



# Icknield Community College

Headteacher: Mr M Hunter, BA (Hons), MSc, NPQH  
Love Lane, Watlington, Oxfordshire, OX49 5RB



## Newsletter – 22 September 2017

Date	Event
29 Sept	Year 9 & 10 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
5 Oct	Year 7 (6pm) & Year 10 (7pm) Information Evening (Parents only of Year 7 / Parents and Students of Year 10 to attend)
10 Oct	Year 7 Tutor Evening 4-7pm
20 Oct	End of term (non-school uniform) – normal 3pm finish

### Open Evening

A huge thank you to all of our students who participated in this week's Open Evening. They were fantastic ambassadors for the school and helped to generate a real buzz around the campus on Thursday night!

This was picked up by the many visitors who attended the evening, a number of whom wrote in on Friday with extremely positive feedback.

I would like to extend a particular thanks to our senior students Orla Fernie, Head Girl, Oli Shaw, Head Boy, Leah Brown, Deputy Head Girl, and Alfie Ford, Deputy Head Boy, and our Year 7 students, Natalie James, Toby Axford-Lavin, Lawrence Wright and Alice Munro, who spoke so brilliantly in front of a very packed hall! Well done and thank you to them all...

### Student Success

It is a real pleasure to read below about our student successes already this academic year. Whether these be in PE fixtures or English and Geography homeworks, it is always great to celebrate them! If your child has any successes out of school, please do let us know – particularly if they are happy for them to be celebrated in this newsletter!

### Privacy Notice

We have an annual statutory requirement to publish a Privacy Notice explaining how we use pupil information. Please see this on our website using the link below:

<http://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/attachments/article/21/Privacy%20Notice%202017.pdf>

### Communication Policy

Each year, we update our Communication Policy for governors. Please see the entry from Miss Morton, Progress Manager, below, providing some helpful guidance on parent to school communication.

**Mat Hunter**  
Headteacher

### Our Communication Policy at Icknield has been recently updated

In line with this, we thought it would be valuable to give parents some guidance on communication between parents and the various points of contact at the school.

Progress managers are here to support your children in developing personally and academically throughout their time at Icknield. The role also carries a significant teaching commitment and we ask for your patience while awaiting a response. To help our Progress Managers prioritise their time effectively, could we please ask you to follow the communication guidance below:

- If your child contacts you during the school day because they have had a fall out or someone has upset them in any way, we would appreciate it if you ask them to speak to a trusted member of staff during break or lunch times, or to their tutor the following morning.

- Learning is the priority at Icknield. As such, we have asked students to see staff about concerns outside of lessons, unless initiated by a member of staff.
- If your concern is academic and about a particular subject, please email the head of department or head of faculty directly.
- If it is a general academic concern, this should be directed to your child's form tutor (email addresses are on the school website.) The tutor may address your concern themselves or pass this onto the Progress Manager where necessary.
- If you believe your child is a target of bullying that has persisted over a period of time by the same person or people, please email your child's Progress Manager.
- In the case of an emergency that is likely to cause your child distress, it may be more appropriate to contact the school rather than your child directly.
- If anything is urgent that we need to know about immediately (eg, you are concerned about your child's safety) please call the school and we will assist you and your child.

While we do not in any way want to restrict communication between parents and the school, in fact, communication with parents is certainly encouraged at Icknield, we appreciate your support in ensuring that all arising issues are addressed appropriately.

**Jane Morton**

### **Lockers**

We have received unprecedented demand for the hire of our lockers this week, and, due to the limited number available, have not been able to allocate one to all students who have requested one. We do have a procedure for when this happens, and it is to review students' use of their lockers at the end of term one. At that point, any students who find that they have not been using their locker will be able to have a full refund, and this often frees up lockers for those on the waiting list. We also have a small number of lockers where we are awaiting new keys to be cut (where they were not returned from last year) and these will also be made available to those on the list, as and when we are able to do so.

