

#IceniAcademy



February 23



@IceniAcademy

PROUDLY  
SHARING  
OUR NEWS

Aim High

Work Hard

Be Kind

## Vice Principal's Post

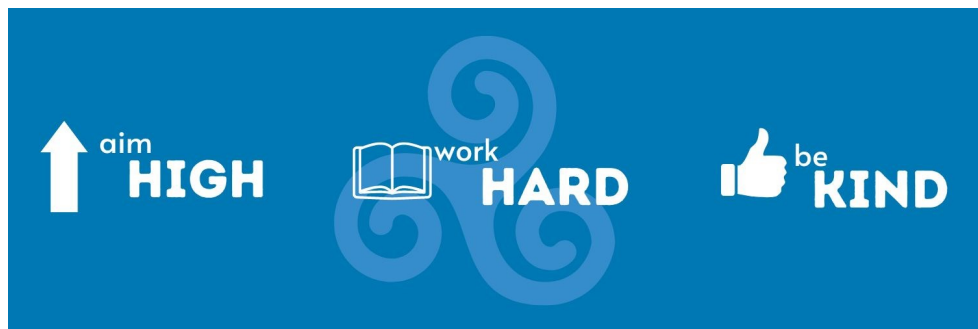
It has been a short but very busy half-term at Icen Academy, and I hope you enjoy reading about all of the many successes our students have had in the last five and a half weeks.

Our new values system is up and running, and it has been wonderful to see our students embracing these: they are aiming high, working hard and being kind. The new 'Gold Book' has seen more than 100 entries in it's first fortnight, with rewards and postcards sent home for all of these students. We are so proud of them, and cannot wait to continue celebrating our students after half term as we continue to embed and live by those values.

Next half term is another busy one, with pre-public examinations for Year 11, a variety of exciting trips and fixtures on offer and continued hard work in the academy as, together, we 'aim high, work hard, be kind.'

On behalf of everyone in the academy, I wish you and your family a happy and restful half-term break.

Miss Staniforth  
Vice Principal



## NEWS FROM OUR YEAR GROUPS

### Year 7

I would like to use this update to introduce myself to you all formally as the New Head of Year 7. I have spoken and met many of you over this first half term and have spent time getting to know your children and supporting them since I arrived in January.

I have been made to feel very welcome by everyone and am very passionate about ensuring the best outcomes for all our students.

With the relaunch of the Academy's values of 'Aim High, Work Hard, Be Kind' it has been great to see how the Year 7 students have adopted this and are continuing to work on developing this in everything they do.

I have been round to many lessons and seen students working hard, pushing themselves and overcoming challenges, and a key focus has been discussing with students that regardless of the challenges we face its how we overcome these whether individually or together.

I am really looking forward to what the rest of this year brings and updating you on the great work and opportunities that our students will be involved with, please do contact me if you wish to discuss anything. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mr Riches

## Year 8

Well done to all of the Year 8 students that have been rewarded with raffle tickets, during lessons. Keep up the good work! The raffle tickets will all be put into a raffle drawer a week before the Easter holidays, and we look forward to announcing our winners.

I hope you all enjoy a restful, half term break.

Miss Agoudjil



## Year 9

Another busy half term has come and disappeared. This half term saw the start of our options process with a successful and very well attended options evening. Thank you, Year 9, for all of your mature questions regarding options and your careful planning of your futures. The options evening was followed by Year 9 parents evening which again was lovely to see the majority of you there.

I look forward to next half term and seeing where it takes us but for now, I wish you a happy and well deserved half term.

Miss Tooze

## Year 10

As we reach the end of the Spring term, I am truly amazed at how quick the terms pass. My key observation this term has been the level of determination and resilience that Year 10 pupils have continued to display across the dark cold weeks of December and January. This determination was recognised at the Christmas celebration assembly where over 50 certificates celebrating different achievements were handed out for amazing effort and determination in the areas of attendance, reading, achievement points and the language department cake competition! It has been uplifting to see so many Year 10 pupils receive positive achievement points, bringing the year total to a fantastic 5950 points collectively.....well done to all those involved!

