



Icknield Community College

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Newsletter – 9 February 2018

Date	Event
9 February	End of Term – Non Uniform Day
w/c 19 February	Start of Term – ‘A’ Week
22 February	Year 10 Parents Evening
8 March	Year 8 Parents Evening
13 March	Spring Concert
20 March	Opal Coast Information Evening
21-23 March	School Production
29 March	End of Term – Non Uniform Day

Thank you

It's another long newsletter this week so I will keep my entry short.

Many thanks to all parents who attended last night's Year 7 Parents' Evening which was a really positive and successful event. Thank you, in particular, to the many parents who wrote in today with their feedback. We are always really grateful to receive this.

Thank you also to all parents for your ongoing support. As I write, we are, unbelievably, half way through another academic year! As staff, we recognise that we are very lucky to work with such a supportive group of parents to bring out the best in your children.

Wishing you all a very happy half term.

Mat Hunter
Headteacher

Logoed School Uniform

It is two years since we introduced logoed uniform to Icknield and we are very proud of how smart our students look. We secured a competitive price with Trutex (we pay less for articles of uniform than our neighbouring schools who have the same supplier) and managed to secure a fixed price for two years. Over the last two years, the school wear market has seen an increase of over 20% due to the referendum and the impact this had on how wholesalers purchase their product, but our prices remained static.

As of **1st April 2018**, however, Trutex (both on-line www.trutexdirect.com and Trutex Didcot) will be increasing their prices by 10% on logoed school uniform. Any uniform purchased prior to this date will be at the current, lower price.

We plan to organise a “nearly new” uniform sale/swap later in the year to help with the cost, give opportunities for us to support each other and help the planet at the same time.

Luisa Howden

Year 11 English: term four, exam preparations

Following the speaking and listening exams last week, Year 11 students will be moving on to a vital part of the course in term four where they will be working through all of the exam papers that they will be sitting in the summer, a question at a time. In class, we have a set of papers and a collection of example answers which students will be using to fully understand what makes a good exam answer (and what makes a bad one too!) and teachers will be taking them through this a step at a time. When we move into this phase of the course we do make changes to our groupings, and have this year opted to combine a couple of our groups: we do this to ensure that students have the best possible opportunity to explore the ideas and strategies that we give them regarding exam technique.

Matt Ford

Women in Science Residential Programme, Pembroke College, Cambridge

This programme aims to encourage young women to continue studying science by giving them an idea of what science beyond school is like. This free-of-charge residential programme will take place from Wednesday 4th April to Friday 6th April (in the Easter holidays) and is open to Year 11 students to apply. Those who wish to apply are asked to complete an online application available via the website www.pem.cam.ac.uk/women-in-science-residential2018. The deadline for applications is 8am on Tuesday 27th February 2018.

Successful applicants will have the opportunity to:

- Take part in academic sessions which cover a wide variety of sciences
- Meet current students and members of staff
- Experience life at a Cambridge College
- And more!

For more information, please visit the website above and come and see me!

Steph Sherwood

Oxford University Physics Conference and Lectures

Please see the below Physics events.

Please note that the Masterclasses are aimed at year 12 students, but Year 11 physics fanatics can still apply!

HAPP LECTURE: PHYSICS CONTROVERSIES PAST AND PRESENT

When: Saturday 24th Feb 2018 (10.30am-5.00pm)

Where: Oxford Physics Department

What: One-day conference



This conference will look at some famous examples of controversies in physics that have raged before a generally accepted view is adopted. The event is organised by the St Cross Centre for the History and Philosophy of Physics (HAPP).

Booking: Required

More information: <https://www.stx.ox.ac.uk/happ/events>

INTERNATIONAL MASTERCLASS IN PARTICLE PHYSICS

When: Day 1: 13th Mar 2018 (08.45am - 4.30pm)

Day 2: 15th Mar 2018 (08.45am - 4.30pm)

Where: Oxford Physics Department

What: One-day particle physics themed event

Audience: Year 12 students



Students learn more about Particle Physics with our researchers and will gain insight into topics and methods of basic research relating to matter and forces. They perform measurements on real data from the ATLAS experiment and participate in a video conference to discuss the results.

Booking: Free, booking required

More information: <http://www2.physics.ox.ac.uk/events/2018/03/13/international-masterclasses-in-particle-physics>

OXFORD PHYSICS MASTERCLASS – Save the Date!