**Matt Ford**

### **Homework in English – Key Stage Three**

We just love the way that our students have embraced our brand new reading homeworks this year. As Mrs Wilson said previously in the newsletter, we are passionate about encouraging our students to read a variety of different texts, and this is the ethos behind homework in English. Here's a picture of Cerys with Mrs O'Reilly. Cerys has decorated her homework folder to include a book of her own. Books within books; very creative stuff!



**Matt Ford**

## **Year 10 GCSE Literature – prose fiction novels**

We asked our current Year 10 students to read their literature novel over the summer, and are delighted that many of them have done so. It is vital that students have read it before they begin to formally study it with us later in the course, and this is why we have given them the recent summer holiday as well as time this year to do so.

For those students who have already read their novel, they can use the time in Year 10 before studying it in class to revise the key characters, events, settings and themes, this is an excellent place to do so:

- Mrs O'Reilly and Miss Findlay (Great Expectations) <http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/greatex/>
- Mrs Wilson, Mr Ford and Ms Wilford (Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde) <http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/jekyll/>

**Matt Ford**

## **Adisa returns!**

The wonderful Adisa, The Verbaliser returns to Icknield on Tuesday to work with our Year 8 students. All students will meet him during the day, and will really enjoy the chance to work with this amazing poet. You can learn more about Adisa at: <http://www.adisaworld.com/>

**Matt Ford**

## **KS3 Summer Holiday English Homework Challenge:**

Whilst the summer holidays now seem like a distant memory, it was a pleasure to collect in the final summer holiday English homework this week. It was so lovely to see how many of our KS3 students took to reading over the summer holidays and told us about the books they had read in such detail. I have been into assemblies this week to hand out certificates to students who completed the homework and I just wanted to congratulate them again and say a massive thank you for taking the time to tell us about the wonderful things you read over the summer!

**Leanne Wilson**

## **PE News**

The first full week of fixtures got off to a flying start with a hard-fought win for our Year 10 Rugby team against local rivals Langtree. The game didn't get off to the best of starts as we were a try down very early on, but the boys didn't let that affect them and they turned things around and thanks to tries from Angus Nelson they took a good lead into half time. The second half was another close affair, although a breakthrough run followed by a big handoff from Jake Aspinall led to Icknield scoring another try to stretch their lead. Langtree kept battling and came within touching distance but Icknield defended well and held on for a massive win. The county cup campaign starts in just over a week, with a trip to Lord Williams in the first round.

The Year 9 boys battled well but lacklustre first halves were unfortunately the downfall in their tri-tournament with Wallingford and Langtree. In half time during both games, the boys found themselves 3 tries down, but the second half performances that followed showed the teams' true potential as they fought hard and won the second half in both games. Injuries had affected the team before and during the games, and by the end of the final game everyone seemed to be showing signs of their physical battles. Tries from Owen Clarke, Felix Harris and Joe Cole gave the boys hope and despite the losses, every single player can be proud of their individual performance.

The Year 8 Rugby team continued to show great potential with a romping 7 try to nil win against Wallingford in the first of their two games. James Fleury, Alfie Evans and Keelan Welch each scored 2 tries each, while Brohden Hawkins added a seventh with the last phase of the game. Special mention to Keelan for one of his tries, in which he ran the full length of the pitch, from his own in goal area to Wallingford's! While the boys did everything well in this game, the next one that followed was definitely a much sterner test and started to expose a bit of inexperience. Keelan Welch again scored a great try to give the boys a half time lead, and while the chat at half time consisted of being defensively organised at penalties, a lapse of concentration early in the second half led saw us concede against the very thing we'd spoken about! Alfie Evans had a great chance to score the winning try but was tackled well when through in a one on one situation. Overall, it was a successful return to rugby for a group of boys that should do very well this year.

Our year 10 Hockey team took part in the district hockey tournament on Tuesday. The girls had a great start to the tournament securing a 1-0 win against Wallingford. They played Gillotts in the second round and despite playing well defensively and creating opportunities to score they lost 1-0. The girls then played Langtree in their final game and played really well demonstrating depth and supportive play to win 5-0. Overall the girls finished 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Fixtures:	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 9 Hockey (Gillotts)
	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 11 Girls Football vs Lord Williams (A) KS3 Badminton (H)
	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 10 Rugby 10's (Wallingford) Year 8 Boys Football vs Lord Williams (A)

Please follow our twitter page (@ickniel\_PE) as all information will be put on their prior to fixtures, as well as news of last minute changes and other club related news.

