



PARENT/CARER BULLETIN

23 FEBRUARY 2023

FORTNIGHTLY HIGHLIGHTS

As you are already aware, the NEU (National Education Union) have declared national and regional strike action and the next 3 days are scheduled as follows:

- **Tuesday 28th February 2023** (North, North-West, Yorkshire and the Humber regional strike)
- Wednesday 15th March 2023 (national strike)
- Thursday 16th March 2023 (national strike)

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the Government over teachers' pay, the inadequate levels of government funding for schools and a national recruitment and retention crisis in education and not issues which are specifically related to IGS.

Based on the information we have available, we have carried out a risk assessment to determine specific arrangements for next Tuesday and the following decision has been taken:

Next Tuesday, 28th February, Ilkley Grammar School will be open for all students in years 11 (periods 1-5) and 13, as well as students sitting the external assessment in Criminology in year 12.

It will also be open to students in all years with an EHCP, EAL students including students from Ukraine and Looked After Children. If your child has an EHCP, is LAC or EAL in years 7-10, please will you confirm whether you expect your child to attend school on Tuesday 28th February by completing a short survey [HERE](#). If we do not receive confirmation by 9am on Monday 27th February, we will assume that they are completing the learning activities at home.

We will therefore be closed for students in years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 unless they have an EHCP, are LAC or EAL or, in the case of year 12, are sitting an external assessment.

Free School Meals

If your child is in years 7-10 and 12 and is entitled to Free School Meals, please order an additional packed lunch [HERE](#). This will be given to students before they leave on Monday 27th February.

Whilst we are committed to trying to preserve continuity of education for our students through this period of disruption, we have to balance that commitment with the overriding need to ensure that the school site is safe. We do not take the decision to partially close the school lightly and the following factors were considered:

The proportion of NEU members:

The NEU is the largest union at IGS with the majority of teachers being members. Most members have confirmed their intention to strike which means that approximately 60 teaching colleagues at IGS will be striking on the 28th February.

The position of other unions:

Members of the NASUWT teaching union, which is not on strike, have been instructed that they cannot be required to provide cover for striking colleagues. This includes covering classes, social time duties, supervising students or setting work for students who would have been taught by striking colleagues. This is fully in line with their conditions of employment.

Supply agencies who would normally provide cover have also indicated that most of their staff will not cover teachers who are on strike.

The impact of wider school and class closures on the workforce:

The closures of other schools and primary school classes will mean a higher-than-usual proportion of non-striking colleagues and associate staff being unavailable to work due to their own childcare commitments.

We will communicate the plans in full as soon as possible but I wanted you to be aware of the partial school closure so you can make childcare arrangements if required.

Arrangements for future strike dates on the 15th and 16th March:

We will repeat our risk assessment in relation to the proposed national strikes in March and different arrangements may apply. We will therefore communicate arrangements for future dates separately.

Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Headteacher Award since the last update: W/C 30/01/23: Ellis Brown 9AE, Henry César de Sá 11NA, Callum Edwards 13PKP. W/C 6/02/23: Kamilla Bepalova 7GMS, Annabelle Crawford 8HGW, Jessica Gale 10JAK, Finley Goffe 7PDS, Jackson Bleazard 11PSN, Edward Bleazard 11SFQ and Grace Chadwick 12AWD. 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.

Polite request – parking

On behalf of local residents: please consider responsible parking when spaces are not available on the school site and take note of local restrictions and signage. Particularly at the top of Wheathead Lane, where proximity to school means that residents are frequently blocked in due to irresponsible parking across driveways leaving little manoeuvrable space. Thank you.

IMPORTANT DATES THIS HALF-TERM:

- Thursday 23rd February – Year 8 Parents' Evening (remote)
- Wednesday 8th March – Years 8 and 9 Options Evening (on-site)
- Wednesday 22nd March – Year 10 Parents' Evening (remote)



THE MOOR IS ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC!

Before half-term, we were delighted to bring to the stage one of the world's best loved musicals and retell its iconic story of hope, courage, love, solidarity and the power of music. With its enchanting storyline, irresistible score and catchy songs, across four performances the audience was treated to a wonderful production, bringing the hills and Ilkley Moor alive with *The Sound of Music*.

This is a timeless and enduring classic which evoked childhood nostalgia in many of us, whilst still having the ability to move and charm the audience no matter what their age. We were touched by the exquisite choral singing in the prelude to the beautiful renditions of "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" and "Edelweiss" and wonderful 4-6 part harmonies and were also left upbeat and cheerful following uplifting songs from the title number to "My Favourite Things", "Do-Re-Mi", "Sixteen Going on Seventeen", "How Do You Solve A Problem Like Maria?" and the yodelling of "The Lonely Goatherd".

There was powerful and convincing characterisation throughout including from the delightfully headstrong, joyful and impulsive Maria (Millie Trevitt and Daisy Button), the wise Mother Abbess (Grace Chadwick), the commanding Captain Von Trapp (Alex Ashman-Hogan and Matthew Disney) and his seven enchanting children - Liesl (Emma Chapman), Friedrich (Will McCutcheon), Louisa (Isabelle Atkinson), Kurt (Adam Disney), Brigitta (Evelyn Kennedy), Marta (Mahalia Beevers) and Gretl (Saskia White) who between them delivered the perfect amount of naivety, confidence, mischief, sensitivity, sass, gentleness and cuteness with Gretl's smile and innocent charm providing the ahhh factor! There were also strong supporting performances including from Rolf (Hugh Ameigh and Sam Woodward), Max Detweiler (George Grant and May Halifax) and Elsa Schraeder (Ash Macintosh-Dixon and Ava Chaplain) and excellent, polished ensembles. The joy and power of music was also reinforced by the masterly performance from the live orchestra which showcased a wide range of musical talent across the different years.