Date: Saturday 14th April 2018

Venue: Martin Wood Complex, OX1 3PU

Audience: Year 12 students

The Oxford Physics Masterclass is an event aimed at encouraging students to study Physics at university. The day aims to develop each student's confidence and problem solving skills within physics by tackling a range of examples from idealised problems through to real-world situations. Students will be guided through the problem solving process, and will solve a range of unusual problems with help and guidance. The day will include:

- A problem-solving Isaac Physics workshop;
- A talk about an area of current research in the department;
- Advice on applying to study physics at the University of Oxford, including advice on the PAT and what to expect in interviews.

More information about the event [here](#). Registration to attend this day is **free and will** open between 5th and 25th March. Successful applicants will be informed if they have a place by the 28th March.

Steph Sherwood

Illness in School

If your child becomes unwell during school hours, their first port of call should be their teacher during lesson time, or our Reception any other time. Their teacher or our Reception Staff will then proceed to assess your child to determine whether or not they need to go home. We will call parents directly if they do need to be collected and ask that students do not contact parents directly before we have had the chance to assess them.

Gill Ward

GCSE – Information for candidates

The GCSEs written exams are fast approaching and a number of students will be also completing their coursework and controlled assessments. Please ensure that your son or daughter are familiar with the relevant JCQ candidates' notices to ensure that they fully follow the exam boards' regulations. Each of the notices can be found on the school website in the exam section <http://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/school-information/examinations>

Helen Rints

Production Update - Calling all Ga Ga Kids

Rehearsals have been going really well and have been lots of fun. We now need to start working with the supporting cast. Please could all chorus members attend both rehearsals, Tuesday and Thursday, during the first week back after the half term break. It would be helpful if students were familiar with the songs "Radio Ga Ga" and "One Vision". Tuesday will be choreography and Thursday will be singing. Please also could I take this opportunity to thank all parents for their continuing support. Tickets will be on sale soon - watch this space!

Adam Rowe

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:

- Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust are hosting an apprenticeship recruitment event on Wednesday 28th February from 5:30-7:30pm at Tingewick Hall, Academic Centre, John Radcliffe Hospital. A variety of roles are on offer, including Business Administration and Clinical Healthcare. If successful you will commence your Apprenticeship in July 2018. For more information please see the [OUHFT website](#), email: apprenticeships@ouh.nhs.uk or Tel: 01865 266695.
- Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust are hosting a careers event on Tuesday 6th March from 3-6pm at Warneford Hospital, Oxford, OX3 7JX. Discover the different opportunities that are available to you within the Trust and meet the teams. Many frontline staff will be available on the day to talk to you about the varied careers available including: Mental Health Nursing, Medics, Learning Disability Nursing, Occupational Therapy, General Nursing, Children's Nursing, Physiotherapy, Dental, Podiatry, Clinical Psychology, Speech & Language Therapy, Apprenticeships, Dietetics. For more information or to register your interest please see the [OHFT website](#) or email: careers@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk
- The National Apprenticeship Show will be taking place on 12 and 13 March 2018 at the Arena in Milton Keynes. A wonderful opportunity bringing together employers, colleges and providers for those wanting to find out more about what an apprenticeship can offer. The message is clear – apprenticeships work for both candidates and employers alike. Parents and students can visit free of charge between 4 - 6pm on Monday, daytime Monday and Tuesday is also available but may be busy with school groups. Some of those exhibiting include: Amazon, Army Forces, Balfour Beatty, Deloitte's, DHL, FCO Services, Kuehne+Nagal, Lloyds Banking Group, Martin-Baker, Mercedes-Benz, Royal Air Force, Royal Navy, Santander, Siemens, Thames Valley Police, The British Racing School....and more. To register for your free place, log onto: www.nationalapprenticeshipshow.org
- Abingdon & Witney College have a variety of apprenticeships currently available. Please see attached flyer or log onto: www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk/apprenticeship-vacancies

Helen Richardson

Year 7 Opal Coast (France) Trip

We still have some spaces available on the trip and, whether you study French or Spanish, all Yr7 are invited to take part. The information evening for the trip will take place on Wednesday 21st Feb, in the main hall, at 5.30 p.m. A detailed explanation of the itinerary and the activities will be made and it would be great to see as many parents as possible attend this meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Steph Loomes

PE News

Our Year 7 netball teams played away to Langtree this week. The A team's match was certainly close, with both teams converting many of their chances so the lead was back and forth and allowed neither team to pull away. The score ended 11-11 and Gemma was awarded the player of the match after her brilliant interceptions and movement. The B team played really well too with some excellent movement in and around the D. The girls won 7-0 and Eden was awarded the player of the match for her unstoppable shooting. Well done to all the girls involved.

