ICKNIELD HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

July Edition 2026



As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. Together, we have celebrated many achievements, overcome challenges and ensured that our children have enjoyed a positive, engaging and rewarding year of learning.

This year has been particularly special for me personally, as it has been my first year as Headteacher. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our families for the warm welcome, trust and support you have shown throughout the year. Starting in a new leadership role is both exciting and challenging, and your kindness, understanding and commitment to our school community have made the transition a truly positive experience.

I am incredibly proud of everything our pupils have achieved. Whether through their academic progress, sporting success, creative talents, attendance, behaviour or contributions to school life, they have consistently demonstrated resilience, enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. They continue to be wonderful ambassadors for our school, and they should be proud of all they have accomplished.

Throughout the year, we have enjoyed many memorable experiences, including educational visits, enrichment activities, performances, sporting competitions, themed learning days and community events. These opportunities have helped broaden our pupils' experiences, build their confidence and create lasting memories. None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our staff team and the support of our families.

To our Year 11 Pupils we extend our best wishes as they move onto the next stage of their education. We are immensely proud of the young people they have become and know they will continue to thrive in their secondary schools. They leave with many happy memories, strong friendships and skills that will serve them well in the future.

As we look ahead, we are excited about the opportunities that the new academic year will bring. We remain committed to providing the highest quality education, nurturing every child's potential and continuing to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

For now, I hope that all our families enjoy a safe, restful and enjoyable summer break. I encourage our children to continue reading, exploring, being active and making wonderful family memories over the holidays.

Thank you once again for your support throughout my first year as Headteacher and for everything you do to support our school. It is a privilege to lead such a wonderful community, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

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Leadership

Meet Our Associate Assistant Headteachers



Mr Hince
Associate Assistant Headteacher
Behaviour and Pastoral Care

I am absolutely delighted to share that I have accepted the role of Associate Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour and Pastoral Care.

This is a position I am incredibly proud to take on, and I am excited about the opportunity to continue supporting our pupils, staff, and families in helping every young person thrive in their time at Icknield

We are delighted to share that, in this new role, a key focus will be on strengthening our culture of recognition and celebration across the school. Every day, our pupils achieve success in many different ways, and we want to ensure that these accomplishments are acknowledged and celebrated.

Alongside promoting a strong rewards ethos, the role will also involve supporting pupils to make positive behaviour for learning choices. By encouraging high expectations, positive relationships and personal responsibility, we aim to create a calm, respectful and engaging environment where both staff and pupils can enjoy teaching and learning and achieve their very best.

Through recognition, encouragement and support, we are committed to helping every pupil feel valued, motivated and successful.

As I begin this new chapter, I would like to take a moment to thank all the pupils, parents, and carers in the Green Tie Community for their support over the past four years. It has been a privilege to work alongside such dedicated families and wonderful young people. Together, we have celebrated successes, overcome challenges, and built strong relationships that have made my time in Green Tie so rewarding.

Contact Mr A Hince
ahince@icknield.beds.sch.uk

Leadership

Meet Our Associate Assistant Headteachers



Mr Haque
Associate Assistant Headteacher
Science, Digital & Strategic Systems

I joined Icknield High School as an Associate Assistant Headteacher, bringing several years of experience as a Head of Science, where I led departmental improvement, developed staff, and secured strong outcomes for students. I am committed to ensuring that all students benefit from high-quality teaching, clear systems, and a culture which promotes both academic success and personal development.

A significant part of my role is the oversight of the Science department. I work closely with the Curriculum Leader and the wider team to ensure that teaching is consistently strong, the curriculum is well-sequenced, and students are supported to achieve their full potential. Science is a key subject within the school, and a clear focus remains on developing students' knowledge, confidence, and problem-solving skills, while maintaining high expectations of both effort and achievement across all key stages.

In addition to my work within Science, I hold responsibility for several whole-school areas. This includes the strategic oversight of IT and network systems, ensuring that our infrastructure is reliable and supports effective teaching, learning, and communication across the school. I also act as the school's GDPR lead, where my role is to ensure that systems and processes are compliant, robust, and protect the privacy and security of student and staff information.

I am also responsible for sustainability, an area we are actively beginning to develop further. The aim is to build a practical and meaningful approach to sustainability that engages students, raises awareness, and promotes responsibility for the environment, while remaining realistic and sustainable within the context of the school.

Alongside this, I contribute to the leadership of the core subjects at Key Stage 3, working with colleagues to ensure that students are identified early and supported effectively to close gaps in learning. This work is central to ensuring long-term success, particularly for students who require additional support to access the curriculum fully.

My approach to leadership is centred on clarity, consistency, and high expectations. I believe that students thrive in a calm, well-structured environment where expectations are clear and support is in place. Similarly, staff are best able to perform when systems are effective, communication is strong, and leadership is purposeful and transparent. As part of the senior leadership team, I am committed to ensuring that the school operates in a way that supports both staff and students to achieve their best outcomes.

I look forward to working closely with students, staff, families, and the local community.

Contact Mr Haque
zhaque@icknield.beds.ch.uk

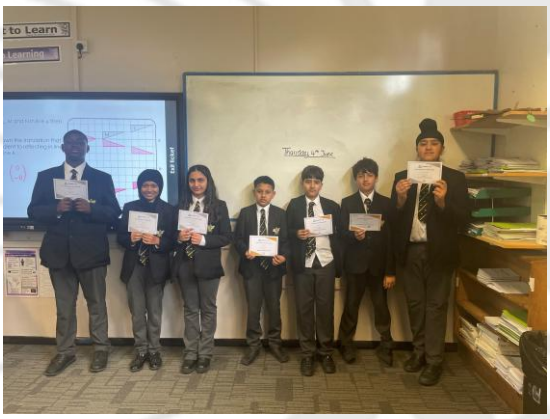
Celebration

UK Maths Challenge: Results are in!

