



PARENT/CARER BULLETIN

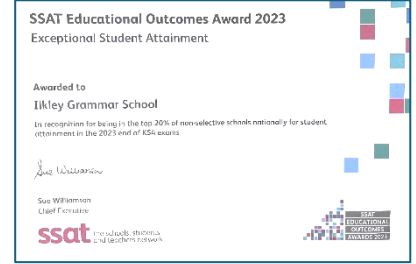
12 April 2024

FORTNIGHTLY HIGHLIGHTS

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing Easter break and that our families celebrating the end of Ramadan this week enjoyed their Eid celebrations.

As we have returned to school, I have received two communications which I wanted to share. Firstly, we have been awarded an SSAT Educational Outcomes Award which recognises that student GCSE outcomes in 2023 were in the top 20% of non-selective schools nationally. Whilst this only recognises one aspect of our work with young people, it is an impressive achievement which bears testament to the hard work and commitment of our year 11 students last year, the quality of education across the curriculum and the support and encouragement of staff and families at home.



I also received this lovely email from the tour guide who accompanied our post-16 students on their recent visit to Iceland.

Dear Mrs Purnell

My name is Roger Birch and I was the guide with your school trip a couple of weeks ago. I'm a retired teacher/ lecturer of sixth form and undergrads, geology and geography. I have been guiding now for 10 years with schools and colleges. I am writing to say that I was so impressed by the knowledge, enthusiasm and courtesy of your students. Throughout the trip they asked me questions and were really excited about visiting a totally different environment and culture.

Rob Greening and all the teachers were brilliant in supporting me, we got on really well. I have explained that if your school visits Iceland again I would love to guide them. At the farewell gathering I did tell the students and staff how impressed I was and that I would write to you.

I don't often contact the head teacher of the schools I guide, but as a former senior teacher I know how important it is to pass on positive comments.

Best wishes

Roger Birch

It is clear that our students were a credit to themselves, the school and their families and made a very positive and lasting impression on a professional who has worked with thousands of young people and school groups. Well done to everyone involved and my thanks again go to the staff who willingly give up their own time to support these important and memorable experiences.

Best wishes,

Carly Purnell
Headteacher

Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Headteacher Award over the last fortnight: George Miles 7SFQ; Evelyn Truluck 13LR; Ben Ballard 13LR; Dylan Redman 8SP; Belle Makin 9PSW; Martha Dobson 11LDS; Sophie Andelin 11MTH; Bobbi Makin 12CDH; Lucy Simpson 12PSN

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.



Jamie Gutch: Deputy Headteacher

Protected Characteristics, Fundamental British Values and the 6 Major World Religions

As part of our work to raise awareness among students of the Protected Characteristics, Fundamental British Values and the 6 Major World Religions, a series of graphics have been produced (with student input) by Simon Raybould at Print Crew. These will be going up around school over the coming weeks. Around 30 student artworks have also been selected by the Art Department for reproduction and display around school and these will be going up by half term.

THE SIX MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS*

Followers of all faiths (and none) agree on the **Golden Rule** which is the principle of treating others as you would want to be treated by them.

"I believe in the fundamental truth of all great religions of the world."
Mahatma Gandhi

*These are the six largest religions by number of followers

FUNDAMENTAL BRITISH VALUES

- Rule of Law:** Respect for the rule of law means that everyone in society is treated equally and fairly. This value promotes a sense of order and stability in society.
- Democracy:** Democracy is the foundation of our political system. It is based on the idea that everyone should have an equal say in how the country is run, and that the government should be accountable to the people.
- Individual Liberty:** Individual liberty allows people to pursue their own goals and interests, providing they do not harm others. This is the idea that people should be free to make their own decisions and exercise freedom of speech within the bounds of the law.
- Mutual Respect and Tolerance:** Whether you view mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs as one whole or as two individual values, they both promote understanding and acceptance of people with different backgrounds and beliefs. This helps to create a more inclusive society.

"It is the language of values that we use to map our world. It is what can inspire us to take action and move us beyond our isolation."
Barack Obama

THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

According to The Equality Act (2010) it is against the law to discriminate against someone because of a protected characteristic.

Our school values help us to prevent discrimination because they encourage us to take **responsibility** for our actions, to **respect** ourselves and others, have the **courage** to not be bystanders, to be **resilient** in the face of injustice, to be **proud** of who we are and to be **kind** to ourselves and others.

Curriculum Overviews

As you will be aware from last term's Parent Bulletin items and Schoolcomms emails, subject leaders have summarised their curriculum content into a digestible 'Curriculum Overview'. On these you will find the following:

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.

In addition to the Curriculum Overviews, please note there are age-appropriate 'wider reading lists' available by Key Stage [here](#) on our website; these reading lists are aimed at providing students with novels and interesting age-appropriate books and materials to read for pleasure.

To see how each subject builds year-on-year, please visit the [Subject Pages of our website](#).

Best wishes

Gemma Cloughton

Deputy Headteacher: Quality of Education



Thank You!

