



## Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been a very interesting term! Thank-you all for your support as we have worked together to support our students. I hope you all have an opportunity to enjoy the festive season – even if our celebrations will be different this year. We hope to welcome everyone back into school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021, we will keep parents informed if C19 means that we need to adapt or change this plan. Lessons continue online until the end of term at 3.00pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

As a reminder, all students are expected to wear full school uniform to school every day from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Students will be changing for PE in school so should bring their PE kit into school with them on days when they have PE lessons. Please can I ask that students leave non-uniform items at home. I will be asking staff to confiscate non-uniform items of clothing for return at the end of the working week. This will include all hoodies, nonuniform jumpers and snoods. Please can you ensure your child has a mask to wear in corridors and communal areas as a scarf or snood is not a suitable alternative for school.

I do appreciate that not all parents (and students!) share the same views about the importance of a smart school uniform, however, you have all chosen to send your children to our school and to share our uniform expectations. I thank-you for your support in this matter.

Year 11 students and parents will find an important summary of next terms curriculum events in this newsletter. The summary provides an overview of the sixth form application process and information on how we will be supporting our students to make the right A Level choices to support their future pathways. The key message is that students always perform best when studying subjects that they enjoy! Year 7 and Year 9 parents will see that they have new dates for their Parent Teacher Consultation Evenings on the school calendar. Please accept my apologies for this change, it is to facilitate the smooth running of the Year 9 options process.

Congratulations to Ms Nekiwala and the students of 8F1 for their amazing efforts coordinating donations for local Food Banks. Students and their families have been incredibly generous and we will be able to send lots and lots of food to local people who really need it. It is great that in these really difficult times, our young people have been able to work together and do something so worthwhile to support others. Thank-you.

I would like to congratulate Emilis, Rohail and Kishan for their winning entries in our Christmas card competition. It has been a pleasure being able to send such fantastic cards this year! Congratulations to Jai-Hann, Adam and Ikem for their winning entries to our anti-bullying week competitions. We have published all the winning entries in this newsletter. Names of the Linguists of the Month and DT Awards have also been published. Congratulations to all! Our School Celebration Event was postponed from Wednesday but will take place next term.

The London Borough of Redbridge have asked us to remind students that survey inviting secondary school students to feedback their experiences of returning to school closes at 5pm tomorrow. The survey takes less than ten minutes to complete. The link is here: <https://forms.gle/uyE4GMqchkwmmkCf6>

Best wishes,

**Mrs Drysdale (Headteacher)**

## GOVERNOR'S BRIEFING

On behalf of the governors I would like to thank all the staff for the considerable efforts they have made this term to keep the school operating in very difficult circumstances and to ensure that the boys continue to receive a good education.

I would also like to thank the parents and pupils for their help in these efforts. In particular I know that home schooling is not easy for many of you but we have made good progress this term in the provision of remote learning and whilst I hope that we will have only limited use for this next year it is good to know we are now much better prepared to provide it where necessary.

Finally, I wish you all have a safe and restful holiday, a happy new year and look forward to seeing you all back next term.

Regards,

**Mr Pedro (Chair of Governors)**

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR SPRING TERM

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January**

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> to Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

**PC 1 Home to parents**

**Christmas/ Winter Holiday**

**Start of Spring Term (students)**

**MFL Oral Mocks**

**GCSE PE Mock exam**

**Year 11 Supporting Progress Evening**

**Year 11 Work Experience & student subject choice talks**

**6<sup>th</sup> Form Open Evening**

**Autumn series GCSE results day**

**Year 11 Art Practice Exam**

**Year 8 Equaliteach workshops**

**Year 13 Art Practice Exam**

**Year 9 Options Talk**

**Year 9 Supporting Progress Evening**

**Year 11 Practice Exams Home to parents (email)**

**Year 8 Equaliteach workshops**

**Year 11 PTC**

**Year 13 Exam Briefing**

**Year 13 Practice Exams**

**Safer Internet Day**

**GCSE / A Level Art Trip**

**Year 9 PTC**

**Half Term**

# SAFEGUARDING: PARENT ZONE

Dear Parents/Carers,

The London Borough of Redbridge has teamed up with Parent Zone (<https://parentzone.org.uk>). Parent Zone is the official parents' representative on the UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS) providing an engagement and support service for schools, organisations and family professionals – delivering online safety and digital resilience education. You can find detailed information on the services provided on <https://parentzone.org.uk/about-us>.

