



## Newsletter – 13 October 2017

Date	Event
20 Oct	End of term (non-school uniform – please bring your £1 donation on Thursday to wear non-school uniform on 20 October) – normal 3pm finish
30 October	Term 2 commences. 'B' Week
10 November	Remembrance Assembly (Year 7 and 8)
16 November	Year 11 Parents' Evening – 4pm-7pm
24 November	Further and Higher Education Fair
30 November	Kids Lit Quiz – Years 7 and 8
30 November	Year 9 Parents' Evening
12 December	Winter Concert – 7pm
18 December	Senior Citizens' Party – 4pm – 5.30pm
19 December	End of term (non-school uniform – please bring your £1 donation on Monday 18 December) - School finishes at 1pm
4 January 2018	Term 3 commences – 'A' Week

### Year 11 News

Please see two importance announcements below from Mrs Pickford and Mr Rickard...

### Year 11 Revision Booklet

The Year 11 Revision Booklet will be updated on the website from the start of next week. I will be talking students through this in assembly on Monday. This is a very valuable document full of teacher advice on how to revise in each subject, useful resources, the revision class timetable, general revision techniques as well as blanks for creating bespoke revision timetables and checklist of each subjects exam content for students to RAG rate and use to prioritise their revision.

Parents – please do have a look at this document and encourage students to print of the checklists for the subjects they study and RAG rate themselves to highlight the areas they need to revise first. Have a go at creating a revision timetable and using this in preparation for the mock exams in December.

Students – your first set of mock exams is in December. You have 7 weeks to revise for these. You should be doing at least 7 hours of revision a week. Use the booklet to plan and prioritise your revision and for ideas on what techniques to use for each subject! Good Luck!

**Vicky Pickford**

### Year 11 Revision Class Timetable

Attached to this week's newsletter is the Year 11 Revision Class Timetable. Revision classes have started across many subjects and provide an excellent opportunity to cover old topics, go over tricky concepts or hone exam answer technique.

Despite still being many months away from the final exams, we encourage all Year 11 students to think carefully about their own revision and using a timetable to support this.

Please do ask your children to talk to their subject teachers if they have any questions about the revision classes.

**Adam Rickard**

## **Student Success**

As I mentioned in the newsletter a couple of weeks ago, we are always interested in hearing about our students' successes out of school.

Congratulations to Felix Harris in Year 9 who was voted Player of the Tournament in the Wallingford RFC Under 14's Tournament last Sunday.

Congratulations also to Tillie Moss-Black for her fundraising efforts...

## **The Big Sleepout – written by Tillie Moss-Black – 7SL**

My mum and I joined in the 'The Big Sleepout' last weekend, together with over 50 other people to raise money for homeless people in the city. This event was organised by Aspire and Oxford Homeless Pathways.

I really enjoyed the event, knowing it is raising money for such a worthy cause. Please visit the story in The Oxford Mail by clicking the link [here](#).

## **Camps International**

Ms Grierson and I met with Camps International last week and have an exciting proposal for all current Year 9 and 10 students. Please see below...

## **Mat Hunter**

### **Camps International**

We are going to get involved with Camps International this year. This is an organisation that runs expeditions and project work for young people all over the world. Our current Year 9 and 10 students, who will be eligible for this project, will have the opportunity to take part in an expedition to Borneo, known as the pearl of South East Asia, where they will do a mixture of project work with local communities and take part in challenging but fun activities like scuba diving.

Each expedition takes up to 20 students, but there is no minimum number, as Camps International will link schools together. The planned expedition would be for 4 weeks in the summer of 2019 and before then the students are expected to engage in two years of fundraising activities, as they are expected to raise their own money for the trip. There is also the opportunity for them to gain UCAS points if they wish to as part of the experience.

We will be having a student assembly on **Tuesday 14 November** followed by a parent presentation on **Wednesday 22 November** at 6.30pm, with students making a final sign up decision by Thursday 30 November.

If you want to find out more about Camps International then please check out their website <http://campsinternational.com> or if you want to see more about Borneo then follow this link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7L1ydQ-7WA>

We hope many of our current Year 9 and 10 students will want to get involved in such an exciting and life changing experience.