Mr Revell: Thank you once again to the marvellous IGS community for their never-ending generosity and kindness on Thursday 21st March. **You filled another car full of much needed essential supplies for our local foodbank** which included: over 100 Easter eggs, 50 little eggs, and boxes and boxes of core staples that will be vital in supporting the foodbank's clients in the coming weeks and months.

On behalf of the foodbank – thank you!

Alumni student, Sam Needham, is reaching out to the local community regarding the **Burley in Wharfedale Pump Track and Balance Bike Track project**. "There is a thriving cycling community in the valley and an amazing amount of kids riding bikes too, but we're really lacking infrastructure to encourage further engagement with keeping fit and active in a fun and safe environment. Our plan is to change that in Spring 2025 with the construction of this project." You can find out plenty more about the tracks and the overall project on the website at <https://www.biwpumptrack.co.uk/>



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Music News

Rachel Dow 10LIR (accompanied by her brother, Callum Dow 12RTS)

Huge congratulations to Rachel Dow, who won her year 10 Solo Performance Class at the Skipton Music Festival on Monday 11th March. Rachel is pictured below with her brother Callum who accompanied her on piano.



IGS Bands & Duk Tape



IGS Bands are busy preparing for upcoming performance opportunities this summer so please keep a look out for more details as they are released in the coming weeks and months.

One IGS band, **Duk Tape**, have recently recorded a couple of original songs at the Woolpack Studios, Otley, and these have been released on Apple Music and Spotify. We highly recommend you take a listen! <https://rb.gy/fm1i6e> You will be able to catch them live at a number of local gigs this summer and we will release details in due course.

Duk Tape are an upcoming punk rock trio from Ilkley, Leeds, originally formed in 2022 by Sam Woodward (Guitars and Vocals), Finlay Craggs (Bass) and James Nice (Drums). Their sound takes inspiration from bands like Blink 182 and Sum 41, as well as classic American punk like The Ramones and Bad Religion. Their two singles, *It's Been An Honour* and *Brain Drain* were recorded in the Woolpack and mixed by Richard Sabey.



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Dance

IGS dancers travelled to Halifax to compete in **The Great Big Dance Off Competition** on the 20th March. Unfortunately, they did not qualify for the next round, but they still performed fantastically well doing IGS proud, well-done girls!

The **years 7 and 8** performed **"Hey New Kid"** and came 12th out of 21 schools - their performance was fantastic. If you would like to watch their performance, it is on our Twitter PE page.

The **year 9s** performed **"Way Down We Go"** finishing in 11th place out of 21 schools. Like the other year group, this is the highest our girls have finished in this competition, and they should be very proud of their amazing performance. The video can also be found on our Twitter PE page.



Netball – Sisters n Sport – National Final 4

Our year 8 netball team also travelled down to Loughborough to play in the *National Final 4* of the Sisters n Sport Under 13 National Bowl Competition, finishing 4th.

What a fantastic experience for them. We are proud of you - well done girls!

Our year 10 netball team also travelled down to Loughborough in the Sisters n Sport Under 15 National Bowl Competition, finishing 4th. They had a fantastic run, and it was a great experience for them. Well done, we're proud of you!

Football

The year 7 and 8 girls' football team travelled to Allerton High School on the 13/03/2024 to play friendlies.

- IGS Whites won 3-0 to Allerton Blue
- IGS Reds won 4-0 to Allerton Green
- IGS White won 3-0 to Allerton Blue
- IGS Red won 2-0 to Allerton Blue

The under 16 girls played in their last league tournament on the 18/03/2024 finishing 1st overall. The league final will be played at South Leeds Stadium against Cardinal Heenan after the Easter break.

Golf

Congratulations to all the golfers who took part in the Yorkshire Schools competition at Howley Hall Golf Club. Ilkley secured an impressive 3rd place, narrowly missing out by just a point. With this performance, they should now qualify for the regional stage of the competition.

Team Prize:

- 1st: Woodhouse Grove School - Oliver Goodison, Jude Gordon, Matthew Hands - 69 points
- 2nd: Boston Spa Academy - Asitha Ashok, Theo McCormick, Eddie McCormick - 68 points
- 3rd: **Ilkley Grammar School** - Harry Richmond, Jack Winterbottom, Jamie Kemp - 68 Points





Rugby 7s Tournament

The **year 9 team** unfortunately lost to Ermysted's Grammar School by 29-5 in the Under 14s Cup semi-final. Their efforts were unmatched as they finished the game strongly by scoring a try in the last couple of minutes showing their resilience and determination. Well done lads!

The **year 10A team** came very close in a good battle with Harrogate Grammar School but were beaten in the semi-final. Harrogate went on to win the Under 15s Cup after beating our IGS team 12-9. Well, done to HGS – but equally a very good effort from our IGS year 10 team who nearly edged the victory. You should be proud!

Our **year 10B team** came 8th in the Under 14's Plate.