As a parent/carer, you can sign up for their newsletter and receive updated information, just register on their website: <https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/signup>

Parent Zone has a program to support parents and students in an emergency situation called Shout Crisis Messenger where you can text **PARENTZONE** to **85258**. You can find detailed information on this service on their website: <https://parentzone.org.uk/parent-zone-crisis-messenger>

We will use this section to keep you posted with the latest updates and we hope you will find this useful to support you with making sure your son is safe in the digital world.

Attached to the email sent with this Newsletter, you can find three Parent Zone guides with pertinent information to help with this holiday season as follows:

- 🔗 How to have the perfect digital family Christmas (<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/digital-xmas>)
- 🔗 This year's must-have tech gifts – and what you need to know (<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/years-must-have-tech-gifts-and-what-you-need-know>)
- 🔗 22 online learning resources your children will love (<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/22-online-learning-resources-your-children-will-love>)

Kind regards,

**Mr Kelly (Assistant Headteacher)**



*General Enquiries*

Email: [info@parentzone.org.uk](mailto:info@parentzone.org.uk)

Tel: 020 7686 7225.

Post to: Parent Zone, 95 White Lion Street, London N1 9PF

# COVID UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

In the email sent with this Newsletter, you will find attached the Government's guidance for the Christmas period. Below, you can see the overview of the restrictions for tier 3 Very High Alert.

If you live with someone with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result please stay at home for 14 days. You can find further detail on the following link for the Government's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Please follow the rules so we can all be safe!

 HM Government 

## CORONAVIRUS TIER 3 VERY HIGH ALERT

[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

**Around 1 in 3 people with Covid-19 have no symptoms** so will be spreading the virus without realising. We must all take action to protect each other and our hospital capacity.

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>MEETING FRIENDS AND FAMILY</b> <br>No mixing of households indoors, or most outdoor places, apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six in some outdoor public spaces (e.g. parks, public gardens).   | <b>BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS</b> <br>Hospitality is closed, with the exception of sales by takeaway, drive-through or delivery.  | <b>RETAIL</b> <br>Open.   | <b>WORK AND BUSINESS</b> <br>Everyone who can work from home should do so.                              |
| <b>EDUCATION</b> <br>Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open. Childcare, other supervised activities for children, and childcare bubbles permitted.   | <b>INDOOR LEISURE</b> <br>Open. Group activities and classes should not take place.   | <b>ACCOMMODATION</b> <br>Closed (with limited exceptions)   | <b>PERSONAL CARE</b> <br>Open.  |
| <b>OVERNIGHT STAYS</b> <br>We advise against overnight stays other than with household or support bubble.   | <b>WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS</b> <br>15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships and wakes; 30 for funerals. Wedding receptions not permitted.   | <b>ENTERTAINMENT</b> <br>Indoor venues closed.  | <b>PLACES OF WORSHIP</b> <br>Open, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble. |
| <b>TRAVELLING</b> <br>Avoid travelling outside your area, other than where necessary such as for work or education. Further exemptions apply. Reduce the number of journeys where possible. Plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport. Avoid car sharing with those outside of your household or support bubble. | <b>EXERCISE</b> <br>Classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but people should avoid higher-risk contact activity. Group exercise activities and sports indoors should not take place, unless with your household or bubble. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue. | <b>RESIDENTIAL CARE</b> <br>COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits. Outdoor/airtight visits only (rollout of rapid testing will enable indoor visits including contact). | <b>LARGE EVENTS</b> <br>Events should not take place. Drive-in events permitted.                        |

For support and more information visit: [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

 HANDS  FACE  SPACE



# AN IMPORTANT AND EXCITING TERM FOR YEAR 11 STUDENTS

There isn't a time in Year 11 that isn't important but the first part of the Spring term is particularly packed with events that will help students, nearing their final GCSEs exams, to starting preparing for their futures and their sixth form experience.

On **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January**, we will be holding a virtual Curriculum Support evening. In the past, students and parents have been invited into school for this event but in the current circumstances we will be breaking the event into 2 parts. The first part will consist of recorded PowerPoints that will share important information and advice on how you can support your son this year. We then will make a number of virtual appointments for parents who wish to discuss concerns or ask questions, in relation to their son's learning, with a member of the pastoral or senior leadership team.

