Welcome to our final edition for the year!

I am delighted to share some news regarding the Sixth Form team. As you are all aware Mr Griffin wrote to parents and carers earlier in the year explaining that Ms Spencer would generously be staying on for 3 days a week as Interim Principal next year. He also shared that we are delighted that Ms Witheford has been appointed as Executive Principal of INA to support us as we appoint a Principal next year. As I will be deputising for Ms Spencer when she is not in school we are really pleased to share that Ms McEvoy will be joining the Sixth Form team as Deputy Head of Sixth Form. MS McEvoy has been a senior leader at INA for 5 years and was involved in supporting the setup of the Sixth Form. She is also a highly experienced KS5 teacher and has a very clear understanding of the culture and ethos of the Sixth Form at INA. I am sure that you will all make her feel very welcome as she joins the Sixth Form team.

On Thursday we hosted the Year 12 Results afternoon. It was excellent to be able to share not only where students were performing in terms of attainment but also what the next steps are in terms of UCAS applications. I have included the slides which cover what a good personal statement involves as well as the key dates slide in this issue of the newsletter. I would like to express my thanks to Ms Mayet who has met with a number of parents and carers to discuss next steps and for ensuring that all students have a clear plan of action for the summer with the Year 12 tutor team.

We will be open from 7:30 am for A level results day (Thursday 15th August) and the Sixth Form team will be on hand to support with adjustment, clearing and any help our Year 13s will need before accepting university places.

Enrolment for Sixth Form will take place from 8am on GCSE results day (Thursday 22nd August). Students who are currently at INA should enrol between 8am–12pm and students who would be new to INA should enrol between 1pm–4pm.

I wish you all an excellent, well deserved rest this summer!

With best wishes,

Ms Alibhai, Vice Principal and Head of Sixth Form
Dates for the diary

- Deadline to request consideration for UCAS revision for Oxbridge/DMV applicants - 3pm Friday 19th July by email from parent/carer
- INA Oxbridge/DMV deadline 30th September
- Y13 mocks: 7th October - 18th October
- Oxbridge/DMV deadline: 15th October
- Y13 Reports: by 15th November
- School internal UCAS deadline: 6th December
- UCAS deadline: 15th January
- Final Y13 Mocks: 10th February - 28th February
- A levels start: provisionally 11th May

- A level results day: 13th August 2020

Good Personal Statements

- Show a real passion for studying the subject
- Have tangible examples of where the candidate has shown an interest in the subject beyond the standard curriculum
- Show that the student has researched the courses that they applying for and can reference this
- About 10-20% can be about extra curricular, but the vast majority should be referencing super curricular
- Getting the grade is not enough!
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Year 12 History Trip to Berlin

10–13th July 2019

Last Wednesday morning twelve students in Year 12 excitedly departed INA to travel to Berlin for a History trip.

Fortunately the weather was beautiful and sunny on our first day, and to help the students get acquainted with the city of Berlin they went on a guided walking tour of major sites led by a local expert. On the tour the students saw and learnt about the history of the Reichstag parliament building, the Brandenburg Gate, Check Point Charlie, the remains of Adolf Hitler’s bunker and the Berlin Wall, and the memorial to murdered Jews. Students were keen to ask insightful questions and enjoyed the opportunity to meet with someone who had experience the events of the reunification of Germany in 1989.

To further enhance the students’ knowledge of the history of Germany we paid a visit to the Museum of German History. This museum spans the entire history of Germany from the ancient Germanic states established before the Roman empire, all the way through to the early 21st century. It was excellent to see students using the time to research and build up their knowledge.

The students had the opportunity to visit Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp memorial. The students were very moved at the size of the camp, and the exhibits outlining the very cruel and inhumane medical experimentation and persecution of the inmates at the camp. They were stunned at the cramped conditions and felt scared seeing a gas chamber that had been used. The students couldn’t believe they were walking where so much horror had been witnessed.

The student visited the Reichstag Parliament Dome. This allowed them the opportunity to take in the magnificent skyline of the city, and the audio tour taught them about the history of how the city has changed in the last 100 years. The Dome building is beautiful and lets visitors see into the actual parliament chamber and see important state discussions happening.

After this, the students visited the 1936 Berlin Olympic stadium and had a guided tour of how it came to be built, and how it is now used.

Alongside all the historical sites and museums, the students were brilliant company and enjoyed meals in various restaurants across the city. They showed so much curiosity and open mindedness in exploring the city. They all were pushing themselves to experience the culture and food. They were superb ambassadors to the school.

It was a really enjoyable trip and we are really proud of the students. Well done!

Ms Priestley, Head of History and 2 I/C in Humanities.
One Tuesday 16th July, nine Year 12 Biology students had the fantastic opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament to hear about efforts made by politicians and scientists to increase biosecurity. Biosecurity describes procedures or measures designed to protect the population against harmful biological or biochemical substances, which may include diseases spread by travel, invasive species or changes caused by climate change. The invitation came from Lord Browne, one of our governors, who is leading a new group based at Cambridge University aiming to promote better collaboration between experts in different fields. A panel of assembled experts were questioned by the audience, with some great questions coming from our own students. We then had the chance to speak further with the panel and guests on the terrace of the Houses of Parliament – in a stunning location right by the Thames.

