



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

Newsletter – 9 September 2022

Date	Event
12 September	'B' Week
15 September	School Photographs / Year 11 Parents' Evening
22 September	Open Evening
6 October	Year 10 Information Evening – Online Event
13 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
16 November	Flu Vaccine – Years 7,8,9.

Welcome Back

As always, it has been a pleasure to welcome our students back to school after the long summer holiday. Equally, it's been great to welcome our new Year 7 students to ICC, as well as our new teaching and support staff colleagues.

My senior colleagues and I have really enjoyed walking around the school this week and have had the pleasure of seeing lots of great teaching and learning taking place already. I'm pleased that our Year 7 students now have their Chromebooks and I hope they enjoy using them in the coming weeks and months.

Her Majesty the Queen

It is with great sadness that we heard, yesterday, of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This morning, we paid tribute to her by observing a two minute silence. Students watched a silent montage of photos of the monarch taken from her childhood right through to earlier this week.

We will now await further guidance from the Cabinet Office and DfE with regard to the period of national mourning and arrangements for the State Funeral and any other commemorative acts.

ICC Communication

We are currently finalising our new website which should be launched at some point this half term. Simultaneously, we will be communicating with you more regularly via social media. As a result, the newsletter should be a little shorter and won't include any pictures.

Lost Property

A number of students have left a number of items (!) on the field and in classrooms over the week. In order for us to be able to return items to your children as quickly as possible, please could you make sure that everything they have, both in terms of uniform and equipment, is labelled. Thank you.

Staff email addresses

We will make sure that we update the contact details on our website to reflect staff changes for this academic year. Apologies that this had not been done for the beginning of term.

CEO Appointment

Please see the note attached about the appointment of the new CEO for the Acer Trust.

Mat Hunter
Headteacher

Homework

Effectively working beyond lessons has a considerably positive impact on students' learning and understanding and, as such, our aim is to support students to build effective study habits and to encourage them to become independent learners. Homework (any work or activity which students are asked to do beyond lesson time - on their own or with parents or carers) is part of the way that students work to do this, and with this as our focus, we create homework timetables for each year group (attached). These timetables have been created in conjunction with our homework policy (also attached). This is my summary of key information for students and parents to be aware of:

- We set homework evenly across the week by different subjects (from time to time and for a number of possible reasons – educational visits, staff absence, exams etc – staff may deviate from this, but this will be the exception and not the rule)
- Homework is set using the *Satchel:One* online platform
- Students in KS3 complete homework in English, Maths, Science, and French/Spanish weekly; History and Geography homework is set fortnightly: tasks should take roughly between 30-45 mins to complete
- Students in KS3 may have occasional homework set from their other subjects (see homework policy for examples of these types of homework)
- KS4 students have homework in all subjects (apart from core PE and Citizenship): one hour of work per week (Combined Science classes have one piece set per week, per teacher; Biology, Chemistry and Physics all have one hour per week each; GCSE PE students receive one piece from each teacher, each week)
- At the start of the school year, Year 7 students will need training in how to access homework via *Satchel:One* and parents will need to be given their log-in details too. With that in mind, and to support students settling in to life at their new school, *we will not set homework electronically for Year 7 students for the first two full weeks of term*. Teachers may set homework (in line with the timetable) in that time, but these tasks will not be set electronically, and may be shorter than what students will be completing once they are up to speed with the *Satchel:One* system.

Used-uniform

This is my last request for uniform for a while: I promise!

If, over the summer, you have discovered that your child has grown out of an item of uniform, we will always welcome donations of clothing that still has some life left in it. We use these donations in a number of ways, and I can assure you that a great number of students really benefit from the availability of good quality used uniform items. Please drop any items to the Finance Office and they will find their way to my in-school boutique. I really will stop requesting uniform through the Newsletter now for a little while, but that doesn't mean that we don't welcome donations all the year round.