The following week we will be launching our **Sixth Form Open Evening** event. Teachers and students from departments across the school have been working hard to record videos that will try to do justice to the fantastic work that takes place at A level at ICHS. A film about the opportunities available at ICHS will include an address by Mrs Drysdale, inputs from the Director of Student Development, Mr Norley and our UCAS co-ordinator, Ms Amin and testimonials from past students, who, like the vast majority of ICHS students, have gone on to do great things after leaving. Students and parents will then have the opportunity to watch the videos from the subjects that interest them. My advice would be to watch as many of these as possible so that the boys can make informed decisions regarding the A levels they opt for. Finally, there will be an opportunity to meet virtually with members of staff so that students and parents can ask questions and get a greater insight into our fabulous sixth form.

On **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**, parents will receive the results from their son's recent mock examinations and the Year 11 Parent Teacher Consultation evening will take place the week after on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January**. This year we are holding virtual appointments and the same platform is used for booking appointments as in the past. Feedback from parents and teachers about this new way of meeting has been very positive.

Students will then be asked to give their initial ideas about the A level subjects they might like to take at A level during the first week of February. This will be followed in March with mentoring appointments for all students and their parents to discuss these choices before final applications are submitted.

## Year 11 Parents & Students



**Mark Your  
Calendar**



# SIXTH FORM



## Ilford County High School A Specialist Grammar School

A high achieving academic Sixth Form for boys

Fremantle Road, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 2JB

Tel: 020 8551 6496 Website: [www.ichs.org.uk](http://www.ichs.org.uk)

# Virtual Sixth Form Open Evening

For entry into Year 12 in September 2021

**12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 for internal students**

**13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 for external students**

Please see the school website for further information

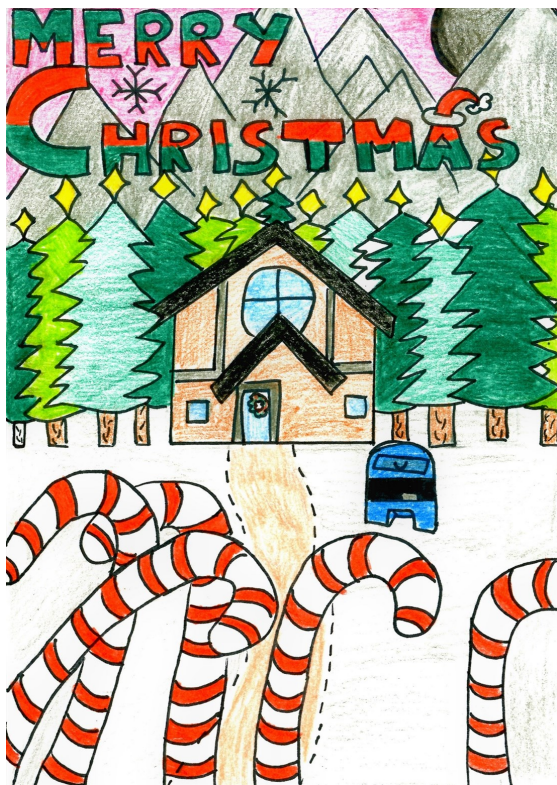
Application packs will be available at the Open Evening, and afterwards on our website, [www.ichs.org.uk](http://www.ichs.org.uk)





# CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Please see below the winners of our Christmas Card Competition:



BY EMILIS PETRAVICIUS (YEAR 7)



BY ROHAIL KHAN (YEAR 8)



The meaning behind my Christmas Card design:

The Christmas Tree is rainbow coloured to symbolise hope and resilience in 2020. The two boys symbolise caring for one another.

BY KISHAN SHAH (YEAR 7)



# FOODBANK COLLECTION

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to say a huge thank you to all pupils, parents, and carers for their donations to the foodbank collection. We have been overwhelmed by generosity; you have helped us to raise a phenomenal amount of food which will support many individuals during these tough times.

As all form groups have worked equally hard in raising these donations, a raffle took place this week and the three winning forms will receive their prize in due course.

We very much appreciate that you have supported the school in raising donations to help vulnerable local families – thank you once again.