A number of our students (Yellow and Blue ties) participated in the Junior Mathematical Challenge at the end of April 2026. This is a national competition organized by the United Kingdom Maths Trust. The UKMT competitions encourage mathematical reasoning, precise thinking, and fluency, challenging students to think critically. The problems in the Junior competition are designed to be accessible while still providing a challenge for those with more experience.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved a certificate

Name	Year			Name	Year	
Jedidiah A.	7	Silver		Zayd A.	8	Silver
Dawoud A.	7	Bronze		Khadeejah A.	8	Silver
Zayd A.	7	Bronze		Ruby B.	8	Gold
Eesa A.	7	Bronze		Sajjal B.	8	Silver
Dara C.	7	Silver		Raihan C.	8	Bronze
Zayna C.	7	Silver		Hakim E.	8	Gold
Ameed D.	7	Bronze		Rayane F.	8	Bronze
Hasan I.	7	Bronze		Aqib H.	8	Bronze
Siam I.	7	Bronze		Zeeshan I.	8	Silver
Tahiya J.	7	Bronze		Zayan I.	8	Gold
Gjana K.	7	Silver		Ahmed J.	8	Bronze
Ayesha K	7	Gold		Hisham K.	8	Bronze
Maaz K.	7	Silver		Hiran N.	8	Silver
Bill M.	7	Silver		Zainab R.	8	Gold
Aminah N.	7	Bronze		Saarim S.	8	Silver
Areej S.	7	Silver		Taqi S.	8	Silver
Izhar Z.	7	Bronze				



UK Maths Trust

Well done to Ruby in year 8, who made it through to the next round and will compete in the Junior Kangaroo Challenge

Celebration

Curriculum Awards

This Summer Term, we are delighted to celebrate the hard work, commitment, and achievements of our students across all subjects. Teachers have nominated students who consistently demonstrate outstanding effort, resilience, progress, and a positive attitude to learning. These Curriculum Awards recognise students who not only strive for academic excellence but also embody our school values in every lesson. Across the term, students from Years 7 to 10 have been acknowledged for their exceptional performance in a wide range of subjects

We are incredibly proud of all award recipients and the dedication they have shown. A huge well done to every student who received a Curriculum Award this term you are fantastic role models for your peers, and we look forward to seeing your continued success throughout the year.

Sufia-Maryaam	GBC	Art & Design
Alizah	GBS	Art & Design
Jannat	GAR	Art & Design
Adyan	GBS	Business
Haarsini	GBS	Business
Inaaya	GAE	Business
Aaira	GAA	Computer Science
Stefani	GAR	Computer Science
Adil	GBS	Computer Science
Rayyan	GAR	Core PE
Mariam	GBR	Core PE
Mustafa	GAS	Core PE
Asif	GBC	Design Technology
Hafsa	GBE	Design Technology
Sufia-Maryaam	GBC	Design Technology
Aitzaz	GBA	English
Cory	GAC	English
Piper	GBA	English
Rien	GAA	Ethics & Philosophy
Ibrahim	GBE	Film
Keyaan	GBC	Film
Ayana	GBR	Film
Rose	GBA	French
Momina	GBE	French
Mustafa	GAS	French

Sobana	GAR	GCSE PE
Camrin	GAA	GCSE PE
Edison	GBE	Geography
Mariam	GBR	Geography
Mysha	GAS	Geography
Hannah	GBE	German
Billy	GAR	German
Keyaan	GBC	German
Hira	GBR	Graphics
Aamir	GBC	Graphics
Umair	GBC	Graphics
Nyla	GBS	Health & Social Care
Alina	GBS	Health & Social Care
Aleena	GAC	Health & Social Care
Gurneet	GAE	History
Gurleen	GAE	History
Sami	GAE	History
Tommy	GAC	Maths
Muskan	GBC	Maths
Rien	GAA	Maths
Caitlyn	GBR	PSHE
Nyeka	GBE	PSHE
Autumn	GBC	PSHE
Hira	GBR	Science
Isha	GBC	Science
Arfeen	GBS	Science
Hajra	GAE	Spanish
Ava-Rebecca	GAC	Spanish

Justine	GAA	Spanish
Denisa-Nicoleta	GAR	Textiles
Nyeka	GBE	Textiles
Safa	GAC	Textiles
Shafey	YBA	Art & Design
Maryam	YBC	Art & Design
Mehroosa	YBC	Art & Design
Inaya	YAR	Computing
Neel	YBC	Computing
Omar	YBS	Computing
Theodore	YBE	Core PE
Hafsa	YBE	Core PE
Aathika	YBE	Core PE
Bethan	YAR	Design Technology
Jedidiah	YBE	Design Technology
Melak	YAC	Design Technology
Fatimah	YAE	English
Keyan	YAC	English
Yassine	YAR	English
Ruqaiyah	YAC	Ethics & Philosophy
Zayna	YBA	Ethics & Philosophy
Eliza	BBC	Ethics & Philosophy
Saffa	YAS	Food & Nutrition
Muhammad Mohid	YBC	Food & Nutrition
Bill	YAC	Food & Nutrition
Bilal	YBE	French
Laiba	YAA	French
Subhan	YBR	French
Rayyan	YBE	Geography
Nabilah	YBC	Geography
Humaira Amaaya	YAR	Geography
Aadam	YBC	History
Hawa	YAC	History
Madiha	YAC	History
Shafey	YBA	Maths
Iqra	YAC	Maths
Kevin	YAS	Maths
Zumar	YAR	PSHE
Haadiyah	YAE	PSHE
Shahab	YAC	PSHE

