

International Freshers Week 2016

Congratulations on your admission to Cambridge! This is a huge academic success, and the start of a wonderful experience.

Starting university can be the start of a new, more independent life, filled with new people and exciting activities. For international students, it also means moving to a new country, and discovering its culture and its way of life. This can be quite daunting, but moving to a foreign country is a fantastic experience that can enrich every aspect of your life.

My name is Marie Moullet, I am a second year Natural Sciences (biological) student, and your international officer this year. I'm French, but lived in the United States from age one to six, then went to an international school in Paris until I moved to Fitz in October 2015. I have first hand experience starting over in a new country, where the language they speak isn't your first language. My job as international officer is to make sure that coming to Fitz as international student is the best experience possible.

To help you start your new life in Cambridge, you are invited to arrive in Cambridge on Wednesday the 28th of September. From Wednesday to Saturday, the JCR (student representatives) and I have organized a few events to make the transition to Cambridge as smooth (and fun!) as possible. None of these events are mandatory, the aim is for you to begin to settle in and meet some new faces.

iCUSU, International Cambridge University Students' Union, is also organizing a variety of events (specified below). To attend the events, they are offering two types of tickets, £10 excluding formal dinner, and £23 including formal dinner. A £10 ticket will give you access to events such as the iCUSU Garden party and punting. Again, none of this is compulsory! *****UPDATE: the iCUSU tickets are now sold out! If you weren't able to get one, don't worry: there will be plenty of events organized in college, along with events organized with other hill colleges, so you will have opportunities to meet international students from other colleges as well! Fitz students will also be able to purchase tickets (£12) to the international formal in Churchill on Friday independently from iCUSU, just let me know by Wednesday 28th if you wish to come!**

I am available at any time to help you with both academic and personal issues. If you have questions about moving to the UK or living in Cambridge/Fitzwilliam, for example what to bring, etc., just send me an email (mm2122@cam.ac.uk) or send me a message on Facebook.

Yours,

Marie Moullet



Fitzwilliam College International Freshers' Week Timetable

Wednesday 28th of September

When you arrive to Fitz, be sure to sign in at the Porter's Lodge (Storey's Way entrance), where you will receive your key, your student card, find out what room you're in. A JCR member will show to your room, where you can unpack and settle in. If you feel like it, you can join us in the JCR to chat, or head over to Churchill College for an informal sports afternoon with Churchill, Murray Edwards and Peterhouse.

At 17:00, we will go on a quick informal tour around College, then we will have dinner in the buttery.

After dinner, there will be a movie / board games night in the JCR. Please feel free to bring your own games!

Thursday 29th of September

We will start the day with a welcome brunch in the Stretton room (O block).

We will then walk into town so you can have an idea of where useful places are.

To get to know the city for yourself, we have organized a photo challenge with neighbor colleges Murray Edwards and Churchill. The challenge will be going on all week, with the deadline being Friday 2:00 PM. There will be prizes for the team who gets pictures with the most landmarks, which will be announced at formal Friday evening!

At 4:00 PM the Master, Mrs. Padfield, and the Senior Tutor, Dr. Chirico, will hold an official welcome talk.

We will then head over to Murray Edwards for pizza night, which is great opportunity to hang out with students from neighboring colleges!

If you are up for it, we can then go on a pub crawl with iCUSU. If you prefer (or are under 18), we can also join the iCUSU movie night at the CUSU lounge (17 Mill Lane).

Friday 30th of September

On Friday morning, iCUSU is offering orientation sessions on “Feeling at home in Cambridge” and “Continuing to develop your academic English skills in Cambridge”. Find out more:

<http://www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk/orientation-sessions>

We will then go punting on the Cam.

In the evening, we can go to a formal dinner in Churchill College. Formals are three course meals, which you wear a suit or smart outfit to attend. They are a lot of fun! The cost is about £12 per person if you have not bought a ticket with iCUSU, which will be collected before, and you may bring half a bottle of wine per person. We need to know how many people will be attending, so please send me an email if you wish to come!

Saturday 1st of October

On Saturday, we can meet for brunch in the buttery while all the other students will be arriving, then Freshers’ week will fully begin.

Some useful links

Websites:

- <http://www.fitzjcr.com> is the website made by and for the undergraduate students of Fitz. This is a great place to look if you want to find out more about Fitzwilliam, the JCR or college life. You can also contact any JCR members by email or anonymously.
- The University website for International Students
<http://www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk>
- Visit <http://www.educationuk.org/global> for practical advice about your stay in the UK.
- iCUSU website <http://www.international.cusu.cam.ac.uk/about/> and international freshers week page <http://www.international.cusu.cam.ac.uk/freshersweek/>
- ★ iCUSU IFW tickets (now sold out)
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScTCszDX41nSHg1Y4Ldn3hH1n1XXVAiyNyYBzTrUaRXhVUXxg/viewform?c=0&w=1>
- Finally, there is no better way to get introduced to Cambridge’s student life than reading its student newspapers. We have ‘The Tab’ <http://cambridge.tab.co.uk>, ‘The Cambridge Student’ <http://www.tcs.cam.ac.uk> and ‘Varsity’ www.varsity.com.

Facebook groups:

- Cambridge University International Freshers 2016
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1744112319164695/>
- Fitzwilliam College International Community
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/130441823796285/>

For any further questions, please feel free to contact me!

Condensed Timetable

	Wednesday 28th	Thursday 29th	Friday 30th	Saturday 1st	
10:00	Reception at porter's lodge. At least one JCR member in the JCR for questions / board games Sports afternoon in Churchill College	Welcome Brunch in Stretton Room	Orientation sessions with the University International team		
11:00					
12:00		iCUSU Garden Party at Jesus Green	Punting		Brunch in the buttery
13:00					
14:00		City tour			
15:00					
16:00		Welcome talk by the Master and Senior Tutor in the Gordon Cameron Lecture Theater			
17:00		Informal college tour			
18:00		Dinner in the buttery			
19:00		Film night / Board games (Feel free to bring your own board games)	Pizza Night in Murray Edwards College		International formal in Churchill college
21:00	Pub crawl / movie night				

