



## Icknield Community College

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Newsletter: 30 September 2022

Date	Event
3 October	'A' Week
6 October	Year 10 Information Evening
20 October	Year 7 Information Evening
21 October	End of Term (non-uniform day)
24-28 October	Half Term Holiday
31 October	Inset Day
1 November	School Resumes - 'B' Week

### DfE, Ofqual and JCQ Announcement on Summer Exams 2023

Yesterday, the DfE, Ofqual and JCQ released joint confirmation of the policy decisions for exams next summer (England only). These include:

- The grade profile for GCSEs and A levels in 2023 will return to the 2019 grade profile, as expected, with an additional safety net to ensure that overall grades are not lower than in 2019 (as one might expect them to be, if the performance standard is lower).
- This means that at a cohort-level, students have the same chance of getting an A\*, A, C, etc in 2023 as they would have had in 2019.
- Formula sheets in GCSE maths, physics and combined science are due to be kept for 2023. There is a consultation on this here.
- The other adaptations, including advanced information, will not continue this year.
- JCQ has published its draft timetable. This includes spaces between the first and last qualification, though not always 10 days as this related to the isolation period at the time the 2022 timetable was published.
- The minimum criteria for special consideration for candidates who are absent at the time of the exam will continue to be one paper, rather than 25%.

**Mat Hunter**  
Headteacher

### Social Media Round-Up

Have you been following our Instagram, Facebook and Twitter posts this week? If not, catch up with @IcknieldCC and have a look at what's been happening in Drama, Media, Maths, and Health and Social Care. Especially well done to all our Year 7s, who sang so well in French and Spanish for their celebration of European Day of Languages. Thanks to everyone who's followed us or re-posted any of our social media this week – it's great to have a wider audience celebrating our students' work.

**Robert Legg**

### Assessment at Key Stage Three

This week, during assemblies, I have explained to students how we will be assessing and feeding back their performance in Years 7, 8 and 9 this year. Please do ask your children about it. I have attached a students' guide to assessment at KS3 to this newsletter so you can see an overview of the systems that we have put in place.

**James Barringer**

### **Year 11: Exams Revision Guidance**

Our exit feedback from last year's GCSE students (and their parents) tells us that the weekly revision guidance that we issued in the run up to each exam season, bespoke for each student in terms of being tailored only to the subjects they study, was one of the most valuable and beneficial pieces of support that they received. For our current Year 11 students, now that the December Year 11 mocks are on the horizon, these valuable documents, each featuring one hour per GCSE qualification of revision per week, will be issued from Friday 30 September, running weekly to Friday 25 November (nine in total), just before the start of the exam season itself.

It is essential that students complete the work on these documents each week. To that end, we ask teachers to set only minimal (if any) additional homework on *Satchel:One* during this period, with the message being clear: a central way that students can help themselves to a successful mock exam period is by diligently and thoroughly completing at least all of the tasks on their own revision guidance documents each week.

**Matt Ford**

### **Ordering School Photographs**

Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 had their photographs taken on Thursday 16 September. This is a reminder for those who would like to order copies that the final day on which it is possible to take advantage of free delivery to school is Wednesday 5 October. You can order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit [www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk). If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest directly on 01736 751555 (then choose Option 3).

**Robert Legg**

### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

We are aware that a small number of parents have been experiencing difficulties accessing the extra-curricular club details via the new Evolve platform. We are still working with Evolve to diagnose the issue and will be in contact once this has been resolved. In the meantime, please find attached a copy of the extra-curricular clubs available this term.

**Charlotte Gibson**

### **European Day of Languages**

Monday 26 September was European Day of Languages. First introduced in 2001, its main aims are to promote awareness of the importance of language learning and protecting linguistic heritage, as well as celebrating linguistic diversity.

This week, we have been encouraging all students to engage in some of this year's European Day of Languages activities, in tutor time. Please ask our students about these! Want to have a go? Visit the website to find quizzes, surveys, videos and even an app to take you through a secret agent language challenge <https://edl.ecml.at/>. Do let us know how you get on!

**Alex Hunter**

### **Eurovision**

So, will it be Liverpool or Glasgow for next year's Eurovision? Well, Watlington saw the arrival of Francovision and Spanglovision, as our Y7 linguists performed their French and Spanish songs this afternoon. Check out our social media posts this week to listen. We hope you're as impressed with them as we are!

**Alex Hunter**

### **Maths Problem of the Week**

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

**Nick Owen**

### **Wood Donations**

We are happy to accept donations of any hardwood offcuts to use for GCSE student 3D Design projects. (Please see some examples of student projects) If you can help please contact [warren.ward@icknield.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:warren.ward@icknield.oxon.sch.uk)

**Warren Ward**

### **It All Adds Up: A Maths Conference for Girls at Oxford University**

The Mathematical Institute and Department of Statistics at Oxford University are holding a maths conference in Oxford for girls and non-binary students in Years 9-11.

This is an opportunity to hear inspirational talks by world class female mathematicians, participate in hands-on workshops and meet some undergraduate maths students.

