



## Newsletter – 1 December 2017

Date	Event
6 December	Friends of Icknield meeting at the Chequers pub 7.45pm – all welcome!
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 Friday 15 December) - School finishes at 1pm on 19 December
4 January 2018	Term 3 commences – 'A' Week

### Admissions Policy 2019-20

We are currently consulting on a slight amendment to our admissions policy for 2019-20:

Our proposal is to change the admission rules and arrangements for the academic year 2019-20. The Acer Trust intend to include the following statement as the third criterion for over subscription: 3. To children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances: a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or b. b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.”

If you would like to contribute to this consultation, which is open until January 7th, please do click on the link below.

[https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult.ti/2019\\_2020Arrangements/consultationHome](https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult.ti/2019_2020Arrangements/consultationHome)

### Staffing Update

Congratulations to Miss Field who gave birth last Friday (a little earlier than she had expected to!). We wish her all the very best.

Mr Rickard will be covering Miss Field's Year 10/11 Progress Manager role during her maternity leave. We welcome Miss Merritt-Smith to ICC who will be taking on the majority of Miss Field's RE timetable (with Ms Grierson kindly stepping up to teach her GCSE RE Full Course group). Miss Merritt-Smith will also be working in the MfL department.

### KS3 Assessment

Parents and Carers of students in Key Stage 3 should have received information yesterday about their child's progress so far this year.

Please visit the link below on our school website to access the detail behind the assessment and feedback sheets Mr Barringer has written about in his letter to you:

<http://www.icknield.oxon.sch.uk/student-information/assessment-feedback>

We hope this information helps you understand how well your child is doing presently, as well as providing you with a platform for a rich discussion about their learning. Please do contact Mr Barringer with any feedback you might have.

Mat Hunter  
Headteacher

## Watlington Gives

Icknield Community College is supporting the “Watlington Gives” initiative below...

### WATLINGTON GIVES!



All you need is a cardboard box, some kindness and some community spirit! Christmas is a time for family and friends to get together, to give and receive gifts and enjoy those extra little treats and goodies that traditionally go to make Christmas.

For many families though, it is a very stressful time of year, when an already very tight budget is extremely stretched – often to breaking point. The Community Emergency Food Bank in Oxford always sees an increase in the need for its services over the festive period. Homeless Oxfordshire – Formally Oxford Homeless Pathways – provides life-changing services for homeless people across Oxfordshire – including emergency accommodation and day support for rough sleepers, supported accommodation and medical support. Part of these, unfortunately increasingly very much-needed services, includes providing the essentials we all take for granted such as shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste, hats, gloves, socks and clean underwear.

We would love for you to join us and help make Christmas a less stressful time for those in need - both close to home and across our County.

Simply add an item into the box whenever you can, it can be a store cupboard staple or maybe a Christmas luxury we all take for granted – or toiletries or a nice thick pair of woolly socks.

Working with our local Charities, our Schools and Health Professionals in the Watlington area, we will give out as many boxes locally as we can and then any surplus items will be donated to The Oxford Community Emergency Food Bank and Homeless Oxfordshire.

#### **Where and when to drop off your donations:**

**We will be in the Function Room at the rear of The Watlington Club**

**On Friday 15th December 1230 hrs - 8pm**

Thanking you in anticipation! Jo Furness

Some of our Senior Students will be helping out on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. If you know of anyone who would be grateful to receive a donation, or might like perhaps wish for one for a member of your own family, please do let Gill Ward know in confidence.

#### **Mat Hunter**

#### **3D Design club**

There will be no 3D Design afterschool club next week on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December as I am taking a few students to Watlington Church to decorate our 3D Design Christmas tree. Thank you to all the students who have helped to make the decorations. They look fantastic!

Club will continue again the following week on the 13<sup>th</sup> December which will be our last one before the break. It will of course be a Christmas themed club session... ho ho ho.

**Barry Kelly**

## Change to timings of the school day for Year 11 mock exam window (Monday 4 – Monday 18 December)

Next week sees the start of the two week Year 11 mock window. For the duration of the window, we will be using our exams timings for the school day; we need to do this in order to give us a longer afternoon session in which to fit the mock exams.

