



Icknield Community College

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



Newsletter – 26 March 2021

Date	Event
wc 29 March	'A' week
31 March	End of Term
1 – 16 April	Easter Holiday
19 April	School Resumes

Things to look forward to...

It's been a pleasure this week to be thinking about events which, we hope, can take place in the summer term.

Letters have gone out to Year 10 and 9 students about potential Newquay trips in July and September respectively. We very much hope these will both come to fruition and are really happy for our students that they may well have some great experiences here!

Mr Rowe and the Creative Arts Faculty have announced our aspirations to put on a production of "Beauty and the Beast" in Half Term 6. I am sure that this will be a fantastic experience for all students (and staff!) involved.

Our Year 11 students have been invited to a Prom at The Oxford Belfry Hotel on Friday 9 July. Again, we very much hope that, providing the timeline for the lifting of restrictions nationally can be adhered to, this will go ahead.

Year 11

We can now confirm that our Year 11 students' "Celebration Day" will be on Friday 28 May. It is very important that Year 11 students are "accessible" to us until Friday 18 June (the date their Centre Determined Grades need to be sent off) but, with no exams to complete after the May half term break, they will finish school at the end of Half Term 5.

Owing to national restrictions, the Year 11 leavers' day will take place on the school site. We are already thinking about what we can do to make this a special occasion for them. We could, with this, really do with your help! If you have any contacts with anyone who could help support us with the following, please do get in touch with Mrs Pickford (vicky.pickford@icknield.oxon.sch.uk) or Adam Rickard (adam.ricard@icknield.oxon.sch.uk):

- Large Cinema Screen and sound system for use on the school field
- Outdoor food companies or food suppliers to help us provide a quick lunch or dessert option eg. BBQ – burgers, hot-dogs, Pizza, ice-cream, cakes, sweets, soft drinks
- Bunting
- Picnic Blankets or outdoor seating options
- Other entertainment options

Staffing News

Owing to relocation, we will be saying farewell to Mr Haque at the end of the academic year. We would like to thank him for making a fantastic contribution to ICC over the last 3 years. We are very pleased to report that Mr Haque will be transferring to Wood Green School in Witney, which is also part of the Acer Trust. It's good to know that he will still be in our family of schools!

Government Guidance

We are assuming that, after Easter, all of our current systems and rules will be in place. This will only change if we receive new guidance over the holidays. If this does happen, I will, of course, be in touch with you all. Given that this is the last newsletter of the term, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Easter break.

Mat Hunter
Headteacher

Volunteering at Icknield Community College

During the coronavirus testing programme in school, we were so grateful to the many members of our school community who volunteered to support the process. Not only did it enable us to test everyone quickly and efficiently, but it was also a real pleasure to work more closely with the wider community to achieve our goals. Learning from our experiences, as coronavirus restrictions are slowly lifted in the coming months, we would like to more use of the voluntary sector to support processes and initiatives in school. If this is something that would interest you, even on a very occasional basis, please contact Mr Hunter (headteacher@icknield.oxon.sch.uk) to record this interest, including any suggestions of the sort of activity you might want to support. It might be that you are not sure what you might want to do, but would be open to us contacting you if an opportunity arose. An example might be to provide extra adult support on an educational visit, once restrictions allow them again.

James Barringer

Year 8 Parents' Evening: Thursday 29th April

Please can Year 8 Parents be aware that Parents' Evening is on the second Thursday evening after the Easter break. Please look out for a parentmail next week to provide more detail and to inform you precisely when the booking window will open.

James Barringer

Recording student test results

Thank you to all students (and their parents) for the home testing that is taking place. As a reminder, please do remember to log the test results with the NHS using [this link](#), and also with the school using [this link](#). I apologise for the duplication here; the Department for Education are insistent that we ask families to inform schools of each result.

James Barringer

Asymptomatic Testing over Easter

Your child will be given another set of asymptomatic tests before the term ends; this will probably be on Tuesday but we are currently waiting for the Government to deliver test kits to us. Please do continue to supervise their twice-weekly testing. Please also prioritise them taking a test either on the Sunday or the Monday morning immediately before they return for the new term.

James Barringer

PCR Tests

The lateral flow tests sent home with you child are to be used for twice-weekly testing of people without coronavirus symptoms. If a student (or any other member of the household) develops coronavirus symptoms, the whole household must self-isolate and book a PCR test for the symptomatic person either by calling 119 or using [this link](#). Testing using a lateral flow test is not sufficient in this case and students should not come to school (nor should any of the household leave the house) until the results of the PCR test have been received, even if they test negative using one of their LFD tests.