Kind regards,

**Miss Nekiwala (English Teacher)**





# ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 marked Anti-Bullying Week 2020.

This year, we were extremely pleased with students' responses to the activities which we held around the school.

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November, we held 'Odd-Socks Day'. Pupils and staff came into school wearing odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique in Anti-Bullying Week.

We also held a range of competitions across different faculties and year groups to promote awareness amongst pupils of the issues underlying bullying.



**We are pleased to announce that the following pupils won for the following subjects:**

## 🏆 PE - Jai-Hann Daboo (Year 7)

Research a sporting icon who has faced and overcome any type of difficulty, such as racism, sexism, homophobia, or discrimination of any type. Carry out research about the individual, print a picture and provide a short description of how they have been successful despite the difficulties they faced.

## 🏆 English - Adam Sardar (Year 7)

Write a short story (max 750 words) titled 'A Complicated Relationship'.

## 🏆 Art - Ikem Enebeli (Year 10)

Draw an image or design a poster based on the theme "United Against Bullying".

Congratulations to all students who participated. In the next pages are the winning entries which are also displayed on the schools Anti-Bullying display board.

Finally, all pupils completed an Anti-Bullying and Wellbeing questionnaire during form-time. The data the survey collected will help the school understand the issues pupils face and improve the preventative work that we do to tackle bullying and improve student's wellbeing.

Thank you to all pupils for their hard work during this week.

Best wishes,

**Miss Nekiwala (On behalf of Anti-Bullying Committee)**



PTO

## “LEWIS HAMILTON” BY JAI-HANN DABOO (YR 7)



Lewis Hamilton was born on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1985. He is the most successful and richest British racing driver. He currently competes in the 2020 Formula 1 Season and has won several driver championships, making history.

From a young age, he experienced racism which led to bullying. As a child, he was told that he would not fulfill his dream due to his race. He recalled that he was told that ‘he was not going to make it and to go back to his country.’ Throughout his life, Lewis had many ups and downs and he stands stronger more than ever, to fight against racism and inequality.

Hamilton loves Formula 1 and also made changes to the sport this year. In 2020, he changed the Mercedes F1 Car from the trademark silver livery to black. As the sport’s only black driver, Hamilton has been at the forefront of the Black Lives Matter movement, encouraging competitors to kneel with him before the start of every race, with shirts saying “End Racism”.

He has pledged to continue to fight for inequality and to improve diversity in the workforce. Lewis set up the ‘Hamilton Commission’ which helps young black people fulfil their dreams in motor sport. Currently, he is the only black driver and is proud to be so.

Lewis quotes “For the kids out there who dream the impossible, do not give up on that dream because I am living proof that you can manifest your dreams and even the impossible ones.” This encourages others who are going through racism that it is possible to come out of it successfully. He is a role model to everyone.

Lewis Hamilton has vowed to continue to fight against racial injustice after being named ‘The most influential black person in Britain’ recently. He added that we should live in a world that treats everyone equally, no matter their background or the colour of their skin."



## **“A COMPLICATED RELATIONSHIP” BY ADAM SARDAR (Yr 7)**

PUNCH! KICK! SLAP! Max Milner sauntered up and down the corridors of Upper Lake Elementary School, pulverising kid by kid, ruining days, one by one. His eyes locked on to his new target: Jemima Fox.

Jemima was nothing short of ordinary. She was roughly 4 feet tall, had scruffy black hair, and deep brown eyes. Her daily regime at school was the same nearly every day; come into school, be seized by the collar with Max's grimy hands, and hung from the hook on the door of their tutor, Mr Allyson's classroom. Mr Allyson would routinely have a fit when he saw Jemima hanging on the door and give her, on top of all of that, a forty – five minute detention after school. Every. Single. Day.

At break time, Max would rub Jemima's face in dirt on the field and, to top it off, drop her bag (and books) in the nearest available puddle he could find. Finally, after school, Max – with his enormous arms – would lift Jemima up high in the air... and dump her in the bin outside the school.

*Max advanced onto Jemima and fixed her with a steely glare, he stepped forward.*

Now Jemima was sick and tired of this, ah, what's the word... tyranny let's call it. Jemima was sick and tired of this tyranny and she knew she had to do something about it, but what? She had pondered on telling her parents but they were usually caught up in something or another, if that was trying to put bread on the table or keeping up with the bills. You see, Jemima's family was quite poor and couldn't afford many things; it was hard for the Fox family.