Timings of the day will be:

- Period one, two and break as normal
- Period three: 11:10 – 12:10 (Year 7); 12:15 (Year 8+Year 9); 12:20 (KS4)
- Lunch
- Period four: 1:00 – 2:00
- Period five as normal

**Matt Ford**

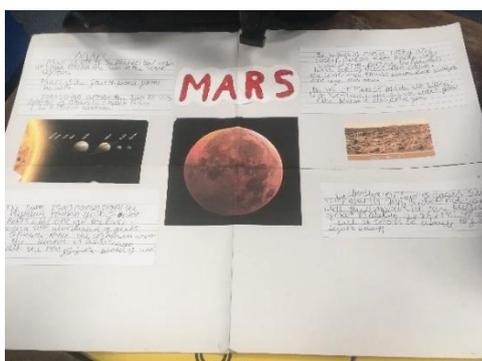
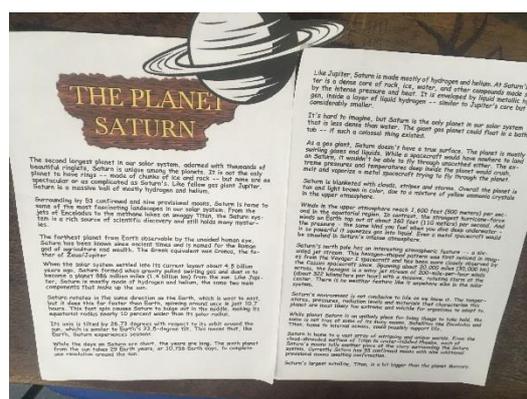
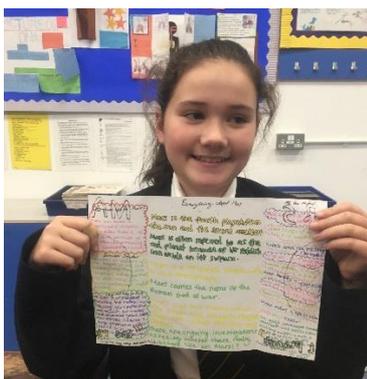
## English – Key Words

We have put together a document drawing together a number of key words that students should be aiming to use in their English work. It's a large document, and pulls together much of the information that is already in our classrooms on the walls, but we thought that it would be useful to have them all in one place. We have looked at key vocab around reading skills, writing skills, literature analysis and beyond, and while some of the language would be aimed more at our Key Stage Four students, it is a useful document for students in all year groups to use. I attach it to the newsletter and it will also be on the school website, in the English subject section.

**Matt Ford**

## Planets

7sckS have been hard at work learning about the planets during their science lessons and here are some of their homeworks about planets. They had their choice to make a model or brochure about a planet with spectacular results of their efforts.



**Katie Scane**



As promised last week, here are some wonderful pictures of excitable Year 7s posing with their books purchased with the aid of the Book Trust! Fewer schools than ever are making use of this resource; it is wonderful that we can still participate thanks to the backing of the Head and his Leadership Team.

Older students will be able to find copies of this year's selection in the library for borrowing.





Jacqui O'Reilly

**Science Technology Engineering and Maths Christmas Events coming soon!**

Please see the below Christmas-themed events for students and parents to experience over this coming week.

**Oxford University Mathematics Christmas Lecture**

By [Alex Bellos - Can Yule solve my problems?](#)

Wednesday 6 December 2017 17:00 hours

Alex Bellos challenges you with some festive brainteasers as he tells the story of mathematical puzzles from the middle ages to modern day. Alex is the Guardian's puzzle blogger as well as the author of several works of popular maths, including Puzzle Ninja, Can You Solve My Problems? and Alex's Adventures in Numberland.

Please email [external-relations@maths.ox.ac.uk](mailto:external-relations@maths.ox.ac.uk) to register

**Science Oxford Christmas Coding with Scratch – Creative Computing Club**

The Basement, Oxford Centre For Innovation, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX1 1BY

Saturday 9 December.

10 am – 11.30 am (ages 9 – 12)

12.30 pm – 2.00 pm (ages 9 – 12)

2.30 pm – 4.00 pm (ages 12-15)

£8 per child, adults free.

Young Coders show off their Scratch programming skills while getting creative at our festive coding workshop. They'll start by creating a Christmas-themed game and then, working together, tell their own Christmas story featuring Scratch Cat and friends walking through a winter wonderland from one computer to the next – will he be naughty or nice?

