

# Ickford News

I have fitted my Defender with a snorkel but I may put in an order for an Ark if any local Noah has started up a business! The persistent rain is annoying but thankfully, does not appear to have dampened children's spirits and we have got the half term off to a good start.

The recent parent evenings appear to have been a success apart from poor Miss Allen who was suddenly taken ill and forced to postpone hers. I am assured that these have been rescheduled and that parents have been informed. Some teachers have already noticed 'post meeting' change in some of the children highlighting that communication and working in partnership can have a positive effect on learning and engagement.

I am continuing to monitor attendance and punctuality as both are key to a child's ongoing development and success at school. I must emphasise that, every time a teacher has to go back over a lesson or make time to cover lost ground with children that miss school, other children suffer the impact so, other than illness or exceptional circumstances as outline in our attendance policy, children should be in school.

Being on time is also crucial to the well being of each child and, if I am honest, being late or having to rush in, is rarely their fault. The children benefit from the time before the register when they can get their coats and bags organised, chat with their friends and prepare for the day without feeling rushed or unduly stressed. It is particularly sad when I see children that live within walking distance of the school, running in or persistently one or two minutes late for several days each week. Please leave home a little earlier if you have to.

We have some busy weeks ahead with several sports events taking place and, in just two weeks, our annual residential trip taking place. This year we are travelling to the Isle of Wight where, hopefully, the sun will be shining more than it is now and we shall be able to enjoy plenty of outdoor activities. I have, over the years, accompanied many children on residential trips both in the UK and in France, Italy and Austria and it is still not only a pleasure but also a privilege in spite of the responsibility.

Ickford trips are a technology free time and I can guarantee that none of our band of travellers will be spending their time glued to a screen! There should be lots of fresh air, lots of challenge, lots of food, lots of fun and hopefully, the accumulative outcome will be sleep! The infamous 'sweet tax' shall be imposed (although I am not sure at what rate yet) and we shall be offering some early morning jogging for those competing in the Inter Schools Cross Country event on the weekend we arrive back in Ickford.

If anyone would like to help support extra-curricular activities such as the residential weeks, the School Lottery that Jackie has advertised this week via Parentmail, is a good way to make a small contribution on a regular basis. Just check your email if you have not yet signed up and off you go. Who knows? You may be the big winner and whilst I doubt you will be able to change your life; the prize money may cover the cost of a new umbrella and a pair of wellies!

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

Jacob Brookfield, William Jones, Luke Dungey, Emily Coxon, Stanley Johnson

### Latin Award

Orla Kerry

### German Award

Emily-Jay Friday

### Music Award

Matilda Atkins, Millie Snelling, Ella Aben, Beatrice Johnson, Jackson Marriott

### PE Award

Sebastian Herring, Anna Roberts, Sienna Jones, Beatrice Beckett, Eliza Gapper

### Head Teacher's Award

Sophie Xenos-Glynn, Joey Hawkins. Stella Anzarouth, Barnaby Potter, Beau Marriott

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