



# Icknield Community College

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



## Newsletter – 21 January 2022

Date	Event
Wc 24 Jan'22	"B" Week
3 Feb	Year 10 Parents Evening
18 Feb	End of Term (Non-Uniform Day)
19-27 Feb	Half Term Holiday
28 Feb	School Resumes – "B" Week

### Year 11 Mock Interviews

Congratulations to our Year 11 students for successfully carrying out their mock interviews this morning with external interviewers. A big thank you to Helen Richardson, ICC Careers Coordinator, for organising this event and for having the courage to set up all of the simultaneous interviews online! We are used to having over 30 interviewers in the school hall speaking to our students. Today, students were greeted by 30 laptops with the interviewers on Teams waiting for them. I am pleased to say that the wifi in school hall coped admirably! Thank you also to the generous members of our community who gave up the time, as interviewers, to support this event. If anyone is interested in offering their services in this way in the future, please do contact Helen Richardson directly.

### Regular LFD testing

After a period at the beginning of January where we saw a dip in the number of coronavirus cases in school, we have seen the number of positive cases increase significantly across the last week. As a safeguard against the spread of the virus, please can we ask that all students test regularly (at least twice per week) using LFD tests. Many thanks.

### Term Time Holidays

Please see attached a letter about Term Time Holidays.

### 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:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1G3y5HBxpWrGG5i1QBdpwQsq0L-xmay30/view>

**Mat Hunter**  
Headteacher

### Website Suggestions

In conjunction with other schools of the Acer Trust, we are currently undertaking a project of work to refresh our website. If you have any ideas for ways in which the experience of visiting our pages could be improved, or for new content or themes that could usefully be included, please email me ([robert.legg@icknield.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:robert.legg@icknield.oxon.sch.uk)). Thanks in advance for your thoughts and suggestions.

**Robert Legg**

### Subject Focus Day

We are looking forward to running our second Subject Focus Day of the year on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. It is a non-school uniform day for all students, although it is recommended that students dress appropriately, according to the activities they will be taking part in throughout the day. You will find a table attached to this newsletter with an outline of what each year group and option block will be covering throughout the day, as well as suggestions on how best students can prepare.

**Charlotte Gibson**

## **CAMHS Parenting Support Online Sessions for next term**

We are all aware that nationally there is an increase in the number of young people and adults suffering with their mental health and wellbeing. We want to work together with parents to support our young people and feel that being educated in these areas is a key step in doing this. CAMHS is part of the NHS and is the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services. Many families may have worked with them before or be waiting for their support currently. We are working with the CAMHS School In-Reach team to offer more support from within school and with families. Next term they are offering a range of sessions for parents of Icknield students to support their young people. All of the sessions will last for around 1 hour with time for questions afterwards and will be delivered on Microsoft Teams. See below the sessions on offer and the dates. If you are interested in joining one of these sessions, please contact Lisa Best ([lisa.best@icknield.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:lisa.best@icknield.oxon.sch.uk)) 2 weeks before the date of the session (if possible) so that we can get an idea of numbers and we will send you the Microsoft Teams invite 1 week in advance of the session.

### **1. Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 6-7.30pm: Anxiety**

This presentation will explore teenage anxiety and how to talk with young people about this. It highlights the difference between appropriate levels of anxiety and when additional help might be needed. It explores what might keep anxiety going and provides an overview of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy as well as a number of useful techniques which parents can use to support their child.

### **2. Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 6-7.30pm: Low Mood**

This presentation explores what depression is, how it may present in young people, and how it may differ from “normal” adolescent mood difficulties. The session looks at how low mood and depression may be maintained and explores some useful techniques for young people to use.

Your facilitator for these sessions is Emma Hyde from CAMHS (Child Adolescent and Mental Health) School In-Reach team.

This training is suitable for all parents and carers and is not necessarily reserved just for those with issues around mental health at the moment. We feel being informed about how best to support your child so that we can work proactively to improve mental health across the school is the key here.

**Vicky Pickford**

## **School term dates 2022/23**

Please see our dates for the next academic year attached to this week's Newsletter.

**Matt Ford**

## **Poetry Competition**

Congratulations to Alice Masters for winning an external poetry competition! Here's the winning poem, *Flying to Freedom*:

Flying to Freedom

The forest was dark, and foggy and cold.  
I wanted to run, and run and run.  
Run until I reached the end of the world.  
But I didn't. Instead, I lay in the fading sun.

The world felt huge, and I felt small,  
Why didn't I run, why didn't I flee.  
Suddenly the trees grew wide and tall.  
Through all my fear, I felt free.

I don't know how and I don't know why,  
My wings grew and grew and grew,  
All I knew was that I wanted to fly.  
So I did, I flew and flew.

And the world beneath me passed by.

**Well done, Alice!**

**Miss Murray and Mrs Botha, Writing Club**

## **Maths Problem of the Week**

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

**Nick Owen**

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Small-Group Online Maths Tuition**

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

- Key stage 3: to start on 3rd March. Classes held each Thursday at 7pm (new class due to demand)
- GCSE Foundation Tier: to start on 1st March. Classes held each Tuesday at 7pm (new class due to demand)
- GCSE Higher Tier: Saturday at 9.30am (1 slot available)
  
- GCSE Higher Tier: Saturday at 11.30am (1 slots available)

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**