



Icknield Community College

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



Newsletter: 20 January 2023

Date	Event
23 January	'A' Week
26 January	Year 11 Parents'/Carers' Evening
9 February	Year 9 Parents'/Carers' Evening
10 February	Flu Vaccine – Years 7,8,9 Only
13-17 February	Holiday
20 February	School Resumes - 'B' Week

Year 11 Mock Interviews

A huge thank you to so many members of our local community who gave up their time today to interview our Year 11 students. Our students really benefitted from this experience and some of them even enjoyed being put through their paces!

I will keep my entry short today as there is an important message from Dr Legg below.

Mat Hunter
Headteacher

My Child At School (MCAS)

Next week, we will be launching a new online portal and associated app that will enable Icknield parents and carers to access information about their children quickly and easily. The portal, known as 'My Child At School' or 'MCAS', is part of Bromcom, the management information system (MIS) that holds all our student data. Creating an MCAS account will allow you to review your child's timetable and attendance, to check the contact details we hold for your family, and to access vital documents such as grade cards. MCAS will also be the new home for the Kudos points that students are awarded for positive contributions, good work and sustained effort.

Creating an MCAS account is very straightforward. You will receive an email from Bromcom inviting you to click a link and choose a password. Once you have an account, we recommend downloading the MCAS app to your smartphone, as this will enable you to receive updates about your child wherever you are. We are currently reviewing the homework functionality of the MCAS portal and until this evaluation is complete will continue to use Satchel One to publish details of the homework we set. Similarly, please note that while Kudos points will be shown in MCAS, we will not be using the portal to communicate with you about any negative behaviour events until a review of this functionality has been undertaken.

MCAS is extremely easy to use. We encourage you to act swiftly to set up an MCAS account as soon as you receive the emailed invitation. Doing so will ensure that you receive Kudos notifications, grade cards and other key information about your child. Please contact me without hesitation should you have any questions or concerns.

Robert Legg

Chromebook Charging

This is a reminder that it's very important all students bring their Chromebooks to school charged as we have extremely limited facilities to support students whose devices aren't brought to school with full batteries. Please encourage your children to leave their devices safely charging overnight, so that they are ready for a full day's work each morning. Thanks for your support.

Robert Legg

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

Social Media Round-Up

It's been a slightly quieter than usual week across our @IcknieldCC accounts on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, but many of you have enjoyed our Year 7 historians' beautiful work on Medieval Britain. Has the Black Death ever looked so chilling?! Don't miss next week's posts which look set to include book reviews from our student librarians and an energetic Year 7 warm-up in Dance, as well as contributions from Maths, Citizenship and Modern Languages.

Robert Legg

Evolve club list

After a slight delay, the clubs booking system from Evolve is now up and running, however I have been made aware of a small glitch which has resulted in multiple emails being sent out. Apologies for this. In the future, we will not send this link via email to avoid this issue moving forwards. Parents and carers with the myEVOLVE app will still be able to access all of the club information and book students onto clubs should you so wish. You are welcome to sign students up to clubs using this service, but there is no obligation to do so and students will be welcomed to clubs, regardless of whether they have been signed up or not. The benefits for doing so allows anyone using myEVOLVE to access information about clubs quickly and easily by selecting the "My Activities" tab on the app. Club information will also be shared via the Newsletter for anyone who is yet to sign up to myEVOLVE.

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

English Literature Set Texts

Before Christmas, I wrote to all parents of Year 10 students informing them of our recommended copies of GCSE set texts. We know that students having their own copies of texts to use in class is highly beneficial in supporting their learning and I would encourage all Year 10 students to have their own text wherever possible. We have now started to analyse Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and [here](#) is an Amazon link to the edition we recommend students have.

Please refer to my original letter for information regarding other set texts and recommended revision guides.

