

# Ickford News

Singing has loomed large on the agenda this week although, as I sit writing this, Fred Astaire and 'Singing in the Rain' is the only suitable ditty I can think of! I did confess that Autumn was my favourite season but having got soaked to the skin watching this evening's netball match I may change that.

The Autumn I like is the one brought to life in John Keat's Ode to Autumn, my favourite poem and chosen by three year 6 children to recite during the Harvest Festival on Monday. I was incredibly impressed to see that at least one had actually memorised their chosen verse which, if you know poem, is no mean feat.

The Harvest celebration itself took place in the village church a beautiful setting made extra special by the decoration in place at this time of year (including our very own scarecrows) and brought to life by the joyous singing of the children. It was great to see so many parents turn up and I hope that, like me, you were impressed by the harmonious vocals.

The tradition of celebrating the Harvest is one I believe we should cherish and protect. Not only does it retain a particular significance in the bucolic setting of Ickford and the surrounding villages but it also reminds us of how fortunate we are to live in a country that, for most of us, food is plentiful. That said, there are those less fortunate and so I must thank everyone who donated supplies to The Porch a charity dedicated to providing shelter for the vulnerable and the homeless. They have sent their thanks and reminded me that, no matter what size, all donations are gratefully accepted and make a difference.

The joy that children's voices singing in unison can bring was certainly evident on Wednesday when the children in classes 4 and 5 went to the Village Hall to sing at Rene Bell's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. It was a great privilege for us to be asked to do this and I am assured that Rene and her friends were thrilled with the performance. Mme Basnett and Mrs Honey ensured that there was a mixture of French and English in the repertoire and there were smiles all round.

The school is central to the community and to see the youngest and the oldest members sharing smiles and a song or two together fills me with hope. Many of those present at the party would have been former pupil of Ickford School and many would certainly have sent their children here. Although the school has changed over the years, it is important to keep in touch with the past and to respect those who have helped to shape its future. As I have said before, I am simply the current custodian and I have no doubt that the school will thrive long after I am gone.

Hopefully, the children will have enjoyed the film night tonight. I have just heard the door close as the last of the PTA leave. It is lovely to see the children turning up in their onesies (spelling? Mum?) and hanging out with each other and I am grateful to all the adults who helped organise tonight. PTA is not just about raising money it is also about building community and events like this help to do both.

Have a good weekend

Mr Ronane

## Ickford News from the office

### Dates for your diary...

22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Class 5 Visit to Bletchley Park
22 <sup>nd</sup> October 4.30-7pm	Parents Evening
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Flu Vaccinations
24 <sup>th</sup> October 4.30-7pm	Parents Evening
24 <sup>th</sup> October 9am	Class 4 Assembly
28 <sup>th</sup> Oct – 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Half Term
7 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photos
14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Class 4 Visit to Rivers & Rowing Museum
14 <sup>th</sup> Nov 7.30pm	McAfee Internet Safety Talk
19 <sup>th</sup> Nov 7.30pm	Maths Workshop
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fayre
10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	KS1 Nativity for Grandparents & Pre School Aged Children
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec 7-8pm	KS1 Nativity (no preschool aged children)
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9am	French Assembly
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Lunch
17 <sup>th</sup> Dec 7-8pm	KS2 Carols in the Church
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Whole School Pantomime Trip – Beauty and the Beast
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Inset Day

### School Lottery

A winner within school every week!

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>



### Piano Lessons

Miss Grant our piano teacher has 2 spaces or piano lessons for children age 7 or above. Please see the office.

**TIDDINGTON  
GARAGE**

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