As you know, we have been shortlisted for the prestigious TES Secondary School of the Year Award. I was lucky enough to be invited to afternoon tea at the Houses of Parliament where I enjoyed meeting the other nominees (photographs below). I was struck by the passion, energy and enthusiasm of the finalists and was so proud to be within such a fantastic cohort. The winners will be announced on Friday this week at the awards ceremony attended by the Secondary SLT team.

On Tuesday 3rd July we will have our Sixth Form Transition Day. We have had over 200 students confirm their attendance and we are looking forward to meeting them! No Year 12 lessons will take place that day and we are asking all students, other than the Student Leadership Team, to use the day to:

• Visit universities or apprenticeship providers
• Research their next steps using unifrog
• Attend supercurricular activities
• Apply for work experience for the summer
• Prepare for any entrance examinations

Students will be expected to feedback to their tutors on how the day was utilised and we look forward to hearing about where the research undertaken on this day has led students.

With best wishes,

Sugra Alibhai
Vice Principal and Head of Sixth Form

Key Dates

22nd June – INSET Day
(no school for students)

3rd July – Sixth Form Transition Day

6th July – INSET Day
(no school for students)

18th July – Sixth Form Awards Evening

20th July - End of Term

6th September - Students Return
Q: Which A levels did you study, and why?
A: In my first year I studied English Literature, Theatre Studies, Law, Business Studies and Health & Social Care. I was strongly encouraged by my teachers to take Law and Business Studies, despite not having an interest in them and ultimately they were the subjects I didn’t carry over to my second year. Instead I picked up English Language as an additional AS, as I thought that would be most beneficial to both my university application and future studies.

Q: Which universities did you apply to, and why?
A: I applied to Exeter University, the campus based in Cornwall, as my first choice. My second choice was the Exeter main campus (a very unwise decision as it required me to get the same grades) and I also put down Bristol. I knew I wanted to go to a Russell Group university and, at the time when I was applying Exeter, was one of the highest ranked. After visiting on the open day and hearing about the course I had my mind set on going.

Q: Which university did you actually go to? Why?
A: Thankfully I got in to Exeter and went to my first choice campus, based in Falmouth, Cornwall. I come from Reading which is similar to living in a city, Falmouth is the complete opposite of that and I had spent a lot of time in Cornwall growing up so the lifestyle was something I knew I’d enjoy. The class sizes at the Falmouth campus were also smaller which I thought would help me get the most from my contact time with professors and other students.

Q: Which degree subject did you choose? Why?
A: I chose to study English Literature. My mum really loved poetry and I inherited her excessive amounts of books so it’s something I have always engaged with and naturally gravitated towards. Throughout school I enjoyed every aspect of the subject and had some incredible (albeit slightly crazy) teachers who really made me want to continue with it.

Q: What was the best thing about doing that course at that university?
A: For the first two years I had no choice over my modules which I thought I wouldn’t enjoy but it gave me a wider view of literature in areas I probably would have avoided. The professors who taught the modules were the very best in their fields and I think learning from someone who is that passionate really transpires into your own enthusiasm for the subject.

Q: What was/were the best thing/s you did outside your studies while you were at university?
A: We were a pretty active student house. Everyone owned a surf board and a road bike and we were all part of the volleyball or ski committee so we held a lot of socials and travelled abroad for those activities. Traditional student nights and clubbing weren’t really a thing in Falmouth but we took a lot of weekend trips to Bristol and Manchester to attend larger music events. Plus the nights out we did have were in interesting locations, like on the beach, in abandoned castles or old factories.

Q: Is there a decision you made that you are particularly happy about in retrospect?
A: On results day after finding out I’d been accepted, I immediately called the university to see if I could defer for a year. During the exam period I’d been way too relaxed and the realisation hit me how lucky I’d been to get the grades. I knew I wasn’t ready to spend another three years straight away in education and took a year out to do some growing up.

Q: Is there a decision you made that you regret in retrospect?
A: I took a witchcraft module over a Tolkien one and that haunts me most days of the week.

Q: What message would you want the INA Sixth Form students to take away from your experience?
A: People emphasise not putting all your eggs in one basket but that’s the complete opposite of what I did. I knew where I wanted to go, what I wanted to study and what I wanted to get out of it so maybe my message is that it’s okay to dream big and have a goal but just be sensible enough to have a backup option.
Sixth Form Transition Day

Tuesday 3rd July

All Sixth Form applicants are expected to attend the INA Sixth Form Transition Day on Tuesday 3rd July.