Celebration

Muhammad-Hayat	YBC	Science
Areej	YBC	Science
Kye	YBS	Science
Tanisha	YAC	Spanish
Maaz	YAS	Spanish
Inaaya	YAR	Spanish
Suda	BAA	Art & Design
Khadija	BAA	Art & Design
Harman	BAC	Art & Design
Sajjal	BBE	Computing
Ruby	BBR	Computing
Adiyah	BAR	Computing
Tj	BBA	Core PE
Khadija	BBR	Core PE
Koyal	BAC	Core PE
Sajjal	BBE	Design Technology
Sumayyah	BAS	Design Technology
Risha	BAE	Design Technology
Khadija	BBR	English
Aqila	BBC	English
Zamin	BAE	English
Jahnavi	BAR	Ethics & Philosophy
Ibraheem	GAE	Ethics & Philosophy
Ashar	BAR	Food & Nutrition
Zayd	BAA	Food & Nutrition
Amaya	BAS	Food & Nutrition
Thifah	BAA	French
Mashiat	BBA	French
Zainab	BBC	French
Ibrahim	BAS	Geography
Khadija	BBR	Geography
Ahmad	BAE	Geography
Alessio	BAC	History
Harman	BAC	History
Zayan	BAC	History
Falaq	BBR	Maths
Fizan	BAS	Maths
Haleema	BBA	Maths
Ahmad	BAE	PSHE
Tanzeela	BAC	PSHE

Aahil	BAA	PSHE
Aisha	BAC	Science
Husnain	BAA	Science
Fizan	BAS	Science
Khadija	BBR	Spanish
Khaysha	BBC	Spanish
Thomas	BBS	Spanish
Aisha	RBE	Art & Design
Yahya	RBE	Art & Design
Safaa	RBE	Art & Design
Mohsine	RBE	Computing
Aisha	RBE	Computing
Chimdiomimi	RBC	Computing
Lillian	RAS	Core PE
Hadia	RAR	Core PE
Umar	RBA	Core PE
Abdullah	RAC	Design Technology
Elizah	RBC	Design Technology
Talha	RBC	Design Technology
Mohammed	RBA	English
Imaan Zaara	RAC	English
Aaminah	RBR	English
Danyal	RAR	Ethics & Philosophy
Tej Singh	RAE	Film
Hassan	RAE	Film
Aiden Harry	RBR	Film
Zainab	RBC	Food & Nutrition
Alisha	RBR	Food & Nutrition
Shayan	RAA	Food & Nutrition
Eemaan	RBC	French
Eliona	RBE	French
Hafsa	RBS	French
Saihan	RBC	Geography
Ameera Eliza	RBS	Geography
Ibraheem	RBE	Geography
Amaan	RAC	Graphics
Nosherwan	RAA	Graphics
Hibah	RBS	Graphics
Aisha	RBE	History
Inaya	RAE	History
Ridwan	RBA	History

Ridwan	RBA	History
Hassan	RBR	Maths
Adyan	RAS	Maths
Maryam	RBE	Maths
Janaysha	RBR	PSHE
Ridwan	RBA	PSHE
Yousaf	RBS	PSHE
Yousef	RBR	Science
Lakshmideep	RBS	Science
Tamara Kerry-Ann	RAR	Science



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Celebration

School Inspirational Rewards Day Celebrates Achievement

Our annual School Rewards Day was a wonderful celebration of achievement, recognising the hard work, dedication and determination of students across the school. Students were rewarded for making exceptional academic progress throughout the year.

It was fantastic to see so many young people recognised for their commitment to learning, resilience and ambition. Their achievements reflect the effort they have put into their studies and the support of staff and families who have encouraged them along the way

.A special moment of the event was the formal handover of responsibilities from our Year 11 Senior Prefects to the new team of Year 10 Senior Prefects. We would like to thank our outgoing Senior Prefects for their outstanding leadership, positive role modelling and contribution to school life. We are confident that our new Senior Prefects will continue to uphold these high standards and make a valuable impact on our school community.

Students and staff were also privileged to hear from former student Amani Liaquat, who delivered a truly inspiring and heartfelt talk. Amani shared her personal journey and the significant challenges she has faced, demonstrating remarkable strength, determination and resilience. She spoke movingly about her role in supporting her sister and expressed her gratitude to the school for the support she received during her time here. Her story reminded us all of the importance of perseverance, kindness and never giving up in the face of adversity.

The day was a fitting celebration of success, leadership and personal growth, leaving students motivated and inspired as they look ahead to the opportunities and challenges of the future.

Congratulations to all of our award winners and newly appointed Senior Prefects. We are incredibly proud of you.











Celebration

Lyndsey Fenlon Award R Malik (Outstanding Art Work)

James Boniface Memorial Cup M Qaiser
(Most improved Ethics & Philosophy student)

Simons Cup Kaif Farid
(Most improved student in Maths)

Mike Berendrecht Award M Abdur-Rahman
(Most improved student in Science)

Howard Marsh Award N Choudhury
(Most improved student in English)

Subject Awards

Humanities Award A Afzal
ICT & Business Award V Patel
Design Technology Award H Aman
Top Sparx Reader Z Choudhary

SERVICE TO PREFECT SYSTEM
These students are the Senior Prefects

Yellow Tie
N Zainab
U Chaudhry
A Siyal
J Padmasri
M Salihin

Red Tie
P Akele
M Skripkina
Mi Shah
W Sam-Deekue
S Galaly

Blue Tie
A Khalid
A Choudhury
M Rahman
A Ali-Chaudry
R Islam

Green Tie
J Elbakry
L Elbakry
J Ahmed
J Haynes
H Kahoot

Silver Tie
S Jawwad
R Malik
Z Chowdhury
V Patel
H Raza
N Singh

Retiring Deputy Head of Student Voice:
H Al-Haddad

Retiring Head of Student Voice:
S Khan

Deputy Head of Student Voice: 2026/2027
A Touqeer

Head of Student Voice: 2026/2027
O Wilson

Oliver Jones Award Z Al Cazimi
(Outstanding Personal Achievement)

Alia Bint Rizwan Award H Al-Haddad
(Service and dedication to charity work)

Muhammad Patel Award M Nabi
(For showing enterprise and initiative)

Amani Liaquat Award H Raza
(For character and resilience)

Sydney Topping Award P Akele
(Service and dedication to the school)

Draycott Cup
J Dosanj (Lower School Sportsperson)

Jason Hart Memorial Cup M Skripkina
(Upper School Sportsperson)

Stephen Blackhurst Award A Siyal
(Award for Languages)

VI Form Shield
L Raja, A Ali Chuadry, S Anwar
(Outstanding progress)

