



FORTNIGHTLY HIGHLIGHTS

We hope that students have enjoyed a well-earned rest over the half-term holiday and have returned to school recharged and ready for the next seven weeks of learning. This half-term is always a very busy one, especially for our year 11 and post-16 students with GCSE and BTEC mock examinations, the completion of UCAS applications, Oxbridge interviews and Parents' Evenings for students in years 12 and 13.

In addition, this week we held our Post-16 Open Evening for prospective students and their families from both the current year 11 and other schools across the region. We are proud of our sixth-form provision which balances the importance of academic study with pastoral care and guidance, personal development and independence, and a rich wider curriculum to broaden and deepen students' knowledge, skills, character, and confidence and enrich their experiences. It was wonderful to welcome over 360 families and give students the opportunity to find out more about our extensive curriculum offer, which includes over 30 advanced qualifications and a range of leadership and enrichment opportunities, and to engage in discussions about their futures.

Other events this half-term include: GCSE Presentation Evening and the Music Showcase which are both being held at the King's Hall; the annual Ingleborough residential for students in all years who are involved in this year's school production, Grease; the Countdown to Christmas Concert; as well as the 'Future Fest' Careers Fayre which will give all students the opportunity to engage with a range of employers.

Having raised almost £30,000 for charity over the last two years, we will also continue our fundraising endeavours with a non-uniform day for Children in Need on Friday 17th November, as well as the Key Stage 4 and 5 Charities Week and Christmas Hamper collection. These are important aspects of our work, enabling students to actively make a positive difference to the lives of others in line with our school vision.

We look forward to another positive and productive half-term and thank you for your continued support.

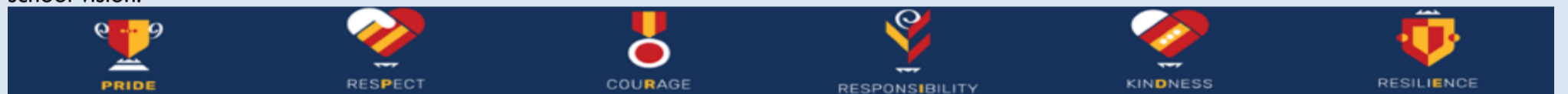
Best wishes,

Carly Purnell
Headteacher

Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Headteacher Award over the last fortnight: Ellie Norris 7JCX; Finley Goffe 8PDH; Amelie Haslam 9NRP; Jake Lovery 11MTH; Aneila Heeley 13LR; Isaac Lambert 10DJJ; Dylan Hurst 11MTH; Lois Skelton 12REB

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.



Mr Calvert: Assistant Headteacher – Students' Safety

I have issued a personal safety message to all students this week via email, including details about road safety, particularly with the dark nights closing in, alongside a message about their own personal safety. I reiterated to students that they should come back into school if there is a problem, and where possible to walk home in pairs or in small groups. Students should report anybody they see loitering around school to a member of staff. We always have staff on duty before and after school on each of the gates to support the safe entrance and exit to and from the school site. I would be grateful if you could reinforce the messages I have given.



As the winter weather is upon us, please can you also familiarise yourself with our school closure procedures [here](#). If **you do not** wish your child to leave school in the event of a school closure during the school day, please complete the form [here](#) by Friday 10th November, unless you have already done this last half-term.



Ms. Martini: Assistant Headteacher - GCSE/A Level Examination Dates - Summer 2024

The summer 2024 examination period will begin on 9th May and will end on 19th June (GCSE) and the 25th June (A Level). Please be aware that these dates are from the common timetable, and that individual timetables will be sent to all students closer to the time.

Please also be aware that the exam contingency dates are 6th and 13th June (afternoon sessions) and 26th June (full day). JCQ guidelines state that all students must be available during these times in the event that there has been any disruption to the planned examination schedule. **Please take account of these dates when planning or booking any holidays. We strongly advise that holidays for students in years 11 and 13 are not booked in this period until the 27th June at the earliest.**

In addition to the summer exams, the window for the GCSE and A Level MFL Speaking Component is 2nd April to 17th May. GCSE Art exams will take place 11th - 16th April and the A Level Art exam will take place from 19th - 26th April.