We have organised a series of taster lessons, ice breakers and information sessions for students. We hope that the transition day will provide you with ample information and preparation for joining the INA Sixth Form.

Isaac Newton Academy, 1 Cricklefield Place, Ilford, IG1 1FY
Join us in celebrating our first

Sixth Form Awards Evening

18th July 2018

6pm - 7:15pm

Refreshments will be available from 5:30pm

Two tickets will be issued to each Year 12 student ahead of the event.

Dress code: Smart
UKMT Video Competition!

Teams of two to six students from Years 7 to 13 are invited to participate!

Produce a short film with your classmates describing...

**Mathematics in the Natural World**

I am looking for students with a flair for video production and editing who are willing to take on the challenge of exploring and explaining real-life mathematical concepts in a fun and entertaining “youtuber” style.

If you would like to take part and need help to get started please come and find Mr. Dewal or email me at: a.dewal@isaacnewtonacademy.org for further details.

*Mr. Dewal*
Mathematics Teacher/Ambassador for Higher Attainers

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YAG Summer School

On the intensive week-long programme you will meet and learn from the best in both journalism and publishing. You will focus on honing your skills as a journalist and take a step into the world of publishing.

To give you a flavour of our summer school’s jam-packed week, you will:

- Learn the ABC of good journalism
- Meet and interview journalists and editors
- Learn how to produce and shoot videos
- Create your own news or literary podcast
- Be a data journalist by investigating facts and figures
- Review the latest books, films, TV and music

The summer school will take place from Sunday, 26th August to Friday, 31st August 2018. Please make sure you are available for the whole week before applying.

The closing date for applications is Sunday, 15th July 2018, 23.59pm.

We will be in touch on Tuesday, 17th July.

If you are successful you will need to attend group interviews on either Saturday, 21st July or Sunday, 22nd July, so please keep these dates free.

Good luck!

*Click here* for more information.
Further Maths — What Next?

Wednesday 20 June 2018, 09:45 – 17:15

Studying Further Maths A-level, but not sure what you want to do at University? Talented at Maths, but not sure you want to do something that abstract at Uni? Want to know a bit more about Maths–related degree subjects that don’t appear on the school curriculum?

Oxford University is delighted to welcome A-level students, from UK schools, to the ‘Further Maths — What Next?’ event. The day draws together subject areas from across the University which are suitable for prospective students with a real aptitude for Maths. Participants will attend a range of short taster sessions on subjects that list Further Maths as either a ‘highly desirable’ or ‘helpful’ A-level for Oxford applicants to have. You will get the most out of this day if you are also taking Chemistry or Physics at A Level.

More details can be found [here](#).

Free to think? Epistemic authority and thinking for oneself

18:30 - 19:45
26 June 2018

We depend on others for much of what we believe. Does this dependence undermine our ability to determine for ourselves what to think? I discuss two ancient responses to this question. For Cicero, our freedom to think depends upon our having no compelling argument for one view rather than another. By contrast, for Olympiodorus we are free (or ‘self-moved’) insofar as we form beliefs on the basis of a certain kind of compelling argument (a ‘demonstration’). Is freedom, understood in either of these ways, something valuable? Can demonstrative arguments either undermine or preserve our ability to think for ourselves? Click [here](#) for more information.
Pushing the frontiers of Physics
Dr. Andrew Casey

6:30pm
22 June 2018

Back by popular demand, and talking about a topic our audience picked, Dr. Andrew Casey is going to give a spectacular season’s finale for our Evening Lectures programme! One of the most popular lecturers of the Physics Department he is well known for his live demos, his ability to engage with his audience and his soft spot for liquid nitrogen!

Such experiments include LIGO, the unique gravitational waves observatory which managed to detect the spinning black holes. This discovery was made only after of decades trying to measure a difference in path length as small as a thousandth of the atom. Another example is nanoelectromechanical systems able to detect a single proton, by measuring its mass, which is 10 to the minus 26 times smaller than a kilogram.

Join us at Royal Holloway for our Physics Evening Lectures season finale to find out about the pioneers who try to defy (or at least sneak behind) the uncertainty principle to measure in extreme accuracy and lead the way to a new fundamental understanding of the world around us.

Click here for more information.