The dates of the conference are:

11 January 2023: Year 9

12 January 2023: Years 10-11

The deadline for applications to attend is 21 October.

If you are interested in attending, or would like further information, please speak to or email Miss Carvel or Dr Owen.

**Hazel Carvel/Nick Owen**

### **PE News**

In this week's PE News:

- An opportunity to join a Football Development Centre
- **Results** from last week
- All the **fixtures** for next week

**Matt Mures**

### **Team Work**

The Attendance Team are here to support you and your child / children to get the most out of their time here at Icknield. Poor attendance can have a serious impact on a child's future and the chances and opportunities that are available to them. Good attendance, however, will help them to meet their full potential, build better relationships with their peers, be better supported and encouraged to achieve and be less likely to become victims of crime and abuse or to get drawn into anti-social or criminal behaviour.

Please help us by creating good routines at home and making sure that children arrive at school on time and are properly equipped. If you are aware of any problems with school that may affect attendance please do make sure to communicate with us.

As a school we will be recognising and rewarding good attendance. There will be the opportunity, each term and across each year group, for students with 100% attendance to win prizes.

**Attendance Team**

### **Private Music Lessons at ICC**

There are a number of private music instructors that come to Icknield each week to offer instruction on a wide variety of instruments. Whether you've been playing the piano for years or you are interested in starting a new instrument, we would like to encourage all students to consider taking advantage of this opportunity. Included below are the names and contact info of the current roster of teachers. If you have questions or need help getting in touch please reach out to Mrs Elgood.

Emily Pen- oboe, saxophone.  
[Emily.Penn@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Emily.Penn@Oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Tony Lyons – drums  
[tonytonylyons@gmail.com](mailto:tonytonylyons@gmail.com)

Russ Payne – guitar  
[goguitarmail@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:goguitarmail@yahoo.co.uk)

Elizabeth Patterson – violin  
Pete Watson - piano

Please contact Michael Davies to arrange lessons at [mjmusicervices@aol.com](mailto:mjmusicervices@aol.com)

### **Local Music Service**

Oxfordshire County Music Service welcomes musical pupils in a massed County level ensemble called Oxfordshire Intermediate Orchestra.

### **Oxfordshire Intermediate Orchestra (OIO)**

- Opportunity for young musicians from all over Oxfordshire and surrounding areas to come together in a fantastic first experience of playing in a large orchestra at County Level.
- For all orchestral instruments (plus drumkit and saxophone) grade 2-5.
- Fun music, including Harry Potter themes, Disney songs and Classical greats!
- Fully qualified, caring and experienced teaching staff.
- Great for improving sight-reading and technical skills, as well as developing confidence and enjoyment in music.
- Six rehearsals a year (dates in the attached flyer) with a prestigious concert at Dorchester Abbey in July 2023.
- Rehearsals are at the Centre for Music in Oxford from 2-5pm on six Saturdays throughout the year.
- More details and sign-up information can be found here -

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/music-service/music-groups/orchestras/oio>  
[Oxfordshire Intermediate Orchestra \(OIO\) | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

These sessions will be once every half term on Saturday afternoons from 2-5pm. The orchestra will explore a range of repertoire with highly experienced tutors who are keen to encourage and help your child to improve their sight-reading, ensemble and social skills.

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)

**Oxfordshire County Music Service**

### **Letters to Parents**

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

Osmington Bay Fieldtrip – June 23 – Year 8  
Letter to Parents – Information Evening – Year 10  
Sports Leaders Award Level 2 – Year 10

These letters can also be accessed on the school website:

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

**Finance Office**

### **Friends of Icknield**

Friends of Icknield run a lottery to support ICC in order to provide students with additional resources. Last year the committee donated £3,641.54 to fund GCSE Pod and they have previously donated funds for outside seating amongst various other things that have benefitted students.

Please consider supporting our school lottery if you can by buying tickets (£1 per ticket per week) and/or sharing our poster with friends, family and other parents to help us sell more tickets and in turn raise more money for us to further support ICC students. For further information please visit:

[www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/ickniel-community-college](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/ickniel-community-college)

You can follow Friends of Ickniel on Facebook and if you or someone you know would like to join our very friendly committee, please contact us via our page ([www.facebook.com/FriendsofIckniel](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsofIckniel)) or by e-mail ([icknielfriends@gmail.com](mailto:icknielfriends@gmail.com)).

Thank you for your continued support.

**Friends of Ickniel Committee**

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Improve your child's grades with Maths Tutor Direct!**

- Offering professional, high-quality syllabus-based small group weekly maths tuition delivered by expert teachers
- Enrolling students from Key Stage 2 - GCSE Higher Tier
- £15 per session, sessions booking up quickly!

Get in contact

- [www.mathstutordirect.co.uk](http://www.mathstutordirect.co.uk)
- [mathstutordirect@outlook.com](mailto:mathstutordirect@outlook.com)
- 07917 727 555

Aspire, achieve, gain confidence in maths

Book via: [mathstutordirect.class4kids.co.uk](http://mathstutordirect.class4kids.co.uk)

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

**Adrian Thomas**