

Ickford News

Happy New Year to everyone and welcome back. I for one am delighted to be back at school with some structure to my day again.

The first week back was busy but seamless and the children took to their lessons as if they had not been away. Unfortunately, Mme Basnett had to take some time out but it gave me the chance to spend some time with Year 6 and, it is a credit to her, that they are a fantastic group of children to work with.

What impressed me the most about the class is their attitude to learning and the growing independence they demonstrate in the classroom. Nonetheless, alongside this burgeoning independence is an overwhelming commitment to each other as friends and students. During a discussion about disability initiated by some comprehension work, they were able to support each other when answering questions as well as able to debate and argue each other's opinions, in such a mature fashion that the House of Commons would do well to take note!

I am hopeful that the coming week will be a good one for Year 6. Not only is Mme Basnett back but on Monday Dr Justin Green a research scientist at GSK will be spending time with them talking about his work developing vaccines for such diseases as Malaria and HIV in children. Justin will also be creating a laboratory in the classroom and taking the children through some experiments so hopefully, it will inspire some scientists for the future.

At the end of the month, we hope to inspire even more scientists when we begin our annual Science week. Mrs Honey is the lead on this project and she

has been working really hard to ensure that the week will be exciting for all of the children. Trips to the Science Museum in London and the Science Park in Oxford will, I have no doubt, be highlights for some children but there will also be some great science lessons in school that will bring out the inner Einstein, Faraday or Dr Who!

I must give great thanks to the PTA for funding a great deal of the week as well as to DAF trucks (Mr Beckett) and to Westlab (Mr & Mrs Hargreaves) for their generous donations. Without this kind of generosity, we would not be able to continue with the themed Science week.

On the sports front we also have an exciting week ahead. Our Year 3/4 team compete on Monday in the Regional Final having won the Area Final earlier in the year. This will be a tough event particularly as we are the current holders of the title and the school to beat. On Friday, it is the turn of our Year 5/6 team to try and win the Regional Final. This will be a really challenging event and although we won at this stage last year, the team had to fight hard to do so against some very large Primary schools. However, the children are well prepared and we have lots of talent amongst the boys and girls so win, lose or draw, I am sure they will make us proud.

Finally, I hope that the progress and attainment data that went home on Friday was easy to understand. You should have received an explanation of the criteria with your data sheet. The end of the Autumn term is an important milestone but there is still time to accelerate progress in the next two terms.

Mr Ronane

Ickford News from the office

Dates for your diary...

29 th January	Whole School Visit to London Science Museum
6 th February	Class 3 Visit to Waddesdon Manor
13 th February	Class 3 Assembly
17 th -21 st Feb	Half Term

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>



Uniform

Please ensure that all items of uniform including PE kit are clearly labelled with your child's name. We already have lost property that we cannot reunite with its owner after only being back for one week.

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