Mandy Rayner Award Y Bharadwa
(Service to the Community)

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Celebration

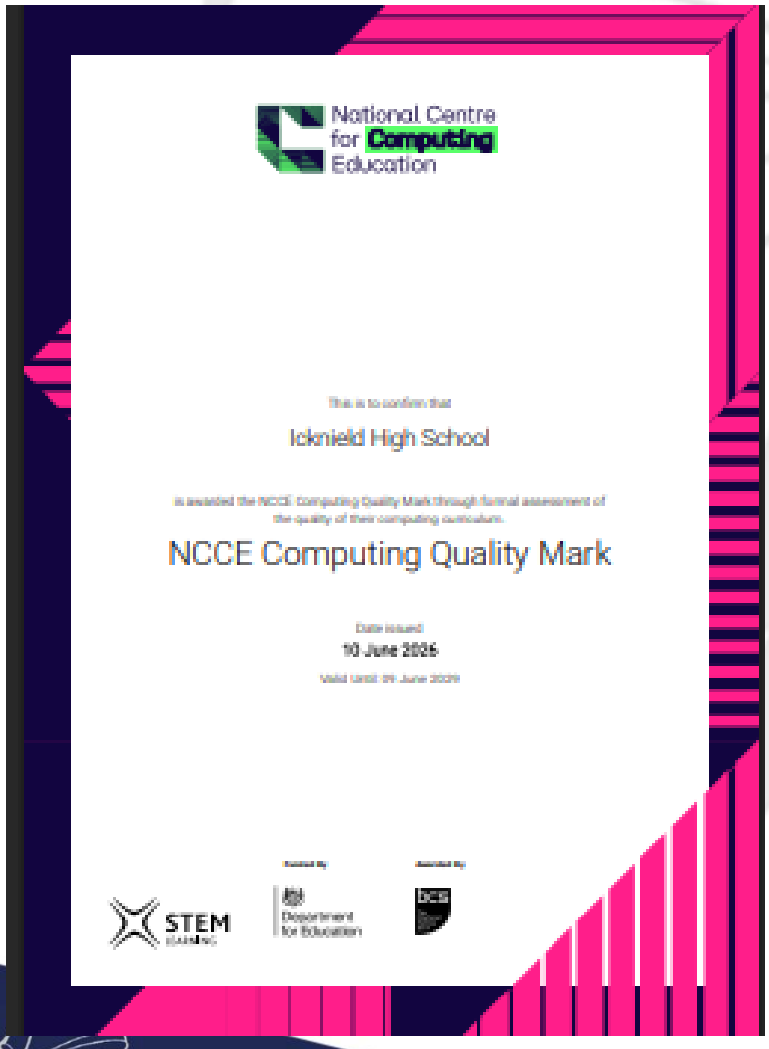
Computing Quality Mark Success

We are delighted to announce that Icknield High School has been re-awarded the NCCE Computing Quality Mark, following a formal assessment of the quality of our computing curriculum. This prestigious recognition confirms that the school has demonstrated the required level of attainment for excellence in computing curriculum delivery.

The award reflects our ongoing commitment to providing high-quality computing education and ensuring that all students have access to engaging, challenging and future-focused learning opportunities. It recognises the hard work that goes into delivering an ambitious computing curriculum that equips young people with the digital knowledge and skills needed for the modern world.

This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our Computing team, whose passion and expertise continue to inspire students every day. A special congratulations and thank you go to Mrs S Begum, Curriculum Leader for Computing, for her outstanding leadership, hard work and commitment throughout the assessment process.

We are incredibly proud of this achievement and look forward to continuing to provide exceptional computing education for all our students.



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Celebration

Town Sports Success

This year's Town Sports event provided a fantastic opportunity for our athletes to represent Icknield High School and compete against students from schools across the town. Our students demonstrated outstanding determination, teamwork and sporting excellence throughout the competition

We are delighted to report that Icknield High School finished an impressive 7th overall, with many of our athletes achieving medal positions across a range of events. Their hard work, commitment and positive attitude were evident throughout the day, and they should be extremely proud of their achievements.

Congratulations to all the students who took part and represented the school so positively. We are already looking forward to next year's competition and the opportunity to build on this year's success.







Celebrating Sporting Success

To celebrate another fantastic year of sport and PE at Icknield High School, we recently hosted our annual Sports Ball. The evening was a wonderful opportunity to recognise the hard work, commitment and achievements of both students and staff throughout the year

.A range of awards were presented, celebrating excellence, dedication and sporting success across the school. The event also highlighted the fantastic opportunities provided by the PE Department, enabling students to participate in and compete in a wide variety of sports throughout the year.

Congratulations to all of our award winners and everyone who has represented the school so successfully. We are already looking forward to another year of sporting achievement and memorable experiences.





Celebration

Year 11 Prom - A Night to Remember

Our Year 11 Prom was a fantastic celebration of the end of an important chapter in our students' school journey.

The evening was filled with excitement as students arrived dressed in their finest attire, ready to enjoy a memorable night with friends and staff.The event provided a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the achievements, friendships, and experiences gained during their time at Icknield High School.

Students enjoyed an evening of music, dancing, laughter, and celebration, creating lasting memories before embarking on their next adventures.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 students and wish them every success in the future. Thank you to all the staff who helped organise such a special evening and made the event a great success.







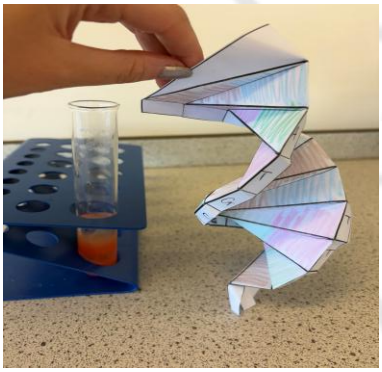



Aspiration

Exploring DNA in 9YZ3

Students in 9YZ3 have been putting their scientific skills into practice through an engaging hands-on experiment, extracting DNA from kiwi fruit and strawberries.

