



FORTNIGHTLY HIGHLIGHTS

Dear Parents/Carers,

At 5 and a half weeks this half-term is one of the shortest in the school calendar, but a lot has been packed into the last 28 days. One of the key highlights at this time of year is, of course, the school production which always provides a wonderful conclusion to a busy half-term. This year's production was no exception as IGS presented one of the world's most popular and uplifting musicals: "Grease".

Over three nights and one matinee performance, a packed audience was treated to an incredible, high-tempo production packed with nostalgia, energy and classic hit songs including "Greased Lightnin", "You're the Once That I Want" and Summer Nights. With brilliant vocal and acting performances, supported by a fantastic ensemble, colourful costumes, high-velocity, slick choreography and a professional-sounding school band, it was impossible not to get caught up in the energy, excitement and positivity exuded from the entire cast. As always, the Back Stagers' hard work behind the scenes ensured the set changes, lighting, sound and effects were flawless.

Whilst we were disappointed that weather conditions forced us to postpone the final performance, this has now been rearranged in consultation with the cast. The new date is **Thursday 29th February** and all tickets bought for yesterday's performance will be automatically transferred. We look forward to another sell-out performance and properly celebrating with the cast and our amazing creative arts and technical teams who have produced such a brilliant spectacle! A full write up of the show will also be produced after the final performance.

I hope you all have a lovely half-term break. School finishes today at 3pm and re-opens on Monday 19th February at 8.25am.
Best wishes,

Carly Purnell
Headteacher

Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded the Headteacher Award over the last fortnight:

Jacob Barton 8BET; Matthew Coates 10SRZ; Jeff Cook 11KL; Maisie O'Connor 13MO; Ben Ballard 13LR; Noah Markham 13AAH; Beau Hooper 7HMM; Ralph Airey 8FB; Lauren Bolser 9PC; Poppy Thompson 10VEC; Emma Livera 11KMH; Orlah Flatley 12CDH

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.



On behalf of Ms. Claugton, Deputy Headteacher - Save the Date!

Year 8-9 students and parent, carers – please save the date for **Options Evening on Wednesday 6th March** – more details and an invitation will follow after half term.

Sports' Updates

Wednesday 24th January

UI3 Netball team travelled to Skipton Girls for a league game. The UI3 netballers were back in action in the league against Skipton Girls; both teams played some fantastic netball.

Results and players of the match below:

UI3A 17-2 SGHS – POM – Beatrice Ritson

UI3B 2-4 SGHS – POM – Sophia Couling

Tuesday 30th January

UI4 Boys Hockey North England Qualifier Competition

A fantastic experience for our **UI3 hockey players** playing in the Tournament a year below. They didn't look out of place, and it was only physicality that stopped them from matching the other teams. Skills wise they competed to a high level:

IGS v Ashville: Won 1-0

IGS v Royal Grammar School Newcastle: Lost 3-0

IGS v Ampleforth: Lost 5-0

We are looking forward to them competing in their own age group on the 29th February!

Year 10 Football

Year 10 Leeds NW Central Venue League: Year 10 remain unbeaten in the NW cluster after picking up a 4-0-win Vs PHGS and a 2-1 win Vs Ralph Thoresby in a very tight game.

The Year 10 B team enjoyed their annual friendly at Woodhouse Grove on *Thursday 25th January*, playing some fantastic football, demonstrating the strength and breadth of football skills in the green tie year group by logging 12-0 win.