- 12/03/2024 the **year 7 team** played at Ilkley Rugby Club, where they **beat Horsforth** by 5 tries to 2
- 12/03/2024 our **year 8 boys** also **beat Horsforth** at Ilkley Rugby Club by 6 tries to 2
- 13/03/24 the **year 11 boys** were **runners up in the Air Wharfe 7s Cup** at Wharfedale Rugby Club

Congratulations to James Kennedy 7LEA who is a member of Ben Rhydding Hockey Club and has been selected to play for **West Yorkshire Hockey Under 12s.**



INTERESTED IN ACTUALLY PLAYING SOME JUNIOR CRICKET THIS SUMMER?

- ✓ ALL AGES, SEXES AND ABILITIES WELCOME
- ✓ U9, U11, U13, U15, U18 AND GIRLS SIDES
- ✓ TRAINING STARTS WK 8TH APRIL

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION...
 LOUISE ATHERTON | 07488 268114 | LOUISE.ATHERTON@YAHOO.CO.UK | WWW.BRCC4U.CO.UK



PTA Quiz and Curry Friday 15th March 2024

The annual PTA Quiz and Curry took place on Friday 15th March 2024. With over 100 tickets sold, B:Hall was packed out and the atmosphere was crackling with anticipation as the quizmaster for the evening Aaron Hefferin made his way over from Bronte Building (after a full teaching day and Mid-Year review!) having put the finishing touches to his quiz. If he thought year 11 period 6 had been a tough gig, it soon became clear that was nothing compared to the gathering of competitive minds in B:Hall and the desire to win the coveted annual PTA Quiz cup – won in 2023 by an IGS staff team. With staff teams from across a range of departments with big IGS names such as Crisp, Womack, Robson, Booth, Brooks, Gutch, Carr and Billinge in attendance, as well as other current and former staff members participating, more tables were required to fit everyone in.

The quiz loosely followed classic TV formats such as Catchphrase, Blockbusters with additional rounds such as a sculpting round and another physical round involving scientific apparatus. With fantastic music beforehand from ex-PTA chair Jane Wearing's band Sand Dollar and an incredible curry and cheesecake dessert provided by the IGS catering team, and drinks served throughout by the PTA, it was a hugely successful and enjoyable evening. It is always one of the biggest events of the year in terms of PTA income and this year will be no exception.



The PTA/staff dream team led by the kings of general knowledge Mr Gutch and Mr Carr only narrowly missed out on a top 15 place and Matt Carr's (correct) answer of 'Hippo' to the question 'The jaws of what land animal can crush a sports car?' will be remembered as a high point. Fittingly, the winning team (The Llamas) was made up of a team of both parents and (former) staff and as their prize they were allowed 5 minutes with the trophy and a team photograph!

A special thank you to the school catering team who stayed late on a Friday to produce a fantastic meal – after already having catered for 2000+ children and staff all week. Thanks to all those parents who supported the event by coming and of course to those dedicated members of the PTA who served drinks and washed up on the evening as well as to those who worked in the run-up to put it all together. A final thanks to Aaron Hefferin for hosting the evening and for all his work in preparing the quiz which was hugely enjoyed by all who came.



A huge thank you to the IGS PTA for a new outdoor water fountain which has been located in the Armitage Building ready for the summer months. The recent **Quiz and Curry event raised over £1500** and new projects to further improve the student experience are discussed at each meeting. The next PTA meeting is on Monday 15th April at 7.30pm at IGS – new members always welcome.



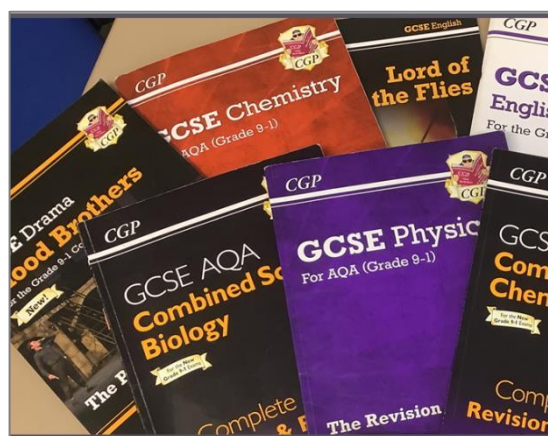
Once again Becky Malby and the Ilkley Great Get Together team provided over 100 Easter hampers and vouchers for IGS families and families from other local Primary schools on the first Saturday of the Easter holidays. A huge thank you to Becky and her team but also to IGS staff Joy Heyworth, Vee Hepworth and Susie White for helping out with logistics, distribution and deliveries. It was hugely appreciated.

**Great Get Together
Easter Hampers**

Pre-Loved Revision Guides

The Eco iLeaders have a large selection of preloved revision guides, textbooks, and flash cards for sale covering most GCSE subjects. If you are interested, please email: emma.wood@igs.mlt.co.uk with the subject of interest, and we will let you know what we have available.

Textbooks: £3-5 Flash cards: £3-4
Payment will be through Parent Pay, and books will be available to collect from Reception.



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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