

RESPECT

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ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A MOORLANDS LEARNING TRUST ACADEMY

## PARENT/CARER BULLETIN FORTNIGHTLY HIGHLIGHTS

14 DECEMBER 2023

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Headteacher: Mrs Carly Purnell – Ilkley Grammar School

Dear Parent, Carers,

As we approach the festive break, I would like to thank parents and carers for your continued support of the school. It has been another busy and successful autumn term with many students benefitting from our extensive extra-curriculum offer. With over 100 extra-curricular clubs at IGS, highlights this term include:

- 749 student leadership positions filled across the school including roles such as anti-bullying iLeaders, community iLeaders, diversity iLeaders, eco-iLeaders, sports iLeaders, Olicana Scholars and subject ambassadors
- 300+ students taking part in creative arts extra-curricular clubs at lunchtime and after school including the Backstagers club; Year 7, 8 and 9 drama groups, art clubs and a huge range of music clubs from the orchestra and choirs to the jazz, guitar and ukulele groups, music bands, samba band and the brass band to mention just a few!
- A number of highly successful live events with 131 students involved in the IGS Showcase and Battle of the Bands at the King's Hall, over 160 students, including 36 students from 2 of our trust primary schools: Burley Oaks and Menston Primary, who performed at the Countdown to Christmas Concert and 138 musicians, performers and backstage and set/prop design crew involved in the upcoming school production, Grease
- 15 post-16 students who are completing the two-day Mental Health First Aid training delivered at IGS; a further 15 year 12 mental health champions will be trained in January
- 175 students participating in extra-curricular football
- 162 students participating in extra-curricular netball
- 75 students involved in extra-curricular rugby
- 500 students involved in a wide range of other sports including cross-country, badminton, hockey, dance, dodgeball, tennis and volleyball
- A range of trips and visits including: all of year 7 enjoying a day of team-building activities at Nell Bank; the Ingleborough Residential involving 76 students from all year groups; 40 year 10 and 12 students who visited Coutances as part of the French Exchange; 42 students who visited the Battlefields of Belgium; 40 students who watched Manchester City play at the Etihad Stadium and 97 students who have visited the theatre.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the staff who willingly invest their own time to provide such a range of opportunities and who go above and beyond to enrich the experiences of our students.

In addition, we have raised over £2450 for Children in Need, year 10 student, Rebecca Hastier has raised over £2700 for Candlelighters and the Post-16 Charities Week is set to raise a substantial amount of money for the Samaritans and Macmillan following a range of fund-raising events including the non-uniform/Christmas jumper day on the last day of term. We will update you on the total amount raised after the holidays.

Term finishes tomorrow, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, at 12.30pm and we return after the holiday on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 which is a week A. Please note, that reception is not manned over the holiday period; the [admin@ilkleygs.co.uk](mailto:admin@ilkleygs.co.uk) email will be checked periodically but emails will not be forward to staff until the start of the new term. If there is an urgent safeguarding issue, please contact school via the [website](#), clicking on the safeguarding link.

I hope you and your families have a restful Christmas period and I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Best wishes,

Carly Purnell

Headteacher

### Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Headteacher Award over the last fortnight: Reynard Tilley 7FPW; Sam Scott 8SP; Scarlett Glover 9AHF; Jas Potts 10JPM; Orla Jeffries 11LDS; Beth Rogers 13AAH; Finn Reeves 7JOW; Eli Smith 8GMS; Arthur Joli 9EAL; Isabelle Atkinson 10AMK; Caleb Wigglesworth 11KL; Isobel Tate Smith 12RTS

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.



### Dropping off forgotten items

If you are dropping off non valuables for your child, such as forgotten PE kit, DT food ingredients, lunch, etc; please use the filing cabinet drawers located near the main front doors, then simply message your child to let them know the drawer number you've used. Students can collect their items at break and lunchtime.

### Year 13 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 13 mock period which begins on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. These mocks will be retained and used as part of evidence to determine a grade if the exams cannot go ahead.

### Extra-Curricular Transport Contributions

We have had great participation in some of our extra-curricular sports activities over the first term of the school year. In the bulletin at the start of the year, we explained that many of our after-school sporting activities take place at our sports field at Ben Rhydding – this involves transporting students after school to and from the field. Over recent years the cost of this has started to increase and we receive no additional funding to help subsidise the costs. At the start of the year, we asked for a termly voluntary contribution of £15 for this. Thank you to all those that have contributed.

As we move into the new term, please make your voluntary contributions on ParentPay where the second contribution is now available to be made. Thank you for your support.