**Sara Grierson**

## **Friends Of Icknield AGM**

We will be holding our Friends of Icknield AGM on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm in the school canteen. We would love to see some new faces and extend a warm welcome to all parents and carers. We are a small friendly group of parents who support the school by providing refreshments at school events and through running fundraising events.

Refreshments will be provided. For more information please contact [samrooks@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:samrooks@hotmail.co.uk)

**Sam Rooks**

## **Matilda**

All students going on the trip to see “Matilda” this coming Wednesday, 18 October 2017, should have received an email on Thursday evening (sent from Mrs Gill Ward’s email account), detailing the arrangements for Wednesday’s trip.

If your child is going on the trip, and you have not received an email, please call Gill Ward on 01491 612691, ext 255.

I apologise for any disappointment if your child was unable to go on this trip. As this trip proved so popular, there were more students wishing to go than we could secure tickets for.

**Adam Rowe**

## **Rationale for learning homework in French and Spanish**

Taking time to internalise vocabulary is an essential part of language learning. We have decided, therefore, to set homework that helps to develop the skill of vocabulary acquisition. Independent learning is something we need to promote to adequately prepare our students for the rigours of the new GCSE.

As such, all homework this year will involve learning the vocabulary from the week’s topic. The purpose of this is for students to develop effective strategies for learning new vocabulary which they can then apply in a weekly review.

All students have been provided with a vocabulary booklet which is also attached to the homework set on Show My Homework each week. Some students also take a photo of the relevant vocabulary on their phone.

If students do not meet their target score in the vocabulary review, we run a learning workshop to discuss barriers to learning and help students to explore different memorisation techniques. This is a positive and supportive activity to develop skills, including using iPads.

Please encourage and support your child to spend an appropriate length of time learning the vocabulary at home. Below are some suggestions to help:

- We have set everyone up with a [www.memrise.com](http://www.memrise.com) account. This is a site and app that awards points while you learn. This is visible to the teacher for us to praise students for their efforts. Students have a username and password that they should have stored in their phone or somewhere to refer to. If they have forgotten it, they can click ‘forgot your password?’ and enter the email address they used to sign up with. NOTE: the password renewal email may go to junk mail!
- Many of the strategies used for spellings at primary school are great for this homework. Encourage your child to think about what worked well then and try it again.
- The good old look, cover, write, check is a classic that usually works to double check the correct spellings and accents have ‘gone in’.
- This is a skill that requires development. Your child may find it harder at first but as time goes on, it will get easier and may take less time the better they get.
- Encourage your child to check they have remembered where any accents go and any unusual spellings. Those little words are important too!

We have set our expectations high to begin with as we need students to consider this homework as an integral part of their language learning. It has been lovely to see so many students taking it so seriously and marks in the learning reviews have gone up dramatically since we started! We will continue to support those who find it more challenging and may review ‘pass marks’ on an individual basis where appropriate.

Thank you for efforts in encouraging your child to try their best. The impact is already noticeable in class.

**Jane Morton**

## PE News

On Wednesday, a super team made of Year 11, 10 and 9 hockey players took to the field against two strong opponents in Langtree and Wallingford (who were both fielding year 11 teams). For some of our girls, it was their first time playing hockey on an AstroTurf, so started the game against Langtree with some trepidation. After a few minutes to find our feet, we dominated the opposition with superb play from Mel Wilson and Angelina Goosen running rings around their defence. After a number of attempts on goal, Hannah Wasmuth finally managed to find the back of the net, quickly followed by another after a stonking strike that the goalie had no hope of stopping. Langtree had a couple of attempts on goal, saved by goal keeper Skye Malin and their closest chance on goal being stopped on the line by the lightning fast reactions of Kenzie Orkney. Final score 2-0 Icknield. There was a change of goal keeper during the second game, with Darcey Beak making her goal keeping debut.