The goal scorers were:

Edward Davies - 2

Charley Jackson - 3

Charlie Clarke - 2

Seb Turner - 1

Frank Golding - 2

Harry Golding – 2

Wednesday 7th Feb – Rugby

The **year 10 rugby** team played Brighouse School in the **Yorkshire Shield** at home losing 12-33

The **year 7 rugby** team played St John Fisher's CHS in a friendly and **IGS won by 5 tries.**

The Class of 2024 breaks new records with 13 Oxbridge offers and many more students receiving offers to study on exciting courses at universities and for apprenticeships across the country... [Ilkley Gazette Article](#)

Now that the UCAS application deadline has closed, Ilkley Grammar School is starting to see a more detailed picture of 2024 destinations as university and apprenticeship offers start to come through. Most students have yet to make their final choices but offers have been coming in from universities across the country to study on courses from accountancy to wildlife conservation and as diverse as Celtic & Anglo Saxon Studies and Language & Linguistics, Creative Writing and Film Studies, Criminology with Police Studies, Dietetics, Fashion, Film, Football Business & Finance, Forensic and Analytical Science, Furniture and Product Design, Games Design, International Relations, Marine and Mechanical Engineering, Medicine, Policing and Investigations, Real Estate, Robotics, Sound and Music Production, Veterinary Medicine, War Studies and History. The destinations range from Plymouth to Aberdeen and from Belfast to Brighton and beyond, with possible scholarships in the US for tennis (Louisiana Tech) and golf.



Although the application window for apprenticeships remains open until after results day in August, several IGS students are currently pursuing exciting degree-level apprenticeships. Emma Townsend has already received competing offers from Mazars and EY and will be working towards chartered accountancy through her Degree Apprenticeship.

In the Creative Arts several students have made applications to Conservatoires, and Charlotte Dear has received an offer from the Royal Northern College of Music for the BMus (Hons) specialising in Voice (Soprano). Holly Fox has received offers from Royal Northern, Royal Scottish, and Birmingham for saxophone and Adam Leather has received offers to study drums at the Guildhall and Birmingham.

Unprecedented Oxbridge success

This year a record-breaking 13 students have received offers to Oxford or Cambridge with the number of successful applications entering double figures for the second time. This means that over the past 4 years 41 students have received offers from Oxbridge.

Congratulations go to 13 students including Rosie Anderson (Natural Sciences, Cambridge), Josh Beevers (Modern and Medieval Languages, Cambridge), Lucy Bentley (Geography, Oxford), Daniel Fazackerley (Mathematics, Cambridge), Simon Firth (History, Oxford), Maisie O'Connor (Natural Sciences, Cambridge), Theo Prowse (Biochemistry, Oxford), Beth Rogers (Natural Sciences, Cambridge), Ted Shaw (Geography, Oxford), Josie Simpson (History, Oxford), Leah Turner (Mathematics, Oxford), Holly Vasey (Economics and Management, Oxford), Alex Wood (Physics, Oxford)

Mr Sykes, Associate Assistant Headteacher says, "It is always a privilege to work closely with students supporting them with their applications. This is where all the hard work comes together, bringing them within touching distance of their chosen destinations. It is also wonderful to work alongside such experienced and dedicated staff at IGS as well as with members of the wider Ilkley community who provide opportunities beyond those which the school alone can offer."

Mr Gutch, Deputy headteacher added "Alongside the successes there are of course some very talented students who were disappointed this time but who have very bright futures ahead of them. We are very proud of all our students who are challenging themselves and working towards achieving their personal best this year – wherever that may take them."

Headteacher, Carly Purnell, stated:

"I would also like to take the opportunity to offer our huge congratulations to all our year 13 students who are starting to receive offers for a range of exciting opportunities at a wide range of institutions and apprenticeship providers. Students are currently holding offers for Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, King's College London, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Queen's Belfast, Sheffield, Southampton, St. Andrews, UCL, Warwick and York to name just a few. We are excited to see the offers keep rolling in and wish all of our students the very best of luck over the coming months."

Director of Post 16, Alex Fox, stated:

"We are delighted with the student's ambitious choices this year. We work very hard to ensure that every student fulfils their Personal Best, and it is edifying to see so many students rewarded for their bold applications, diligent perseverance and academic curiosity with offers from the most competitive courses in the country."

