



NEWSLETTER

Friday 19th

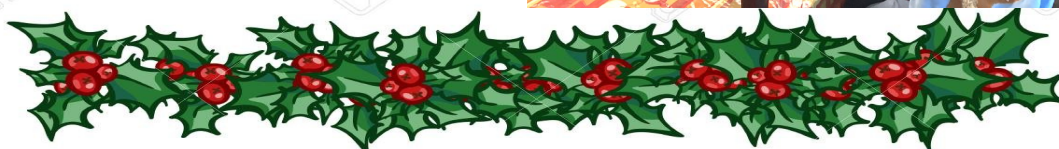
December 2025



CHRISTMAS HAS ARRIVED AT LAST!

What a great feast was laid on yesterday by Dolce. The children were very excited by the Christmas crackers, table decorations (expertly created by Jackie Fairman) as well as listening to the Christmas music to get them in the mood for their festive celebrations.

We would like to take the opportunity of thanking everyone involved, including the great man himself, Father Christmas, for making yesterday such a wonderful occasion.







ALADDIN

Earth House had a fabulous trip out to the pantomime in Basingstoke on Tuesday. They boarded the buses full of excitement and Christmas cheer (“Oh no they didn’t”; “Oh yes they did!”) and set off wondering what fun was in store.



They arrived and took their seats for the fantastic show in which there were flames, flashing lights, singing and dancing. There was also plenty of thigh-slapping by the great pantomime cast while the children watched in amazement as Aladdin and Jasmine fell in love. It was a very busy time and the children and staff did incredibly well to make Icknield proud with their fabulous attitudes.

USED CHRISTMAS CARDS APPEAL

The FE students are *REALLY* planning ahead this year!

They have requested that following the festive season if you have any used, unwanted Christmas cards, **please don't throw them away**. They would like to try some different approaches to their handmade Christmas cards next year and if anyone could donate the fronts of cards, without personal messages, etc., that would be amazing!

Thanking you in advance....



FE MOVIE NIGHT – The Sequel!!

Wednesday was the second ever FE movie night, with nine pupils munching their way through mountains of pizza, sweets and popcorn! The night started with standard teenage chilling activities like playing on the Wii, and playing pool on their new pool table. Students then sat down for a communal meal with their friends before bedding down on some bean bags and comfy chairs to watch “Elf”.

This was a great opportunity to practise those all-important social skills, whilst relaxing with friends. It was a late night with the evening finishing at 8pm!

A big shout out should go to teacher Gemma for organising the event and the wonderful FE staff who gave up their free time so the students could have this awesome opportunity.



GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK

If you read last week's newsletter, you will be aware that Kath Thirsk is leaving to enjoy her well-deserved retirement, having worked here for a quarter of a century!



Kath has had an influence over so many lives during that course of time that it would be impossible to describe the impact she made in the school. While passing on her invaluable experience and knowledge when aiming to give pupils the opportunity to gain the most out of their education, she has constantly shown great kindness and integrity. Her ability to keep calm and carry on, improvise at the drop of a hat and cope with any task given to her will be greatly missed by the staff and students.

We are sure you will all join us in wishing her well in the hope she will now have the wonderful retirement she has been looking forward to.

THANK YOU KATH xxx

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK

Caynan, Glasto 17 yrs old

BIRTHDAYS BEING CELEBRATED DURING THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Zac, Victorious 18 yrs old

Delilah-Mai, Chimes 5 yrs old

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



DEREK WEEKS

Christmas has come early this week thanks to the very kind donation made by Derek Weeks. As most of you will already know, Derek pops along to see us every term to check how many students we have at Icknield and then amazingly returns with a Tesco Gift voucher for each one to spend as they wish. He has been doing this for a number of years now and the amount he has donated is absolutely incredible. Derek's sister, Christine, was one of the first students to join Icknield back in 1966 when it was first opened as a Training Centre. He recalls her being happy here and his generous gesture is made in fond memory of her.



Please look for the gift voucher in your child's bag when they come home today, and join us in wishing Derek a massive **THANK YOU** and a very **MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

SPRING TERM 2026

JANUARY

- 5th** **WHOLE SCHOOL RETURNS**
- 6th Connect After School Club starts
- 7th Dance After School Club starts
- 13th Farleigh After School Club starts
- 21st FE Table Top Cricket Competition, Treloars
- 26th Immunisations—Td/IPV & MenACWY—
Yr 9s + catch ups

FEBRUARY

- 3rd Full Governors' Meeting (4pm)
- 13th Chimes Class trip
- 23rd** **INSET DAY—WHOLE SCHOOL**



SIGNS AND SYMBOLS OF THE WEEK



<p>Finger spell 'J' then 'Y'</p>			<p>Top lips twice with emphasis</p>
January	New Year	bag	lunchbox
<p>Tilt head slightly backwards</p>			<p>Fingerspell 'P' Fingerspell 'E'</p> <p>FiC sm mt Se rs li</p>
water bottle	shoes	glasses	PE kit

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

THANK YOU

Icknield School
for raising a fantastic
£125.92

TO HELP MAKE LIFE LIGHTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FACING A VARIETY OF CHALLENGES IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UK.

SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE FOR AN EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM PUDSEY AS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE!

pudseythanks.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk

BBC Children in Need has verified the above fundraising. This is not a receipt.
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SUPERSTAR OF THE WEEK

The following students have been awarded the Class Star of the Week Award

Chimes - Olly
Drum - Charlotte
Maracas - Chloe
Tambourine - Jacob
Triangle - Emir
Trumpet - Chloe
Oboe - Mikey
Banjo - Freya
Harp - Ruby
Cello - William



The School Superstar of the Week is RUBY!!!

Ruby brings lots of fun to Harp class with her cheeky and confident personality. She is curious and likes to ask questions and is always happy to help others.

Ruby shares her ideas clearly and is becoming more independent in lessons and during work experience. She is also improving at telling adults when something is not going well. Keep up the great work Ruby— you are doing brilliantly!

FE PPICC CHAMPIONS

(Personal, Physical, Independence, Cognitive, Communication)

CHAMPIONS



Jamie
and
Jorge