Jemima resolved in telling her one and only friend, Alex, about her troubles and found that it all came out like word vomit. She told her everything from her struggles at home to being rubbed in the dirt by Max Milner. 'That felt good!' she thought, 'I feel almost, worry – free! I've really got to do this more often!' She and Alex skipped off to Maths lesson without a care in the world... well almost.

RING RING! RING RING! Finally, the end of the day! Now, let's carry on with the story, Jemima strolled home with Alex, before parting ways and entering her own house. Paint was peeling off the walls and flakes of plaster shimmied down to lay on the floor, she stepped in.

"Mum, Dad, I'm home!" Jemima called.

No answer.

Again, "MUM, DAD!"

No answer.

Jemima rushed upstairs to her parents' room, they were sleeping, probably after a long day of working. Jemima wiped a bead of sweat from her forehead, relieved. She went to her room to get changed and then came downstairs to make her dinner, cereal would have to do. She finished her cornflakes and then plodded upstairs to bed.

The next morning, Jemima got dressed and walked, dazed, down the stairs to have breakfast, cereal of course. After that she kissed her parents goodbye and scrambled out of the house for school, she was late. Panting, Jemima arrived at the school gates.

*Max Milner sneered,*

*"Where's your Mum and Dad? Probably starvin'," his cronies cracked up as if it was the funniest joke in the world.*

*It wasn't. (I can tell you one though! 'Where do library books like to sleep? Under their covers!' funny, eh?)*

Jemima decided to talk to Mrs Weathers, the principal, about Max, this was beginning to get serious. She decided it was more important than Geography and came to see her at 8:45. Jemima was on her way to her office when she eyed a sixth former towering over Max, seemingly scolding him for something or another. She saw Max quiver. As Jemima passed him she smirked

*"Not so tough now, huh?" Max turned back to see her, for once, looking like the victim. Jemima, with a spring in her step and a feeling she wouldn't be having anymore troubles in school, turned around back to geography. Bully Free.*

**PTO**







# PLASTIC POLLUTION WEBINAR

## The ICHS Eco Committee at All Party Parliamentary Group event on the True Solutions to the plastic pollution

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> of November, the ICHS Eco Committee was invited by [Tidy Britain](#) and [Ocean Conservation](#) to attend a webinar of All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) event to discuss the **True solutions to the plastic pollution crisis**.

Ms Capin and three student members of the Eco Committee attended the event: Ehsen Shah 9F2, Abdul Mateen Riaz 8F2 and Rohail Khan 8F2.

This virtual session featured an expert panel of leading industry representatives, politicians, academics, politicians and campaigners, being quizzed by youth activists on the actions we need now to stop plastic flowing into the natural environment.

Below is the summary of the key points made.

**Dr Richard Thompson** is the Director of the Marine Institute at Plymouth University, and is a leading expert on marine plastic pollution. He is concerned that plastic is degrading from mega to micro, and now into nano particles.

**Yuyun Ismawiti** is an International Environmental Engineer and campaigner. She raised an important question about where is our waste going? Developing countries such as the UK, are shipping their waste to poorer countries which have no infrastructure to recycle or dispose this waste. The plastic pollution is left there to pollute water supply and the soil. The UK is the second largest contributor to the overseas waste dumping. She calls for recycling of our waste in the UK and better waste sorting practices. For example, glass bottles and jars should be without plastic labels.



**Rt Honorable George Eustace**, the Secretary of state for Environment was also taking part in the event. He was asked about the government's action to stop the climate change. He maintained that we all have a role to play in this process. The government role is to legislate and bring the laws that will minimise the damage to the environment. Mr Eustace gave examples of the UK being the 1<sup>st</sup> to ban the microbeads, introduce 50p charge for plastic bags, ban plastic straws, stirrers and cotton buds. However, he was keen to emphasise the consumers' have personal responsibility to make changes in their shopping behaviour and to use their money to make the big companies change their systems.

It was an interesting and informative event that helped the students find out more about current fight against the plastic pollution and to make them more determined to make a lasting change in our school and a wider community. This is what inspired our latest school-based initiative: Eco rewards for reusable water bottles.