### **Year 10 Disney trip**

There is already a healthy buzz from the Year 10 pupils that have signed up to go to France on a maths-themed trip. There will be a trip meeting on Tuesday 21st February 23 at 5:15pm by the trip leader Ms Colson. Pupils should have received letters on Tuesday 7th February 2023. It is wonderful to see the excitement building and I look forward to sharing feedback from the trip in March.

### **Year 10 parents evening**

A date for all our calendars is the Year 10 parents evening which will be held on the 23rd March 2023. This is an important evening for our Year 10 pupils as part of their two-year course allowing an opportunity for teachers to give an essential update on progress of the pupils. Information on how to book will be released in the coming weeks and I strongly recommend booking quickly once the appointments are released.

I would also like to pass on my thanks to the many parents who I have spoken with and for the continued support within the school community and I look forward to continuing to build on this support.

Mr Magee

## Year 11

At the start of this term, I invited students to 'make it count', by attending school, working hard and committing to improving their results. I am so proud of their efforts to do this. We have celebrated students' successes using our 'spot prize' approach, with free prom tickets, PlayStation vouchers and 'One4All' vouchers given to the lucky winners.

After half term, students will embark on their final set of pre-public examinations. This is their opportunity to get used to the experience of sitting exams, and will also give them valuable feedback on their next steps to success. They are also the grades students and/or the academy will share with post-16 providers, so revision is really important.

It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers at our virtual Prepare to Perform evening. The event covered revision techniques and how students can be supported at home. If you were not able to attend, we have uploaded a recording to our YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/kvYnYyLbp2l>.

Well done to all our Year 11 students—we are so proud of everything you have achieved so far! Have a wonderful, purposeful but relaxing half term break, and we will see you for your first PPE on Monday 20th February!

Miss Staniforth



## NEWS FROM OUR FACULTIES

### English

This half-term, Year 7 have started reading *The Fire Eaters* by David Almond. The novel follows 11-year-old Bobby as he navigates growing up during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Our Year 8 students have been reading William Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*. They have been examining Elizabethan attitudes towards marriage, and how women fared living in a patriarchal society. Our Year 9 students have also been studying a Shakespeare play, *Richard III*. They have been exploring the themes of primogeniture, power and duality.

Year 10 have been studying another one of their GCSE English Literature texts, *An Inspector Calls*. We have heard some fantastic debates in lessons regarding what it means to be a capitalist and a socialist. Well done Year 10!

A special well done to our Year 11 students who have completed their Spoken Language assessments this half-term. It has also been fantastic to see so many students joining our online revision sessions. Keep up the hard work!

Miss Greenland

## Humanities

This term has seen the Humanities department focus relentlessly on preparing Year 11 for the upcoming pre-public examinations in February and, beyond that, for the GCSEs in June. Remote revision sessions for both History and Geography are in full swing and, to that end, may I take the opportunity to remind parents and carers that for History, they take place between 5.45 and 6.45 on Wednesdays, and for Geography between 4.30 and 5.30 on Thursdays. Attendance for both has been reasonably good so far, with over half of the entered students participating regularly, but we believe that it could and should be even better attended. The advantage of remote sessions is that students do not have to rely on being picked up having missed the bus. Neither do the sessions clash with any other subject under the current arrangement. I cannot stress enough just how crucial these sessions are in preparing students for the final examination and it is no coincidence that those who have attended regularly in previous years have been those that have really aced the final examinations. Both History and Geography have organised in person sessions during the February half term holidays at the school, as follows:

Geography-9-12-Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February

History-9-12-Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February



It goes without saying that we are, as ever, anxious that as many students as possible are able to attend.

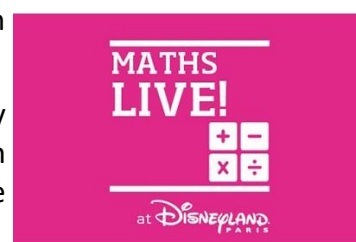
Otherwise, teaching and learning have continued apace, with students facing their termly assessments in all three subjects after the February half term. As always, we are grateful for the support that you provide your children with during these times and hopefully this will enable students to thrive and demonstrate their best possible performance. Aside from this, I hope that all of you, parents and students alike, have a refreshing half term break and come back raring to attack another half term of successful learning in the Humanities.

