



Icknield Community College

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Love Lane, Watlington, Oxfordshire OX49 5RB



Newsletter: 3 March 2023

Date	Event
Wc 6 March	"B" Week
20 March	Year 8 & 9 HPV Immunisation catch-up session
30 March	Year 10 Parents'/Carers' Evening
31 March	End of Term
3-16 April	Easter Holiday
17 April	School Resumes "B" Week

There's lots to read about in this week's newsletter so nothing from me this week...

Mat Hunter
Headteacher

Little Shop of Horrors

Over the last several months, we have been preparing our production of this year's school show, Little Shop of Horrors. If you haven't already made a note in your diary, be sure to reserve a slot for one of our upcoming performances! The show runs at 5pm and 8pm on Wednesday 22, Thursday 23 and Friday 24 March, with tickets going on sale next Friday 10 March. This will be our most ambitious production yet, and a great night out for all the family is 100% guaranteed. Please have a look at the attached poster, and spread the word among your contacts. Look out: a carnivorous plant is coming to town ...

Adam Rowe and Robert Legg

Social Media Round-Up

We've seen lots of exciting happenings this week across our social media channels. On Monday we celebrated the winner of our International Day of Women and Girls in Science competition. Tuesday saw some of our Year 7s using their Chromebooks to evaluate Lindy Hop performances in Dance. Wednesday's memory post looked back to the success one of our most prodigious entrepreneurs. On Thursday we visited the library for some World Book Day-themed activities, and we finished the week, on Friday, with some highly impressive work on French verbs, complete with memorable hand gestures. Thanks to everyone who continues to 'like', 'retweet' and 'share'. If you haven't yet found us, we're @IcknieldCC on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

Robert Legg

Watlington Sustainability Fair

I would like to ask for your support in promoting our future event focused on sustainability. The goal of this event is to continue to educate young people about the importance of sustainability and to build strong links between them and our local community. As businesses working with sustainable products and individuals committed to promoting sustainable practices, we know you share our passion for protecting our planet. Your support through attendance but also in spreading the word about this event will go a long way in helping us achieve our mission. The date of the fair is June 23rd 2023.

Together, we can make a real difference in the fight against climate change and create a more sustainable future for all. Please do contact me if you think you could help in anyway.

jack.miller@icknield.oxon.sch.uk

Jack Miller

Icknield Litter Pick

Did you know that hedgerows are amongst the most Biodiverse habitats in Britain? On Friday 17th March, I am inviting students to join some Y9 students and members of the Eco-Council to an Icknield litter pick. Our main focus will be the hedgerows that surround the school where, inevitably, litter can build up. Not only is the dangerous to the organisms that rely on them but is unsightly for our students and local community members. Litter picking equipment will be provided! If you would like to be involved, please contact Dr Miller.

Jack Miller

Absences for Holidays and Family Trips

Please be aware that holidays and family trips, including to visit relatives, will not be authorised. The guidance from the Department for Education is that absences can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and family holidays and trips do not fall into this category. It is important for parents to be honest with the school if their child will be absent in these circumstances, and you should still **request** a leave of absence, well in advance. If you take your child out of school, it will be their responsibility to catch up with all work missed; work will not be provided in advance. Taking your child out of school will have an impact on their education, may result in a fine and you may be invited into school for a meeting about your child's attendance, if absences persist or there is a history of absenteeism. If you have worries or concerns about your child and their attendance, please contact the school and we will work with you to help resolve the issue.

The Attendance Team

CAMHS Webinar for Parents

The CAMHS In-Reach service have delivered 2 webinars so far across this year to offer support to parents. The date for the third and final webinar in the series is below. The webinar will be delivered from 7-8pm. If you would be interested in attending, please email Lisa Best (lisa.best@icknield.oxon.sch.uk). Closer to the event, we will distribute the link to join the webinar.

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

Year 9 Guided Choices

Thank you very much to everyone who has entered their guided choices by using the Microsoft Form at <https://forms.office.com/e/5cAL4hVBdc> If you have yet to do so, please enter your child's subject choices as soon as possible. I attach the Guided Choices Booklet to the Newsletter and also the Application Form, which will show you the composition of the three subject blocks (and also includes that link to the aforementioned Microsoft Form).

Matt Ford

10X Challenge

We've got lots of exciting 10X challenge entries for budding entrepreneurs! Look out over the next few weeks for a wide array of items to buy, including sweets, jewellery, plants and coasters. There are also gardening businesses, face painting, car washing and quiz nights to support. Good luck to everyone involved!

If students would like to take part in the 10X challenge, it's not too late to get involved. Students need to return their forms to Dr Hicks by Tuesday to receive investment in their business.

Jen Hicks

Art News

We are really excited to have been invited to take part this year in creating collaborative large, mixed media faces to decorate the Town Hall to celebrate the Watlington Art Week event taking place between the 6th – 14th May <https://www.artweeks.org/festival> Many local Artists who will be exhibiting throughout Art Week have already created a range of really exciting faces and the students work will be part of the art community display on the Town Hall.

Art Week Art Club will run on Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtimes starting on 8th March in Room 42 where students from all year groups can come together to work either on their own piece or create with friends.

Jessica Parker

Maths Problem of the Week

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

Nick Owen

PE News

Please read the attached document, where you will find:

- An achievement for a Y9 student at the **English Gymnastics Championships**
- **Results** from this week
- All of the **fixtures for next week**

Matt Mures

Careers News

Next week is **National Careers Week**. To celebrate the event, we will be hosting assemblies throughout the week as well as lesson starters in careers linked to the curriculum and activities throughout tutor time and Citizenship lessons. Students will be encouraged to see how their studies can link to their future careers. There are two fantastic parent magazines: one is attached to the Newsletter and another is linked within CareersNews. Please take some time to look through these as they are full of support and ways in which to understand your child's future options.

Many companies have launched their Apprenticeships with some closing soon. There is a great list of apprenticeship opportunities both locally and Nationally. If your child is interested in applying for an apprenticeship and needs some support, please ask them to come and see me. You can also search on the Government National Website. Click here to begin your search: [Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk) Any questions, please do get in touch: helen.richardson@icknield.oxon.sch.uk

Helen Richardson

Letters to Parents

- Leavers Hoodie letter 2023 – Year 11
- Get Help letter – Whole School
- Easter Revision – Year 11

Finance Office

COMMUNITY NEWS

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**.

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Aspire, achieve, gain confidence in maths

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

Adrian Thomas

Easter Maths Exam Preparation

Easter holidays are an important opportunity for your child to prepare for GCSE exams. Give your child the skills they need to approach exams with confidence.

We are offering three 1-hour exam practice sessions based on predictions for the 2023 Summer Exams. Dates of course:

Monday 3rd April

Thursday 6th April &

Thursday 13th April

From 10-11am for Foundation Tier & From 12-1pm for Higher Tier

Within the Easter camp, students will receive the 3 predicted exam papers in advance of the session. Papers are expected to be completed prior to the live sessions for maximum learning, they will be sent at least 48 hours before the first session.

Students will receive a traffic light feedback form to inform them of personalised revision areas and also the recorded link to use for recapping/ last minute exam practice. The content is highly likely to mirror topics that may feature in the real exam.

The cost per session is £20 OR £55 for all 3 (early bird price).

To book on select the appropriate tier via the following link:

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

Lastly the GCSE Foundation Tier booster sessions will start next Saturday 4th March, there is only 2 students booked on currently if you wish to join, (flyer attached).

<https://mathstutordirect.class4kids.co.uk/info/71>

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Adrian Thomas