We are delighted to share that every pair successfully extracted DNA, demonstrating excellent teamwork, focus, and practical understanding of the process. The featured photograph captures the successful extraction carried out by Dhruv and David.



The excitement continues during the week, as students will build on their learning by creating origami DNA double helixes, helping to deepen their understanding of DNA structure in a creative and memorable way. Well done to 9YZ3 for their enthusiasm and outstanding effort in science



Regional Cricket Competition Success

Our students recently represented the school at the Regional Cricket Competition, competing against seven schools in a highly competitive tournament. Despite being the youngest team in attendance, they performed exceptionally well, finishing in an impressive 4th place overall.

The team demonstrated great determination, teamwork and resilience throughout the day, taking on older and more experienced opponents with confidence and enthusiasm.

Their positive attitude and sporting conduct were evident in every match, making them excellent ambassadors for the school.

A particular highlight of the event was the achievement of Max, who was selected from a field of more than 90 students to receive the only individual trophy awarded on the day. Max was recognised for his outstanding Cricket Spirit and Sportsmanship, reflecting the values of respect, integrity and teamwork that the competition sought to celebrate.

Congratulations to all of our players for their fantastic efforts and for representing the school so positively. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to seeing their continued success on the cricket field





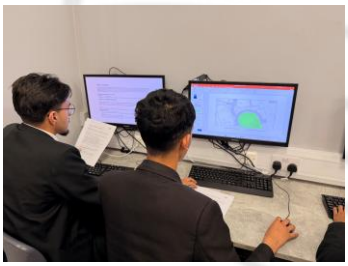
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Aspiration

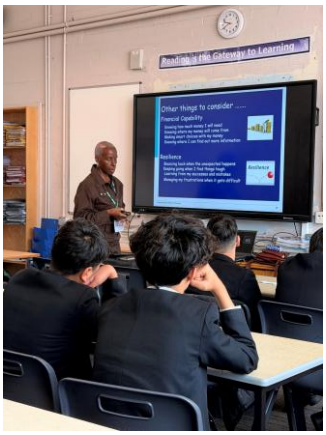
Inspiring Future Careers and Enterprise Skills

Our students have recently taken part in a range of exciting careers and enterprise opportunities, designed to broaden their horizons and develop valuable skills for the future.





As part of the Morgan Sindall Project, a group of Year 10 students began an exciting journey working alongside industry professionals. Students met employers, collaborated in teams and developed innovative business ideas focused on creating a new and exciting public space. The project provided a fantastic opportunity to experience real-world challenges while building teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills.





Year 10 students also participated in the Jobs Centre Plus (JCP) Jobs of the Future Workshops, where they explored emerging career pathways and gained valuable insight into the skills and qualities needed in an ever-changing world of work. The workshops encouraged students to think about future opportunities and the importance of adaptability in a rapidly evolving job market.





Meanwhile, our Year 7 and 8 students attended the University of Bedfordshire's Powering Bedfordshire Enterprise Event. Working in teams, students designed products aimed at benefiting both the local community and the environment before presenting their ideas to a judging panel. The event culminated in prizes being awarded for the most innovative solutions, and our students impressed everyone with their creativity, confidence and presentation skills.

Experiences such as these help our young people develop essential employability skills, raise aspirations and gain a deeper understanding of the exciting opportunities available to them in the future.

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Aspiration

Southend Geography Trip – Year 10

Year 10 Geography students recently enjoyed an exciting field trip to Southend, where they had the opportunity to apply their classroom learning to a real coastal environment. The visit allowed students to investigate key geographical concepts, including coastal processes, landforms, and the impact of tourism on seaside communities.



Throughout the day, students collected fieldwork data, conducted observations, and explored different areas of the coastline, helping to bring their studies to life. The trip provided a valuable opportunity for students to develop their enquiry skills, work collaboratively, and deepen their understanding of the topics they will encounter in their GCSE Geography course.

The students represented Icknield High School exceptionally well, demonstrating enthusiasm, maturity, and a positive attitude throughout the visit.

We would like to thank the Geography staff for organising such a rewarding learning experience and look forward to seeing how students use their findings in future lessons.





T20 Cricket Trip

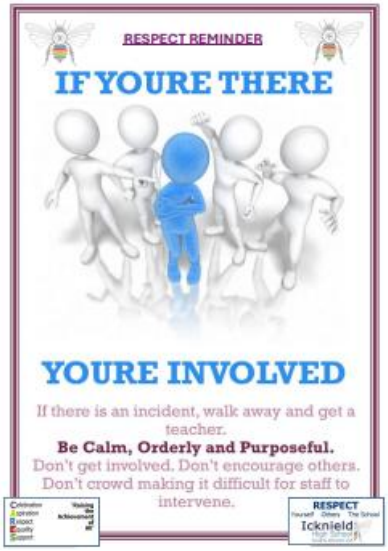
Forty students from Years 7–10 enjoyed our annual T20 Cricket Trip, providing a fantastic reward and celebration to end the school year. Students were treated to an exciting match between Surrey and Middlesex, with plenty of thrilling moments throughout the game. During the event, some of our students even made an appearance on Sky Sports, adding to the excitement of the day. The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all and remains a highlight of the PE calendar. We look forward to offering this rewarding experience again next year.



Respect

Respect Reminders from Mr Chopra

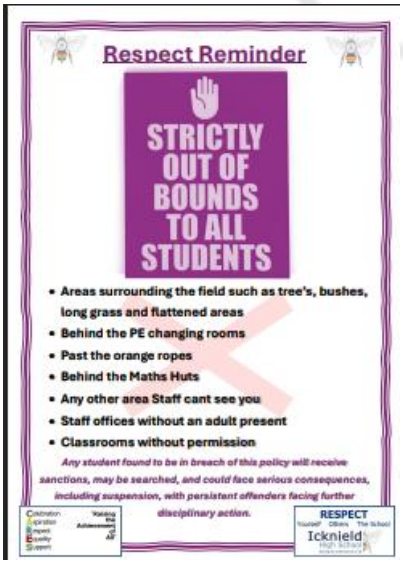
We continue with Mr Chopra, Assistant Headteacher, respect reminders to ensure a successful and supportive school community. We encourage parents to take a moment to discuss these reminders with their children, reinforcing the importance of respect both in and out of school. By working together, we can ensure that respect continues to guide everything we do at Icknield High













Equality

From Classroom to Commons: SEND Students Visit Parliament

Students from our SEND cohort enjoyed an inspiring and memorable visit to Parliament, bringing their classroom learning to life in a truly meaningful way.