How Xi Jinping is Changing China and the World

5:00pm - 6:00pm
25 June 2018

Transfixed by Trump, people in Western countries have turned with relief to the solidity they see in Xi Jinping. Few, however, have followed in any detail the enormous transformation Xi has wrought in China, turning first party then state and increasingly the broader population, into followers of the emerging new personality cult. He is now seeking to entrench his legitimacy as unchallengeable ruler for the next decade or more, by leading the People’s Republic into international leadership, with its governance becoming a global model.

Click here for more information.
In the 2018 Political Quarterly lecture, Timothy Garton Ash, Professor of European Studies at Oxford, Guardian columnist and lifelong liberal, addresses one of the central questions of our time. For at least two decades after the fall of the Berlin Wall, some version of liberalism was ideologically hegemonic in most democracies and largely set the agenda of globalisation. As we now face a global wave of anti-liberal populism and authoritarianism we are bound to ask how far – and in what ways – that liberalism contributed to this dramatic reversal.

Many analysts have pointed to the growing inequality and shattering financial crisis, attributing them to the simultaneous financialisation and globalisation of capitalism, and to policies often characterised as ‘neoliberalism’. But should other, and perhaps deeper, features of contemporary liberalism share some of the blame?

Having made the right analysis, what lessons should liberals (with a small l, including liberal centre-right and centre-left) learn? Do liberals have any good answers to populism at home and authoritarianism abroad? How can we fight back?

Click here for more information.

**What went wrong with liberalism? And what should liberals do about it?**

18:00 - 21:00
20 June 2018

In the 2018 Political Quarterly lecture, Timothy Garton Ash, Professor of European Studies at Oxford, Guardian columnist and lifelong liberal, addresses one of the central questions of our time. For at least two decades after the fall of the Berlin Wall, some version of liberalism was ideologically hegemonic in most democracies and largely set the agenda of globalisation. As we now face a global wave of anti-liberal populism and authoritarianism we are bound to ask how far – and in what ways – that liberalism contributed to this dramatic reversal.

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Click here for more information.

**Beyond Right or Left: Governance in the Era of Artificial Intelligence**

17:30 - 18:30
21 June 2018

Jonnie Penn is a New York Times Bestselling author, a Google Technology Policy Fellow, and a Rausing, Williamson and Lipton doctoral scholar studying the history and philosophy of artificial intelligence at the University of Cambridge. He holds degrees from the University of Cambridge and McGill University.

This talk introduces unexplored aspects from the history of artificial intelligence to inform contemporary debates regarding the benefits and limits of introducing machine learning and other AI tools into daily government operations. Solutions related to the modernisation of social protection systems are put forward to address ‘intelligence inequality’, a rapidly-maturing cousin of income inequality characterized by an extreme maldistribution of data (and access to data) rather than capital.

Click here for more information.
This free full-day event for Year 12 students (ages 16-17) studying A-level mathematics is designed to broaden mathematical horizons, give a stimulating introduction to advanced mathematical problem-solving, and encourage students to consider studying Mathematics at university.

The event will give an insight into some challenging, exciting and rewarding mathematics, and will support students to develop their mathematical thinking and confidence in tackling challenging problems. The day will be highly interactive: it includes a mix of talks and small-group workshops led by the NRICH team and staff from the University of Cambridge Mathematics Faculty.

Click here for more information.
Research on inequality: the long roots of childhood, informing policies, and generational change

Professor Alissa Goodman, Director of the Centre for Longitudinal Studies, UCL Institute of Education, Alissa Goodman is a professor of economics and Director of the Centre for Longitudinal Studies in the Department of Social Science at the UCL Institute of Education. She is the Principal Investigator of the 1958 British Birth Cohort Study (NCDS), and is currently leading the team responsible for the design and content of the study’s major new age 61 sweep. She is an economist whose main research interests relate to income inequality, poverty, education policy, and the intergenerational transmission of wellbeing. Alissa previously served as Deputy Director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies in London, which is Britain’s leading independent microeconomics research institute.

In this lecture I’ll talk about my research on inequalities, showing how both cross-sectional and longitudinal data are being used to illuminate and address some of the major social and policy questions of our time. I’ll show how the UK’s birth cohort studies reveal the long roots of childhood experience on later life, and the importance of tackling childhood mental health problems. I’ll show how earlier adult life is influencing the decisions of a generation now approaching retirement age, and some of the striking generational changes occurring in our society, including in incomes, obesity, and mental health.