Year 11 Mock Examination - DfE Guidance

The government have released guidance on the collecting of evidence in the unlikely event that the summer examinations do not go ahead. The guidance suggests that schools and colleges should ensure students sit mock exams in exam conditions before their formal exams, and that their papers are retained. One set of mocks for this purpose is sufficient and as such, we intend to use the papers that the students will be sitting during the year 11 mock period which begins on 20th November. These mocks will be retained and used as part of evidence to determine a grade if the exams cannot go ahead.

Ms. Cloughton Deputy Headteacher

Please find your half termly link to the Curriculum Overviews. For information relating to the Key Stage 3 or 4 curriculum and subject specific information, please follow this [link](#). For all Post 16 Curriculum Overviews, please follow this [link](#) and for further information about each subject, please follow the subject information [link](#).

Mr Keane: Assistant Headteacher - Learning Support Assistant Vacancy

We would like to notify parents of the following opportunity to join our Inclusive Learning department as a Learning Support Assistant. Please follow the link which details the applications process: [LSA vacancy advert](#)

Mr Gutch: Deputy Headteacher – Coutances

The IGS exchange with Coutances



The IGS exchange with Coutances (twinned with Ilkley) has been an ongoing relationship since 1946 and so this year the exchange programme entered its 77th year and as such must be one of the longest-running exchange programmes in the country.

This year, 39 year 10 students and an additional A level student, departed at 10.30pm on the 13th October and arrived in Coutances at 5.30pm the next day and spent the rest of the weekend with their exchange partners and their families. The weather overall was kind to us when it mattered and so our visit to the world-famous Mont Saint-Michel was sunny and the guided walk onto the sandbanks (and quicksand!) which surround it, after the tour around the Cathedral was, as always, a real highlight. On Tuesday, we visited the powerful Caen Memorial Museum which commemorates the events around the Normandy Landings in World War 2 and in the afternoon the group went to the American Cemetery and Omaha beach which gives a sense of the beaches as a real place, with the cemetery providing a deeply moving reminder of the scale of the loss of human life at this point in history. On Wednesday, students spent the day in school with their partners with a final trip on Thursday to the Aquarium (revealing how deeply French culture, particularly in this part of France, is influenced by the sea) and we finished with a visit to the walled coastal town of St.Malo where students could buy souvenirs and taste a *galette* (a type of crêpe).

This exchange was an absolute pleasure to run because the overall behaviour of the students, and their willingness to throw themselves into a week living with a French family, was exceptional, and every single student was a credit to the school. Huge thanks too to Mr Hulme, Mrs Barker and Mrs McKinley for joining the trip as staff members and also to Mrs Heyworth for her administrative support, Mr Carr as the contact point at IGS and to Miss Kelly and Miss Paley-Hernandez for setting up all organisational aspects of the exchange.

IGS & Skipton Academy Belgium Battlefields Trip



During the last weekend of the half-term break, 70 IGS and students from the Skipton Academy took part in our annual Battlefields trip to Belgium. We were impressed with their maturity and the respect shown when visiting memorials to the dead. Students greatly enjoyed visiting Vimy Ridge where they were able to enter trenches and tunnels and experience first-hand the water-logged conditions of Western Front soldiers. Students paid their respects to family members by reading poems at burial sites and laying wreaths.

We also took part in the historical Menin Gate ceremony, paying our respects to all soldiers, with Jensen Mansfield, Oliver Marsh, and Annabelle Berrisford laying wreaths within the ceremony. A special thanks to Mary Goodyear, Freddie McCutcheon, Kitty Picken, and Aeryn Shipman for reading poems in dedication. Thank you to Ms. Lister and Mrs. Goodyear for their annual organisation of the trip and to all colleagues who supported! Ms. Booth