During the visit, students took part in an engaging role-play activity, where they stepped into the shoes of Members of Parliament. This interactive experience allowed them to explore how debates take place and how important decisions are made.

As part of this, students also voted for their own MP, gaining a deeper understanding of elections and the importance of representation in a democratic society. The day continued with a fascinating tour of the historic building, where students learned about the rich history, impressive architecture, and significance of Parliament within the UK's political system.

A particular highlight was the opportunity to watch a live debate in the chamber, where students observed MPs discussing contemporary issues, including the use of artificial intelligence. This visit was a fantastic opportunity for students to engage with democracy first-hand, broadening their knowledge and inspiring them to think critically about the world around them.

Culture Day – Celebrating Our Differences

Icknield High School came together to celebrate Culture Day, a fantastic event that highlighted the rich diversity within our school community. Throughout the day, students and staff embraced the opportunity to learn about different cultures, traditions, languages, and customs from around the world.

Culture Day was a wonderful reminder that our differences are something to be celebrated. By learning from one another, we strengthen our sense of community and develop a greater appreciation for the diverse world in which we live.

The enthusiasm, curiosity, and respect shown by students throughout the day reflected our school values and demonstrated the importance of inclusion and belonging.







Equality

Proud Reflections from the Class of 2026

Following Year 11s Last Exam, the students were asked to complete a Student Satisfaction Survey, We are excited to share the results and some of the comments the students expressed of their experiences

Statement	Agree	Disagree
Overall experience of school has been positive	95%	5%
Happy at this school	94%	6%
Felt safe at school	96%	4%
Felt I belonged at Icknield	94%	6%
School promotes respect	93%	7%
Wellbeing taken seriously	93%	7%
Know where to access support	96%	4%
Had a trusted adult in school	95%	5%
Communication was clear	92%	8%
Teachers had high expectations	94%	6%
Received support needed to learn	94%	6%
Feedback helped improve work	93%	7%
Tutor support was useful	93%	7%
Revision sessions and resources were helpful	95%	5%
Personal development opportunities were valuable	93%	7%
Received useful careers guidance	93%	7%
Understood expectations during exams	96%	4%
School prepared me well for exams	96%	4%
Exam communication was clear	94%	6%
Felt supported during exams	95%	5%
Would recommend Icknield to younger students	93%	7%

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Equality

Student Voice – In Their Own Words

Alongside the survey results, students were invited to share their thoughts about their time at Icknield. Their comments highlight the positive relationships they built with staff, the support they received during challenging times, and the impact that teachers, pastoral staff and support teams had on their journey. Here are some of the many comments

"Teachers always made time to help when I was struggling."

"There was always someone I could talk to if I needed support."

"The staff genuinely cared about how we were doing."

"The support I received helped me get through some difficult times."

"Teachers went out of their way to make sure I understood what I needed to do."

"The pastoral team were always there when I needed them."

"Staff listened and took my concerns seriously."

"I felt supported throughout Year 11."

"The teachers encouraged me to keep going, even when things were difficult."

"The revision sessions and extra help made a huge difference."

"The support staff were understanding and always willing to help."

"I always felt like I had someone in school who knew me well."

"The school helped me feel more confident in myself and my abilities."

"The encouragement from staff helped me believe I could succeed."

"Teachers were approachable and willing to answer questions whenever I needed help."

"I appreciated how much staff cared about both our results and our wellbeing."

"The support I received made me feel valued and listened to."

"Staff were patient and understanding when I needed extra help."

"The school created an environment where I felt supported both academically and personally."

"The adults in school genuinely wanted the best for us."

Tokko Summer Programme 2026 – Four Weeks of Fun, Culture and Future-Ready Skills!

For Young People 12 yrs – 16 yrs who receive free school meals or we have limited places for 13 yrs – 19 yrs who do not receive free school meals but are from a low-income household.

This August, Tokko Youth Hub is offering an exciting four week programme packed with activities, adventures, and opportunities for young people across Luton.

World Cultures Week (Week 1 and 4) (SEND only), where young people explore global traditions through treasure hunts, quizzes, competitions, world foods and more. They'll also experience international travel at Tokko's Airport Terminal and enjoy full access to Tokko's Youth Hub with PS5, Xbox, Nintendo Switch, pool, foosball, air hockey and table tennis.

World Health & Wellbeing Week (Week 2) (all young people), featuring energising activities, global wellbeing practices with Total Wellbeing Luton, Tokko Gym sessions, climbing wall challenges and our outdoor Park Olympics. Enjoy full access to Tokko's Youth Hub with PS5, Xbox, Nintendo Switch, pool, foosball, air hockey and table tennis.

Global Skills Week (Week 3) (all young people), young people build confidence through Skills Builder workshops, wellbeing support from Total Wellbeing Luton and career insights from London Luton Airport, plus CV and interview prep. Enjoy full access to Tokko's Youth Hub with PS5, Xbox, Nintendo Switch, pool, foosball, air hockey and table tennis.

