



Icknield Community College

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



Newsletter: 16 December 2022

Date	Event
19 December	'A' Week
20 December	End of Term (non-uniform day) School ends at 1pm
21 Dec – 3 Jan'23	Christmas Holiday
4 January	Inset Day
5 January	School Resumes - 'B' Week

Congratulations Year 11

A huge "Well Done!" to our Year 11 students who have completed their exams today. These have been taking place in the Sports for just over two weeks and, I hope, have been a useful experience for our students in terms of providing them with a taster of what is to come in the summer. Many thanks for Mr Ford for coordinating this exams season.

Survey Feedback

Many thanks to the parents who gave us their views in the recent Parental Survey. The Leadership Team analysed all of these in our meeting this week and Dr Legg and I will be sharing some of the key findings with you in the newsletter on 17th January.

Thank you also to the vast majority of the students in the school who were able to share their views with us through the recent Student Survey. Again, these views were analysed by the Leadership Team this week. Dr Legg and I will be sharing the headlines with our students in assemblies in January. It is really helpful to be able to gather the views of all members of our community to help shape our next set of plans.

Netball/Tennis Courts Donations

Thank you very much to the following people who have kindly made donations to our Netball/Tennis courts projects – we do really appreciate it! If you would still like to do so, please click on the link [here](#).

Kate Chown	Arline Dalton
Julia Lawrence	Lynsey Ridgley
Helena Szrajber	Callum Johnson
Mat Hunter	Elliott Swain
Keith Woolfson	Bethan Rogers
Shona Bull	Justine Gore-Smith
Eleanor Pyper	Devon Madle
Helen Vincent	Joss Madle
Emma Gray	Sarah King
Cecile Bolton	Finn O'Hehir
	Watlington Netball Club

Merry Christmas

At the end of a very long (and, latterly, very cold!) term, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. I hope you all manage to have a very relaxing break with your friends and families. Happy New Year to you, also, and we look forward to working with you in 2023.

Mat Hunter
Headteacher

Year 8 and 9 Assessments after the holiday

Immediately after the holiday, Year 8 and 9 students will be completing assessments in English, Maths, Science, Geography, History, French & Spanish. These assessments will be taken in exam conditions in their normal classrooms. Teachers will have shared guidance on how to prepare and revise for these assessments either in lessons, on satchel One or both. The schedule for the assessments can be seen below.

Year 8

Subject	Classes	Date/lesson
English	8En/HFy	5/1/23 p1
	8En/JB	5/1/23 p1
	8En/NBy	5/1/23 p1
	8En/FP	6/1/23 p5
	8En/HFx	6/1/23 p5
	8En/NBx	6/1/23 p5
Maths	All classes	9/1/23 (either p1 or p2)
Science	All classes	6/1/23 p2
Geography	8HM	5/1/23 p5
	8AG	5/1/23 p2
	8NB	5/1/23 p5
	8CT	6/1/23 p1
	8HB	6/1/23 p1
	8GK	6/1/23 p4
History	8HM	10/1/23 p2
	8AG	6/1/23 p1
	8NB	9/1/23 p3
	8CT	9/1/23 p5
	8HB	9/1/23 p5
	8GK	10/1/23 p2
French	8Fr/CT	11/1/23 p3
	8Fr/AH	11/1/23 p3
	8Fr/XN	11/1/23 p3
Spanish	8Sp/KM	11/1/23 p2
	8Sp/CT	11/1/23 p2
	8Sp/XN	11/1/23 p2

Year 9

Subject	Classes	Date/lesson
English	9En/CM	5/1/23 p5
	9En/HM	5/1/23 p5
	9En/JB	5/1/23 p5
	9En/HF	6/1/23 p1
	9En/NB	6/1/23 p1
Maths	All classes	10/1/23 p5
Science	All classes	6/1/23 p5
Geography	9Ge/JB	6/1/23 p3
	9Ge/DM	6/1/23 p4
	9Ge/TSy	9/1/23 p3
	9Ge/TSx	5/1/23 p4
	9Ge/GH	5/1/23 p4
History	9Hi/JH	9/1/23 p2
	9Hi/MC	11/1/23 p1
	9Hi/GKx	9/1/23 p3
	9Hi/GKy	10/1/23 p1
	9Hi/MF	9/1/23 p3
French	9Fr/AH	11/1/23 p3
	9Fr/KM	11/1/23 p3
Spanish	9Sp/AH	12/1/23 p2
	9Sp/CT	12/1/23 p2
	9Sp/KM	12/1/23 p2

Coming up this year: CAMHS Webinars for Parents

The CAMHS In-Reach service are delivering 3 parent webinars across this year to offer support to parents. Please see dates below for the remaining 2 webinars. The webinars will be delivered from 7-8pm. If you would be interested in attending one of these webinars, please email Lisa Best (lisa.best@icknield.oxon.sch.uk). Closer to the event, we will distribute the link to join the webinar.

