



Newsletter – 28 January 2022

Date	Event
Wc 31 Jan'22	"A" 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

Construction Skills...

Congratulations to some of our Year 11 students who worked with a tutor from Aylesbury College, today, to develop their bricklaying skills. Judell Wade, pictured below, was praised by the course tutor for his excellent work and should be justifiably proud accordingly! Well done, Judell!



Cases of Covid-19 in school

Last week, we informed you that there had been a sharp rise in cases of Covid-19 among students. Thankfully, we have seen a sharp fall in cases this week. However, there are still students testing positive in each year group. Whilst the Government have now removed the requirement for students to wear face coverings in schools, we still recommend that this is a good way of reducing the risk of catching or sharing Covid-19. Many staff and students continue to wear face coverings in lessons and in communal areas.

Mat Hunter
Headteacher

Student Grade Cards

Today, we intended to send Grade Cards home to students in Year 10 and Year 11. Unfortunately, we have been faced with some technological issues with one of our data suppliers so have been unable to send out the emails. Hopefully, providing these issues are resolved, the reports will be emailed on Monday.

James Barringer

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 for the remaining session on offer and the date. If you are interested in joining this session please contact Lisa Best (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 7th 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

Guided Choices 2022

Year 9 students and their parents will be now have received the following information about the Guided Choices process:

- The Guided Choices information video at <https://youtu.be/GqYrTW3rjcw>
- The Guided Choices Booklet, containing details of all of our courses
- The Guided Choices Application Form (the deadline for completion of our online form is Friday 4 March)

The process of students thinking carefully about their choices, therefore, now begins. Please do ask any questions that you have to our subject leaders (their email addresses are in the Guided Choices Booklet) or students can speak to them in school. We also look forward to speaking to many of you about your child’s choices, and we are here to guide and give advice if you need us.

Matt Ford

Subject Focus Day

A reminder that next Wednesday is our second Subject Focus Day; please do refer back to my entry in the newsletter last week for further details on the activities that will be taking place for each year group. Where possible, students who are required to isolate will be invited via Teams to join in activities throughout the day. There will be some cases where the planned activities do not translate well to online learning in which case students will be asked to complete relevant, independent learning set by the teacher either on Satchel One, email or Class Notebook.

Charlotte Gibson

Maths Problem of the Week

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

Nick Owen

Skiing Success

Last weekend, Cerys Francis took to the slopes in Switzerland to compete in the DHO Super Giant Slalom the taking place on the upper part of Lauberhorn World Cup course. As the youngest competitor in the race, Cerys battled incredibly hard to complete the gruelling course in an impressive time of 98.07 second, finishing 3rd overall. What an achievement, well done Cerys.

Charlotte Gibson

Holocaust Memorial Day

In assembly this week, students in Years 9-11 reflected on Holocaust Memorial Day. Holocaust Memorial Day takes places on 27th January every year. On this day in 1945, Allied forces liberated the death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. Since then, around the world people pause on this day to remember victims of genocide, and to light candles in remembrance and solidarity.



Students in Year 9 heard the story of Stephanie Beer, the grandmother of Miss Scane, whose parents were killed in Auschwitz. Stephanie came to the UK as a teenage refugee on the Kindertransport. Students in Years 10 and 11 reflected on the theme of 'One Day', and the hope that never again will genocide occur.

You can find more information about Holocaust Memorial Day, and watch the national ceremony, on the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust's website,

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/>.

Jen Hicks

Y11 Mock Interviews

As you know, our Y11 students had their Mock Interviews last week on Friday. Each student was interviewed by an external professional who kindly gave up their morning to be with our students. It was a virtual first for us! After a few teething problems, I am delighted to say that the students adapted brilliantly and all had a successful interview experience. I thought I'd share with you some of the comments I have received from our interviewers. The students have done themselves, you as their parents and us as a school exceptionally proud. It makes the event so worthwhile 😊

Dear Helen - I'll say it again, it was so good to hear every student saying how happy they are at ICC and they really enjoy being there. They said the teachers were all very supportive and more than one said how good you had been helping them. Congrats all round!

Helen - It was great to be a part of the Icknield mock interview process. It was great to meet the students and hear about their next steps / future plans!

Hi Helen - Well done for recovering the situation! One of the questions I put to the students, was how would you deal with this scenario if it happened on your watch? They were all pretty stoic in their answers, so I was impressed by all of them.

Helen - It was a joy, your students were an inspiration.

Helen - I thoroughly enjoyed the morning and was encouraged by how clearly the students see their futures. They were all a credit to the school and hopefully they enjoyed the experience.

Dear Helen - I have to say I was really impressed with all of the students I interviewed - they answered the questions with maturity and demonstrated a lot of passion for their studies and outside interests. I'm not sure I was that focussed when I was that age! I really enjoyed the process and hope to participate again in the future.

Please feel free to share these comments with your children and thank you for your support

Helen Richardson

Vacancies

Icknield Community College currently has two support staff vacancies:

SEN Administration Assistant, 20-25 hours per week

Teaching Assistant 27.5 hours per week

Both posts are term time only. For further information and the job description, please visit our website:

<https://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/contact-us/vacancies>

Gill Ward

Letters to Parents/Carers

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

Much Ado About Nothing – 10 Mar 2022 – Year 8

Move It Dance Event – 11 Mar 2022 – Selected Year 9

Citizenship Letter Rotation 1 2021-22 – Year 8

Relationships, Sex and Health Education Rotation 1 2021-22 – 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 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 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