

Thank yous from parents/carers and the community 2024-25

Sent: 28 August 2024 19:39
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: FAO Mr Purnell -thanks

Dear Mrs Purnell

May we thank you and your colleagues at IGS for the incredible support and teaching experienced by our daughter during her time in sixth form.

From our first encounter with IGS – with a member of the reception team who instantly put us through to Mrs Pickard – throughout the past two years, the professionalism, kindness and care that she has benefitted from has been outstanding.

Of particular mention, as well as Mrs Pickard, are the exceptional Ms Walsh, Ms Rennie, Miss Simkiss, Mr O'Brien, Mr Fox and Mr Sykes, along with all her subject teachers in business, politics and geography. We are so grateful for their expertise and experience. They have all kept our daughter, and us, going through some very challenging times. We also appreciate the other staff, teaching and non-teaching, with whom we have not had contact but who contribute to creating the brilliant and remarkable environment at IGS.

As a result of excellent teaching, pastoral care and SEN support, plus large dollops of patience, humour, forbearance, encouragement and guidance, she achieved good grades at A-level and is now looking forward to studying at university. It is an amazing achievement by all involved as it was only in January, about five days before the UCAS deadline, that she decided to apply to university and, thanks to the heroic efforts by staff, was able to do so.

IGS has been such a positive experience for our family. Thank you.

We wish you and everyone at IGS another successful year.

Kind regards,

IGS parents

Sent: 08 October 2024 14:21
To: IGS Admin
Subject: FAO Mrs Purnell and Staff

Good afternoon

I wanted to express what pleasure it was to attend the Year 7 open day last week.

My child was slightly nervous about attending but the nerves melted away very quickly. The pupils showing families around are a credit to their family, staff and school; they spoke highly about what IGS has to offer and gave some insights into the life of a Y7 pupil. One pupil ranked staff and I am pleased to say nobody scored less than a 9/10!

I forgot to take names, but one student (who was dancing outside the Computer Science classroom) escorted us from there to the PE department; he offered to play badminton with my son and then waited knowing we wanted to go on to the Armitage canteen. He left us at that point but was eager to check that we were OK. Whilst in there, one of the 6th formers recognised my son from an outside sporting event and came over to say hi. All these little acts of kindness go a long way for children and families new to the school.

Thank you for the opportunity to visit - You really do know how to put on an Open Day.

IGS parents

Feedback from Y6 Open Evening – Wednesday 2nd October 2024

Thank you for a wonderful evening. My son is a musician and performer, playing three instruments, performing in musicals and filling every extracurricular minute with performing arts. Sadly, the school that we are closest to has very little Performing Arts provision and doesn't even offer Music GCSE. For this and many other reasons, he is desperate to attend your school.

Thank you again for a lovely evening. Your staff and students' passion is a joy to see.

Prospective parent

Bay of Naples

Sent: 22 October 2024 13:20

To: IGS Admin Email

Hi,

Please pass on the biggest of thanks to Mr. Greening and the team who looked after my child so well when she struggled at the airport yesterday. I'm sure it wasn't easy to deal with alongside the stress of navigating 60 teenagers through the airport security process and I hope it didn't cause too many issues. We are just so grateful that they recognised her needs and dealt with them with such amazing understanding and empathy. An absolute credit to IGS.

Kind regards,

IGS parents

Sent: 22 October 2024 13:36

To: Robert Greening (IGS) Ben Leeming (IGS)

Subject: Thanks

Dear Mr Greening,

Thanks so much for organising a fantastic trip to Italy. My child really enjoyed it and I'm looking forward to hearing all about it when he's less tired this evening!

I don't underestimate how much hard work and effort goes into planning a trip like this and really appreciate you giving up your weekend to take them away.

Please pass on my thanks to the other teachers who joined you too.

Thanks

IGS parent

Sent: 22 October 2024 18:43

To: Robert Greening (IGS)

Subject: thanks to you and your colleagues for Naples trip

Dear Mr Greening

thank you to your and your colleagues for giving up your time and arranging and taking the year 11 on the Naples Geography trip.

