31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 New Issue no: 5

# ILFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

# Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another Term is over and the exam period is rapidly approaching! I would like to thank students and staff for their hard work this term and wish those students who are preparing for examinations good luck with their revision.

Yesterday I shared with Parents a letter written by all Redbridge Headteachers about the current national funding crisis and the impact it is having in our schools. ICHS is particularly badly hit because as a grammar school we do not get many additional funds and rely almost exclusively on the basic "per pupil funding". At our last Home School Links Meeting we discussed the funding crisis and how it is affecting ICHS. Thank you to all the parents who attended and pledged their support. We will be contacting all parents shortly to explain how you can help the school moving forward.

I am attaching the school's new Behaviour Policy with this Newsletter. The Policy asks all students to behave well and treat others with respect. We ask that students are in the right place at the right time, doing the right thing! I have spoken to all students in assemblies this week so they understand clearly what our expectations are and how policies are changing. The biggest change in our new behaviour policy surrounds the use of mobile phones. Staff are increasingly finding that mobile phones are distracting students from their learning and that the behaviour issues generated from this use of mobile phones is taking a great deal of time and effort to investigate.

We have therefore taken the decision to ban mobile phones and ask that students do not use them in school. Students come to school to learn and I am asking all parents and carers to support our policy. If students bring a mobile phone into school and it is seen or heard by a member of staff, it will be confiscated. Phones will only be returned at the end of the week at 3.30pm. If a phone is confiscated on a Friday, it will be returned a week later. Should a phone be confiscated for a second time, it will be returned at the end of the half term. Sixth Form students will be able to use their phones in the LRC and Study Centre to support their learning but not at any other time.

I would like to wish you all a restful and peaceful holiday.

Best wishes

Mrs Drysdale

Headteacher

# IMPORTANT DATES FOR SUMMER TERM

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April Easter/Spring Break / Madrid Football Tour

Tuesday 18th April Students return to school

Wednesday 19th April Year 8 Curriculum Evening

Tuesday 18th to Friday 21st April

Yr 12 UCAS Exams

Monday 24th April PSHEE Road Safety

Tuesday 25th April GCSE Recital Evening

Wednesday 26th April Yr7 CC Project: London launch (all day)

Thursday 27th April Junior Maths Challenge

Friday 28th April Yrl1 Public Art Exam

Monday 1st May May Day Bank Holiday (Students not in school)

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Sixth Form: External Learning Conversations

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May Yr11 Public Art Exam

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May

AS/A2 Public Art Exam

Monday 8th to Tuesday 9th May Sixth Form: External Learning Conversations

Monday 8th May Yr8 CC Project: Enterprise

Tuesday 9th May Year 8 Parents Evening

Friday 12th May Year 11 Exam Briefing

Year 9 Practice GCSE RS Exam

Friday 12th to Monday 15th May

Year 8 French Trip to Normandy

Monday 15th May Public Exams Begin

Year 11 Off Site Study begins

Year 10 GCSE RS Exam

Tuesday 16th May Year 12 A Level Parents Evening

**UCAS Exams Results Day** 

Friday 19th to Monday 22nd May

Year 8 French Trip to Normandy

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Year 10 Ecology Trip

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May Year 8 CC Project: Enterprise

Friday 26th May Year 13 Exam Briefing

Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June Half Term (Students not in school)

Monday 5th June Students return to school

# **ACTIVE KIDS**





The school is colleting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers until 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Your help is much appreciated. Our collecting box is in the School Office.

Mr Ibrahim (Head of Technology)

# ICHS STUDENTS' EMAIL

The student mailboxes have been transferred onto Office 365 and the email icon on their desktop has been updated to point to the correct location.

Notices are being put up in ICT rooms, Sixth Form and LRC.

To access email from home/mobile device, students need to enter their network username with @ichs.org.uk on the end followed by their network password.

Please see example below:

You can either go to google and search for office 365 login or enter the following url <a href="https://portal.office.com">https://portal.office.com</a>;

On the login page enter: Username - 09AbCd1234@ichs.org.uk;

Password: network password used to log on to the computers in the school.

Once you have login you will see a tile called "Mail" clicking this will take you into email.

Students are still restricted to internal email as before.

Mr Catlin (ICT Systems Manager)



# PHILOSOPHER OF THE MONTH



372-289 BCE.

"Sincerity is the way to heaven."

Mencius is one of the most important philosophers of the Confucian school. His name is the Latinized form of his given name - Mengzi or Meng-tzu. He is the main contributor to what is called the "idealized" form of Confucianism. His basic philosophy is an extreme idealism which views human nature as basically good. Evil is seen as mere blackening of one's innate goodness. Mencius placed great emphasis on the necessity for one to try to recover his original goodness and, through learning, to seek what he called the "lost mind" of benevolence.

Mencius also believed that if the government fails to maintain benevolent rule and abuses the people, they have a right to revolt. In the 11th century, a new form of Confucianism called Neo Confucianism emerged. It focused on cultivation of the self, the mind and of the virtue of compassion. Now, Mencius' "idealistic" interpretation of Confucian principles became accepted. His ideas were incorporated into several books that became the basis of the civil service examinations in China for the next 600 years.

Ms Capin (Head of Philosophy and Ethics)

## BATLE OF THE BANDS

This year it was ICHS's turn to host the Battle of The Bands. Woodford County (WCHS) hosted (and won)

last year and thus the rivalry began. A total of 7 bands played in this years' competition: 4 from WCHS and 3 from ICHS. In addition, as the vote count was being made — a staff band from WCHS played. The showcase was attended by some 75-90 audience members.