Finally, and most importantly, to those who have already passed items on: thank you.

Matt Ford

Oxfordshire Youth Music Theatre

Please see the attached flyer giving details about Oxfordshire Youth Music Theatre's upcoming auditions. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone keen to be involved in a 2023 production of the musical *Godspell*.

Robert Legg

School Photos

School photographs of students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 will be taken this coming Thursday 15 September. Please encourage your children to come to school looking as smart and tidy as they can! Students will receive information on the day explaining how parents and carers can purchase copies of the photographs if they choose to do so.

Robert Legg

Old Kit Request

We are always open to receiving any old kit and equipment that people may no longer want; should anyone be thinking of throwing any old bits out, please consider whether it is something that could be used as part of our lessons or extra-curricular clubs! We're open to receiving any old football/rugby boots, trainers, sports shorts, old ICC PE kit, hockey sticks, rackets etc. Any donations would be greatly appreciated, thank you in advance!

Charlotte Prior

DofE

Lots of students were busy completing their sections during the summer holidays! Congratulations to Rose U (Volunteering), Issy S (Volunteering), Beau B (Volunteering), Rye H (Volunteering), Pippa M (Volunteering), Oscar G-S (Skill).

A special congratulations to Issy S (Physical, Skill), Nikita S P (Volunteering), Isla M (Volunteering, Physical, Skill), Lily S (Volunteering), Jemima O (Physical, Skill), Alex I (Skill, Physical), Oliver S (Skill), Lara W (Volunteering) who have now uploaded all 3 of their assessors' reports and have completed all 3 of their sections!

The Bronze qualifying expedition for year 11, will be held on Saturday 1st Oct – Sunday 2nd Oct. Each group should check that their route cards are complete and they have organised their food and equipment. Equipment will be available for collection at lunchtime on Wednesday 28th Sept. Each group will need their returnable deposit to collect any equipment they may need.

Awards for Bronze and Silver will be held on Tuesday 18th March at 6pm. Any students wanting to get their Awards will need to submit their 3 assessors' reports by the 14th October so your certificate and badges can be organised.

Your assessor can write the report online using www.dofe.org/assessor or by completing the report card from your welcome pack. Please ask if you need any help in adding your assessors' reports.

Katie Scane

Maths Problem of the Week

The Maths Problem of the Week and the solution to the last problem of 2021/22 are attached.

Nick Owen

Headphones

Please could everyone remember to bring a pair of headphones to every Music and Languages lesson. Any inexpensive pair of headphones with a mini stereo jack will be fine. These can be bought in most bigger supermarkets, or online (for example [here](#)). We will be using these to enable individual keyboard and listening practice.

Rebecca Elgood, Head of Music



Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.

Welcome to a new academic year!

Remember we are all working together and if you have any questions or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact the attendance team for advice and support.

Liz Bracelin – Attendance Officer (liz.bracelin@ickniel.doxon.sch.uk)

Heidi Nugent – Attendance Officer (heidi.nugent@ickniel.doxon.sch.uk)

Anna Clementson – Home-School Link Worker (anna.clementson@ickniel.doxon.sch.uk)

Vicky Pickford – Deputy Headteacher (Vicky.pickford@ickniel.doxon.sch.uk)

If your child is not going to be in school for whatever reason you must let us know either by email absence@ickniel.doxon.sch.uk or phone 01491 612691 (choose option 1)

Are you looking for resources to support your child with their wellbeing and mental health?

The team at Everlief Child Psychology have created a parent support website called They Are The Future. It's for parents of 6-16 year-olds.

You will find guidance on areas such as anxiety, panic attacks, managing big emotions and challenging behaviour.

Explore the site here:

<https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/blogs/>

Attendance Team

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
- mathstutordirect@outlook.com
- 07917 727 555

Aspire, achieve, gain confidence in maths

Book via: mathstutordirect.class4kids.co.uk

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Adrian Thomas