The team were up against the fresh legs of Wallingford who subjected us to an onslaught of shots on goal within the first few minute. Darcey, along with the support of Laura Goulden, Kenzie and Skye in defence managed to keep a clean sheet for as long as possible until the ball snuck past into the bottom left corner. Undeterred the girls continued to battle with excellent play from Annabel Roe, Lucy Drake and Leah Russell who managed to pressure the midfield, leading them to make mistakes that lead to an Icknield free pass. The pass was taken quickly taking the opposition by surprise, with Mel's pace and skill driving the ball into the D, Angelia was very quick to lift the ball over the goalies head, scoring the perfect equaliser (final score 1-1). Congratulations ladies! It was a pleasure to watch you raise your game, hold your nerve and play some brilliant hockey.

Some of our Year 10 and 11 students played in a Rugby friendly against St Birinus this week, and while there were some late and unfortunate drop outs due to injury, the Icknield team that started was still a strong line up. The game got off to a fast pace, with some big early tackles, particularly from captain Oli Shaw. St Birinus took the lead not long into the game, but the boys hit back and Alfie Ford touched the ball down to draw us level. The rest of the first half saw the opposition score twice more to take a commanding lead into half time. The chat at half time was generally positive despite the team trailing, and there was definitely the optimism of coming back into the game. Finley Carter went through an excellent spell of turning the ball over for Icknield, most noticeably with strong hold up play to win a scrum after forming a maul. There were signs of tiredness towards the end and St Birinus managed to put two more tries on the board, but Icknield hit back with tries of their own. Oli broke through and set up Alfie Ford for his second of the day before Albert Tait converted for more points. Oli then scored a try of his own after another breakthrough run and then converted this one himself. However, the boys just left it a little too late to continue their comeback, but can certainly be proud of their performances.

Year 7 Hockey has taken off this week with an away tournament at Gillotts and a home fixture against Wallingford. During their first tournament playing as a team together the girls held their positions well throughout their matches, put pressure on early when defending and maintained good possession of the ball. Our A team were undefeated and won the tournament while our B team came second. The girls then carried on their winning momentum into their home matches against Wallingford on Thursday. The girls knew this match would be tricky after both teams drew against Wallingford at the tournament. The girls played passionately, made committed tackles and this led to both teams winning their matches. The B team won 4-2, with goals from Madaline and Hannah. The A team also won 3-1 with goals from Katie, Jemma and Molly. Well done to all girls involved, in particular Lauren and Ellen who were both selected as the player of their match.

The Year 8s played against St Birinus on Thursday. From the very start of the game it was clear to see that Icknield was dominating in every area of the game. The boys made quick work scoring three quick tries. All the way through the game we were putting in some big tackles, with Alfie Evans bossing the rucks. By the end of the first half we had made 7 tries. The second half was very much the same although St Birinus came out a lot stronger and were able to subdue us for a longer portion of the game twice getting close to our try line. But we managed to hold them back scoring three more tries in the second half. Try Scorers: Keelan (3), James (2), Travis (2), Josh (1), Alfie (1) and Max (1).

The Year 7's got off to a flying start smashing Langtree School last week and it followed up with another win against Wheatley Park. With the forwards, Lewis, Kion and Dom doing most of the hard

work in the rucks, it left the space open for Tom Cove to score a hat-trick of tries to help Icknield sail through with a 38-7 win. Keep it up boys!

Sports Tour – With take-off only a week away now, we hope all pupils are almost sorted in terms of having everything that they need to take. Remember, if you wish to take some spending money then ensure that this is in Euros! Can all students who have medical requirements please make sure they have the relevant supplies - inhalers etc. If there are any changes to your medical history that you think we may be unaware of can you please inform us as a matter of urgency. For parents wishing to follow the ongoings of the tour, you can follow our twitter page for regular updates - @icknield\_PE. One last thing; don't forget your fancy dress! One week to go!!

Fixtures:	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 8 Rugby 10s (Wheatley Park)
	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 9 & 11 Hockey (Gillotts)
	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 7 Hockey vs Gillotts (A)
		Year 7 Rugby vs Langtree (H)
		Year 10 Rugby vs Gillotts (A)

Please follow our twitter page (@icknield\_PE) as all information will be put on their prior to fixtures, as well as news of last minute changes and other club related news.