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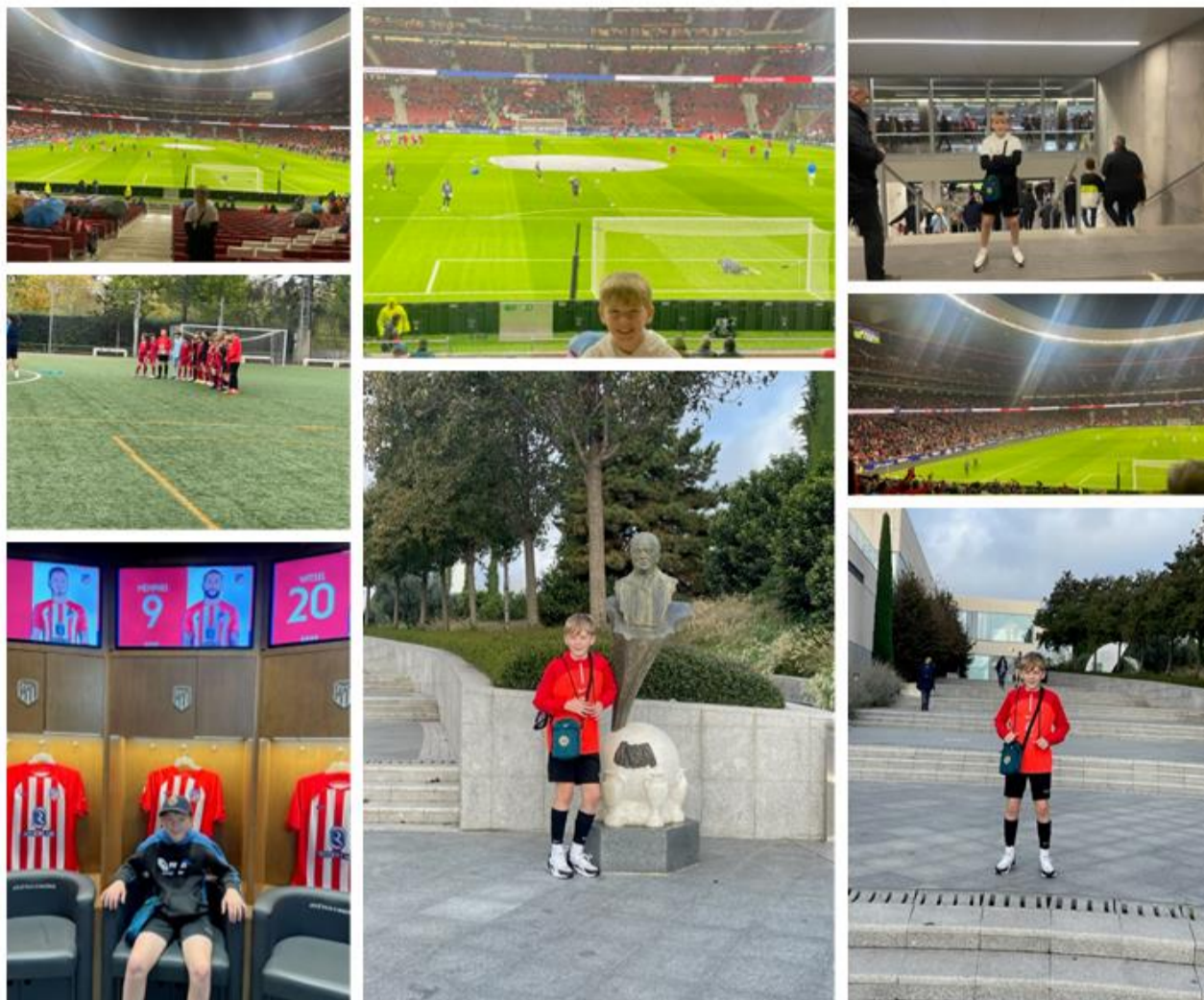
RESILIENCE

Will Braham 7LEA

Will Braham 7LEA recently attended training and matches in Madrid at the Real Madrid training ground where he represented the UK playing for JPL Rep team.

In two matches Will scored two outstanding goals! During the trip, he enjoyed stadium tours, visiting the home of Real Madrid's Fantasy Football Stadium, The Santiago Bernabeu Stadium and The Athletic Madrid Stadium, where he also attended a football match.

