

On behalf of Mr Gutch Deputy Headteacher: The Moral Maze

The Moral Maze – the results so far: In September we launched the Moral Maze in tutor time for students in years 9-13. The Moral Maze is a short-form debating activity which encourages students to explore the different sides of an argument, to play 'devil's advocate' and to 'disagree agreeably'. At the end of each debate there is the opportunity for students to give their vote on what they actually think on a given topic. **Please find attached, the results so far.**



Upcoming Events in 2025

- 📅 Thursday 16th January: Yr 11 Parents' Evening (in school)
- 📅 Thursday 30th January: Yr 9 Parents' Evening (remote)
- 📅 Tuesday 11th – Thursday 13th February: School Production – Les Misérables
- 📅 Tuesday 25th February: Yr 8 Parents' Evening (remote)
- 📅 Wednesday 12th March: Year 8 and 9 Options Evening
- 📅 Thursday 13th March: Spring Concert
- 📅 Thursday 27th March: Yr 12 Parents' Evening (remote)
- 📅 Tuesday 6th May: Yr 7 Parents' Evening (in school)



Creative Arts News

Gold Artsmark Award for IGS Creative Arts

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded Gold Artsmark by Arts Council England, in recognition of our high-quality arts provision and 'championing' arts and culture:

"Ilkley Grammar School provides students an arts rich education and a wide range of opportunities to perform and take part in the arts"

"There is a rich arts and cultural offer, students work with a wide range of arts organisations and artists... [linking] to local creative practitioners and organisations and provide arts opportunities and performances for local schools."

"Students contribute actively to the planning and delivery of authentic arts, cultural and creative experiences"



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England



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IGS Countdown to Christmas Concert

Our annual Countdown to Christmas event took place on Monday 9th December with over 230 students from years 4-13 involved in the performances, and compèred by our wonderful student hosts, Dylan Hurst and Toby Lucas in year 12.

This is the highlight of the winter calendar and once again, we were treated to an exceptional display of talent with beautiful readings and high-quality performances from our choirs, bands, instrumental groups, chamber groups and orchestra, in addition to our year 7 drama group performing different Christmas characters throughout the evening.

We were joined by our local primary schools to perform 'Step into Christmas', accompanied by our Jazz band, to make this a truly special, festive community concert and another 'standing room only' event in the church which accommodates several hundred people.

A special thank you to St Margaret's church for their hospitality and support.



School Production Residential: Les Misérables

Students in this year's school production *Les Misérables* set off on their three-day performance rehearsal residential on Thursday 12th December and will return on Saturday 14th December. On the final day of term, students will showcase a number from the musical to all IGS students as part of their annual Christmas celebration assemblies.

Full articles of our recent Creative Arts events will be published on the school website in due course.



IGS Charities Week: 16-20th December

Our annual charities week is taking place during the final week of term. All key stages will be taking part in this week but there are further events planned throughout the year.

Although we are having a focus on students being generous through giving their time, items will appear on ParentPay for you to give donations if you are able to.



As part of this week, we are holding a new charity concert 'IGS Rocks' on Wednesday 18th December in B Hall, featuring a number of our school bands and the **IGS Christmas Jumper Day will take place on Friday 20th December; this is also a non-uniform day.**

Students have been voting on their chosen charities (one per year group); these will be published shortly.

The poster features the title 'IGS ROCKS' in large, bold letters, with 'IGS' in white and 'ROCKS' in yellow. The event details are listed as 'WED 18 DECEMBER' and 'B HALL 6:30PM'. A list of featured bands includes 'ECLECTIC', 'HYPERFIXATION', 'CLINICAL CHAOS', 'DEADLINE', 'AYRBORNE', 'OKUMAY', 'THE ARGUMENT', 'SHADED', and 'DUK TAPE'. Ticket information states 'TICKETS VIA PARENTPAY' and 'SUGGESTED DONATION £1 IN AID OF IGS CHARITIES WEEK'. The poster also includes a drawing of a drum set and a star.



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Sport Updates

Year 8 Boys' Football



The year 8 boys' football team won 4-1 against St Mary's in the league on Monday 9th December. It was a fantastic performance from the entire team, and the best performance so far this season. They played great, passing the football throughout and scored one team goal that any team would have been proud of! We had a goal from Will Smith and an amazing Hatrick from Joe (Erling Haarland) Mutton. Well done lads!

U12 Girls' Football Team



The U12 girls' football team secured a place in the Leeds Cup semi-final after a 2-1 win against Allerton Grange. The team were dominant throughout the game showing great potential. Well done team!

Y11 Boys' Football

Sadly, the Y11 boys' football Leeds City Cup run has come to an end after losing to Boston Spa academy on penalties. The weather conditions were extremely wild as storm Darragh was brewing, meaning the game was suspended 5 minutes into the second half due to flooding on one half of the pitch. The game was tied 3-3 at that point after a fantastic performance from IGS late in the first half to level the game. The tie needed to be decided on the night, so penalties were taken but sadly Boston took the win 5-3. The boys should be very proud of their resilience in the poor conditions, they showed incredible character to come back to level the game before half time.



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Year 9 Netball

On Wednesday 27th November our year 9 netball teams travelled to Bradford Grammar School for the U14 Bradford District Netball Tournament. It was a bitterly cold night for all teams involved, however, despite this, both our A and B teams played some lovely netball. Our U14A team finished 3rd overall and our U14B team finished 7th overall. Well done to all involved!

Senior Netball

Year 11 and 12 netballers were involved in their final league fixture of the year against Bradford Grammar School on Thursday 5th December at Bradford Grammar School. Both teams played some excellent netball, turning the ball over, and taking it to goal convincingly. Well done to all involved! Results and players of the matches below:

- IGS A 21-6 Bradford Grammar B – Player of the match – Lois Nevison
- IGS B 14-8 Bradford Grammar B – Player of the match – Isla Slade






BACK TO NETBALL
 Westville House School
 Carter's Lane
 Middleton
 Ilkley
 LS29 0DQ

Back to Netball - 6 week block
 Age 16+
 Wednesday 8th January 2025
 7 - 8 pm
rachel.wood@englandnetball.co.uk

Many IGS students
 already attend the
Ilkley Youth Choir.
 If your child is
 interested,
 they can go along for
 a **FREE TRIAL!**

Ilkley Youth Choir

We have two choirs.
 Junior Choir: Ages 6-11 years
 Senior Choir: Ages 11-18 years

Our mission?
 To make excellent vocal training fun, affordable and accessible to every young person with singing potential - because opportunities in music can change lives.

Music can change futures, and young people in IYC develop personal and socio-emotional skills that set them up for life.

Our two choirs form an exciting, ambitious Youth Choir, delivering high quality vocal coaching and musical education in an engaging accessible way.

Rehearsals are fun and focussed, developing singing technique through contemporary pop, traditional choral, and musical theatre repertoire.

We are led by a team of highly experienced Musical Directors with a passion for creating opportunities in music for young people. The well being and self-esteem of our singers is our top priority.

We rehearse on a Friday evening at Moorfield School in Ilkley.
 Fees are £32.50 per half term
 Email: info@ilkleyyouthchoir.co.uk to book a free trial