**Matt Mures**

### **Recipe of the week: Tiramisu**

After Open Evening, these may be suitable to kick start the weekend! Italian dessert known as a 'Pick me up'. As always please tweet your efforts and let us see your gorgeous bakes as well!

Twitter: @icknielfoodies

**Sophie Koziol**

### **Writing Competition Opportunity!\_ THE YOUNG WALTER SCOTT PRIZE**

The Young Walter Scott Prize is the UK's only creative writing prize dedicated to historical fiction. If you are aged between 11 and 19, and have a story to tell that is set in the past, this prize is for you! Follow the [link](#) to find out more. The closing deadline is Tuesday October 31<sup>st</sup>. Please see your history teacher or me if you are interested in taking part.

**Jacqui O'Reilly**

### **Year 7 Geography**

Many Year 7 students were asked to produce a piece of homework showing Geography in a Shoebox this week. Having discussed the differences between physical and human geography in class, students were asked to present an aspect of geography in a shoebox. As you can see from the sample of students' work shown below, the standard of the response was fantastic.

**James Barringer**



**Jay O'Hehir**



**Jessica Amey**



**Maddie Molloy**



**Jack Norman**



**Louie Stables**



**Poppy Ashwood**

**Finance Office**

**Please can you ensure all cheques are now made payable to Acer Trust.**

**Letters to Parents/Carers**

The following letters have been sent out this week via ParentMail:  
 Art GCSE coursework – Selected students

These letters can also be accessed on the school website:

<http://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/news-and-events/letters-to-parents-carers>

**Finance Office**

**Careers Information for Years 9, 10 and 11**

See below the latest Careers opportunities available. Please do contact Mrs Pickford or Mrs Richardson if you have any interest in the following:

- Aylesbury College are holding an open Day on Thursday 12 October from 3.30 – 7pm. This is a perfect opportunity for students and their families to meet the tutors and see the wide variety of facilities and courses they have to offer. For example students will be able to see the training kitchens, the Motor Vehicle workshop, the Hair and Beauty salons as well as Plumbing workshops. For further information please register your interest at: [www.aylesbury.ac.uk/open-days](http://www.aylesbury.ac.uk/open-days)
- UCA – University for the Creative Arts are holding an open Day on Wednesday 11 October. The day will give any prospective graduate the chance to ensure they choose the right university and the right course for their future studies. You will have the opportunity to attend course talks, meet academics and take a look at their extraordinary facilities. Booking for this event can be done online at: [www.uca.ac.uk/opendays](http://www.uca.ac.uk/opendays)
- University of Lincoln which has been awarded 'Gold Standard' for the Teaching in Excellence Framework 2017, is holding open days on Saturday 7 and 21 October. A fantastic opportunity to see the range of facilities, meet the staff and students, and experience the atmosphere of the University for yourself. You will have the opportunity to see subject presentations, tours of the campus and student accommodation and also find out aspects of student life including finance. You can register your interest by either calling 01522 886644 or log onto: [www.lincoln.ac.uk](http://www.lincoln.ac.uk)
- Gentle reminder to 'Save The Date' for our Higher Education Fayre which is being held on Friday 24 November. Parents of our Year 10 and 11 students are invited to join their children between 3-4pm to discuss their further education plans with local Sixth Form schools, Colleges, Apprenticeship advice and even on to University. We look forward to sharing more details nearer the time.

**Helen Richardson**

## **Community news**

### **Office Vacancy in Watlington**

Part-time Customer Services Assistant (UK)

To assist the Customer Service Team and provide excellent client liaison - post sale through to successful product installation in the UK

Duties include, answering telephone, filing, general admin duties.

Please email [KimNugent@crownpavilions.com](mailto:KimNugent@crownpavilions.com) if you are interested, and attach a CV if you have one.

**Victoria Carter**