Chris McGinnity

An Inspector Calls Theatre Production

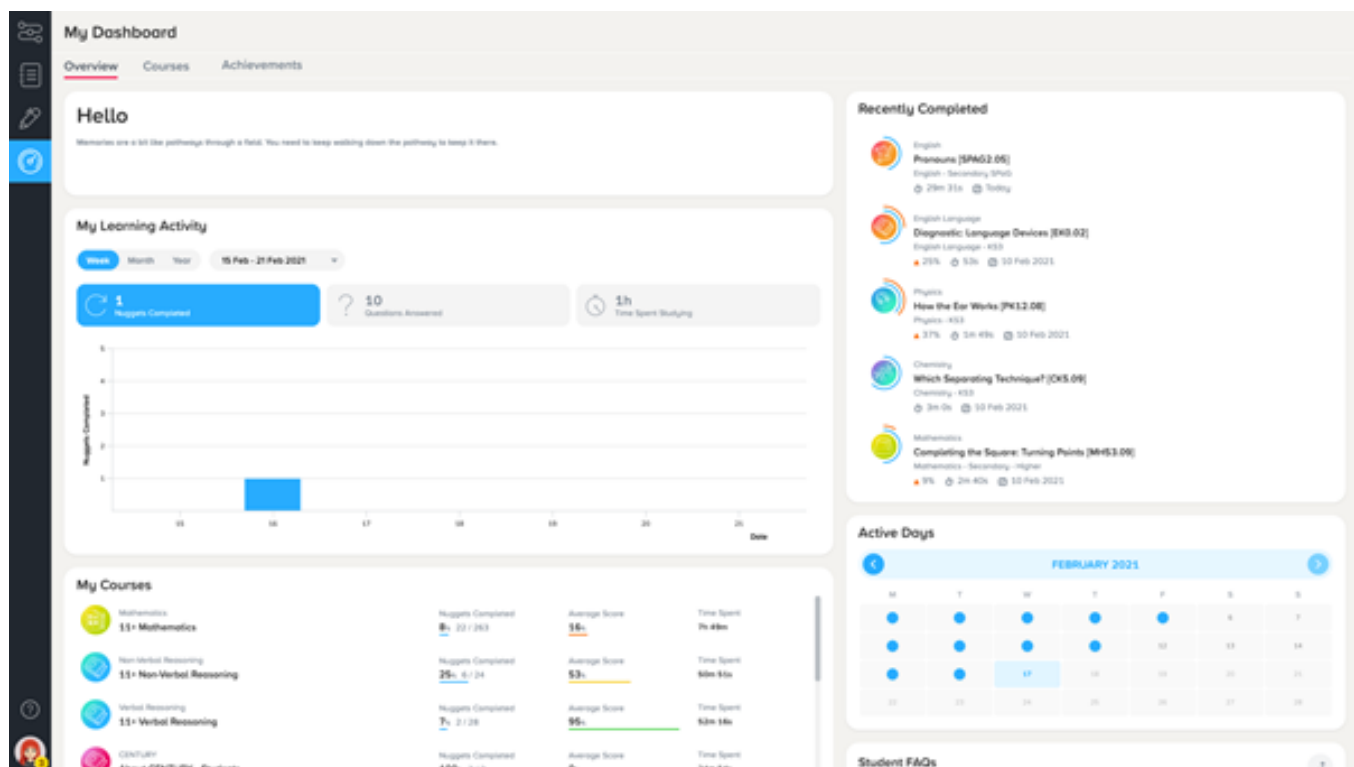
Nothing beats seeing performances of set texts in front of a live theatre audience and whilst we try to create opportunities for this to happen as part of the English curriculum it isn't always possible. The touring production of *An Inspector Calls* is a fantastic production but local dates clash with our school holidays so we cannot run a trip as we ordinarily would. Therefore, if you are looking for something to do with your Year 10 or Year 11 child over February half-term, I highly recommend seeing this production. Full information can be found [here](#).

Chris McGinnity

Century Tech

Century Tech is used by all students in the school for Maths, English and Science. It may be used in lessons, for homework but can also be used for the students to work independently and, as a school, we would really encourage students to do this. The AI learns how the student's brain learns and generates a personalised learning pathway. This video has more information <https://youtu.be/yn0TdhcaLbY>.

The student dashboard (as seen below) will give you a good insight into what they have been working on and how they are progressing.



If you would like any support with Century, please do get in touch.

Hazel Carvel

Absence from School

If your child is absent from school, please email us at absence@icknield.oxon.sch.uk or leave a message on 01491 612691 (Option 1). If they are ill, please be specific about what is wrong as this helps us code the absence correctly.

The Attendance Team

COMMUNITY NEWS

Snowdrop Teas

Please see attached a flyer for a Snowdrop Teas event in Swyncombe for three weekends in February. This involves a lovely walk through beautiful scenery, a historic church and some tasty cakes!

James Barringer

Maths Tutor Direct

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:

<https://mathstutordirect.class4kids.co.uk/>

www.mathstutordirect.co.uk

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