They all seem to have had a great time and I'm sure there is a lot of work and stress behind the scenes. We appreciate all your efforts.

We hope you have a restful half term and time to catch up on sleep
thanks again

IGS parents

Sent: 22 October 2024 13:51

To: Robert Greening (IGS)

Subject: RE: Bay of Naples trip

Dear Mr Greening,

Many thanks for organising the trip to Naples. By all accounts it was an amazing experience for the students.

Kind regards,

IGS parent

Sent: 24 October 2024 09:16

To: Robert Greening (IGS)

Subject: Naples trip thank you

Dear Mr Greening (& the other teachers who were on the trip)

I just wanted to say thank you so much on behalf of my child for the fantastic trip to Italy. She had a wonderful time & enjoyed everything she did (she even liked being in the 12-bed dorm!).

I know there were some issues with regards to the hostel provided but we understand that these were beyond school's control & they didn't impact my child's enjoyment of the trip.

Thanks again for all your hard work planning & executing it - it's greatly appreciated.

Best wishes

IGS parent

Sent: 26 October 2024 21:43
To: Robert Greening (IGS)
Subject: Bay of Naples trip

Hi,

Following on from the emails about the geography trip and some of the difficulties you have faced as a staff team, I wanted to thank you for giving our son such a great trip. He had a good time, and we are grateful he had the opportunity to attend. Thank you to all the staff for organising the trip and giving up your weekend to accompany them.

Regards

IGS parents

Ofsted



Sent: 24 January 2025 09:20
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Re: IGS Ofsted Report

Congratulations on your wonderful and well deserved success.
Kind regards,
IGS parent

Sent: 24 January 2025 09:31
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Re: IGS Ofsted Report

Congratulations to everyone at the School. In my opinion this is well deserved.

You must be very proud.

IGS parent

Sent: 24 January 2025 09:43
To: IGS Admin Email Clare Robun (IGS)
Subject: Re: IGS Ofsted Report

Hi there

I have read the Ofsted outcome this morning and wanted to drop a line to say well done and thank you! It makes great reading and I hope you are all proud (as well as a bit relieved too I imagine!). Keep up the great work.

IGS parent

Sent: 24 January 2025 09:57
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Re: IGS Ofsted Report

Ah wow that's a fantastic achievement - massive well done to you all - you've got to be happy with that one !?

Especially as they announced they were coming so close to Christmas which was a bit mean 😞

Anyway - for what it's worth from a parent's point of view - all your effort you put in to make this school so great are sincerely appreciated

Sent: 24 January 2025 09:58
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Re: IGS Ofsted Report

I would just like to say, well done to everyone involved!

Best Wishes
IGS parent

Sent: 24 January 2025 10:10
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Re: IGS Ofsted Report

Many congratulations to all the staff and students at IGS. The report is superlative in its description of what you offer children, which is so heartening to hear as new parents to IGS, and very well deserved.

It is a testament to you all, and to Mrs Purnell's exceptional leadership, that you have retained the Outstanding judgment in all areas in the current framework. Really well done!

I am sure you enjoyed the Christmas break even more after that news in December!!

Congratulations again.
IGS parent

Sent: 24 January 2025 10:31
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Re: IGS Ofsted Report

Well done to each and every member of IGS staff and thank you for your hard work and dedication.
IGS parent

Sent: 25 January 2025 09:09
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Ofsted report

I just wanted to pass on my congratulations to the head and all the staff for the amazing Ofsted report. I am sure a huge amount of work goes in to getting a school to that standard. As a parent it is greatly appreciated. Every time I visit the school I am struck by what a positive atmosphere there is. My children are very happy at the school and are achieving their full potential.

Sent: 28 January 2025 17:23
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Re: IGS Ofsted Report

Dear Mrs Purnell
Enormous thanks from my family to you and your incredible staff.
What a brilliant ofsted report. Richly deserved and you must be so proud. I am delighted and thankful that my children are educated at IGS and being prepared to flourish in a challenging world.

I have one more child due to start in September 2026 so please keep up the good work!

