



PARENT/CARER BULLETIN

28 November 2022

FORTNIGHTLY HIGHLIGHTS

On Wednesday 23rd November, we enjoyed another fantastic evening at the King’s Hall in Ilkley honouring the achievements of the year 11 class of 2022. The whole evening was another excellent showcase for Ilkley Grammar School, as students proudly collected their GCSE certificates to the warm applause of friends, family and IGS staff. It was clear that many students had achieved their Personal Best and the months of hard work and determination had paid dividends. As a year group, the 2022 ‘Blue Ties’ sat the first set of public examinations in 3 years and achieved a record-breaking set of GCSE results on many levels, with a wide variety of superb individual accomplishments and achievements. I felt very proud and privileged as Headteacher to celebrate our students’ success with their families and recognise the resilience and courage of the year group given the additional uncertainty and turbulence they had faced during their studies. A huge well done to all of our students for their individual and collective achievements and whatever their next steps, we wish them the very best -they have a bright future ahead of them. We will publish a more detailed article and the full list of this year’s prize winners on our website in due course.

From last year’s year 11 to this year’s year 11, this week sees the start of the mock examinations for our Purple Ties. This is an important practice opportunity for our students under timed examination conditions, with the feedback from the assessments helping to identify their strengths as well as any misconceptions and areas which require attention over the coming months. We wish them the best of luck!

Carly Purnell: Headteacher

Headteacher Awards



Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Headteacher Award over the last fortnight: Heather Crolla, Robbie Murray, Divya Johnson, Katy Wilkinson, Jack Patterson and Robert Wheeldon. Students have received the award for demonstrating school values, being positive role models and making a positive difference to others in line with our school vision

The Learner Curriculum

As part of their PBT curriculum, students have recently started The Learner Curriculum where they learn about effective learning behaviours and habits as well as how their memory works and how to make periods of revision more powerful. This is particularly important for our year 11s who are starting their mock exams. A reminder that subject checklists, revision templates and a recording of the recent Parent Information Evening can all be located in the KS4 Revision Support Showbie group (Code: RRG8F).

Upcoming Dates

M	28	Nov	GCSE Mock Assessments Start
Th	1	Dec	Y13 Parents' Evening (On site 4-7pm)
Th	8	Dec	Y12 Parents' Evening (Online 4-7pm)
M	12	Dec	Countdown To Christmas a.m. rehearsal & 6.30pm at St Margaret's Church
Fr	16	Dec	School closes (12.30pm)

Social Media and the Internet

The internet is an incredibly useful tool but it also can cause concerns and, at times, be a dangerous place. We work hard at school to ensure the students are readily equipped educationally to protect themselves and know how to report things to school or other agencies. We encourage all students to report any concerns to the Year Hubs, or a member of the safeguarding team at the earliest opportunity. Concerns can also be reported using this [link](#) and the details of these concerns are raised directly with Mr Calvert, the school’s Designated Safeguarding Lead. There are some excellent resources for parents on the [ThinkUKnow](#) website and we actively encourage parents to contact school should they have any safeguarding concerns or just want advice.

Creative Arts

The Creative Arts team have been particularly busy over the past few weeks running theatre trips, a residential, and putting on concerts, in addition to rehearsing for upcoming events:

Our incredibly talented A Level and GCSE Music students put on a small concert for parents before October half term, to showcase and celebrate their exam performance work.

Over 80 students, forming the cast, crew and musicians, went to Ingleborough Hall on a rehearsal residential trip from Thursday 17th- Saturday 19th November. Students rehearsed tirelessly, in preparation for our school production of the Sound of Music. This will take place 7th- 9th February 2023.

40 students went to York theatre to see Frantic Assembly’s version of Othello at the end of October, all from KS4-5 Drama/Performing Arts and Theatre Studies. 30 students from years 8- 12 enjoyed a theatre trip to Charlie and The Chocolate Factory on 24th November.

Our Battle of the Bands took place on Thursday 24th November. This was a fantastic event with 8 bands from years 7- 12, competing to be crowned the inaugural IGS Rock Heroes. Take a look at the Creative Arts Twitter posts to find out who won! There were prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, with the winning band, chosen by our independent panel of judges (including professional musicians and concert promoter who has worked with artists such as Ed Sheeran and Sam Fender), securing a professional recording session at The Woolpack studio in Otley.