Booking details can be found at: <https://scienceoxford.com/events/christmas-coding-scratch/>

**Steph Sherwood**

### **GCSE Mock Exams**

Year 10 will soon be sitting their first round of mock exams for their 2019 summer GCSEs. The mock exams start on Monday January 8<sup>th</sup> and will take place in classrooms.

The exam timetable will be released in the Newsletter before the Christmas holidays to inform any revision that may take place during the Christmas break. Please keep an eye out for the timetable and encourage students to ask subject teachers if there are any questions to do with the mock exam content.

A final good luck to all Year 11s starting their GCSE Mock Exams on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Make sure to set aside some final revision time this weekend and get some good quality rest before they start on Monday.

**Adam Rickard**

### **Duke of Edinburgh**

Any year 9/10/11 students who want to enrol in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze/Silver need to get their enrolment forms in to the Finance Office by the end of Monday.

**Katie Scane**

### **ICC Winter Concert**

Don't miss the ICC Winter Concert on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm. Come along and kick start the Christmas season with some beautiful music from our talented students! Free entry and mulled wine available!

**Amy De Sybel**

### **PE News**

On Tuesday we took some Year 7 girls to compete in the Vale Indoor Football 5-a-side tournament; this was anticipated as being a good test for our girls and we went in full of confidence. The girls finished top of their group without conceding a single goal meaning they progressed through to the semi-finals where they would face local rivals Wallingford. The girls conceded their first goals of the tournament but continued their scoring streak to see them win the game 3-2. Matthew Arnold were the opposition in the final and although finals are stereotypically tough, we romped to a 4-0 victory to secure the tournament! The girls played excellently together as a team, they worked hard in every game and there was also some stand out goals from Tillie, Juliana and Poppy.

Congratulations to all of the girls who were part of the winning side; they will now progress to the Southern Area finals due to be played at Soccer City, Fareham on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January. We look forward to seeing how they get on!

Congratulations to Caitlin Fern, Emma Harrop and Molly Hulcup who have successfully beat hundreds of girls from all the Oxfordshire Hockey Clubs and many private schools to secure places into the Oxfordshire Girls Hockey County Squad. All have worked incredibly hard to get to where they are now and thoroughly deserve the recognition they are now receiving.

On Tuesday this week we also had a tournament for a mixed Year 7/8 Boys football team; we entered two teams to give as many pupils an opportunity as possible and they were pitted against 4 other teams in the competition. Both our teams started off slow with a loss and a draw, however, we soon found our rhythm and managed go unbeaten with several draws and three wins between the two teams. We played extremely well scoring several brilliant goals but our man of the tournament was Guy Gilroy who made some spectacular saves in goal. The boys finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> overall and every single one of them had a fantastic time representing the school. Well done, boys!

Reminder – We are currently holding a Rugby Grand Draw where there are load of fantastic prizes to win, ranging from cash prizes to tickets to England Rugby games. Tickets are £1 and can be bought from the Finance Office.

Fixtures:	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Y7-10 Indoor Rowing (H)
	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Y8 Rugby (Banbury RFC)
	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Y7-11 Cross Country (Gillotts)

Please follow our twitter and Instagram pages (@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.

**Matt Mures**

### **GCSE Mocks**

As you will be aware, the Year 11 mocks start on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December and some Year 10 students have a RE mock on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December. I would appreciate if you could please remind your child of the following:

- Ensure they are prompt to register at tutor time at 8:30 am.
- Encourage them to check the exam board daily so they are familiar with when and where their exams are scheduled to take place.
- They will need to be outside the relevant exam room 10 minutes before the exam start time (8:45 am or 1pm). Students with access arrangements will be advised by Student Services regarding their specific arrangements.
- Please ensure that they have with them the correct equipment for each exam, including a calculator for maths paper 2 and for all three science papers.

Many thanks for your support.

### **Helen Rints**

#### **Christmas Dinner – Tuesday 12 December 2017**

The Christmas Dinner this year will be on Tuesday, 12 December. The cost will be £2.50, which will include a drink – exceptionally good value! In order to assist the canteen in catering for the day, please could students ask for a raffle ticket from the staff on the tills over the course of next week. The dinner will be paid for on the 12th, in the normal manner of their keyfob. Please note, there will be no other hot food available on the day of the Christmas dinner. Sandwiches and baguettes will be available as usual.