IGS parent

Sent: 31 January 2025 18:37
To: Joshua Sykes (IGS)
Subject: Re: Congratulations!

Hi Mr Sykes,

We are obviously very proud of my son and the interest he has taken in languages. He worked hard to get through what was quite a stressful process for him.

We are also incredibly grateful for the hard work, professionalism, energy and enthusiasm that the teaching staff at IGS put in on a daily basis for my son and previously his brothers.

I don't want to jump the gun with a gushing email :), as you say the hard work for my son is to come in getting his grades.

However, I do appreciate how much work goes into teaching having various teachers and former teachers in the family. So in the meantime sincere thanks to you and your colleagues for helping to motivate and inspire my son and his brothers along the way.

Best regards

IGS parents

[Redacted signature]

Sent: 10 February 2025 09:40

To: Carly Purnell (IGS)

Subject: One of the best 7 word sentences ever

Morning Carly

I hope you are well and looking forward to some time to relax and rejuvenate over the half term break.

I just wanted to pass on my congratulations to you , SLT and the staff on a simply brilliant Ofsted outcome. You must all be deservedly very proud. The community is very lucky to have IGS.

The tone of the report clearly reflects how much the inspection team valued everyone's hard work and commitment to high expectations and high academic and personal outcomes. In particular, I thought the first 4 lines of the report totally captured the school's realised ambitions.

I trust you have celebrated in style.

Please pass on my best wishes to the team.

Former IGS Parent and Governor

[Redacted signature]



Les Misérables

All Saints Church of England Primary School

Sent: 10 February 2025

Hi Sue,

Please pass on our thanks to all the staff and pupils involved in the performance this morning - it was absolutely superb, and so inspiring! We were all so impressed with the voices, the production and the complexity of the staging! I asked one of the Y6 classes about whether they'd want to be involved in something like that in future and over 20 hands shot up - job done!

Best wishes,
Ed

[Redacted signature]

Burley Oaks Primary School

Sent: 10 February 2025

Dear Vic and Jessica,

Thank you so much for inviting us to the incredible performance of Les Miserable yesterday. Our pupils absolutely thought the show was fantastic and lots of them are inspired and fired up to join the drama/ music/ backstage/ anything IGS club! I found it a wonderful and really moving opportunity to see our ex-pupils perform with such confidence, talent and professionalism. What an incredible group of students you get to work with.

J was fantastic. Please feedback to him from me and so many of our pupils. From playing the Mad Hatter at BOPS to taking such a lead role- what amazing young man. It was so clear to see that he loves performing and I hope that he continues to do this.

It was fabulous to see and hear T and I! Wow- what confidence and so talented! L was loving life on that stage! A was great!

E was of course absolutely incredible. Her acting, singing, was off the scale! She so fabulous, you must be so proud on so many levels! Well done!!!!

Lots of our pupils are talking today about the Master of the House. I don't think I knew him but he was AMAZING! Such a character. He was a natural in that role! I loved him too!

Well done to all of the actors/ singers who took part. They were FABULOUS!

All of the musicians were exceptional. To play the whole score is such an achievement. They and you must have spent such a long time rehearsing. Our pupils wanted to know how much time you have dedicated to this!? Huge congratulations. Of course, huge congratulations to the backstage team who have worked so hard too.

More than anything, a wonderful sense of team and togetherness shone through. I could just see a gang of passionate young people working together, looking like they felt like the most amazing humans on earth. They clearly feel that they are embraced, supported and nurtured by you two incredible women. I hope that I have used enough 'fabulous' adjectives to convey my HUGE 'WELL DONE'!!!

So, my huge congratulations to you all. My apologies if I did not name anyone who I should have! I am quite simply blown away and inspired by you two and your gang of awesome people!

Yours sincerely
Lucy Ashton
Music Coordinator
Burley Oaks Primary School

Sent: 14 February 2025 09:34
To: Carly Purnell (IGS) Jessica Pymar (IGS)
Subject: Les Mis

Morning,

Year 6 came back really wowed by what they had seen on Monday and staff mentioned various ex pupils of BOPS who were simply fabulous. This morning I have also heard huge commendations from parents in the community. You must all be very proud.