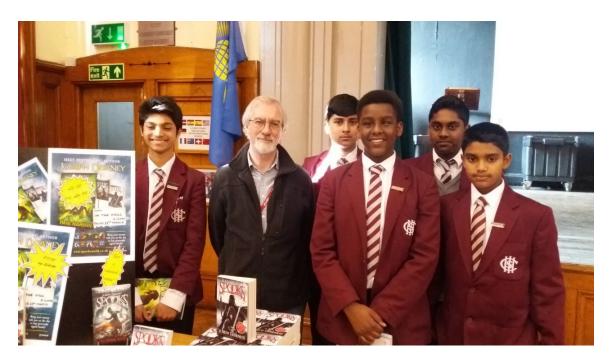
It was a spectacular night of music and we're very happy to announce that the winner was one of our own Bands: Ripchord featuring Akarsh Sinha - vocals and guitar; Janahan Suthakar - guitar; Hugo Lopes Williams - keyboard; Samuel Wong - bass guitar; and Rohan Sharma - drums.

Mr Emdon (Co-leader of Music)



# **AUTHOR' VISIT: JOSEPH DELANEY**

Last Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March Year 8, together with 120 local primary school pupils from Clore Tikva and The Glade, were treated to an inspirational visit by Joseph Delaney.



Joseph Delaney used to be an English teacher, before becoming the best-selling author of the Spook's series, which has been published in 24 countries. His first book, The Spook's Apprentice, was the basis for a major motion picture in 2015.

He entertained students with stories about how he became an author and how long it took to get his books published. He also admitted that he was not very happy with the interpretation of his book into film 'The Seventh Son'

Judging by the queue of students who bought his book to get it signed, it proved to be a hugely successful .

occasion.

Research shows that author events in schools inspire children and help them on their journey to a love of reading, so we were so fortunate to be chosen to host this event

Mrs Saffer (LRC Manager)



# SCHOOL UNIFORM AND DRESS CODE

### Years 7 to 11 must wear:

- ✓ A white shirt (long or short sleeved)
- ☑ The school tie
- ☑ The school blazer.
- ☑ Grey or black trousers.
- ☑ Black sensible shoes **NOT trainers**.
- ☑ Pullover (optional) must, if worn, be grey and **V-neck with no logos**
- ☑ (Black may be worn by Years 10 and 11) **Cardigans are not permitted**.

### Years 12 and 13 (Sixth Form) must wear:

- ☑ Suit;
- ☑ Shirt with a collar and a sensible tie;
- ☑ Lanyard and ID badge visible around their neck.

### Outer Clothing (all pupils)

When boys are travelling to and from school, it is expected that their appearance will be a credit to the school and to their homes. No particular colour or length of outer clothing is stipulated, the only requirement is that the boys must look respectable. No "hoodies" or denim jackets are permitted. Coats should not be worn inside the building.

### Not permitted:

- **■** Jewellery,
- Hairstyles liable to draw attention,
- Training shoes (as normal wear) or heavy boots,
- Exactal hair (beards, moustaches, stubble) if worn by older boys should be neatly groomed.

Most items of school uniform can be purchased anywhere however the school tie and blazer need to be purchased from our specialist suppliers. Details of the two school uniform shops who stock our ties and blazers are given below.





All items must be clearly labelled with the pupil's name on a part of the garment that cannot be removed easily. Every effort is made to recover lost items that are named, but no responsibility is accepted for articles lost or damaged.

# DR BIKE JOINS US DURING BIG PEDAL FORTNIGHT!

As part of the national Big Pedal Fortnight we have been encouraging students to cycle to school where possible. As part of our new build we have provided new cycle shelters so that students can store there cycles safely during the day. During this fortnight we held another popular Dr Bike session where students gained hands-on bike maintenance skills. Students who were unable to supply their own bike on the day were able to work on one of our pool bikes. One member of Year 13 dropped in to ask Dr Bike for some maintenance advice before the session started and was grateful for the advice he received, before dashing off to sit a test! Students were given a demonstration and then allowed to use the tools provided and work on the bikes. Dr Bike is on hand to check their work at all stages. "This is great fun", I overheard one student say. Working in pairs, the students gain great team working skills.



We also held our second walk to school day, offering students a fruit juice drink, funded through our STARS Travel Plan, as a reward for walking at least part of the way. It was great to see how many students had left the bus a stop early in support of this.

As always I thank parents for their support in these initiatives which are encouraging students to develop active and healthy travel habits.

### Mrs Hitchcock (Travel Plan Coordinator)



# ALIANCE IN PARTNERSHIP - NEW CATERER



# **Alliance in Partnership**

We are delighted to be awarded the catering contract at liford County High School starting from 18th April.

Alliance in Partnership specialises in Education Catering and have been based in the Midlands since 1998.

We will be offering a wide selection of homemade food for both break time and lunch ensuring the food is of a very high standard to ensure all students and staff enjoy the food and service.

We will offer theme days as the year progresses along with a few Show Case Chef Events. Menu's will be advertised on the school website soon to give you a flavour of things to come.

If you have a requirement for an allergy menu, please complete an allergen form and send to Amy Teichman at <u>allergens@ainp.co.uk</u>. Allergen forms will be available to download from the school website by the end of the week.



We're on the web: http://www.ichs.org.uk/

Phone: 020 8551 6496 Fax: 020 8503 9960 Email: enquiries@ichs.org.uk