**Gill Ward**

#### **Senior Citizens' Christmas Party**

Every year, Ickniel Community College hosts a Christmas party. The party will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> December this year, 4.00pm to 5.30pm and is an excellent opportunity for the school to show how much we value the more senior members of our local community.

Any guest unable to travel on the transport provided, who has a friend or family member to bring them along, would also be most welcome to enjoy the festivities too.

If anyone in the local community has not received an invitation and would like to attend the party, please call the school to be added to the database and for an invitation to be extended to them.

Donations of bottles of wine, toiletries, chocolates, mince pies (or any item you think suitable to be used as a 'raffle' prize), would be gratefully received to enable us to make up hampers for our guests. Please send in to the Finance Office.

**Gill Ward**

### **Help for Senior Citizens' Christmas Party**

Please could students who wish to help out at the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party collect a letter of consent from our Finance Office. The party is always enjoyed by our guests and staff and students alike, so please do come along to help.

**Gill Ward**

### **Creative Learning Day**

Last Friday we had a very successful first Creative Learning Day of the year in which lots of exciting activities took place. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves as did the staff! Thank you to all the staff who helped to organise events and trips. Events included this year's first interhouse competitions for year 7 and 8 in PE, a Duke of Edinburgh Award taster day for year 9, year 10 went on university visits, year 11 completed intensive curriculum days for one of their GCSE option subjects and there was also a Further Education Fair for year 9, 10 and 11 which was very well attended.

**Louise Gilkes**





### **Parisian Raps**

Our year 8 students have been channelling their inner 'Nicky Minaj' and 'Stormzy' recently, by rapping about a visit to Paris in French! Please note that ties were removed to make them look more 'street' - and swiftly put back on for their next lesson!

It's so lovely to see students enjoying themselves and learning French at the same time.

Well done to Annabelle Lane, Erin Tucker, Daisy Hogger, Zara Hopkins, Rhiannon Fitzgerald and Tia Khan for their particularly enjoyable compositions!

**Jane Morton**

### **Friends of Icknield**

**Next FOI Meeting scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at the Chequers Pub, Watlington.**

Thank you to those of you who were able to make it to Watlington Christmas Fair on Saturday, and for all of the kind donations and support you gave us. I'm sure we raised a tidy sum for the school - our first event with the new committee ticked off!

Next up is the Winter Concert on the 12th December where we'll be serving drinks and nibbles.

Our Facebook page has now reached 100 likes! Do find us and encourage others to like us, so you can keep up to speed with all our news and events.

And don't forget to log on to Easy Fundraiser while you're Christmas Shopping in the next few weeks. For no extra cost, and very little effort we could together raise a significant amount for our kids through this scheme

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsoficknield/>

The 50:50 draw will take place soon - if you want a chance to ease a little of the yuletide expenses, email [foi5050@btinternet.com](mailto:foi5050@btinternet.com) and buy your tickets... the more people in it the greater the prize!

If you want to get involved, in any small way, we'd love to see you at the next meeting (6th Dec, 7:45pm, Chequers pub, Watlington), or alternatively feel free to email me ([helen\\_boddy@outlook.com](mailto:helen_boddy@outlook.com))

Thank you for your support

**Helen Boddy**

## Letters to Parents/Carers

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

Winter Concert letter – Selected Students

Poetry Live letter – Year 11

Opal Coast letter – Year 7

These letters can also be accessed on the school website:

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

## Community News

### Vacancy – Chalgrove Primary School

Part-time Cleaner at Chalgrove School

Start Date: As soon as possible  
Contract / Hours: Permanent, part time  
Salary Details: £7.80 per hour  
Hours of Work: 3.30-5.00 or 4.00-5.30pm five days a week  
Location of Role: Chalgrove Community School

Job/Person Summary: We are looking to appoint a cleaner as soon as possible for five afternoons a week to join our existing team in keeping our school spotlessly clean and tidy. We are looking for someone who is reliable and has high expectations of cleanliness. This is a temporary position to start as soon as possible, which may become permanent. The position is term time with two weeks (15 hours) of cleaning required at the beginning of the summer holidays.

Application Procedure: Please contact Mrs Louise Cartwright by phone 01865 890385 or email [admin.2452@chalgrove.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:admin.2452@chalgrove.oxon.sch.uk) for any further information, to arrange a visit to school or an application pack.