Click here for further information.
RES Economics Essay Competition 2018

The RES has announced details of its popular annual essay competition for A Level Economics students. Key details of the 2018 competition are provided below.

The choice of essay titles in 2018 is as follows:
• “GDP does not measure the output of the economy any more”. Do you agree, and if so, what improvements would you suggest?
• What explains the UK’s “productivity puzzle”?
• Does economics have the answer for the global problem of plastics pollution?
• “Some internet companies have become too big for the good of society and should be broken up”. Do you agree?

ESSAY COMPETITION RULES
• Essays should be a maximum of 1,500 words excluding references.
• Students should focus on economic analysis and include references.
• The competition is open to Year 12 and Year 13 students.
• Students can only submit one essay.
• The deadline for submission is midnight (BST) on Sunday 8 July 2018.
• All entries must be submitted via the online essay submission form provided by tutor2u and in the correct format (either Microsoft Word document or PDF).

ESSAY COMPETITION PRIZES FOR 2018
• The prizes for the 2018 competition are:
  • Best overall essay prize (£800)
  • Prize for best essay on each title (4 x £200)
  • Prize for the best essay from a Year 12 student (£400)

Click here for more details.

Wadham College Open Days 2018
27th - 28th June 2018 and 14th September 2018
Wadham College looks forward to welcoming all prospective undergraduates to the University Open Days, which in 2018 will be held on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th June, and Friday 14th September. On Open Days, all colleges and most departments open their doors to welcome those thinking of applying to Oxford. For more information visit: https://www.wadham.ox.ac.uk/students/open-days

Yr 12, Lumina Summer School, Harrow School
2nd - 4th July 2018
The Lumina Summer School is open to Year 12 pupils based in London, and aims to increase their awareness of the procedures and requirements involved in making an application to Oxford or Cambridge, as well as giving them exposure to subject material beyond the A level syllabus. This free three-day program involves talks from Oxbridge graduates, practice interviews and specialist course masterclasses. For more information or to register, email info@luminacourse.org.uk

Yr 12 Higgs Hunter Research Project and Conference
25th and 26th June 2018
Students are invited to explore interesting collisions from the LHC’s ATLAS experiment, and in June there is a conference to present their findings at Oxford. There are 20 spaces available at the event and places will be allocated based upon their poster submission of their work analysing Higgs Hunter data, and a teacher reference. More information about the project can be found here: http://www2.physics.ox.ac.uk/about-us/outreach/schools/higgs-hunter-analysis.
Rapid robot development
10.30am to 4.30pm, Thursday 26 July (£50)
You will design and build their own cardboard robot, based on an Arduino microcontroller.
Click here for details.

The enigma of cryptography
10.30am to 4.30pm, Monday 30 July (£50)
You will learn about historical codes and ciphers, making use of a working WWII Enigma machine.
Click here for details.

An introduction to rocket science
10.30am to 4.30pm, Friday 3 August (£50)
You will explore the theory of rockets and space travel, and design a mission to Mars.
Click here for details.

Adventures in topology
10.30am to 4.30pm, Tuesday 7 August (£50)
You will explore topology, the world of 3D shapes and the mysteries within.
Click here for details.

Spectacular colour chemistry
11.00am to 3.00pm, Thursday 9 August (£40)
You will discover what a colour actually is, understand how objects become coloured, and how chemists can manipulate these aspects to produce dyes and pigments.
Click here for details.

Overview and Forecasting of 21st Century Robotics for Healthcare

This lecture is to be given by world leading researchers Professor Russell H Taylor from Johns Hopkins University and Professor Just L. Herder from Delft University of Technology. This lecture is to overview the past development and the state of the art in robotics for healthcare particularly on surgery and rehabilitation with various development, applications and commercialisations over the world. In particular, the path in the past 30 years will be reviewed and the new technologies are to be disclosed and presented with their newly available commercialised products and development and with several start-up company developments.

The second part of the Lecture is to provide the forecast of the next phase in the development particularly in the next 30 years development on robotics for healthcare with home care and with hospital care. The development would utilise the integrated mechatronics system, the mechanisms systems and the AI systems. With the AI development, the mechanisms and mechatronics based robotic platforms will have a step-change and flying effect on the society and on the community to generate the next generation of AI-Mechatronics-Society development.
Click here for further information.