



# Icknield Community College

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## Newsletter – 17 September 2021

Date	Event
wc 20 Sept'21	"A" Week
30 Sept'21	Open Evening
7 Oct'21	KS4 Information Evening
14 Oct'21	Nasal Flu Innoculations
14 Oct'21	Year 7 Information Evening
22 Oct'21	End of Term (Non-Uniform Day)
25-29 Oct'21	Half Term Holiday
1 Nov'21	Inset Day
2 Nov'21	School Resumes

### Site works

We are pleased to announce that, on Thursday, the new temporary buildings at the back of the room opened for Geography and Dance lessons; both staff and students were happy to enter their new, shiny rooms! The brand new dance studio is such an impressive new space and will add hugely to the students' experiences of dance going forwards (please see a picture of the Staff Yoga session in the Dance Studio below!). We are still waiting to open our new IT and Computing Suite but hope to do so in the next week or so. This weekend, scaffolding will be erected at the front of the school as we begin a window replacement project for the classrooms in History and Maths. Whilst this will lead to a small amount of disruption around the site over the next few weeks, for example, a few room relocations, we look forward to having much more attractive environments in those rooms shortly.



### Vaccinations

As you will have, no doubt, heard in the news this week, the Chief Medical Officers for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have recommended that all 12-15 year olds have a single Pfizer dose. The NHS vaccinations team will be visiting Icknield on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October to carry out the COVID vaccinations as well as flu vaccines on the same day. Please see an information pack attached to this newsletter, along with a letter from our School Nurse.

We will be in touch with you again about these vaccinations between now and the 14<sup>th</sup> October and will be sending out, nearer the time, a consent form on behalf of the NHS vaccinations team.

We will be able to provide more detail in due course to answer some of the questions you might have, but may not be able to do so immediately with the limited information we have to date.

**Mat Hunter**  
Headteacher

### Who to go to for Pastoral Support for your child...

Please see the attached information sheet on 'Who to go to for Pastoral Support for your child' – this has been put together in recognition of the fact that different schools have different pastoral systems in place. Hopefully, this will help new parents and current parents to understand how our pastoral support system in school works so that you know who to go to for support or with any concerns you may have from a pastoral perspective.

Vicky Pickford

### English National Opera

English National Opera's learning and participation programme offers young people the opportunity to enjoy some of the country's best operatic productions at very low cost. We are organising educational visits to see three productions in the 2021-22 season.

These are truly excellent opportunities for students to learn from the unique cultural experience of seeing an elaborately staged operatic production live at the London Coliseum, and will be particularly beneficial for those studying Music or Drama at GCSE. For more information, please see the attachment accompanying this newsletter.

Robert Legg and Amy de Sybel

### 1:1 Device Scheme

The first two weeks of term have been an intense period of learning for us all, as we rapidly gain familiarity with the Chromebook technology that all students in Years 7 to 10, and many in Year 11, are using. It has been wonderful to see students using their devices to explore new content, to record and test their learning, and to engage enthusiastically in a range of activities across all subjects. For those students who joined Icknield after the start of term, we will be opening a new portal for Chromebook orders in the coming days. Please email me ([robert.legg@icknield.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:robert.legg@icknield.oxon.sch.uk)) if you haven't yet registered your child for a device and would like to do so.

We are currently road-testing a range of very affordable stylus devices, which may prove useful for students who have selected the touch-screen Chromebook (Lenovo 300e). In next week's newsletter I will include links to the products we recommend, alongside recommendations for Chromebook cases, which some parents have expressed an interest in purchasing. Students are very welcome to bring any compatible stylus to school to use with their Chromebooks, and, similarly, those who like to use a traditional mouse rather than a trackpad should feel free to bring one to school.

Robert Legg

### Year 7 Homework

Our Year 7 students have now received their training on how to use our homework platform, *Show My Homework* (also known as "Satchel One"); from Monday we will, therefore, start to set their homework tasks using this method. Parents of Year 7 student will be receiving a letter (tutors will be giving these out on Monday morning to students) which will look like this:

PARENT/GUARDIAN	OF STUDENT	YEAR	REG.GROUP
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Year 7	7AG

Welcome to Satchel One! Getting started is simple:

1. Go to [satchelone.com/signup](https://satchelone.com/signup) or open our mobile apps
2. Enter the code provided below
3. Follow the on screen instructions, making sure you use an active email address

Already have an account? Go to Account settings and enter this code into the right field to link to this student.

Parent Code [REDACTED] This code is valid until 16/12/21. It can be used to create up to 5 parent/guardian accounts.