If you have any questions about this, please contact Vicky Ashby (victoria.ashby@icknield.oxon.sch.uk) or myself (jamesbarringer@icknield.oxon.sch.uk).

James Barringer

Travel Plan

Thank you so much for the hundreds of quick responses to the travel plan survey. If anyone is yet to complete this short survey, and is happy to do so, please click on [this link](#) to access it. I will close the survey at the end of term.

James Barringer

Comic Relief

A big thank you to all of the generous donations we have received for Comic Relief this year. We have raised over £1000 which is absolutely fantastic and one of the biggest totals we have ever raised for charity. Thank you for your support.

**Alex Wooster and Saoirse Brady
Head Boy and Head Girl**

Swap Shop

Swap Shop will be taking place during tutor time on the Wednesday 31st March. Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 who have achieved 20+ kudos points will be able to trade in their points for a sweet treat to reward all of the hard work they have put in so far this year.

Charlotte Gibson

Acer Trust Vacancy – Chalgrove Primary School

Chalgrove Primary School are looking to recruit a KS1 or KS2 teacher. The job details can be found on the attachments to this newsletter.

Gill Ward

School Production

As you may well have heard by now, we have a very ambitious plan to put on a full school production later this year, once all the current restrictions have lifted. We have chosen Beauty and the Beast, which seemed to be a very popular choice with our students as the show was officially launched this week. The audition pack has been sent out to everyone via parentmail. This contains all the information that is needed for anyone wishing to be involved. As ever, any questions, please do get in touch with me and I look forward to seeing you at a show later in the year.

Adam Rowe

Afterschool PE Clubs

It has been lovely to welcome back and see so many students at after school clubs this term. As we will be moving onto our rotation of summer sports next term our after school clubs will be changing. Please find attached the club timetable for term 5.

Jess Hillyer

DofE

Congratulations to the following students who have completed their sections. Each student has put lots of work into completing their sections and assessors' reports during term time and holidays as well as a national lockdown.

Congratulations to Mcauley M (Skill), Max M (Volunteering), Nat F (Volunteering, Skill), Tia K (Skill), Maddie J (Volunteering)

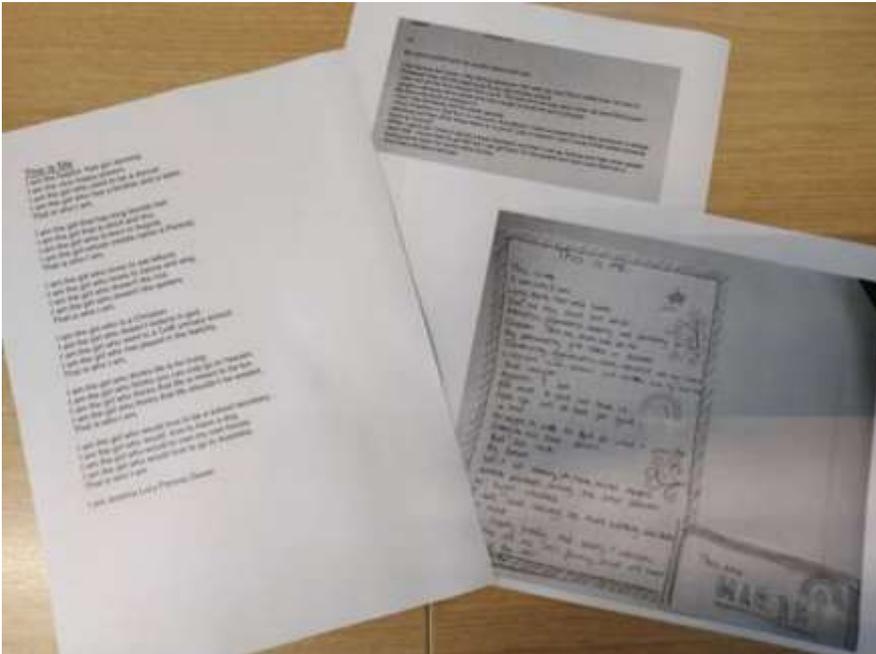
A special congratulations to Mcauley, Max, Nat and Maddie who have now completed their volunteering, physical and skill sections, and will receive a special certificate emailed to them by the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Can I encourage any participant who has not uploaded their assessors' reports to upload them as soon as they can and let me know if you are having any problems with their section.