For more information and to sign up, visit: https://tokko.co.uk/group/holidays/

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Equality


TOKKO SUMMER PROGRAMME 2026
Youth Hub
AROUND THE WORLD
FREE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE 12 YRS – 16 YRS
GAMES FLOOR WITH,
PS5
XBOX
NINTENDO SWITCH
POOL TABLE
FOOSBALL
AIR HOCKEY
TABLE TENNIS
LUNCH PROVIDED
TRAVEL FAR & WIDE
World Cultures Week
For SEND young people
(mild to moderate needs)
Treasure hunts, games, global foods & more
WEEK 1
MON 3 – THURS 6 AUG
11 AM – 3 PM
WEEK 4
MON 24 – THURS 27 AUG
11 AM – 3 PM
World Health & Wellbeing Week
For all young people
Wellbeing workshops,
Tokko gym, climbing wall
WEEK 2
MON 10 – THURS 13 AUG
11 AM – 3 PM
Global Skills Week
For all young people
Build skills for your future,
insights into careers,
CVs & interview practice
WEEK 3
MON 17 – THURS 20 AUG
11 AM – 3 PM
For more information and to sign up, visit:
www.tokko.co.uk/holiday
Funding healthy, enriching and inclusive holiday activities for Luton's children thanks to the Department of Education.
Skills Builder
Total Wellbeing
www.tokko.co.uk
01582 544990
info@tokko.co.uk

Support

Age 5-15: Free Bus Travel for Children This Summer

Child Friendly Luton is pleased to share that children and young people in Luton will benefit from free bus travel this summer, thanks to new government support.

As part of a national cost of living initiative, all children aged 5–15 will be able to travel for free on participating local bus services across England throughout August. This scheme offers unlimited journeys with no need to register, helping families make the most of the school holidays.
What this means for Luton families:
•Free bus travel for children aged 5–15 during August
•Unlimited journeys on participating local bus
•No sign-up or registration required

This initiative will help families get out and about, making it easier for children and young people to access activities, spend time with friends and family, and enjoy everything Luton has to offer during the summer.

Child Friendly Luton, proudly supported by funding from Luton Rising, is committed to making Luton a place where all children can thrive, feel included, and have equal access to opportunities. This announcement is a positive step towards reducing inequalities and supporting families across the town.
For more information on the arrangements: Free bus travel for children August 2026

Contact: lisa.hudson@luton.gov.uk

RAISE UP FOUNDATION

Raise Up Summer Holiday Club Details

Young people aged 10–16 years

Dates: 20 July – 8 August 2026 (Monday to Friday, with a family fun day on the 8th of August!)
Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm
Venue: 5 All Saints Close, Luton, LU3 1FA
The programme includes:

- Sports and physical activities
- Arts and crafts
- Enrichment activities
- Family Fun Day
- A nutritious lunch provided each day

Places are fully funded for eligible children (pupil premium students - those who are eligible for Free School Meals), but limited. Families can book their place here: https://eequ.org/book/raise-up-summer-camp-with-the-raise-up-foundation-30765

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact us:

Telephone: 01582 551446
Email: info@raiseupluton.co.uk

Support

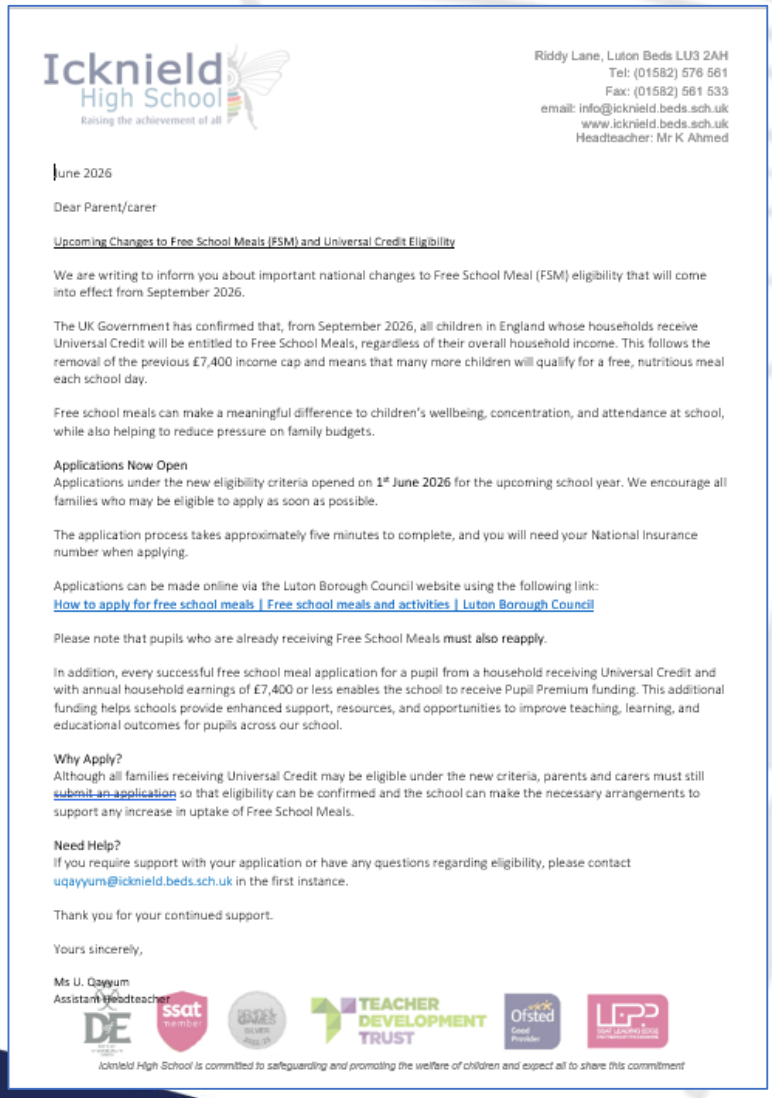
Free School Meals Update

From September 2026, all children in households receiving Universal Credit may be eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of household income.

Applications are now open, and families who think they may qualify are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. If your child already receives Free School Meals, you must also submit a new application, as current arrangements will not automatically continue from September 2026.

Applying takes around five minutes and requires your National Insurance number.
Applications can be made online via the Luton Borough Council website using the following link: How to apply for free school meals [How to apply for free school meals | Free school meals and activities | Luton Borough Council](#)

Please see the letter emailed to all parents by Ms U. Qayyum on Monday 8th June for further details.