Students in all years are currently rehearsing for our annual Countdown to Christmas, a concert which will take place in St. Margaret’s Church on Monday 12th December, starting at 6.30pm.



Top Tips for Parents

Discuss with your child the importance of 'ditching a device' during focused revision. Just having a phone nearby can reduce productivity by 20%. Encourage your child to hand their phone or games console over whilst they are focusing on revision.

PTA Update

We are very grateful to the PTA for their support of multiple initiatives in school. Following the last meeting the PTA have agreed to fund the following projects:

- 30 metal frames for sharing information on mental health, anti-bullying and other useful messaging to go on toilet doors around school
- A set of strong queuing barriers to go in Armitage Café
- Two sets of 160 books to support the shared reading initiative being rolled out in tutor time in Years 7 & 8
- In partnership with Carey Designs funding for 5 additional celebration boards in addition to the existing Kindness board for rolling displays of groups of students who demonstrate the values of Resilience, Courage, Respect, Responsibility and Pride
- Funding to enable colleagues who support the D of E to obtain an enhanced outdoor first aid qualification

The PTA are also seeking to recruit new members. If you are interested in joining the team, please email PTA@ilkleys.co.uk to find out more.

IGS students mark Anti-Bullying week 2022 - Reach Out

Last week was national Anti-Bullying week, with the theme 'Reach Out'.

On Monday year 7 students marked Anti-bullying week by wearing odd socks as part of a national initiative celebrating difference. On Tuesday students watched a short film in form time in which 40 students from across different year groups read a poem about the causes, consequences and solutions to bullying written by the group using words provided by KS3 students.

<https://youtu.be/Vy1lvi6x9G4>

Throughout the week there was also a display on bullying in the library showcasing the book RESPECT which was published by students during lockdown. On Wednesday, the Anti-Bullying team held a bake sale raising over £100 for anti-bullying initiatives, Thursday saw the launch of an anti-bullying poster competition, and on Friday students received a wider reading list of books, podcasts and websites connected to bullying, kindness, tolerance, and respect which is available on the school website: <https://www.ilkleygrammarschool.com/anti-bullying-week/>



Sports Results

WC 14th Nov

- Yr 10 Rugby: IGS played PHGS in the 3rd round of the National Bowl losing to a strong PHGS side
- Yr 8 Rugby: IGS competed in the McCarthy Cup at WHG, U13s Rugby Festival: Finished 10th
- Y7 Football League match: IGS v Menston: 1-1
- U18 Football ESFA round 4: IGS v Kirbie Carlise 1-6
- Y9 Boys' Football B team beat Skipton Academy 3-2

- Y9 Boys' B team are now sadly out of the B team ESFA national cup after losing 4-0 to a very strong West Hill Academy team from Manchester.
- IGS Y7/8 boys' tennis team finished in 3rd place in the Northern LTA schools' tennis finals after beating High Storrs Sheffield in a shootout

WC 21st Nov

- Y8 girls' football (friendly): IGS v Bingley Grammar: 5-0
- Y9 girls' football - 2nd round Leeds cup: IGS v Prince Henry's: 2-0
- Senior Netball – Senior A 6-11 South Craven A; Senior A 11-9 South Craven B

IGS Gymnastics Success: Yorkshire Championships

Gymnasts from Ilkley Gym Club took part in the Diamonds Acro Invitational, Halifax on Sunday 13th November.

The results were as follows:

- Grade 2 Women's Group (1st place): Eliza Button, Sofia Lambert (and their partner)
- Grade 2 WG Out of Age (3rd place): Zoe Featherstone (and 2 partners)
- Grade 3 WG (1st place): Livvi Rutter (and 2 partners)
- Grade 3 WG (2nd place): Skye Kitching, Alyssa Bakker (and 1 partner)
- Grade 5 Men's Pair (1st place): Mathew Burnham & Alex Stewart
- IDP WP (1st place): Isla Barker (and partner)
- IDP WG (1st place): Bella Burnham (and two partners)

There was also a pedestal competition, where gymnasts balance on two wooden blocks.

Level 4 Girls:

- 1st place Heidi Pearce
- 2nd place Isla Barker

Level 4 Boys:

- Alex Stewart

IGS Website

For more information on what's going on in and around Ilkley Grammar School, don't forget to keep a check on the IGS website in 'News' [HERE](#) and 'Community' [HERE](#)