A group of us attended an engrossing Biosecurity conference consisting of a panel of academics from Imperial and Cambridge as well as representatives from DEFRA and the Home Office. An enticing discussion merging biology and politics took place, opening our eyes to a new aspect of science we hadn’t yet been exposed to. To end the day we were invited to the Houses of Commons terrace where we were able to network and converse with academics. Overall, it was an extremely beneficial day. - Emaan Hussein 12C

At first we listened to the panel, allowing us to learn about biosecurity and how climate change is affecting biodiversity. We heard from a variety of different speakers with jobs all linked to biosecurity. We then headed to the terrace and had the chance to speak to those who attended the event, allowing us to learn about their pathways to their jobs. - Aniqa Ahmed 12C

We are extremely grateful to Lord Browne for this invitation and for the brilliant opportunity it offered for the students to meet and speak with these experts.

Dr Mounsey
Morgan Stanley

I was one of a small number of Isaac Newton Academy students privileged enough to attend the work experience week at Morgan Stanley. It was a fantastic opportunity that allowed me to develop as a person and was well above any expectations I had.

During the week, I had the opportunity to shadow various people in different roles across the company, this ranged from managing directors to apprentices. This links to my favourite part of the week; which was being able to meet so many people from a variety of backgrounds and ages. I was able to share my experiences with them and more importantly learn from theirs. I was able to absorb so much knowledge and information because all of the speakers were incredibly open about their own journeys and responded honestly to my questions. This was really inspiring and one of the many reasons why I would like to recommend this programme as well as thank the Net South Asia team at Morgan Stanley as well as all of the many other fantastic people I had the pleasure of meeting. - Saleem

Mtchall Wace

Several year 13 students who are potential recipients of Ark bursaries, along with Mr Singh and Ms Joy, had the privilege of attending a special evening at Marshall Wace offices, on Tuesday 16th July. The event brought together a number of students from other Ark schools, representatives from Ark headquarters, and staff from Marshall Wace.

The students, who will be going on to study a range of courses at universities as diverse as Cambridge, Bournemouth and UCL, met earlier in the afternoon and participated in a number of icebreakers. Ian Wace, one of the three co-founders and the CEO, then addressed us all, offering some excellent advice and encouragement; including reminding the students that they should remember they are always ‘on show’. Mr Wace did not attend university himself, but he clearly derives great pleasure from offering sponsorship to so many young people to facilitate their university careers; while demonstrating, through his own success, that attending a university is not a prerequisite for an outstanding career.

A point he made that particularly resonated with Mr Singh and Ms Joy was the hope that as they progress in their studies and careers, the students who have been recipients of support of any kind themselves will give back something to their communities and/or former schools in the future.

The opportunity to meet students and staff from other schools and to find out how things are done in other places was very useful, and it was also lovely to catch up with our own INA students – even if they may only have left school a few weeks ago.

We were reminded once again of how being part of the Ark network brings our students opportunities which are quite exceptional and are grateful to all who made the evening, and all it represents, possible.
Work experience at MeeTwo

My work experience at MeeTwo was a very exciting and eventful week, as I had a chance to learn how social enterprises are run. MeeTwo is an award-winning app, which creates a platform for young people to anonymously share their feelings, aiming to improve their mental health. I joined this social enterprise during their fundraising campaign, called ‘Boys Too’, which raises awareness about boys who self-harm. I was involved with many different tasks, such as creating content for the campaign and face-to-face marketing, which involved exhibiting at the CrowdFunder campaign and speed networking for 2 hours. This has massively improved my confidence, as I was required to stop strangers and talk to them about the fundraising, encouraging them to support it.

Moreover, I attended an interview-skills workshop from a member of the Human Resources team from TeachFirst. This was very helpful, as I got feedback about what the interviewers look for in potential employees.

Also as part of the week, we visited the Chelsea & Westminster hospital, where we talked to nurses on the paediatric ward and promoted the app. We also got to hear about how the nurses help their young patients deal with their mental health issues. On the third day, I shadowed the co-founder of the MeeTwo app, and joined her for a suicide prevention digital resource workshop at King’s College, hosted by Health Innovation Network. I had the chance to hear from many speakers, such as the Met Police and Dr Sangeeta Mahajan, who shared her personal experiences in a very touching and emotional speech. Also, I had a chance to take part in a discussion with other stakeholders from the Zero Suicide Alliance, such as representatives from the NHS Foundation Trust. We talked about what the digital resource should be like, in order to target the populations at the highest risk of suicide.

Overall, I think that this work experience was an amazing opportunity, which gave me an insight into many different careers, such as Psychology and marketing. I had a chance to become the MeeTwo ambassador, and I am looking forward to staying connected with this social enterprise.

I am very grateful to TeachFirst as well as MeeTwo for making this opportunity possible.

Natalia