Icknield High School
Raising the achievement of all

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www.icknield.beds.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr K Ahmed

June 2026

Dear Parent/carer

Upcoming Changes to Free School Meals (FSM) and Universal Credit Eligibility

We are writing to inform you about important national changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility that will come into effect from September 2026.

The UK Government has confirmed that, from September 2026, all children in England whose households receive Universal Credit will be entitled to Free School Meals, regardless of their overall household income. This follows the removal of the previous £7,400 income cap and means that many more children will qualify for a free, nutritious meal each school day.

Free school meals can make a meaningful difference to children's wellbeing, concentration, and attendance at school, while also helping to reduce pressure on family budgets.

Applications Now Open
Applications under the new eligibility criteria opened on 1st June 2026 for the upcoming school year. We encourage all families who may be eligible to apply as soon as possible.

The application process takes approximately five minutes to complete, and you will need your National Insurance number when applying.

Applications can be made online via the Luton Borough Council website using the following link:
How to apply for free school meals | Free school meals and activities | Luton Borough Council

Please note that pupils who are already receiving Free School Meals must also reapply.

In addition, every successful free school meal application for a pupil from a household receiving Universal Credit and with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less enables the school to receive Pupil Premium funding. This additional funding helps schools provide enhanced support, resources, and opportunities to improve teaching, learning, and educational outcomes for pupils across our school.

Why Apply?
Although all families receiving Universal Credit may be eligible under the new criteria, parents and carers must still submit an application so that eligibility can be confirmed and the school can make the necessary arrangements to support any increase in uptake of Free School Meals.

Need Help?
If you require support with your application or have any questions regarding eligibility, please contact uqayyum@icknield.beds.sch.uk in the first instance.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Ms U. Qayyum
Assistant Headteacher

Icknield High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all to share this commitment

Support

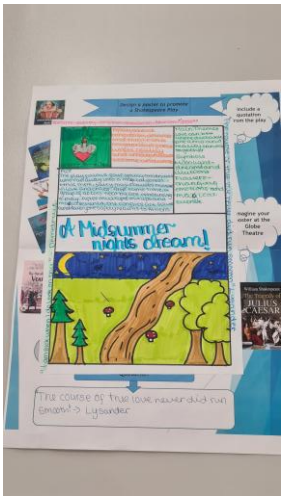
Shakespeare Poster Competition

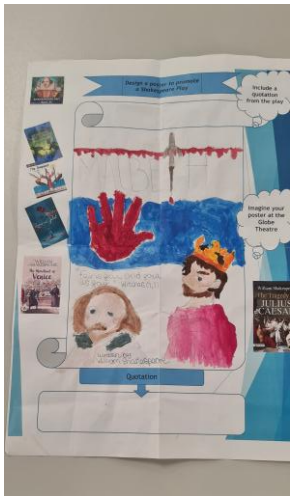
To celebrate William Shakespeare's birthday in April, students were invited to take part in a "Design a Shakespeare Poster" competition, creating a poster for a Shakespeare play of their choice.

We were delighted to receive entries from two talented Year 7 students, Aathika and Elsa, whose creativity and enthusiasm impressed us all. They were each awarded a small prize in recognition of their efforts.

The competition forms part of the Learning Resource Centre's ongoing celebration of Shakespeare, with displays, promotions and activities designed to inspire a love of reading and literature. Students are always welcome to visit the LRC and borrow from our wide range of books.

Well done, Aathika and Elsa, for your fantastic work and for helping to keep Shakespeare's stories alive for a new generation of readers!





Sparx Reader Celebration Tea Party

Congratulations to 7X/En1, who achieved the highest Sparx Reader completion rate in the school this year – a fantastic accomplishment!

To celebrate their success, students enjoyed a special tea party during their lesson with Mrs Talukdar. The event was a wonderful opportunity to recognise their dedication and commitment to reading throughout the year. As part of the celebration, each student received a small prize and had the opportunity to choose a book to take home.

Well done to all the students in 7X/En1 for their outstanding effort and enthusiasm. Your hard work has truly paid off, and you should be very proud of this



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Giving Back- The Luton Foodbanks

The Luton Foodbanks 5K Colour Run 2026 has now taken place, and we're incredibly proud of the amazing efforts of our students who took part to raise money for Luton Foodbank.

A huge congratulations and thank you to the following students for completing the run:
Ameena, Ayaan, Hassan, Isla, Caitlyn, Ottillie, Bill, Kyran, Ayesha, Musaa

We're raising funds to help Luton Foodbanks continue supporting individuals and families facing hardship across our local community.

Every donation, no matter the size, helps provide essential food and household items to people in need, ensuring that no one has to go hungry. Your support will make a real difference to local families during difficult times and help Luton Foodbanks continue their vital work.

Support Our Fundraising

Although the event has now finished, there's still time to support this fantastic cause. If you'd like to make a donation, please visit our **JustGiving** page using the link below:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/icknield-high-school-colourrun2026

Every contribution, big or small, is greatly appreciated and will help Luton Foodbanks continue their vital work in our community.
Thank you so much for your generosity and support!
Mr Chapman



Support

During the holiday period, if you have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child, please do not hesitate to seek help. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Service/Website	Description	Link
Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH):	Phone: 01582 547653 (office hours). Out of hours: 0300 300 8123. Email: mash@luton.gov.uk	MASH
Emergency	Dial 999 if a child is in immediate danger.	
NHS	Call 111 Option 2 for mental health crisis support	
NSPCC Helpline	Call 0808 800 5000 (free, confidential advice)	
Childline (for children	Call 0800 1111	
Police (non Emergency)	Call 101	
Barnardos Helpline	Provides therapeutic and practical support for children, particularly refugees from Afghanistan and Ukraine, offering culturally sensitive care.	N/A
CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)	Provides assessments and treatment for young people with mental health difficulties.	Learn more
CHUMS	Offers trauma support for children who have experienced sexual abuse, bereavement, or witnessed domestic violence.	Visit Website
ChildLine	Provides confidential support to young people via phone and online chat.	Visit Website
Samaritans	Provides 24/7 emotional support for those in distress.	Call 116 123

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