Katie Scane

RE and Citizenship Year 7

During the second rotation of RE and Citizenship, Year 7 students were challenged to write a poem about themselves, with a catch! The poem needed to include their own beliefs about God and religion as well as a chance to explore their own future goals. I have to say competition was extremely high and I was so impressed by the entries I received throughout lockdown. A huge well done to Jemima Dewar, Marie Bolton and Elliot Seston for their incredibly insightful and thought provoking poems. Enjoy your chocolatey treat and well done to all of you.



Kayley McMillan

Maths Problem of the Week

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

Nick Owen

GREAT ATTENDANCE!



We are delighted that since our return to school on the 8th March, student attendance has been excellent. **Well done and thank you** to all our students and parents for helping to keep our attendance high. We have compared our attendance to other secondary schools and the national average and we are doing extremely well.... please keep up the good work!

Just a gentle reminder that the official morning registration marks are taken at 8.45am and the afternoon registration marks are taken at 12.15pm. If you are making appointments that cannot be arranged outside of school hours, we encourage them to be made so that students leave school at 1pm or after, so they are only absent from school during lunch and period 5. This keeps your child's attendance as high as possible and avoids missing lessons, enabling them to keep up with the work in class.

Please remember that all absences need to be reported to school by e-mailing absence@ickniel.d.oxon.sch.uk or calling 01491 612691 and selecting the absence line to leave a message.

If you would like to discuss your child's attendance or have any concerns regarding their attendance, please e-mail me at victoria.ashby@ickniel.d.oxon.sch.uk and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Vicky Ashby

Calling all Icknield Bakers!

As the Easter break gets near so does a great baking opportunity - making an Easter Cake! Get creative and think about your presentation, whether you'd like to make cupcakes or a layer cake and how it might celebrate the Easter holiday.

I'm hoping to see a great array of baking genius from students in all year groups and will be selecting my top three to win an Easter Egg.

Photograph and submit your entries to me via email or Instagram by Monday 19th April; winner to be announced on Friday 23rd April.

Good Luck!

Sophie Koziol

sophie.koziol@icknield.oxon.sch.uk
@icknieldfoodies



Careers News

We are very excited to share with you the launch of 'Find Your Future'. This year, as many Careers Fairs across the county have been cancelled, Oxfordshire schools have been invited to collaborate with OxLEP (Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership) to create an online resource for young people and parents to discover career pathways and job opportunities across Oxfordshire. As a school, ICC have been involved in the creation of this venture and would love our students to explore options available to them. You will find almost 100 different pods to visit with Local and Corporate Businesses, Apprenticeship Suppliers, Training Providers, Colleges and Universities. There are 12 industry sectors for you to visit as well as an opportunity to explore the Labour Market Information pod, which highlights Careers in Oxfordshire both now and in the future. I have attached a poster with all of the details but please log onto www.oxfordshirelep.com/findyourfuture and encourage your son/daughter to follow them on Instagram too: #findyourfutureoxfordshire As always, any questions, please feel free to email me: helen.richardson@icknield.oxon.sch.uk

Helen Richardson

Parent Support Group

NHS Oxford Health are hosting a support group for parents caring for children with mental health difficulties, it is free to join and sessions take place online. Please see attached flyer.

Jane Bellars

Letters to Parents/Carers

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

Prom Letter 09 July 2021 – Year 11
Audition Letter and Pack BTB – All Years

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

Virtual weekly small group Maths Tuition - GCSE Foundation / Higher Tier

Great quality, well-structured zoom maths tuition specifically aimed at GCSE students on the run up to their internal assessments.

Last remaining slots:

2 x Foundation 45 minutes class each Saturday

1 x Higher tier 1 hour class each Thursday at 4.45pm

We have a waiting list for new small group sessions commencing in June, please also reach out to secure your slot ASAP.

Please contact: mathstutorchinnor@outlook.com for more information and to reserve a slot.

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

Adrian Thomas



**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**



WIN
A WHEELIE AWESOME PRIZE!



- Please help give our fundraising a boost this term
- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Cash prize winner **EVERY** week
- You could even win the £25k jackpot!

WIN A
£500
BIKE
VOUCHER

Buy A Ticket

THE **BIKE** FACTORY

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. Offer ends 17th Apr 2021.

Terms and conditions apply (see website for details).