

Ickford News

On Monday afternoon I shall be 'riding along on the crest of a wave' aboard the Isle of Wight Ferry, possibly braced against the elements but hopefully enjoying some springtime sunshine and a coffee. One thing guaranteed is I will be surrounded by a motley crew of children excited to get their first glimpse of Little Canada, home for the week and venue for some challenging activities. Some will be seasoned travellers having been to France last year, but others will be the uninitiated possibly on their first trip away from home. I can guarantee plenty of fun, some opportunities to push themselves and a great chance to discover things about themselves and indeed others. It should be a technology free week and I have no doubt all will be well.

I am looking forward to next week but I have really enjoyed this week. It has been challenging but that only adds to the sense of fulfilment I have now sitting at the desk and reviewing events. Quite a bit of my time has been spent teaching and, although I teach every week to some extent, the absence of my partner in crime added to my timetable. However, I really enjoyed each lesson particularly the day I spent with Class 5 and our children in year 6.

As a change from the norm, I decided to look at the concept of crime and punishment in the UK at different points in history and in comparison, with the current age. The day flew past and we covered a great deal of ground in debate, discussion and problem solving and I can only heap praise on the children who were superb throughout. The level of discussion belied their age and they are a credit to Madame Basnett who has obviously supported their development and imbued them with the skills necessary for co-operative learning.

We did take a detour during the day when I challenged the class to work with the children in Class 2 and to support them in their Hockey based PE lesson. It was really fascinating to watch the older children working closely with the younger ones and it gave me an opportunity to stand back and see how well they interacted. It was quite fascinating to see how, when tasked to develop a certain technique, the children in Year 6 adapted drills and supported the little ones in achieving the desired outcomes. Inevitably and possibly embarrassingly, I could hear myself being mimicked and paraphrased by my coaching proteges throughout the lesson but I couldn't help but be very proud of how it went. It was quite clear that the infant children really look up to the older ones and also clear that the older ones know, by name, every younger child and recognise their responsibility as positive role models. I could not deny them their chance to award the certificates this week and completely supported their choices.

It may seem some time off but on June 21st we shall be holding our annual Summer Concert for KS2. This has become a really important event in the calendar and a chance for the children to showcase their musical talents. Mrs Shackleton is the force behind the event and I am sure she will be looking to engage some support on the night and possibly in the days leading up to it. If anyone out there would like to sponsor the concert we would be delighted to hear from you. In the past legal firms and DAF trucks have done this and we are willing to support any advertising that might be required and beneficial.

Have a good 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

Rogan Reeve, Joey Hawkins, Asiya Hassine, Anabel Stevens, Beau Marriott, Poppie Klein

Latin Award

Emily-Jay Friday

German Award

Iyla Hitchcock, Jacob Dungey

Music Award

Freya Jones, Zeynep Konak, Asiya Hassine, Dylan O'Mahoney, Stella Stanfield

PE Award

Rogan Reeve, Jacob Alfrey, Jaydon Magennis, Anna Roberts, Finlay Bennett, Stella Anzarouth, Aysia Hassine, Isla Thomas, Faye Kitchen

Head Teacher's Award

Jacob Brookfield, Ella-Rose Cantwell Wilkinson, Phoebe Gapper, Isla Thomas, Stanley Johnson

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