**The PE Team**

### **Assembly this week – The Local Job Market!**

This week in assembly I shared some of the Labour Market Information for Oxfordshire with students to get them to start thinking about what they might want to do post-ICC and the implications of that on how they work in school, what subjects they choose to take further from Year 9 into Year 10 and 11, the skills and qualities they might need to develop through extra-curricular activities/work experience and what courses they might apply for in Year 11. I have attached the power point for this assembly for your information and if you want to look through this with your child.

**Vicky Pickford**

### **Open Evening Dates**

During the Key Stage 4 Information Evening, Mrs Pickford shared the Open Evenings which are taking place for Year 12 students for next September across a number of different colleges and sixth forms. Please see below although do check websites of all institutions for any updates on times and dates:

**City of Oxford College:** 15 November 2017 from 4pm to 7pm

**Henley College:** 19 October 2017 and 21 November 2017 6 – 8.30pm

**Lord Williams:** 7 November 2017 6pm onwards and 21 November 2017 Open Morning 8.45am

**Wheatley Park:** 9 November 2017 from 6 to 8pm

### **Abingdon and Witney:**

- Abingdon – 8 November 2017 & 7 February 2018
- Witney – 15 November 2017 & 21 February 2018
- Common Leys – 18 November 2017 & 14 March 2018

**Cherwell:** 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017 from 5pm – 8pm

**Banbury & Bicester:** 8 November 2017 from 4pm – 7pm

**Reading College:** 1 November 2017 from 5pm – 7.30pm

**Helen Richardson**

### **Free School Meal Eligibility**

Please see the eligibility criteria attached for free school meals. If you believe your child might be eligible to receive free school meals, please call Gill Ward, Headteacher's PA, on 01491 612691 ext 255. There is a confidential checking service we use to establish eligibility.

Please note, even if your child does not wish to have school meals, if you believe your child should be eligible, please contact the school, as there is funding the school can access for students.

### **Recipe of the week: Pasties**

Who doesn't love golden flakey pastry! Easy to adapt for dairy free as many supermarkets now sell 'lighter' puff pastry which uses butter alternatives. As ever please tag us in your makes and bakes.

Twitter @icknielfoodies

**Sophie Koziol**

### **Fantastical displays in Ickniel Library!**

As you know, our library is an energetic and always evolving environment, and you really must see Mrs Eales' latest display to draw attention to the range of fantasy genre books that we have on offer to students. Here is Kameron bravely standing next to our, as yet unnamed, dragon (if you have a good idea as to what it should be called, then do go and tell the library team!):



**Matt Ford**



Through the auspices of the wonderful National Literacy Trust and the power of Amazon, we have a fabulous opportunity to publish an anthology of the very best of Ickniel's student writers. Every student – in every year group – is eligible for consideration. All they have to do is write!

Please do encourage your child to contribute on the topic of 'Freedom'. They may choose any form as long as they limit themselves to 300 words or less. We are very much looking forward to producing a kindle or paperback edition at the earliest opportunity.

**Jacqui O'Reilly**

### **Swap Shop**

We will be running Swap Shop on Thursday and Friday Lunchtime next week in the library. Any Year 7 or 8 student with a full reward card can bring it along to swap it for a prize!

**Vicky Pickford**

## **Finance Office**

**Please ensure all cheques are made payable to Acer Trust.**

We have a few PE kit orders that have not been collected. If you ordered kit and have not received it, please ask your child to collect it from the Finance Office.

### **Letters to Parents/Carers**

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

Heyford Meadow Letter – Year 10 Selected Students  
Computer Science Letter – Year 11 Selected Students  
The Play That Goes Wrong - Year 11 & 10 Drama Students

These letters can also be accessed on the school website:

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

### **Greece Tour**

If you have not yet handed in your passport and European Health Insurance Cards these need to be handed to the Finance Office asap, ready for travelling.

**Finance Office**

### **Headlice**

Headlice has been noticed in School. Please check your child's hair and treat accordingly.

**Reception**