23rd of February 2023 - Supporting Young people with low mood and depression: This session will cover a brief overview of what depression is, how it presents in young people and what keeps it going? An introduction into behavioural activation techniques and how to support your teenager

20th April 2023 - Supporting Young people who self-harm: This session will be a chance for parents to gain a greater understanding around self-harm, how to have conversations with young people and strategies for practical support.

Vicky Pickford

Christmas Appeal

Thank you so much for your generous contributions to this year's Christmas appeal. We have once again received an overwhelming number of donations requiring the minibus to transport them to the food bank. We appreciate your continued support for all of the schools fundraising events.

Charlotte Gibson

Social Media Round-Up

This week's social media offering began with an unplanned post showing an almost pristine covering of fresh snow here in Watlington. It was lovely to see a message confirming the school was *open* receiving our highest ever number of 'shares' and 'likes' across Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. The wintery theme continued with a Christmas message from Years 8 and 9, and a celebration of our students' participation in the Century Winter Cup. Meanwhile, hundreds of you viewed the memory of a warmer moment from our March production of *Matilda*. Don't forget to follow our @icknieldCC accounts, and 'share' and 'like' wherever you can.

Robert Legg

Staffing News

Family circumstances mean that Rebecca Elgood, our Head of Music, will be taking a leave of absence from school from January. We're looking forward to welcoming her back as soon as possible. Jess Parker will be looking after Mrs Elgood's tutor group in her absence and I will be teaching our Music classes during this period.

Robert Legg

Maths Problem of the Week

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

Nick Owen

Support for parents and carers of SEN students

The link on the below image allows parents and carers to sign up to receive access to a support pack consisting of a set of resources created by the Witherslack Group. There are podcasts and recorded webinars on topics such as:

- Managing sibling relationships
- Changing routines and special occasions
- Social tolerance for socially sensitive children

I highly recommend listening to some of these if you would like some tips and ideas to help support SEN students over the holidays.

There are also resources and practical ideas to help students with regulation.



Richelle Grisdale

Newquay 2022 – Pictures

Please click on the link below to access pictures and videos from the September trip to Newquay – students will need to login in via their Microsoft 365 account to gain access. Apologies for the delay in these being made available.

<https://9314082.sharepoint.com/sites/NewquayTrip2022?e=1%3A47dce8f3b61a498e81b6f6c02484f982>

Matt Mures

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Christmas candy cane sale and helped us to raise money for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation and the Oxford Hospitals Charity!

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PE News

In this week's PE News:

- A look into our **club attendance** this term
- The current standings for the **KS3 Winter Games**
- **PE Lesson Timetable** for next term (KS3 only)

Matt Mures

When do I need to submit a leave of absence request?

If your child will be absent, other than for medical, dental and orthodontist appointments or musical instrument examinations, you must request a leave of absence, rather than just informing the school that your child will be absent. Applications must be made, in writing, at least 4 weeks in advance and not on the day of the absence. The request must be in writing from the parent/guardian with whom the child normally resides and not from a third party, e.g. Scout Leader, External Sports Coach. An email to absence@ickniel.d.oxon.sch.uk is sufficient. The absence will then be considered by a member of the Leadership Team and you will be informed of the outcome within 5 school days.

The Attendance Team

Careers News

If there are any parents who are free to help us with our **Y11 Mock Interviews** on **Friday 20 January from 8.30-11.30am**, then please do get in touch. We are in need of a few more interviewers. This event is highly rewarding and is an invaluable experience for our students before they start their Further Education or Apprenticeship interviews.

This week's CareersNews has a final plea to all Y10 students who are still to find their **Work Experience** placement to do so by Friday 13 January. There will be no further extensions past this date. Please ask your child to come and see me if they are struggling to find themselves a placement.

Exciting events coming up include **BMW Girls Go Technical** event on Wednesday 11 January. If you are interested then please register to join this event by Friday 6 January. Other events taking place include an introduction to a career in **Real Estate** or a career as an **Accountant**. These events are highly valuable and worth the time if your son/daughter has an interest in a career in these pathways. There will be more coming in the New Year so please keep a lookout for these events.

Helen Richardson

Acer Trust Job Vacancies

Do you want to make a difference to young people and their families? We are advertising for the non-teaching posts of Deputy DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) and Exams Officer. For full details, plus details of other vacancies across Acer Trust, please visit our website: [Icknield Community College - Vacancies](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Improve your child's grades with Maths Tutor Direct!

Need Support with Maths Tutoring? Look no further!

Engaging maths sessions in the comfort of your own home with **Maths Tutor Direct**.

We support students at **Key Stage 3 & GCSE maths**. With the best maths qualifications, your options expand! Weekly prices start at just **£15**.

Enrol on your first session for FREE by following:

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info@mathstutordirect.co.uk

07917 727 555

Aspire, achieve, gain confidence in maths

This is a personal business and has no affiliation with the school.

Adrian Thomas