What was particularly special about this show was that it involved over 135 students from all year groups including our year 7 students who only started IGS in September and also provided opportunities in a range of roles both on stage and behind the scenes including sound, lighting, staging, set and costume design.

A huge thank you to the students, staff and volunteers involved and well done to you all!



Sporting Successes and Updates

W/C 23rd Jan

- **Rugby** – Years 9 & 10 played Settle College in the Yorkshire Cup winning 49-5
- **Girls' football** – Y9 Leeds League Tournament: win against Co-op Leeds (2-0), Corpus Christi (3-0) and Allerton Grange (1-0), draw against Morley (1-1)
- **U14A Netball** 13-13 Bradford Grammar B
- **U14A Netball** 16-2 Bradford Grammar C
- **U14B Netball** 2-17 Bradford Grammar B
- **U14B Netball** 10-11 Bradford Grammar C
- **U12A Netball** played BBG - results tbc
- **U12B Netball** played BBG - results tbc
- **Year 9 boys' Football Academy** beat PHGS 2-1
- **Year 9 boys' first team** sadly lost 4-3 to a strong Cardinal Heenan's team in a very spirited friendly game.

WC 6th Feb

34 IGS students represented **the Bradford district in the West Yorkshire cross country race at GSAL** on Saturday 4th Feb. We had some excellent results, including some podium finishers!

- 2nd Robbie Carter (Y7)
- 3rd Jake Norris (Y9)
- 1st Edward Hobbs (Y13)

Rugby – Year 7,8 & 9 played Horsforth School at IRUFC on 7th Feb

U18 Boys Hockey

- Finished 7th in Yorkshire Tournament
- Lost 2-0 to Harrogate Grammar
- Drew 0-0 with Hill House
- Lost 2-0 to Ashville
- Won 1-0 against GSAL
- Beat Silcoates on penalties in 7th place play off

U15 boys' hockey finished in 4th place in the Yorkshire tournament, losing the 3/4th place play off to Hall Cross.

The U13 boys' hockey team competed in the Yorkshire tournament. We had some extremely strong performances but were edged out 1-0 in four matches during very short games. Thankfully, we finished the day on a high beating Kettlethorpe 2-0.



Post-16 celebrates university and apprenticeship success as the *Class of 2023* secures a record 12 Oxbridge offers and many more students receive offers to study on exciting courses at universities across the country...



Now that the UCAS application deadline has closed offers have been coming in from universities across the country – from Southampton to Glasgow and from Belfast to Newcastle – to study on courses as diverse as Environmental Geoscience, Anthropology, Japanese, Aerospace Engineering, Urban Planning, Triple Languages, Children’s Nursing, Film Making, Forensic Psychology, Fashion Buying, Sport and Exercise Science, Neuroscience, Global Environmental Change and Osteopathy.

Several IGS students have also already received offers for highly competitive degree level apprenticeships including Eddie Allister from Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC) and Ellie Wilson from Deloitte with others in the pipeline.

Unprecedented Oxbridge success

This year a record-breaking 12 students have received offers to Oxford or Cambridge with the number of successful applications entering double figures for the first time.

Congratulations go to Elise Abbott (English Literature and French, Oxford) Thomas Abel (History, Oxford), Billy Caswell (English Language & Literature, Oxford), William Duffield (Chemical Engineering, Cambridge), Esme Gutch (English Language & Literature, Oxford), Sean Hayes (English, Cambridge), Joseph Leach (Mathematics, Oxford), Dan Logan (Engineering, Cambridge), Leo-Lord-Cloke (History of Art, Cambridge), Ben Redman (English, Cambridge) and Harry Shaw (Chemistry, Oxford). One further student, currently on a Gap Year, has secured an unconditional place to study Natural Sciences at Cambridge.

Alongside the successes there are very talented students who were disappointed this time but who have very bright futures ahead of them. We are very proud of every single one of them. None of these offers would have been possible without the support provided by all the members of the post-16 team and the support of the subject teachers who invest so much time and energy in supporting the academic and wider development of students.

Headteacher, Carly Purnell, stated:

“We are delighted that the abilities and talents of Ilkley Grammar School students are being recognised by such prestigious universities with offers in a diverse range of subjects.

We embrace the achievement of Personal Best in all of its forms and are equally proud of all of our post-16 students. We hope that their success inspires all of our younger students to work hard and aim high.” You can read the full article published in the Ilkley Gazette [HERE](#)

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](#)

Useful Email Addresses

Attendance and notifications of absence: attendance@ilkleygs.co.uk

General enquiries: admin@ilkleygs.co.uk

Parents’ evenings: parentsevenings@ilkleygs.co.uk

Venue hire: emma.wood@ilkleygs.co.uk

PTA: PTA@ilkleygs.co.uk