Well done Will!



Girls' Football

English Schools FA cup

Year 8 girls IGS 2 – 2 Heckmondwike Grammar School, IGS wins on penalties and are through to the 3rd round

Year 9 girls IGS 1 – 6 St Aiden Harrogate

Year 10 girls IGS 6 – 0 Holmfirth High School, IGS are through to the 3rd round

Year 11/ 12/13 girls – U18 ESFA Cup IGS lost in their first U18 girls cup match. Well done to all involved, playing against a very strong opposition.

Leeds cup

Year 7 - U12 girls IGS 5 – 2 Crawshaw Academy

Year 9 - U14 girls IGS 3 – 1 St Mary's Menston

Boys' Football

Leeds Cup

Year 8 – U13 Boys IGS 1 – 2 Temple Moor

League

Year 8 – U13 Boys IGS 2 –1 St Mary's Menston

Year 10

The Year 10 football team progressed to the quarter finals of the West Yorkshire Cup Competition after beating Salendine Nook, Huddersfield 3-1. The team now look forward to the quarter final game against Ryburn school.





Boys' Tennis

The boys' tennis team were hoping to secure a place at their third consecutive Northern League Finals. IGS drew with Murchiston school, Edinburgh - a very strong Scottish tennis school. Sadly, the team were knocked out by Murchiston Castle school, Edinburgh, at the Northumberland Club Tournament on Wednesday 1st November. This now concludes the 2023 tennis season; however, it has been the most successful season the school has ever had with IGS having a team making it into the National Glanville Cup Finals Tournament.

Players: Thomas Nailer, Jack Winterbottom, Ben Winterbottom and Daniel Nicoll

Cross Country

ESAA: Four teams (Junior Girls, Junior Boys, Intermediate Girls and Intermediate Boys) raced in the first round of the ESAA Cross Country Cup. There were some fantastic individual performances with an individual win for Robert Carter in the Junior Boys race and for Jake Norris in the Intermediate Boys race.

Well done and good luck to the Junior Girls and Junior Boys teams who have qualified for the ESAA Regional Finals at GSAL on Saturday 11th November.

KCAC: The Keighley and Craven XC league started on Wednesday 11th October at Cliffe Castle, Keighley. There were 52 runners representing IGS, which was a fantastic turnout!

Y7/8:

- Robert Carter (Y8) 1st place
- Charlie Porteous (Y7) 2nd place
- Marcie Ford (Y8) 4th place

Y9/10:

- Jake Norris (Y10) 4th place



To view KCAC results, follow the website.
<https://keighleyschoolsxc.wordpress.com>



Mr Carr: Children in Need Non-Uniform Day – Friday 17th November
The Student Council would like to support the annual BBC Children in Need charity with a non-uniform day on Friday 17th November. More information will follow in special assemblies next week about how IGS supports charities. Voluntary donations can be made on Parent Pay and the service will appear in due course.



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Ms Mortimer: Photography (Alumni)

On the 6th October we were absolutely delighted to welcome back ex IGS photography student Miles Charlesworth, founder of local media company Mchar. He visited school to give a lunchtime talk to an interested group of art, photography, media and business studies students about his work since leaving IGS in 2018.

Miles was always highly entrepreneurial and ran a small business taking photos and making films from year 10 onwards. When he didn't secure a place at his first choice uni for film making, he decided to go it alone and hence started running his own business aged just 18.

Miles shared examples of his work with students and talked about setting up and running his video production company, which is based locally. He shared valuable insights into starting up a small company by 'creating the work that you want to be paid for' and sharing this with potential clients, as well as continually looking for and reaching out to clients and offering to work for free in the very early days. He described the importance of Instagram for the development of his brand and being reliable when developing a customer base, also the excitement of both helping clients develop their business through his work and working as a small operator where he sees a job through from concept to shooting, editing and output. Whilst he wowed us with tales of photographing fast cars and trips to Ibiza to photograph models, he also emphasised the sheer hard work of starting up as a sole trader and rarely taking a break in the first few years. One of his key tips was to always have a 'passion project' to keep moving personal learning forward and maintain interest and enthusiasm.