On Tuesday, we took 15 pupils to White Horse Leisure Centre for the Oxfordshire Rowing and Badminton School games. Despite being a person down, our U13 Rowing team did incredibly well and, had it not been for their team size, they would have definitely come in the medal places. A particular highlight for them was Katie Baskerville, Keelan Welch and James Fleury smashing the relay race and winning by a convincing 45 seconds! Congratulations also to Velvet Brown, Sian Carrington, Harvey Parker and Luke Davies for their tremendous efforts. The badminton boys also put their all into their competition, however, the standard of opponents was incredibly high with many county and regional players there. The singles games were good experience for our singles players Albert, Tynan, Elliot and Joe and really tested them to their max. Overall our boys did well to match the tough competition and our highlight came when the U14 side beat Cherwell in some thrilling singles and doubles games which meant we finished in 4th place. Well done also to doubles players Tom White, Carrick Dunbar, Alex Turnbull-Irving and Adam Rints.

Our Year 10 boys' football team had their rearranged County Cup game against Matthew Arnold on Wednesday afternoon and we were optimistic going into it based on how well we played in the first 15 minutes of the postponed fixture. Things didn't get off to a great start and we were 1-0 down after 5 minutes after failing to clear our lines. However, the response from the team was incredible and we started to get a hold on the game and start testing the opponent's backline. We were attacking well and Tom Pullen's hold up play allowed Alfie Briggs and Fin Spiers to get on the ball and start causing problems. Our goal came from a long pass forward that was flicked on by Tom and saw Alfie through on goal who stayed composed and finished coolly to give us a well-deserved equaliser. The chat at half time was positive and we tweaked things slightly in a search to get more joy behind the opponent's full backs. Within minutes of the restart though, a lapse of concentration in defence allowed their number 9 to tuck the ball home and restore their lead. That was the last action that Matthew Arnold would see in front of our goal. For the rest of the half we kept probing and pushing for another equaliser and we were denied when Alfie's shot hit the bar and the goalkeeper made a great save from an Owen Cove shot. We continued to have lots of possession and hitting the by-line but our crosses and cut backs failed to create any more real clear cut opportunities. Despite this early exit of the cup, we remain optimistic for a good attempt at winning the league when fixtures resume after half term.

We have received the results from last week's Cross Country event at Radley College and can confirm the following positions; Jake Aspinall 19th, Fin Spiers 33rd and Kieran Law 65th. Well done to those boys for their efforts in windy and difficult conditions.

The Year 11 Netball team had their district tournament at Wallingford this week and, following on from some excellent training sessions, the girls went in full of confidence. The hard work in recent weeks immediately began to pay off as they applied their skills and tactics to great effect. Wins against Gillotts, Langtree and Chiltern Edge saw us finish in 3rd place; the highest the girls have ever achieved in this annual tournament. Everyone played their socks off and the team benefitted from some superb performances from Kiera Doyle at both ends of the court, as well as Skye Malin (GK) and Ellie Russell (WA).

This week, we took Year 7 and 8 boys to compete in football tournaments held at Wallingford. The Year 7s played incredibly well and the standout moment was definitely Brandon scoring an amazing goal which helped to secure a joint second place. Both the A and B team played extremely well in freezing conditions and both Icknield keepers pulled off some great saves to keep their teams in the games. The Year 8s also did exceptionally well as they finished third despite having to miss two of the early games. Brohden Hawkins got 2 goals while Rob Winton contributed with another. The B team also played well, defeating Wallingford As 1-0 with a great goal from Ibrahim Latif. Very proud of both the Year 7s and 8s playing in Baltic conditions and not complaining once in what was two long evenings of sports.

Fixtures:	Tuesday 20 th February	Y10 Netball (Wallingford)
	Wednesday 21 st February	Y7 Boys Football vs Wheatley Park (A)
	Thursday 22 nd February	Y7 A/B Netball (H)
		Y7 Sports Hall Athletics (H)

Please follow our twitter and Instagram pages (@icknield_PE) as all information will be put on there prior to fixtures, as well as news of last minute changes and other club related news.

Ski Trip to Bulgaria

We will be hosting an information evening on Tuesday 20th February for parents of students in Year 7 and 8 who are interested in going on the ski trip to Bulgaria. It will start at 18.00 until approximately 18.45 and will be held in the main hall.

Charlotte Gibson