Y7 students' trip to the Trinity Centre in Leeds to visit Maths City



Across the last fortnight, we have taken 120 Year 7 students to the Trinity Centre in Leeds to visit Maths City. They were a credit to IGS throughout, tackling a range of problem-solving puzzles and hands-on challenges both individually and in teams. When asked about the trip, Alex Pasat (7RLB) said "when we went to Maths City, I enjoyed everything that was there because there were 'out of the box' thinking puzzles and some that were simple to understand". Sophie Clegg (7ARJ) added "I really enjoyed Maths City because of the hands-on element and how it made my brain think differently to how it would if it was pen to paper. I also liked how the puzzles were both challenging and fun".



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Coutances Competition

Following the exchange to Coutances in October 2023, the Ilkley-Coutances Twinning Committee launched a competition for students to write a report in French about their exchange experience. We are delighted to announce that the two prize winners were:

First Prize - Suki Hutchinson (10ELN) – Suki's report was praised for her overall presentation and content

Second Prize - Bethany Harrison (10SB) – Bethany's report was praised for her quality of language.



Ilkley-Coutances Twinning Committee Competition Y10 Winners!

Many thanks to Judith Dunn and Jennifer Howarth from the twinning committee for coming into school and presenting the prizes in their French lesson on Monday 15th January. Mr Gutch, Deputy Headteacher

Photography News!

The Rotary Young Photographer of the Year Competition: 2023/24

Students from schools around the area were invited by the **Rotary Club** to submit one photograph exploring the theme '**Rebuilding**'. Student entries were judged by a panel including a local photographer and members of the Rotary Club and awarded prizes in different age groups.

Whilst the competition initially involved local schools, the winning images from each area go on to compete in regional and then national competitions.



We are really proud to announce the winning IGS students:

- ❖ **1st Senior Category** Joseph Henderson
- ❖ **1st Intermediate Category** Will Greenall
- ❖ **2nd Intermediate Category** Elsa Baldwin
- ❖ **3rd Intermediate Category** Patrick Ke

Photo above of IGS students at the award ceremony

The winning entries will be displayed on A floor!

Congratulations to all students that entered!

Useful Links & Email Addresses

- ♥ **Years 7-11 notifications of absence:** 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
- ♥ **Lettings and venue hire:** venuehire@igs.mlt.co.uk
- ♥ **General enquiries:** admin@igs.mlt.co.uk
- ♥ **Parents' evenings:** parentsevenings@igs.mlt.co.uk
- ♥ **PTA:** 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](#) 'Community' [HERE](#) 'IGS Vacancies' [HERE](#) and [PTA Events](#)



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5-11 FEBRUARY 2024

#NAW2024

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK



This week is **National Apprenticeship Week**, and the theme is **'Skills for Life'**. The annual week-long celebration of apprenticeships is a national event and promotes how apprenticeships can help individuals to develop the skills and knowledge required for a rewarding career.

Information and useful information are listed in the useful links below:

[Apprenticeships, are they right for you?](#)

[Apprenticeships real stories to inspire](#)

[Apprenticeship ambassador stories](#)

[Considering an apprenticeship – information for parents](#)

[Parent information pack](#)

[How to browse apprenticeships before you apply](#)

[All you need to know about apprenticeships – Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

[This is my story – Amazing Apprenticeships](#)



Careers Appointment Referral



If students would like more information and support, they are encouraged to book a careers appointment by clicking on the QR code above.

Fancy your chances at the



QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT



Ilkley Grammar School
A WHOLEMOUTH LEARNING TRUST SCHOOL



Friday 15th March 2024
Ilkley Grammar School "B Hall"
Bar opens 7pm. Quiz starts 7:30pm

Includes supper –
meat or veggie
curry AND dessert.

Back by
Popular
Demand!

742126 TICKETS £15 per person
Come as a team OR join a table on the night.
Link also on IGS PTA webpage & IGS PTA facebook page.
CLICK TO BUY TICKETS:-
742126

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

You are warmly invited to come along to the PTA Quiz & Curry Night where the quizmaster will be our very own Arron Hefferin and there will be a band 'Sand Dollar' which will be playing from 7pm (featuring recent PTA chair Jane Wearing).

Click [PTA Events](#) to order tickets and curry (dessert included)!



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