## ESAA Cross Country National Finals

Eighteen IGS country runners proudly represented the school at the National Finals in Suffolk on the weekend of the 1<sup>st</sup> December.. Ilkley had three teams qualify: junior boys (y7/8), senior boys (y11-13), and senior girls (y11-13). The team travelled down to Felixstowe on the southeast coast on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec, enjoying a coastal shake out run before loading the carbohydrates at Prezzo. The finals were held at Woodbridge School. The students did brilliantly with results as follows:

- The Junior Boys: 10th as a team overall (out of 27) with Robert Carter finishing 7th individually and Charlie Porteous 15th.
- The Senior Girls: 4th in a strong 28 team field with Beth Rogers placing 2nd individually and Helena Coy 8th.
- The Senior Boys: 13th as a team out of 27 starters and Archie Budding was 10th as an individual.

The opportunity to compete on another national stage is a reflection of the depth of sporting talent at IGS! Congratulations to all runners involved and a big thank you to staff who helped organise and run the trip to the finals.

## Year 7 Rugby Team



A huge congratulations to the Year 7 Rugby Team for their outstanding performances in the recent Rugby Festival at Keighley RFC. The newly formed team showed great courage, effort and determination, putting their bodies on the line to secure victories in all of their games including beating Ermysted's, Guiseley School and Bingley Grammar School. The positive attitude and commitment from all the players involved were fantastic and it was great to see them represent the school with such pride. Congratulations to all of the students involved and thank you to the families who were able to cheer them on to successive victories!

**IGS 1stXV Rugby team also played Notre Dame in the Yorkshire cup and won 31-22! Well done to all of the players!**

### Year 10 Football

The year 10 first team have progressed into Round 6 of the ESFA national cup, making up one of the last 32 teams nationally left in the competition. We welcomed Spen Valley High school to the Ilkley Town 3G and the boys played a blinder in terrible driving rain. The team battled hard and won the first half battle physically and went into half time 2-0 courtesy of two first half clinical tap ins from Noah Taylor-Smith. After half time, Spen Valley fought hard for the first five minutes, but IGS found their rhythm again quickly, with Tom Goodall providing an abundance of assists, with Nawaz Isma-Il (x2), Sam Smith and William Farrar providing the second half goals. IGS won 7-0 and will face King James' School, Knaresborough in the new year in round 6.

### U16 Girls' Football

2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Leeds cup: IGS 12 - 0 Co-op Academy Leeds. There were goals from Annabelle Forster, Charley Dickie, Rosie Scott, Eva Hodgson, Eliza Browne and Matilda Tricklebank. We will be playing the quarter final of the cup in the new year.



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The annual Countdown to Christmas concert took place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at St Margaret's Church.

With over 160 performers from Years 4-13 we were able to welcome younger pupils from Menston and Burley Oaks Primary Schools. The finale, 'Merry Christmas Everyone', saw the debut performance from the Moorland Learning Trust Combined Choir and was a fitting tribute to the power of collective music-making across all ages!

Alongside traditional carols and readings, our Orchestra, Pop Choir, Close Harmony Vocal Group, Jazz Band (with 2 lead singers: Josh Palaca and Emma Chapman), Drum Stars, Lord of The Strings, Year 13 Jazz Band, Brass Group, Year 7 and 8 Drama Groups, Year 12 Music Group and several solo and duet items all contributed to make the evening a huge success.

The standard of all performances was outstanding: the Year 7 Brass Group performed an impressive four-part chamber arrangement of Gaudete; our solo vocalists were incredibly polished and professional but what was most impressive was the sheer number of students sharing a love of music making, performance and acting across all year groups.



**We have had several messages from audience members:**

- "Firstly, I wanted to say a huge thank you to you and the rest of the music faculty for a great concert last night. We thoroughly enjoyed it and got us all in the festive spirit."
- "What an amazing evening it was last night, genuinely blown away by our totally talented students. Thank you to all of you for bringing out the best in our wonderful students."
- "It was the best yet. Congratulations to all involved- what incredible talent."

Collection buckets were filled for IGS PTA and Ilkley and Bradford Foodbank. Special thanks must go to the staff at St Margaret's Church for their hospitality and support.

