over the years has developed her teaching and leadership skills not only through extra study but also working alongside great role models like Madame.

Another partnership I have enjoyed watching develop really proved its worth this week on the Netball court. The Year 5/6 team went to Bedgrove School in Aylesbury to play their penultimate league game and, it has to be said, conditions were quite difficult. When you are top of the league, everyone wants to beat you that little bit more and, at times, our team can be on the receiving end of some rather aggressive players and strange umpiring decisions and this week was no different. Although the whole team played really well, it was the partnership between our Captain Faye Kitchen and Vice-Captain Molly Harding, that really stood out for me. Both are great all rounders and can cover any position on the court and both are developing into strong athletes with the potential to go far in the game. In the final quarter, I asked them to defend as a partnership and to ensure that, as the intensity increased, Bedgrove did not score and it was with great pride that I watched them achieve this. It is rare in such young players to see such symbiosis and Faye and Molly are now able to play, 'silent netball' completely in tune with each other. Let's hope they can continue this with more difficult games to come.

Enjoy the rest of the weekend.

Mr Ronane

News from the Office

Warm school coats are available for £20 each.

It is only permissible to wear school hats – please see website for uniform policy.

Children who do arrive after registration, must be signed in at the school office.

Please ensure any payments for clubs are up to date.

Awards this Week

French Award

Harry Jolliffe, Millie Snelling, Henry Preston, Assess Samrai, Emily Aspden, Sam Anzarouth

Latin Award

Emily Aspden

German Award

Aiden Barnes

Music Award

Alex Nicholls. Freddie Williams, Ronin Reeve, Issy Parsler, Stanley Johnson

PE Award

Drew Wyse, Fred Ellis, Edward Nicholls, Matilda Ousley, Harry Middleton, Jacob Dungey, Evie Evans

Head Teacher's Award

Tobi Wood, Jaydon Magennis, Edward Nicholls, Thomas Betteley, Oliver Jolliffe

Sponsors