This is what Ehsen Shah 9F2 said about the webinar:

"During the webinar, we heard from a lot of experienced and well-learned members of society. They made very interesting points and put forward innovative ideas. I really liked the fact that one speaker chose to speak about waste and sewage as it is an issue not often looked upon when we think about plastic. We also heard from top members of Nestle, who told us what they were planning to do to reduce the plastic in their drinks such as Ribena and Lucozade. Although the ideas proposed in the webinar were valuable and valid, I still believe we have a long way to go before they can become a reality."

We are grateful to many students, staff and parents who are continuing to work on making our school and a wider community a more sustainable place. If you would like to get involved in our work and support the ICHS Eco Committee, please contact me at school.

Kind regards

**Ms Capin (on behalf of the ICHS Eco Committee)**



# Awards



## DT AWARDS FirstTerm 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I would like to congratulate the students who have been nominated by our team and have successfully obtained an award for the 'Designer of the Term' and the 'Chef of the Term' 2020.

**KS3** *Designer of the Term Award - Abdul Mateen Riaz*

**KS3** *Chef of the Term Award - Jai Hann Daboo*

**KS4** *Designer of the Term Award - Aadhavan Kathirgamarajah*

**KS4** *Chef of the Term Award - Shayan Zaman*

**KS5** *Designer of the Term Award - Jay Patel*

These students have demonstrated significant progress within their lessons, commitment and contribution to the department. I would like to thank them and look forward to their continued success.

Kind regards,

Mr H Ibrahim

Head of Design and Technology



# LINGUISTS OF THE MONTH

## November:

### Year 8

- 🏆 Labib Alam and Aran Sivendra for using French in class more often than others.
- 🏆 Tahim Hossain for hard work.
- 🏆 Nikesh Balakrishnan and Nafij Ahmed for being very enthusiastic in French and winning the title Mr Français.
- 🏆 Asanth Sureshkumar for making good progress.
- 🏆 Zaid Ali for making good progress.
- 🏆 Aaron Ganesh for really good progress in German.
- 🏆 Rusan Kathirvelauthapillai
- 🏆 Zaid Dar
- 🏆 Luyanda Nxumalo
- 🏆 Yahya Najmi
- 🏆 Josiah Mohammed
- 🏆 Sadat Razzaque
- 🏆 Ehsan Ahmed
- 🏆 Adam Khan

### Other Year Groups

- 🏆 Hahir Khan (Yr7) for excellent scores consistently.
- 🏆 Jairaj Bhopal (Yr7)
- 🏆 Zuhayr Mannan (Yr7)
- 🏆 Aidan Khan (Yr7)
- 🏆 Abdul-Wase Khawar (Yr9) for the Linguist of the month: he has written a brilliant sonnet for our poetry competition.
- 🏆 Riad Hoque (Yr9)
- 🏆 Rahul Puri (Yr11)
- 🏆 Santhosh Satheeskumar (Yr11)
- 🏆 Aruran Baskaralingam (Yr11)

## December:

### Year 7

- 🏆 Kyo Fu - doing well in the recent assessment
- 🏆 Zuhayr Mannan - doing well in the recent assessment
- 🏆 Zhengfei Gao - doing well in the recent assessment
- 🏆 Mihiran Mageswaran - excellent preparation and delivery of presentation

### Year 9

- 🏆 Riad Hoque - doing well in the recent assessment
- 🏆 Aayan Ismael Miah - excellent preparation and delivery of speaking task

### Year 10

- 🏆 Asif Ameen - excellent focus and preparation

### Year 11

- 🏆 Aimal Siddique - extra effort inside and outside of the classroom

# SAFER BUS TRAVEL

A few weeks ago I undertook a survey of all students in the school in order to collate issues of concern to them regarding bus travel. As promised I forwarded a letter detailing these to TfL and I share that letter with you here:

Dear Sir/Madam

I am the STARS Travel plan Coordinator for the Ilford County High School. As you are no doubt aware STARS is TfL's accreditation scheme for London schools and nurseries.

Following concerns voiced by some students regarding bus travel, I undertook a survey of the whole school and I now feel it necessary to share the main results of this with you.

The biggest concern raised by students was regarding students travelling on School Service buses without wearing masks and not being challenged by the driver. This is causing unnecessary anxiety for the students' safety.

