



Newsletter – 5 November 2021

Date	Event
8 Nov'21	"A" Week
15 Nov'21	Subject Focus Day
1 -17 Dec'21	Year 11 Exams
9 Dec'21	Year 9 Parents' Evening
17 Dec'21	End of Term (Non-School Uniform Day)
20 Dec'21 – 3 Jan'22	Christmas Holiday
4 Jan'22	Inset Day
5 Jan'22	School Resumes "A" Week

Unusually, I have a number of detailed and operational announcements this week:

Face coverings

As Mr Barringer explained earlier in the week, as a response to higher numbers of positive cases in the latter part of the previous half term, we have asked all members of our school community to wear face coverings on school transport and when on corridors or indoor communal spaces (other than classrooms) for two weeks. This week, whilst many students are wearing face coverings in these circumstances, we have many more that have not remembered to do so. Please do reiterate to your children that wearing a face covering is an act of generosity to help the community to stop the spread of the virus. It would be great to see all students remembering to wear face coverings in school next week.

Breaktime Food

As per Mr Barringer's Parentmail earlier in the week, our catering company are now serving hot food at break time again. I would be grateful if you could remind your child that this is available.

LFD testing Kits

We plan to send home a new box of LFD test kits on Tuesday next week for each student.

Lost Property

Please do take the time to have quick look at the lost property photos attached. There are hundreds of pounds worth of lost items including coats, jewellery, PE kit, etc., and it would be great to return them to their rightful owners!

Mat Hunter Headteacher

Term Two Curriculum

I mentioned this a few weeks ago, but as we start a new term it seems appropriate to draw your attention to our coursemaps as a way that you can be informed as to what students are studying across the breadth of their subjects. Simply visit our website <https://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/> and hover over the *Subjects* tab, you can then see the full list of subjects that we offer. By moving down the list, you will see that as you move across the subjects you get pop-up tabs with the year groups labelled on them: clicking on any of these will give you the coursemap for that year group in that subject. The coursemap gives you details about what students are studying at each point of the year, and can be used to inform those conversations at home, and perhaps even point the way to some learning that can happen beyond the classroom. We hope that you find them useful and informative.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We refresh our *Clubs Booklet* each term as we are constantly reviewing our extra-curricular offering, and new clubs pop up along the course of the year. You can see our latest, refreshed *Clubs Booklet* here: <https://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/student-information/school-clubs>

Matt Ford

Subject Focus Day

On Monday 15th November, we will be holding the first of three Subject Focus Day of the year. Subject Focus Days (SFD's) are designed to deepen students' understanding of what they have been studying in class, or to explore an area of the curriculum that the regular timetable would not allow for. Year 10 and Year 11 students will spend the day in one of their option subjects (they will be with a different option subject for each subsequent SFD) whilst KS3 students will be with either English, Maths or Science. An outline of what each year group will be doing during the day has been attached to this newsletter. Parents of students attending educational visits have already been contacted with more detailed information about the trip.

Charlotte Gibson

Chromebooks

Well done to everyone for making such a great start with our 1:1 device scheme. We have all been really impressed by the speed with which students have adapted to this new technology. Most students are in the habit of bringing their computers to school every day and leaving them on charge every night. This is a further reminder that it is really important that all Chromebooks are brought to school fully charged, as we don't have facilities to charge a significant number of these devices, nor do we have a large stock of spare devices to loan.

Families who ordered Chromebook devices in September can expect to receive them shortly.

Robert Legg

Solo dance competition (reminder)

This is a reminder to anyone who would like to submit an entry to the Great Big Dance Off solo virtual competition. The deadline is Friday 26th November. You will need to send me a recording of yourself dancing (no longer than 3minutes 30 seconds). All genres of dance are welcome.

If you would like time in the Dance Studio to practise and film your dance, please let me know ASAP and I will allocate you some time.

Taylor Samuel-Beechey

Dance clubs

Dance clubs will be starting from next week at the following times:

Year 7-9	Wednesday lunch time
Year 10-11	Thursday 3-4pm.

Please bring a change of clothes.

Taylor Samuel-Beechey

Maths Problem of the Week

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

Nick Owen

Duke of Edinburgh

Any year 10 students wishing to enrol on the Bronze award or year 11 students wishing to enrol on the Silver award need to complete their enrolment form and hand it into finance office along with the first payment by **Friday 12th November**. If you are struggling to find an activity or assessor for a section please come and speak to me before Friday. All forms and information can also be found on the DofE page of the school website.

Katie Scane

PE News

In this week's PE News, read about:

- The **Club Timetable** for this half term
- An **updated PE Timetable**, listing the activities each class will be participating in this half term
- A return to fixtures with **Year 7 and 9 Hockey**

Matt Mures

New Laser machine delivery this week!

As you can tell by my face in the photo below, we are absolutely delighted with the delivery of our brand-new Boxford Laser cutting machine that arrived on Thursday 4th November!

After the installation and setup, the Design & Technology staff received training from the Boxford technician on how to use this incredible new piece of kit, affectionally named 'The Beast' by Mrs Koziol. We cannot wait to get started in teaching our students how to use this wonderful piece of computer aided machinery and feel very grateful to be supported so well by Mr Hunter and the Governors at Icknield in helping the Design and Technology Department stay at the cutting edge of educational and technological development. I promise to share lots of photos of student work created using this machine.



Barry Kelly
Head of the Design and Technology department

Careers News

Please find attached this week's CareersNews. Please be mindful that there are lots of Open Events for Sixth Form schools and Colleges happening this week and next. If you haven't done so already and wish to attend any of these events, please ensure you register your interest with the schools/colleges as places are limited. Full details can be found on this weeks CareersNews attached.

Helen Richardson

Year 10 History Belgium Trip



The History Department are really excited to be offering Year 10 History students the opportunity to go on a day visit to Belgium in the summer of 2022.

This visit links to the GCSE Historic Environment Unit on how medicine developed on the Western Front. It will involve a visit to a reconstructed First World War trench, a guided tour of a museum, and the opportunity to handle historical objects and to experience the work of a stretcher bearer. Students will reflect on the First World War at the Menin Gate and at a Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery. They will also be able to explore the historic city of Ypres.



The cost of this visit will be approximately £90. Full details will follow shortly in a letter which will be sent via ParentMail.

Jen Hicks