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Hello

Welcome to the first issue of Imperial College London’s community newsletter for local residents, businesses and organisations in and around White City.

This newsletter will be delivered to you four times each year with news about our local events and activities, progress on the development of our new campus in White City and many other exciting stories that are happening in the local area.
These are just some of the questions we are trying to answer at Imperial College London. We are a university focused on science, engineering, medicine and business, and our aim is to use education and research to make the world a better place to live.

Ever since our foundation back in 1907, Imperial’s research has led to discoveries and innovations that have become part of our daily lives. These include the discovery of antibiotics and the invention of the hologram.

Today we have a diverse community of 16,000 students and 9,000 staff, spread across a number of sites, with our main campus at South Kensington. As a growing university, we purchased land in 2009 to allow us to build a second major campus in White City.

The White City Campus is an exciting new chapter in our history and we want to become fully involved in the White City community for many years to come. We look forward to working with you on projects and activities that benefit the local area.

We really hope you’ll join us on this journey and we look forward to meeting you.
Imperial researchers have found that eating just 20g of nuts a day – one handful – is enough to significantly cut the risk of a range of diseases. These include cutting the risk of coronary heart disease by nearly 30%.

Go nuts!

Imperial engineers have developed technology that enables a drone to be wirelessly powered while flying. This could mean that drones could stay airborne longer than ever before. Potential uses could include providing support in disaster relief zones.

Liquid lunch?

A urine test has been developed by Imperial medics that can tell what you’ve eaten. The team hopes the test will be able to track diets, and that it could even be used in weight loss programmes to monitor food intake.

What we’ve up to in the community

Local groups on our White City Campus tour

Imperial volunteers at Big Local’s White City Community Christmas event
Over the past six months, we’ve been out and about in the local community. You may have met Priya Pallan and Tom Pearson from our team. They’ve been getting to know people and organisations across White City, from children at local schools to older residents and community organisations. With a team of Imperial staff and students, Priya and Tom have been sharing the wonder of science and technology at a range of community events, including the W12 Festival in Wormholt Park, a Queens Park Rangers match day event at Loftus Road and the Big Local’s Community Christmas event.

With your help, we’ve explored scientific questions which come up in everyday life or just make you curious. For example, we’ve looked at whether sports drinks really do replenish the essential minerals in your body, how you can increase your lung capacity through exercise, and even how clouds are made in the sky.

Local people from in and around White City have tried out some amazing experiments and gadgets, from 3D printing to trying virtual reality goggles. Some of you may even have had the chance to hold a cloud in your hand.
Did you know that Imperial and White City go way back?

They both started life as international exhibition sites:

Imperial was founded in South Kensington in 1907 on the site of the 1851 Great Exhibition – a landmark event held in a great glass palace. Other institutions that were founded on the same site include the Science Museum, Natural History Museum, Victoria & Albert Museum, and Royal Albert Hall.

White City gets its name from the ‘Great White City’ exhibition grounds of palaces, lagoons, canals, amusement rides and gardens that were built for the 1908 Franco-British Exhibition and Olympic Games. All the buildings were decorated in elaborate white plaster – giving rise to the name ‘White City’.

Interestingly, a team of physicists from Imperial showcased its equipment at the 1908 Exhibition in White City – our earliest known connection to the area.

Events and Activities

Our next event will be:

Science and Sport Family Day

Saturday 18 March 2017
(11.30 - 14.30)
Location: PlayFootball,
South Africa Road, White City
Entry: Free

In partnership with QPR we will be exploring the future of sport at W12...

Meet players from QPR

Find out if you have the lungs of an athlete
activities

- Check out the racing bikes of the future
- Test your boxing skills with a smart punching bag
- Test the speed of your football kick
- Find out how science is changing sport
- Free prize draw, food carts, music and much more!

Competition: win a free Mexican meal

Question: Can you guess where this image is taken?

Send your answer to whitecity.community@imperial.ac.uk by Friday 10th March.

Correct answers will be entered into a prize draw to win a £40 voucher for Habanera on Uxbridge Road for a free Mexican meal.
What’s happening at the White City Campus

We’re already here and our new campus in White City is starting to take shape. Located along Wood Lane, we have a 23-acre site, stretching north and south of the A40.

Most of our construction work has been happening north of the A40 where two facilities are now up and running: the Gradpad Wood Lane Studios postgraduate accommodation and the I-HUB building for business incubation and collaboration.

You can see the start of a new residential tower that will provide 192 new homes, including 59 affordable apartments for staff at Imperial.
Gradpad Wood Lane Studios has been open since 2012 and provides accommodation for over 600 postgraduate students.
Coming soon: The Invention Rooms

We’re very excited to announce that The Invention Rooms, a new space for the local community, will open later in 2017. This space will include workshop facilities, design studios and an interactive space for community events and activities.

The Invention Rooms will be a place where you can learn, relax, tinker or make something completely new. Whether you want to have a cup of coffee with friends or turn a creative idea into reality, The Invention Rooms will be a place for you.

There will be a multi-purpose workshop facility where we will be running maker challenge programmes for local young people to make just about anything – gadgets, robots, phone apps, fashion accessories, home items or gifts.

It’s the first project of its kind in the UK and we’re proud to be developing it on Wood Lane in the former Stadium House building. Over the coming years, we hope to inspire a new generation of inventors, entrepreneurs and makers from W12 and beyond.

Look out for more about The Invention Rooms in our next issue. We are keen to involve all members of the community in shaping the use of this space. If you would be interested to find out more or to get involved, then please get in touch.

If you would like find out more about our campus or get involved, please get in touch by calling or emailing us.

E: whitecity.community@imperial.ac.uk
T: 020 7594 1103
The existing buildings known as the ‘Ugli Campus’, where a community of 50 start-ups and small businesses are based. There is also a great little café called the **Ugli Kitchen**, which is open to the public – why not give it a try?
When it’s complete in 2018, the **Molecular Sciences Research Hub** will provide a new home for our world-leading Department of Chemistry. The hub aims to bring the future closer with advances like ‘artificial leaves’ that can supply a home’s energy needs and clothing that monitors our bodies for signs of disease.

The **I-HUB**, Imperial’s Translation and Innovation Hub, is a 13-storey building that opened in October 2016 and offers office and laboratory space for small technology-based start-ups and larger businesses.
Forest House is home to a biotechnology company called Autolus that works on new treatments for cancer.
The **Michael Uren Biomedical Engineering Research Hub** will provide new space to bring together engineers, scientists and doctors to help solve some of the most complex medical challenges of our time – from developing new technology that will help the body to heal itself to designing prosthetics for people who have injured or lost their limbs.

**We’re currently in the early stages of planning what will happen on the southern part of the campus. There will be further updates in future issues of this newsletter. The next building to open will be The Invention Rooms later this year.**

We’re working with Hammersmith and Fulham Council to make a positive difference in the local community, now and for many years to come.
Get in touch

We would welcome your ideas and suggestions about this newsletter or anything Imperial College London is doing in White City. You can contact Priya Pallan or Tom Pearson and we’d be pleased to answer your query or arrange a meeting.

whitecity.community@imperial.ac.uk
020 7594 1103

We’re also in the process of creating a website for our neighbours, which will provide up to date information on our activities and events. We’ll let you know when this is up and running.

www.imperial.ac.uk