Secondly concerns were raised that adults are being allowed to travel on School Service buses. I am sure that you will agree that this is unacceptable.

Thirdly some drivers allow too many people on the bus making social distancing impossible. This too is unacceptable.

Also many students would like to know how frequently the Oyster Card reader is sanitised. They would like to see hand sanitisers on the buses although they appreciate the difficulty in this.

The last major concern was the inconsistent approach and attitude of your drivers.

In summarising the data, 21% no longer travel by bus, although they used to, as they do not feel safe meaning that they are travelling by car. This should not be necessary and conflicts with our Ecoschools initiatives. Only 32% now travel by bus.

I realise that this is a challenging time for all but there must be an expectation of a rigorous and consistent approach amongst your drivers. Is it possible for Transport Police to be more in evidence across Redbridge during school travel times?

As a STARS travel team we await your response to these points with interest. Your reply and safety reassurances will be shared with students.

TfL have responded to my letter and here is that reply:

Dear Mrs Hitchcock

Thank you for contacting us on 24 November about the concerns relating to the School Priority Services.

I'm sorry to hear that school children have expressed their dissatisfaction with the school services. I appreciate that you've brought this information to our attention as we are always reviewing our approach and making amends where necessary to provide a reliable and safe service for all who travel.

Bus drivers of school and non-school services are not required to challenge customers about wearing face coverings as they are not enforcement officers and cannot refuse travel to passengers. They can only advise the correct course of action it is not the driver's job to enforce government guidelines.

Government guidelines allow all available seats to be occupied on school services to help children get to school on time and allow extra space for non school services where social distancing can be allowed. I understand that despite this, children still feel uneasy about this arrangement. Therefore, I have passed your comments on to our Bus Performance team to review the routes and come to a decision that may allow a safer commute for school children.

I shall continue to monitor this in the New Year and hope that your son may have noticed some improvement in his journey.

**Mrs Hitchcock (Travel Plan coordinator)**



# NOTICE BOARD

## LOST PROPERTY

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our lost property box is full with items with no name or reference. If you son has lost anything, please send an email to [enquiries@ichs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ichs.org.uk) with your son's name and the description of the lost items. If we find the items, we will let you know.

Don't Miss the  
**DEADLINE!**

We will keep these items up to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. After this date, it will be donated to charity.

Kind regards,

**Mrs Branco (Office Team Lead)**

## DT VOUCHER

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am pleased to announce the recent partnership with have created with Crown Decorating Centre in Newbury Park.

Our Design and Technology students will be working closely on projects and building on this partnership with the one of leading paint and decorating specialists in the U.K. One of the exclusive benefits of this partnership, entitles you to receive 20% off all items you purchase in the Newbury Park store when you quote 'Ilford County High School'.

Crown Decorating Centre  
750 – 756 Eastern Avenue  
Newbury Park,  
IG6-7HU

Kind regards,

**Mr H Ibrahim (Head of Design and Technology)**



# LONDON BOROUGH OF REDBRIDGE

Dear All,

We hope you are well.

This is a kind reminder that the deadline for our survey is on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 5pm.** We want to give **all students in Redbridge** the opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings on their **experiences of returning to school or starting a new school.**

Please find the link to the Secondary School Survey below – it will take less than 10 minutes to complete.

<https://forms.gle/uyE4GMqchkwwmkCf6>

If you do have any further questions or queries please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Thank you once again.

Best wishes,

**Naomi Marie Milliken**

**Assistant Educational Psychologist**

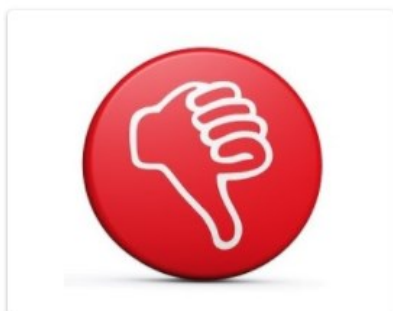
**Redbridge Educational Wellbeing Team (REW'T)**



☐ Great



☐ OK



☐ Awful



☐ Not sure



**We're on the web:**

<http://www.ichs.org.uk/>

Phone: 020 8551 6496

Fax: 020 8503 9960

Email: [enquiries@ichs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ichs.org.uk)