

# **POSITIVE FEEDBACK**

## **Positive messages from parents and the community**

**March 2020**

### **Fabulous education at Ilkley**

I am writing with sincere heartfelt thanks for everything your school has done for my son, whose school journey has sadly possibly abruptly ended tomorrow .

With the uncertainties of the next coming months, I wanted to thank all of Tom's teachers and support staff who have most definitely helped and supported him over the last seven years. Without their help and encouragement, I don't think T would be in yr 13 and hopefully going to University.

T has absolutely and most definitely had a fabulous education at Ilkley, with the most caring, dedicated, talented and creative teachers and support staff for which I am truly grateful and thankful for.

Tom has found the academic side of school a challenge but has never given up. He is pretty laid back and you might not realise but he has especially enjoyed working with staff in the Geography, Business and DT department...He has also loved being part of back stagers and helping with school performances.

Throughout his time at IGS he has made friends with a great bunch of lovely students, been well supported and is so incredibly lucky to be able to log these happy memories.

There will never be enough thank yous for all you and your staff have given T but please know they will exist every day.

Received: March 2020

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### **Hard work and care**

Thank you so much for guiding the children through such a unique and difficult time. Your hard work and care are very much appreciated. Good luck in the times to come and I hope you and your families stay safe.

Received: 19/03/20

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### **Thank you from The W family**

Thank you so much to you all the staff at IGS for all your hard work, commitment and being FABULOUS!

Received: 20/03/20

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### **Fantastic Job**

As a parent with two daughters at the school I think you are doing a fantastic job and although clearly there is some anxiety, our daughters seem well informed and to have a good sense of perspective.

Received: 18/03/20

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### **Clarity of SchoolComms**

Just wanted to drop a note to say thanks for the clarity of your comms. Appreciate it's tough for you all at the minute but thanks for everything you are doing for the kids.

Received: 17/03/20

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Thank you to all staff at IGS. I appreciate your fantastic efforts and student support.

Received: March 2020

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I am writing with sincere thanks for everything your school has done for my son...and hopefully this might continue into the sixth form .

However with the uncertainties of the next coming months, I wanted to thank all of B's teachers and support staff who have most definitely helped and supported him over the last five years to get to yr 11. Without their help and encouragement, I don't think B would be in such a happy place and with a bright future ahead of him.

B has had a fabulous time at Ilkley, with the most caring, dedicated, talented teachers and support staff for which I am truly grateful. I cannot thank you enough.

As many of you will remember when B arrived in year 7 he was shy, hesitant to speak and often lacking in confidence. As a family we were extremely apprehensive as to whether he would be bullied due to his CP and SEN. As although B is very accepting of others with a variety of needs we were unsure whether other students would be as charitable and staff understand his needs. However, students and staff were there for him. Over his life he has faced and risen to many challenges, regular hospital visits, operations and interventions but throughout them all he has been quietly determined to do his best to get on with them. B has been surrounded by a group of friends who have made him feel included and he has had lots of fun with them.

B was fully supported by a brilliant learning support and teaching team. One of my best memories is when he went to the climbing wall with a small yr 9 class and with encouragement from staff made it right to the top. He came home beaming with such a sense of accomplishment as he really wasn't sure he would manage the activity. He loved his school visits to Nell Bank, London , The Lake District. He had a great work experience week at John Lewis in yr 10 and came back with a sense of pride and achievement.

B has found the academic side of school a challenge but has never given up. His GCSE grades are looking good and we have you to thank for that. He is in a place I never dared to hope for. As those of you who are parents with a child with additional needs will understand, you always champion their cause, never stop worrying about them and are continually hoping everything works out ok.

A few weeks ago, B came home thrilled that his drama performance went so well and he remembered to keep in character and all his lines. (no mean feat for the child with poor working memory)

He has definitely appreciated all the support offered in travel and tourism and has a brilliant set of results so far. He is looking forward to his future. He has been proud of his tests and mock grades in the majority of subjects this year.

Received: March 2020

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### **Thank you**

Thank you to all the staff at IGS, teaching and otherwise, for rising up so promptly to this brave new world of ours. We appreciate all the efforts you've made these last two weeks (and probably before) and are continuing to make to help our children maintain healthy attitudes to learning and healthy minds to deal with this impossibly difficult time.

I've told A, how we all deal with this coming period will have a profound effect on who we are at the end of it. So, we must all be strong, brave, positive, motivated and kind.

Thank you all for leading the way.

Received: 23/03/2020

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### **Amazing staff**

We wanted to offer our heartfelt thanks to you and all of your amazing staff at Ilkley Grammar School for your courageous efforts in continuing to educate and protect all of IGS's students since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will not forget the brave efforts of your staff, many of whom must be worried as parents themselves and who have risked their own health in providing this great public service.