Creators of  
  
satchel:

Your unredacted version will give you the code that you require to set up a parental account so that you can also have your own access to access the platform. This will let you see the tasks that have been set for your child. As a reminder, you can also view the *Year 7 Homework Timetable* here:

<https://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/attachments/article/70/Year%207%20Homework%20Timetable%202021-22.pdf>

Matt Ford

## DofE

Massive congratulations to our year 11s who have completed their Bronze expedition last weekend! For many this marks the completion of their Bronze Award. This is always a huge achievement but especially for these students who started their awards back in the autumn of 2019! We are very impressed with such perseverance!

We are planning to hold our DofE celebration evening later in the term where we will present our Bronze and Silver certificates and badges, as well as launch our new season. We will send out more information about this event in the coming weeks.

**Katie Scane**



## Helping your child with the new Class Notebooks in MFL.

We have been working with our linguists to navigate their way successfully around their new Class Notebooks in French and Spanish. Please do talk to your child about this and ask them to show you the resources they now have at their fingertips! Where would they find language to help them communicate in the classroom? Where would they find an example of a regular verb? Where should they look if they want to describe a photo? Which tab should they click on to find the vocabulary they are learning at the moment? Understanding that this new way of working can really boost students' confidence by ensuring that they have the resources they need, at their fingertips. Even if you don't speak French or Spanish, you can certainly support them by familiarising yourselves with what is there, to encourage their independence!

**Alex Hunter**

## CareersNews

Please find attached a copy of our CareersNews. This weeks edition highlights all the pending local Sixth Form and College Open Events that you can take your son/daughter to. This is aimed specifically at our current Y11 and Y10 students.

**Helen Richardson**

### **Science club**

Come along to science club to have a go at a different practical each week! From slime to rainbows, to electrical circuits to microscopes.

Science club will be on Tuesday lunchtimes in room 33 from 1:25, after you have finished your lunch. Anyone in year 7 & 8 are welcome to attend. If anyone in year 9-11 is interested in completing a Crest award, please come and speak to either Miss Scane or Dr Miller.

**Katie Scane/Jack Miller**



### **IF Oxford Science**

IF Oxford are running an online and in person science festival during the month of October. There are lots of different events for a range of ages; many of the events are at the weekends as nice family activities. The poster with the website link to details of all of the events is attached. It would be great to see some of you there!

**Katie Scane**

### **Citizenship**

We have a wide variety of topics planned for them over the coming weeks. In Citizenship, Year 7s are learning about positive relationships, before demonstrating their entrepreneurial skills by designing their own businesses. Meanwhile, Year 8s are critiquing conspiracy theories, and will go on to understand the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Year 9s are reflecting on discrimination, and then on the dangers posed by issues such as gambling, while Year 10s are starting the year by focusing on American politics. Year 11s are considering their future careers, before reflecting on matters such as abortion and infertility. More details about the topics covered in each year group can be found on the school website.



**Jen Hicks**

### **The Great Big Dance Off**

Due to the success of The Great Big Dance Off's solo competition during lockdown, they have decided to run the competition again this year. If anyone would like to submit an entry, please let me know as soon as possible. I will then allocate timings for individual students to practise and film their dance piece in the Dance Studio.

Pieces should be no longer than 3 minutes and 30 seconds. All genres are accepted. Final recordings will need to be submitted to me by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November.

**Taylor Samuel-Beechey**

## **Maths Problem of the Week**

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

**Nick Owen**

## **Writing Club Challenge**

This week's Writing Club Challenge is the Young Writer's Poetry Competition for 11-18 year olds (deadline 21st October) - [www.youngwriters.co.uk](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk). This will be our focus in writing club until the end of this half term. Support, sharing and encouragement is available at Writing Club on Thursday lunchtimes in Room 18, and final entries should be handed in on the last Writing Club of term (Thursday 21st October).

All writers are welcome at Writing Club, whether or not you are entering the poetry competition.

**Jo Botha and Hannah Murray**

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Small group virtual weekly maths Tuition**

Looking for additional support with Maths? Look no further! Great quality, well-structured zoom maths tuition. We are now taking bookings for new classes commencing in Sept 2021. Please note due to high demand we are currently focussing on GCSE students only.

Registering new students for GCSE Maths Tutorials.

Sessions starting 25<sup>th</sup> Sept

- GCSE Higher Tier: Saturday at 9.30am (3 slots available)
- GCSE Higher Tier: Saturday at 11.30am (1 slot available)
- GCSE Foundation tier is now fully booked, with a wait list.

*Please note we are also taking names on a wait list for Easter & Summer Crash courses 2022!*

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**