



## Newsletter – 26 November 2021

| Date                 | Event                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 29 Nov'21            | "B" Week                             |
| 1 -17 Dec'21         | Year 11 Exams                        |
| 9 Dec'21             | Year 9 Parents' Evening              |
| 17 Dec'21            | End of Term (Non-School Uniform Day) |
| 20 Dec'21 – 3 Jan'22 | Christmas Holiday                    |
| 4 Jan'22             | Inset Day                            |
| 5 Jan'22             | School Resumes "A" Week              |

### Face coverings in school

We wrote you all earlier this week to explain that, due to a sharp increase in the number of positive cases of coronavirus in school, we are strongly encouraging students to wear face coverings whenever they are indoor and unable to distance themselves from others. Working alongside Public Health England, we have been advised to maintain this approach for two weeks in the first instance to enable an evaluation of whether this is having an impact. We will update you at the end of that two-week period.

**James Barringer**  
Deputy Headteacher

### English In Action November 2021



**Louis Bolton and Brandon Copeland getting John Agard's autograph**

On Tuesday many Year 11s, including myself, had the privilege to listen to several inspirational speakers at the English In Action event at the Emmanuel Centre, London. From exam techniques and theatre staging to engaging poetry readings, it was truly a memorable day that provided us with valuable insights and ideas to use in both English Literature and Language exams. In particular, hearing the award-winning poet John Agard was very inspiring. Having studied his poem 'Checkin' Out Me History' in class, it was a great end to the day to hear it performed live!

Thank you to the English dept for organising this trip - we certainly learnt a lot.

**Ella-Rose Gaskin**

## ESU Public Speaking Competition

The English Speaking Union is a national organisation founded in 1918 to promote and support young people to develop their oracy and communication skills. One of their programmes is a public speaking competition that two teams from ICC took part in on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November. Each team comprises of a chairperson, a questioner and a main speaker. ICC team B which included Evelyn Adamson, Issy Shaw and Caitlyn Cooke-Sanderson, gave an assured performance which bodes well for future competitions. ICC team A which included Issy Wood, Tilly Moss-Black and Katie Laidlar were runners up to the overall winners, Oxford Spire Academy team B. Issy Wood also won best speaker for her discussion about the questionable value of a university education. Both teams will progress to the next round in January 2022 which will be a live event - unlike the initial round which was definitely trial by zoom!

Many congratulations to all 6 contestants who were exemplary representatives of the school. Public speaking is difficult but our students were confident, articulate and engaging. I look forward to ICC team A's participation in the next round in the New Year!

**Jacqui O'Reilly**

## CareersNews

This week, very excitingly, we saw the return of the ICC CareersFest. Unlike other years, it was a very much scaled down event and only open to our KS4 students who have decisions to make for their Further Education and Career pathway ahead of our KS3 students. Whilst Covid played a part in ensuring it wasn't as grander affair as in previous years, we did, non the less, have a fantastic turnout from Sixth Form Schools, Colleges, Apprenticeship training providers, the National Forces and some fantastic local employers, some of who are globally recognised, such as Aldi, Softcat and BMW and others such as Tiggywinkles Hospital and DP Architects. I am proud to say the students engaged well with our guests and explored an array of opportunities that lay ahead for them. Here are a few photos from our day.



Please also find attached this week's CareersNews which highlights some upcoming events and different Career Pathways. As always, if you have any questions, please do get in touch. [Helen.richardson@icknield.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Helen.richardson@icknield.oxon.sch.uk)

**Helen Richardson**

### **PE News**

In this week's PE News, read about:

- A dominating week for our **Badminton** teams in the **South Oxfordshire** competitions
- Our **Y7 Girls Football** team played their first league fixture
- A first ever **mixed Hockey** fixture
- A reminder about our **Winter Games**

**Matt Mures**

### **Maths Problem of the Week**

The Maths Problem of the Week and the solution to last week's problem are attached.

**Nick Owen**

### **Opportunities for parents/carers**

Please see below two opportunities for parents and carers, one for those with children that have diabetes and the other for parents/carers that have children with anxiety.

#### **Lolly Labs: Fun Free Workshops for Parents with Children who have Diabetes**

Come and join the No Vice Ice Team for one of our very first free series of Lolly Lab workshops! For these first sessions we would like to invite all parents, carers and families who have children with diabetes to come and meet us and each other, share recipes and ideas and enjoy our community kitchen and space. Our ice lolly chef extraordinaires will be running interactive ice lolly making in our kitchen, using our very exciting and superfast ice lolly making machine.

Sessions will last for about 1.5 hours and will include the chance to make, taste or takeaway a delicious ice lolly or two. We want to make ice lolly making inclusive of everyone.

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Time: 12.30 – 14.00

Venue: Flo's - The Place in the Park, Oxford

**To book:** <https://lollylabswithnoviceice.eventbrite.co.uk/>

**Outsmart anxiety: For Parents of Teens** – [Outsmart Anxiety: Parents of Teens](#)

**Outsmart anxiety: For Parents of Under 12s** – [Outsmart Anxiety: Parents of Under 12s](#)

*Dr Lucy Russell – your presenter – will guide you through an online course to help you understand and support your anxious child. You can complete the course in a week or take as long as you need. Courses cost £70. You can revisit or repeat any time and you get lifetime access.*

*This would also be a great option if you are on a waiting list for 1:1 support for your child or looking for guided support from the comfort of your home.*

*An added bonus is that you will be supporting our new Schools and Mental Health Project as 10% of any proceeds will be spent on free mental health training for schools provided by Everlief Child Psychology. [Learn About The Schools & Mental Health Project](#)*

**Samantha Walkley**

### **Letters to Parents/Carers**

The following letters have been sent out this week via ParentMail:

Woman In Black Letter – Wed 19 January 22 – Year 9

These letters can also be accessed on the school website:

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

**Finance Office**

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Small Group Online Weekly Maths Tuition**

Looking for additional support with Maths? Look no further! Great quality, well-structured Zoom maths tuition.

- Key stage 2: Enrolling for a new class starting on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Jan at 6pm
- Key stage 3: Thursday at 6pm (3 slots available)
- GCSE Higher Tier: Saturday at 9.30am (1 slot available)
- GCSE Higher Tier: Saturday at 11.30am (2 slots available)
- GCSE Foundation Tier is now fully booked, enrolling for a new class starting Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>Jan each week at 7pm

Please contact: [mathstutorchinnor@outlook.com](mailto:mathstutorchinnor@outlook.com) for more information and to reserve your slot. Limited spaces available.

*This is a personal business and has no affiliation with Icknield Community College.*

**Adrian Thomas**