Received: March 2020

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### **Remote Learning**

Thank you so much to all the teachers for your help and support during these uncertain times. I certainly feel comforted knowing you are there to help us guide our children through the remote learning process, of which I'm not sure has fully registered as being as important as being at school.

Received: 23/03/20

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### **Great job and communication**

I just wanted to say what a great job I think you guys are doing. My daughter is in year 7...and the work she has been sent through is perfect.

I think the communication between school and parents has been great too. My husband and I, really appreciate all the work the school is doing to support the children, but at home and those still in school.

Thank you all so much!

Received: 24/03/20

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### **Remote working**

So far, it has been really excellent. The best bit is that my daughter gets the lessons as per the timetable so she feels like she's in a routine and there's an expectation to do the work. Microsoft teams means she can collaborate with friends and have the company.

We're loving the messages and photos from the PE team with reminders about exercise. She loves hearing from her teachers and getting pics! They really do make our day!

The generic messages from the school have been welcomed too.

Thank you again for providing an excellent substitution for face to face teaching and using technology to give students the best chance for continued learning. We appreciate your efforts, it's keeping our family life on track too!

Received: 25/03/20

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### **Thanks!**

Thanks for this- my daughter Lauren is in year 8 and I am really impressed with the work that has been set up for her to do. Thank you!!

Received: 25/03/20

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## Home Learning

I just wanted to drop school and all the teachers a big thank you for their efforts over the first week of closure.

Whilst home-learning has worked on different levels in our household, we have all found it great at how responsive the teachers have been and I have very much appreciated the structure school have been able to bring to our days, not least because I'm needing to work at home, but of course mainly for the children as it really does help pass the time, normalise the week a little, and hopefully keep their brains ticking over and challenged in these tricky times. So thank you to the teachers for posting the regular work, their lovely emails of encouragement to the children and their availability during the day. Thank you also to the rest of the staff who are keeping the wheels turning, and the communications we have had from school.

For those who have also been posting positives, that's working too in my household. My eldest son (year 9) has been able to embrace home-learning so far and has been really pleased with the positive feedback (and a special thank you for a Mr Kelly email last week that made his day). My youngest son (year 7) found it more challenging to settle into a routine last week, but is now really trying to focus the best he can even though its proving more tricky for him. Regardless, I do think you are giving us the right tools and support to try and give this a good go from home.

Thank you

Received: 31/03/20

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## Food package

Could you please pass on my sincere thanks to the wonderful IGS team who put the food package together. They have done amazing at this difficult time for everyone, and need a big pat on their backs for everything they have done 🙌🙌🙌  
Thank you IGS team.

Received: March 2020

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## Thank You

I wanted to thank you and all your wonderful team at IGS for all your care and support to the children at school. It must have been ( and still be ) an immensely busy and stressful time for you all but the way you have communicated with and supported the children and all of us parents, has been very appreciated. It has seemed calm and measured and the reassurance that has conveyed has really been helpful.

I know it's a difficult time and whether the staff are in school with the keyworker children or teaching and supporting from home, I would like to pass on my thanks if you can. It's hard to carry on when you are also worried about your own families and friends. You are all a true credit to your profession and so important in keeping our society going- THANKYOU

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## Heartfelt Thanks

These are strange times and we are all a little thrown I think. Please could you pass on my heartfelt thanks to all the staff who have been in touch with K in the last couple of weeks? I would love that to continue even it's just a hello and how are you. It's such a shame 7 years at IGS came to such an abrupt end and for these reasons but perfectly understandable.

Take good care of yourself and I shall be in touch with staff when we can come out of isolation. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

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## Remote support

Thanks for the remote support from school. I think you are all brilliant and I know you are all working hard and still juggling school stuff with your own home commitments at this difficult time.

It's much appreciated

Received: 26/03/20

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### **Thank you**

Thank you for your continued efforts in an even more challenging climate!

Received: 31/03/20

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### **Going above and beyond**

I wanted to message you to thank you for all the support you and the children's teachers have been providing during this past week or so.

School has been amazing in not only setting work, but individual teachers taking the time out to check in on the children's well-being - it's been much appreciated and goes above and beyond what's expected. We are doing our best to keep to a normal routine for the children who are getting up and keeping normal school hours. We will be forever grateful for IGS keeping them occupied.

Thank you for everything you have done and will no doubt continue to do for the students, they are really missing school life.

Received: 30/03/20

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### **Time and consideration for students**

Thank you to IGS for your invaluable information and support through this difficult time. Your time and consideration for the students is very much appreciated

Thank you so much

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### **Thank you**

Thank you for all the support. My son is doing school work this morning! All the best to you all in this new way of working and health wise too.

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### **Care, compassion and commitment**

Thank you so much for everything you are doing in such uncertain times. Your care, compassion for and commitment to our children is greatly appreciated.

Twitter post: 18/03/20