

PARENT/CARER BULLETIN

FORTNIGHTLY HIGHLIGHTS

W/C 18 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

It has been a wonderful (and, for the first few days, very warm!) start to the new academic year as we have welcomed back familiar faces, as well as our new year 7 “Purple Ties”, new year 12 students and those who have transferred to IGS from other schools. They have settled quickly into learning and routines, engaging with their teachers, and, after the first full week, students have already collectively achieved **29,286** positives. Well done!

In our assemblies on the first day, we spoke about the Personal Best values which underpin the culture of the school: **Respect, Courage, Responsibility, Kindness, Resilience** and **Pride**. In particular, we reminded students that there are lots of reasons to take **Pride** in being an IGS student: outstanding academic achievement and support; record levels of sporting success; a wide range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities including numerous opportunities for live performance and competition at local, regional and even national level; opportunities for discovery and adventure in the UK and abroad; as well as being able to make a positive difference to the lives of others in line with our school vision. Over the last two years, we have raised over **£27,000** for various charities selected by our students from Children In Need, Marie Curie, LS29, Guide Dogs UK, Yorkshire Brain Tumour Research and Pakistan Flood Relief and this continues to be an important part of our work.

Students were also asked to think positively about what they would do to demonstrate their Personal Best this year, including the importance of taking responsibility and getting involved by maximising all of the opportunities and support available both in the classroom and beyond.

The return to school was also tinged with sadness as staff and students in years 8-13 remembered Mrs Janet Buckley, teacher of geography and a form tutor at IGS for almost 23 years who tragically died in the summer. As expected, the students have been hugely respectful, recognising her professionalism and contribution to the school over two decades. Thank you to the many parents/carers who have sent in the messages of condolence. In order for these to be passed on to the family, we have opened up a virtual book of condolence for students and parents/carers – please see the details in the additional feature below.

Please note, Mrs Buckley’s funeral is on Tuesday 19th September and, whilst school will be open as normal, there will be some disruption to lessons as a number of colleagues are attending the service.

As I mentioned to the students, Mrs Buckley was a consummate professional who was very proud to be a teacher at IGS. She would have wanted all students to work hard, try their best, show respect, kindness, courage, resilience, and responsibility and challenge themselves to aim high and fulfil their potential.
Kind regards,

Carly Purnell: **Headteacher**

IGS Curriculum Overviews: Gemma Cloughton, Deputy Headteacher

Educational research shows parental engagement with their child’s curriculum has a positive impact on achievement. We are really proud of our ambitious curriculum offer and would like to share information with you about what your child is learning each year/ term. Each term, you will receive information on the upcoming curriculum for your child in the form of Curriculum Overviews. The Curriculum Overviews include information on:

- ✚ What is being taught;
- ✚ The sequence it is being taught in;
- ✚ The ‘powerful’ knowledge in the curriculum for that subject- this is the most important knowledge that students need to know to be successful in the subject (e.g. key concepts and skills);
- ✚ What is being assessed;
- ✚ How you can support their learning further at home.

We hope that you find this information useful and that it enables you to support students with their learning, prepare your child ahead of assessments and enrich your child more widely.

For information relating to the curriculum in all year groups and in each subject:

- ✚ please follow this [link](#) for years 7-11 group overviews
- ✚ Please follow this [link](#) for subject summaries
- ✚ For all Post 16 Curriculum Overviews, please follow this [link](#) and for further information about each subject, please follow the subject information [link](#).

Personal Development at IGS: 2023-24: Jamie Gutch, Deputy Headteacher

Please find below a link to the Personal Development section of the school website where you can find the Personal Development parent/carer Handbook for 2023-24. This handbook sets out how we deliver Personal Development at IGS which has been designed as a 7-year sequenced programme.

If you want to find out more about how you can support your child’s Personal Development, have a look at the information on our website here: <https://www.ilkleygrammarschool.com/our-school/personal-development/>

All parents/carers of students in years 7-13 have access to the Personal Development folder on Showbie which is where resources for the year are stored and where all students will store documents related to their Personal Development. You will also be able to read about different aspects of Personal Development in the latest parent/carer bulletin.

Students in all year groups have completed a Personal Development reflection and target setting activity at the start of the year and will be encouraged over the coming weeks to sign up to the range of extra-curricular and leadership opportunities on offer. You can support this process by discussing these opportunities with your child. We know that developing a rich range of skills and experiences over time (growing the whole person) alongside strong academic progress is what gives our students the edge in what is an increasingly competitive world.

In December all students will be completing their first Personal Development self-report. Students (except those in exam groups) will also complete an update in the summer term. After having read the materials provided, if you have any questions or feedback about our approach to Personal Development, please contact admin@ilkleygs.co.uk and put ‘Personal Development’ in the subject box.





Welcome to IGS Purple Ties!

Tuesday 5th September 2023



NELL BANK: MRS HESSEY, HEAD OF YEAR 7

What a week. 3 days of Nell Bank with our amazing Year 7s! I, G and S band have fully embraced all the activities and had a thoroughly great time.

