

Ickford News

As one would expect, a discussion about the school budget and finances in general, was a focal point of the Members and Trustees AGM and Governing Body Meeting last night. Ickford School and Learning Trust is a state funded charity and rightly or wrongly, in today's climate of restrained Government spending, the charity has to actively try and raise additional funding from other sources.

I know from talking to some of our past students and parents that the local secondary schools are requesting that parents set up regular direct debit payments to cover the cost of basic supplies and refurbishments and I know of a couple of Primary Schools also going down this route. I understand completely how difficult this must be for Headteachers in state schools who, like me, believe that a state system should be free and well resourced. I have sympathy for those who may be having to compromise their principles in order to fulfil their duty to young people and parents.

At Ickford, we try to ensure that the children have everything that they need and that they are able to learn in a clean, organised, well-equipped and safe environment. I also try to ensure that every teacher has the tools they need to deliver high quality lessons and, in this modern era, that manifests as up to date lap tops, tablets, visualizers and interactive screens. Furthermore, it is not just about having these 'tools of the trade' but also ensuring that they work and, as failing technology was found to be the greatest cause of anxiety amongst Ickford staff, we spend a substantial amount on technical support.

Anyone, who has been connected with the school in the past few years will recognise the sterling work that the PTA has done in firstly, helping to maintain a strong, school community and secondly raising funds for the school. With the Summer Fayre a week away, I really hope that Ben and the PTA committee can rely on some support for what is a major school event and one of the biggest fund raisers of the year.

During last night's meetings, the notion of requesting parental donations was raised in the general conversation about the budget but rejected as an item for another agenda by the Governing Body. The budget is tight, but it is well managed and I hope it can stay that way. Nonetheless, there is a way of donating to the school that is flexible, affordable and even offers a little fun: the school lottery.

I have been negligent in my promotion of the lottery and it struck me last night that I should make more of it. Quite simply, the more people we can get to sign up for the lottery, the bigger the monthly prize fund and the more the school receives. Furthermore, there is no requirement to be a parent at the school (my Mum subscribes as do my sisters) so if you can, badger your friends, relatives and villagers.

I am very grateful to several sponsors this year and I hope to have news of a significant boost for the school very soon but, in the meantime, take a look at the lottery and consider signing up.

Thank you in advance,

Mr Ronane



If you would like the chance to win,
and support the school, please click
on the link below and get signed
up!

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/ickford-school>



Ickford News from the office

Dates for your diary...

1 st July 4.30pm	Bucks District Athletics
4 th July 9am	KS1 Recorder Assembly
5 th July	Summer Fayre
11 th July 6-7.30pm	Open Evening & Art Exhibition
12 th July 6.00pm	Horspath Athletics WALP
17 th July	Sports Day
22 nd July	Class 4 & 5 Play for grandparents & preschool children
23 rd July	Class 4 & 5 Play - No preschool aged children
24 th July 9am	Leavers Assembly

Reception Children - Backpacks

All children currently in Reception year will need a backpack for when they start back in September in Year 1. Backpacks can be ordered through ParentMail.

Photographs and Video of Summer Concert

I am hopeful that these will be available very soon via the website.



Thank you for your sponsorship of the Summer Concert.



Thank you Mark and Hazel Glead for the significant amounts donated to the school.



Thank you to Phil Boardman for your generous donation this week.