After the talk Miles generously stayed to answer individual questions with a small group of interested students. We are really grateful to Miles for giving his time to share his experiences and demonstrate where A levels in subjects such as art, photography, media and business can lead.



The Rotary Young Photographer of the Year Competition 2023/24

This competition is open to pupils/students up to the age of 17 in all Ilkley, Addingham and Burley – in – Wharfedale schools.

Categories:

- ✚ Junior, up to and including 10 years old
- ✚ Intermediate, 11 to 13 years old
- ✚ Senior, 14 to 17 years old
- ✚ Note: Age at 31st August 2023 identifies the age category for entrants.

The task is to produce one photograph based on the theme 'Rebuilding':

- The photograph should not include any people
- Mobile phones, iPads/tablets may be used in addition to traditional cameras
- To accompany the photograph, each entrant must provide a brief sentence describing the relationship of the photograph to the theme
- Students at Ilkley Grammar School are permitted to submit a photograph that has previously been externally assessed for an examination, but MAY NOT submit work that is for a current exam portfolio.
- Entries must be submitted digitally by 30th November to youthcommiwrc@gmail.com.
- The photograph must be, at least, 1500 pixels in size on longest length but your email must not exceed 15Mb
- All entrants must complete a paper copy of the application form signed by a parent/carer and hand in this in to the art office on A floor
- Further information can be found on A floor and at the Ilkley Wharfedale Rotary Club website

Every entrant will receive a certificate and the judges will select the winners from each category. Winners' photographs will go forward to the Rotary District Young Photographers' Competition which is judged Spring 2024. The winning photographs from the District Competition will go forward to the Rotary National Competition. The Ilkley Wharfedale Rotary Club plans to mount an exhibition of the photographs from each school and will host a prize giving ceremony at a local venue.

Ilkley BID

Ilkley Grammar School is part of Ilkley BID. Did you know there are lots of **FREE** things for children to see and do in Ilkley? It's a great place to visit for schools and clubs alike. Please find attached full details of the bespoke fun and informative virtual reality trail Origins of Ilkley:



This is a great activity and is available for free by downloading the Discover Ilkley App, and there is free Wi-Fi so you don't need to use all your data! Why not tie in a visit to the [Manor House](#) or [Toy Museum](#), both of these are free to visit, please check out their individual opening times online. There is also the [Ilkley Playhouse](#) and [Kings Hall](#), check their websites for what's on. There is plenty to do outdoors too, there's The Moor, Cow & Calf Rocks, Heritage Walks, 3 Bridges Walk plus more, check out www.discoverilkley.co.uk for inspiration. Coach Parking is available in the town centre on Railway Road, or why not jump on the train! For help with your visit please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have?

Lisa Drake, Project Co-ordinator, Ilkley BID Ltd



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THE WIZ

I'm writing to inform you about a local show at the King's Hall, called 'The Wiz', run by the Ilkley Amateur Operatic Society, which involves myself and several other IGS students. Tickets for the show are available via the link below

<https://www.ilkleyoperatic.co.uk/>
Matthew Disney (IGS student)

All proceeds in aid of Friends of the King's Hall and Winter Garden

IGS
MUSIC
 Thursday 23rd November
SHOWCASE
 King's Hall at 7pm

FEATURING
 IGS BATTLE OF THE BANDS
 POP CHOIR
 ORCHESTRA
 AND MUCH MORE

Tickets
 £7.50 Adult
 £5 Child

Tickets Available Now

Preparations for the IGS Music Showcase on Thursday 23 November at the King's Hall are in full swing and it is shaping up to be a fantastic evening of entertainment! The music department is extremely busy with pupils attending rehearsals to ensure that they are ready for the event! Year 7 and 8 pupils have been singing Wake Me Up by Avicii in music lessons and should have signed up by half term if they wanted to volunteer to take part in the concert. Please keep the date free!

[tickets are live for sale on the Bradford Theatres website here](https://www.bradfordtheatres.co.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 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](#) and 'IGS Vacancies' [HERE](#)



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