*They showed huge **courage** in trying out new activities and making new friends and it was great to see such **kindness** between each other when they were struggling. I was impressed by their **resilience** when the ducks would not come out of the pipes, but they kept on going and all ducks were saved in the end! (no ducks were harmed).*

*We have waded through custard using just chocolate stepping stones to avoid the piranhas, and we have safely delivered Nando the rubber chicken to the Good Ship Nellie every day. The **responsibility** was immense, but they looked after him well.*

*I have been overwhelmed by the **respect** they have shown each other and the staff at Nell Bank. Members of the public commented on how well-mannered they all were on their journey to and from Nell Bank.*

*I have been extremely **proud** of our Purple Ties this week and the way they have taken on all the challenges. I have seen new friendships form and students grow in confidence over the week.*

Sporting Successes and Updates

Our Y10 green ties made it into the final of the Yorkshire Cup which was a massive achievement as this included all state and private schools, Therefore, a huge well done to the team, who unfortunately lost to Scarborough College last Friday in the U14 Yorkshire Cup Final by 6 wickets.

Extra-curricular transport voluntary contribution

The school year is now in full swing, and our range of extra-curricular sports activities are well underway. As you will be aware some of our team sports activities take place at our school field at Ben Rhydding. Over the years, transport to and from these activities has been provided to students and we have done our best to shield participants from passing this cost on. Unfortunately, due to increasing costs this is not sustainable - for students who are participating in these activities Parents/Carers are able to make a voluntary donation via ParentPay to support in covering transport costs to and from the school field for extracurricular activities. If you wish to make a contribution, please visit ParentPay.



PRIDE



RESPECT



COURAGE



RESPONSIBILITY



KINDNESS



RESILIENCE



9LIR IGS Charities Week Partners

The 9LIR 'Charities Week Official Partners' campaign managed to raise £850 for LS29.

We have been overwhelmed by offers and humbled by the generosity of spirit from our local businesses and community.

We would like to publicly thank the following for their partnership:

- ♥ AMC Designs
- ♥ Artform Creations (Etsy)
- ♥ Coffee Care, Skipton
- ♥ Dacre, Son & Hartley
- ♥ Hansesgaard Design
- ♥ High Speed Training
- ♥ The Driving Academy
- ♥ Jessica Blythe: Independent Travel Agent

Look out for our student designed logo on their social media!

We have also had a couple of generous private donations in addition to these for which we are extremely grateful.

The chosen Y9 charity is LS29, a wonderful local organisation that supports families in our community with children with special needs. Every penny of our partners' donations will be spent on enriching the lives of these young people.

Liam Revell

Lead Teacher of English: Progress and Intervention

Permissions in the event of emergency closure

If you do **NOT** wish your child to leave school on their own in the event of an emergency closure, please [complete this form here](#) by **Friday 29th September** so that we can place a note on their file. No student will be left unsupervised in school, and where they can't get home safely, they will be supervised in school. Please make sure that your child is aware of these arrangements. **Unless we are informed otherwise**, we will assume that you give permission for your child to make their own way home, or to your alternative safe address, in the event of an emergency closure, and that you have discussed this with them.



IGS PTA Wine Tasting: All Welcome!



Call my Bluff Wine Tasting Evening

Hosted by Martinez Wines, with a selection of
Cheeses courtesy of Booths supermarket



Friday 17th November 2023, 7.30pm
ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, B HALL

Tickets cost £20 per person

(Includes welcome fizz, 5 wines to taste and cheese to nibble)

Click below to sign up and buy tickets

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/ilkleygrammarschool/index.cfm>

All welcome - come on your own or
as a team

Bring cash for our regifting raffle



IGS is delighted to be hosting the Ilkley Literature Festival for the second year next month! This is a fantastic opportunity for the school to be part of a prestigious event for which participants come far and wide to attend. As per last year we are hoping that the PTA will be able to offer a range of refreshments at all our events which in turn helps to raise vital funds for our school. However, to do this we need volunteers! As a thank you, **volunteers will be permitted to watch the event for free**, where seats are available. Events take place at IGS over two weekends on Sunday 8th, Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th October. Please see the attached document of events and email emma.wood@igs.mlt.co.uk if you would like to help out. Please also spread the word about this fantastic festival within our town. Brochures are available from Kings Hall and The Grove bookshop and details can also be found on their website here: <https://www.ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk/>

Useful Links & 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

[IGS Twitter](#)

[IGS PE Twitter](#)

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](#)

Mrs Janet Buckley



Janet Buckley

During the summer we informed you of the sad passing of our cherished colleague - Mrs Buckley. Our thoughts continue to be with her family during this extremely sad time. Mrs Buckley has been a committed member of staff for over twenty years. She was a highly skilled geography teacher who challenged and supported her students to achieve their best and was rightfully very proud of the phenomenal GCSE results which she helped them to achieve. She had the highest standards and expectations and was always willing to invest time to help and support the students in her care. Over the years, she has positively influenced thousands of young people, instilling belief in themselves and a love of the subject about which she was so passionate. She was a well-respected and established member of the IGS community and will be remembered fondly as an outstanding teacher and a compassionate, kind-hearted, and sincere person who championed the importance of family and friendship.

Ilkley Grammar School was an important part of her life, and she touched the lives of many within our IGS community whom she will have taught and interacted with. **We would welcome you to share your thoughts and fond memories of Mrs Buckley.** To help with this we have created an online condolence book. In order to contribute to this [please use this link.](#)



PRIDE



RESPECT



COURAGE



RESPONSIBILITY



KINDNESS



RESILIENCE