Mr Bedford

## Maths

We are eagerly preparing for the Maths Disney Trip taking place in March. Year 10 students are looking forward to visiting Paris and Disneyland. They will be applying their mathematical skills in a variety of settings and engaging in a cultural experience in addition to experiencing the fun of Disney's theme parks.

Mrs Jacobsz has provided invaluable revision sessions covering key Grade 4 and 5 topics every Tuesday evening. Students have been engaged and look forward to this additional opportunity to revise mathematics.



Miss Colson is enjoying working with a small group of students aiming for a Grade 7 or above, having higher level mathematical discussions and working as a team to solve difficult problems involving a range of mathematical techniques. This groups of students have appreciated the opportunity to engage with the most challenging GCSE problems.

Small group after-school in person and form time intervention is beginning. These sessions provide additional support to those working incredibly hard but in need of greater direction to move across a grade boundary. Students recap key topic areas that frequently appear in GCSE papers and become more secure in the basics of number, algebra, ratio, geometry and statistics.

We are impressed with how focused the majority of Year 11 are in achieving their maths GCSE.

# PE

## Headlines

It has been great to be back at Icení. This half term has seen pupils learning dance, basketball, rugby, football, handball, table tennis, fitness and badminton. Beyond the curriculum, we have seen Year 7-9 competing in basketball in our fixture afternoons with TNHA and Years 7-11 represent the school at the Mid-Norfolk Cross Country event. Congratulations to E. Muller, L. Tinsley, A. Dewart and A. Williams who successfully qualified to then represent Mid-Norfolk at the County event where they are ran really well in tough conditions.

Next half term sees KS3 move on to OAA in class, Year 10 rotate to football, table tennis or fitness and Year 11 continuing on their chosen pathway of either traditional exercise, social exercise, or alternative activities.



## What's New?

We have had significant investment into facilities and equipment this half term, enhancing our subject for pupils.

The fitness suite has been completely serviced, and this includes replacement spin bikes, cross trainer and rower. We have four new training goals, the 11-a-side football pitch has new goals, and all other goal nets and netball nets have been replaced. The MUGA has also see significant work to improve the playing surface. We also have an additional table tennis table to add to recently purchased collection.

## Kit Reminder

Thank you for supporting our kit. Almost all pupils have worn correct kit. A gentle reminder please that if pupils chose to wear leggings, they should be Icení navy.

## Special Mentions

Of course, our cross-country qualifier must be mentioned again for their excellent achievement. In class we have been particularly impressed with; L. Chinery, R. Cocksedge, C. Peate, L. Lubocki, F. Peckahm, H. Nimako, J. Saunder, R. Leach, K. Moon, J. Harper, S. Briggs. Well done to all!

Mr Taylor



## Science

Science would like to congratulate Leo S on his extracurricular activity of helping to run a hands on Astronomy day.

This half term Science have trialed setting homework on SENECA. Pupils need to create their own login and then input their class code to find the assignments. All class codes are up on the Science noticeboard.

During this up coming half term, Norwich are running a Science festival 11<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> February check out the website below!

[Norwich Science Festival](#)

Miss Williams

## MFL

With Year 11 pre-public examinations taking place after half term, I would like to share with you the dates for the speaking mocks. These will take place after the two-week mock timetable, which has already been published:

German with Miss Pawsey - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March

French with Miss Trichet - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March and Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March

French with Ms Agoudjil - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Individual times for each student will be given to students by their teacher. The same as the last set of mocks, these will take place during the school day in the green building.

We have had a number of intervention sessions after school for Y11 students to practise their general conversation questions, please see individual teachers for details.

Miss Pawsey



## Technology

We are so very proud of students in Years 7, 8 and 10 who represented our academy at the Rotary Technology Tournament yesterday! Students were given a range of materials and a challenge to fulfil, and had a fantastic time doing so. Congratulations to our Year 10 team, who won the competition! All of your have demonstrated our values (Aim High, Work Hard, Be Kind) and we are thrilled you are part of our academy community! Thank you to Ms Francis for organising such a fantastic trip.

