



Icknield Community College

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



Newsletter – 21 May 2021

Date	Event
Wc 24 May	'A' Week
28 May	End of Term – Non-Uniform Day
28 May	Year 11 Celebration Day
7 June	School Resumes

Year 11 Students

I've said it before but I'll say it again! Many congratulations to our Year 11 students who are now 5 weeks into their 6-week window of assessments. Later next week, I will be publishing a summary document for all parents of Year 11 students, and Year 11 students themselves, which will show what assessments we will be using to determine our Centre Determined Grades. In essence, it will be mostly a combination of Year 11 Mock Exams Grades, the Assessment Materials which students have been completing over the last few weeks, and, in subjects which have NEAs (Non-Examined Assessments/Coursework), the NEAs themselves. I will also be sending out a copy of our Centre Policy for the determination of these grades, along with a student guide to the awarding of grades for summer 2021 published by Ofqual.

New Building Programme

Contractors were on site this week to make final preparations for the beginning of our building programme which will start after half term. We have some internal work going on (an additional science lab and an additional art room being fitted out) as well as the external work which will take place adjacent to the hard standing area at the back of the English block. In September, we will have 3 new Geography classrooms, a new IT suite and a Dance Studio which we are very excited about! As per the note in the newsletter last week, do please contact our Finance Office should you be interested in letting this facility.

Mat Hunter
Headteacher

Year 10 Exams Preparation

Following on from my message of a couple of weeks' ago, students will now have received several of their weekly revision guidance documents to help them spread revision out evenly ahead of the exams in mid-June. Academic research clearly shows that the technique of *distributed practice*, which is the spreading out of revision over a wide period of time, is the most powerful way of organising a revision programme, and is certainly more impactful than last minute cramming. Our bespoke revision guidance is therefore designed to help students to carry out the most informative revision programme possible. Consequently, it really is vital that they complete each week's revision before the next sessions come along.

Matt Ford

Parents' Evenings 2021/22 – Consultation reminder

As we move towards a time that we can consider hosting parents' evenings in school again, we are evaluating whether we should do so or, instead, whether we should continue to carry out parents' evening appointments remotely. To inform our decision further, we would like to capture parents' views on this matter. Please respond to [this brief online survey](#). Thank you to those parents who responded last week. I will close this consultation at the end of next week so please take the opportunity to share your views.

James Barringer

Last Day of Term – Non School Uniform

Non school uniform day will be taking place on the last day of term. Please could any student wishing to take part bring in a £1 donation to give to their tutor next Friday. This term, the student council have chosen to support Kidney Care UK, a charity working closely to support kidney patients and their families. 50% of money raised will go to charity with the other 50% being invested into the school.

Charlotte Gibson

Providing learning during student absence

Over the past year we have seen students having to stay at home and be absent from schools for a wider variety of reasons due to COVID. In some cases, we have been able to offer online lessons so that learning can continue to happen whilst at home. We are unable to offer online learning for all absence though and I wanted to be clear on what our systems are for this:

Absence due to COVID isolation – if students are having to isolate at home because they are a close contact, waiting for a test result or similar and are well, then we will try to provide access to online lessons as soon as we can. The Attendance Manager will notify staff as soon as possible but please bear in mind that this may not be instant and a link to a 'Working from Home' document will be sent so that students can access other learning until this is set up.

Absence due to injury – if students have a sports injury that we cannot accommodate in school and therefore cannot get into school purely for practical reasons then we may be able to provide online learning. This will be considered on a case by case basis and only if the absence is likely to be 2 days or more. As above, this will be arranged as soon as possible but will not be instant.

Absence due to longer term medical conditions – in most cases students with longer term medical conditions will have a different plan to ensure that their learning is continued but there may be periods of time where online lessons are provided as part of this plan.

Absence due to illness or medical appointments – if students are too unwell to be in school or are attending medical appointments then they are clearly not able to work at home either and so work will not be provided.

As always, any information about absence from school or questions about a period of absence need to be made directly to the absence email address - absence@ickniel.d.oxon.sch.uk or to the Attendance Manager, Vicky Ashby - victoria.ashby@ickniel.d.oxon.sch.uk

Vicky Pickford

Production update

We continue to make fantastic progress towards this year's production. Our (Covid safe) rehearsals have been going really well and have been really enjoyable. Now is the time for students who wish to be involved in the show as a member of our back stage team to sign up. In a change to our normal way of working, keeping in line with our current protocols, please could any interested students send me a short email detailing why they would like to be involved and in what capacity (LFX, SFX, crew etc). The deadline for this is 8:30am on Wednesday May 26. Please note that we will try to accommodate everyone who wishes to be involved but, owing to the way we are having to run the show this year, this may not be possible on this occasion.

Adam Rowe

Maths Problem of the Week

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

Nick Owen

Careers News

This weeks Careers News is attached, but I'd like to draw your attention to the fact that **The Bucks College Group** will be opening their doors to all prospective students who have applied for a place in September, or those who are still undecided. It will give you and your son/daughter the chance to visit the campus and meet course tutors. Appointments must be made, please see the article in this weeks CareersNews for further details. As always, any questions, please do get in touch: helen.richardson@ickniel.d.oxon.sch.uk

Helen Richardson

Bright sparks

7TS have tested their electrical know-how in a challenge to construct and appropriately light a house. This challenge culminated in the fantastic use of series and parallel circuits on display within these photos. Enjoy the illumination!

Chris Bond



DofE update

Year 10s have been continuing their training this week, focusing on first aid. Have a look at a few of the students brushing up on their technique.

Congratulations to Marcus E (Skill, Physical), Tillie M-B (Physical, Volunteering), Izzy S (Physical, Skill), Leo B (Skill), Esme C (Physical), Jess G (Skill) who have completed their assessor reports.

A special congratulations to Marcus, Izzy, Leo, Esme and Jess who have now completed their volunteering, physical and skill sections, and will receive a special certificate emailed to them by the Duke of Edinburgh Award.



Letters to Parents/Carers

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

Silver School of Outdoors Letter 2021 – Selected Year 11

These letters can also be accessed on the school website:

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

Finance Office

Friends of Icknield

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM
&
REVISION GUIDE SALE

Saturday 12th June 2021
9.30am-11.30am
ICC Canteen
(or outside if weather permits)

Please note strict Covid-19 restrictions will be in place requiring social distancing, hand sanitising on arrival and departure and no more than 2 customers in the sale area at a time. Thank you.

Donations...
Uniform and revision guide donations gratefully received, please drop off at ICC Reception on 27th May, 28th May or 7th June

Friends of Icknield Charity No: 1146108



YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY



PLEASE



SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY

We need you now more than ever

- Help raise valuable funds
- Tickets cost just £1 each
- Win up to £25,000

To start supporting, visit:

yourschoollottery.co.uk

and search for: Icknield

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older.