## World Kindness Day and Week in November

Following on from our celebration of 'World Kindness Day/ Week' in November in which we celebrated a week of random acts of kindness from our students across KS3 and 4. Heads of Year, Progress and Experience Leaders (PrExLs) and form tutors have been watching out for acts of kindness from students in their respective year groups and have awarded 5 students from their year a Kindness award certificate. Students have been awarded on the basis of always being kind and courteous to friends, staff and their peers as well as things they do outside of school to be kind and help others. Year 11 were the first to receive their rewards. The following students from Years 7-10 were awarded their Kindness Awards in assemblies over the past two weeks. Congratulations to every one of them for being true to our school values and demonstrating kindness.

Year 7	Year 8
Alex Pasat 7RLB	Noah Shilton 8JPC
Holly Davidson 7AJC	Megan Hibbett 8BET
Finn O'Mahoney 7FPW	Amayah Mahmood 8BET
Sid Clay 7HED	Sam Scott 8SP
Nell Morgan 7HED	Lily Rose Lambert 8JNB
Year 9	Year 10
Agatha Stowe 9PSW	Saul Hateley 10VEC
Sophie Mydlowski 9HGW	Amelia Prowse 10JI/JK
Edward Cummings 9NRP	Suki Hutchinson 10ELN
Charlie McHugh 9CS	Molly Dovey Lodge 10DJJ
Sebastian Bent 9ERE	Alejandro Manjarres Celedon 10JMP



# Brain Day

On the 5<sup>th</sup> December our Year 13 Psychology students attended Brain Day which was once again a great success. Students learnt many aspects about the brain, complimenting their A level studies including: the effects of drugs, smartphones and vaping on the brain; the brain and crime; the working and damaged brain and the future of brain research. The highlight of the day for many was the sheep brain dissection where they were able to hold the brain and observe the intricate structures that they study at A level. The students really enjoyed the day, impressing Dr Guy Sutton, who ran the day, with their curiosity and thoughtful questions.



From us all at IGS, we wish you a very  
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

## Useful Links & Email Addresses

Years 7-11 notifications of absence: [attendance@igs.mlt.co.uk](mailto:attendance@igs.mlt.co.uk) or, **extension 2** if phoning school on the morning of an unforeseen absence

P-16 notifications of absence: [p16attendance@igs.mlt.co.uk](mailto:p16attendance@igs.mlt.co.uk)

Lettings and venue hire: [venuehire@igs.mlt.co.uk](mailto:venuehire@igs.mlt.co.uk)

Parents' evenings: [parentsevenings@igs.mlt.co.uk](mailto:parentsevenings@igs.mlt.co.uk)

General enquiries: [admin@igs.mlt.co.uk](mailto:admin@igs.mlt.co.uk)

PTA: [PTA@igs.mlt.co.uk](mailto:PTA@igs.mlt.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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IGS received a lovely email from St. Margaret's Church saying thank you to 'the hard-working students who were very helpful, frequently taking charge and selling cakes, allowing volunteers to do the re-filling, etc. The students involved were polite and willing to change jobs – they were a credit to the school. Many thanks to them all – Judith Smith'



### Upcoming Events:

- 📅 Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January: Yr 11 Parents' Evening (in school)
- 📅 Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January: Yr 9 Parents' Evening (remote)
- 📅 Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February: School Production – Grease
- 📅 Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February: Yr 8 Parents' Evening (remote)
- 📅 Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March: Year 8 and 9 Options Evening
- 📅 Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March: Spring Concert
- 📅 Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March: Yr 10 Parents' Evening (remote)
- 📅 Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May: Yr 7 Parents' Evening (in school)

### NHS

**Next Parents' Support Group details:**  
**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023**  
**Topic: "Supporting your child: "Healthy Lifestyle"**


#### About Us:


The Parent Support Group is an online support group, facilitated by NHS mental health practitioners. The group is a safe space for parents to get together, share their experiences and build positive relationships. A different subject is discussed each month and parents will receive useful information and strategies around the chosen monthly topic. For an invite, please email: [mhstparentsupport@bdct.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:mhstparentsupport@bdct.onmicrosoft.com)


BRADFORD AND CRAVEN  
trailblazer **NHS**

## Parent/Carer Support Group


Supporting Emotional and Mental Health

  
 Tuesday  
19th December

  
 10:30am or  
7:30pm

  
 Held on Zoom  
Please email the  
address below

THIS MONTHS TOPIC:  
SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD: HEALTHY LIFESTYLE



In this months Parent Support Group, we will be discussing the close relationship between physical and mental wellbeing, covering such topics as sleep, nutrition and keeping active. This topic will cover how to maintain overall wellbeing

✉ [mhstparentsupport@bdct.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:mhstparentsupport@bdct.onmicrosoft.com)