A passion for music and performance is prioritised through the Burley Oaks curriculum and it is heartening to know that the skills and talents continue to be nurtured when they leave us.



I hope you all have a well-deserved break over half term.
Best wishes
Claire

Claire Lee
Headteacher, Burley Oaks,
Director of Primary, Moorlands Learning Trust (MLT)

Sent: 12 February 2025 00:58
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Mrs Purnell - Congratulations on the superb production

Dear Mrs Purnell,
Congratulations on the superb production!
I thought after having seen Grease last year that nothing could beat that production. But now all I can think of is outstanding and beyond. A massive thank you to all pupils performing, the brilliant orchestra and the crew behind the scenes as well as the teachers enabling such talents to be on stage.

Kind regards
IGS parent

Date: Tue, 11 Feb 2025, 23:04
Subject: Les Misérables

For the attention of the cast, orchestra, crew and production team of tonight's show.

I just can't go to bed without congratulating everyone involved in tonight's performance. It was absolutely magnificent from beginning to end. I've never seen a school show so polished and flawless.

I've seen Les Mis at least 26 times, many of them in the West End and your show was up there with the best of them. Such an ambitious undertaking for young people, but they nailed it!
The standing ovation was so well deserved.
My grandchildren attend your school. I was there with them.
Many thanks for a wonderful evening.
Best wishes

IGS grandparent

Sent: 12 February 2025 09:18
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Les Misérables

Good morning

I went to watch the show last night and I was totally blown away by the amazing quality of the show. The cast was outstanding, the singing was excellent and the lighting was spot on, the backstage support was so smooth.
Being French, I studied Les Misérables at school and the show brought me back to my GCSE years. The French accent of the cast was really good. Well done to everybody involved. I had a mega night, thank you to all of you!

Sent: 13 February 2025 10:45
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Les Mis

Hi

Please forward on to all involved!

I just wanted to say how absolutely incredible the Les Mis show was, it was so professional and the performances were superb, it was just amazing. Congratulations to everyone involved on stage, in the orchestra and otherwise, I hope everyone is proud of what they did, because they absolutely should be!

Thank you for a great evening
IGS parent

From: IGS parent

We had the privilege and absolute pleasure of watching the final performance of Les Mis last night.....and what a show!!

Every aspect was incredible - the singing, the orchestra, the set, the backstage crew. What a fantastic opportunity for the students to take part in. The dedication, commitment and enthusiasm was evident throughout. Well done to EVERYONE involved 😊.

Wishing everyone a well deserved half term.....and already looking forward to next year's production!

IGS parents

Sent: 13 February 2025 22:34
To: IGS Admin Email
Subject: Les Mis

Hello

I just wanted to add my voice to the many comments you'll have had about the show. It was terrific. So very impressive on all counts. As well as the obviously talented young people on stage, I was especially impressed with the orchestra's performance. That's no mean feat to play for all that time. Such a lot of notes to learn! The lighting, also, was exceptional. The technical team must have worked so hard.
So, thank you very much to all the staff who made it possible. Enjoy your half term!

IGS parent

Dear all,

Wow! What a performance we watched last night of Les Mis!
My husband and I were totally blown away with what the whole IGS team created and presented - it was truly amazing.

My son had told us how good it was, and I must admit I did say to him that the productions of Sound of Music and Grease take some beating, but the complexity of the performance was truly remarkable. The staging and lighting complimented beautifully the wonderful acting and singing performances from all students.

It was an emotional evening for many watching the show and I too, shed a tear or two, especially when it was announced that it is (very likely) my son's last show.

We do want to thank you all as well as Miss Ram, Miss Clift, Mr Grayson, for all your hard work and dedication to the creative arts at IGS. It has been a wonderful and happy experience for my son since yr 7, helping him to develop his skills and confidence. It has given him his love of music through his drumming, as well as musical theatre and live performance production, which he now wishes to pursue as a career.

Thank you again and wishing you a very restful half term.

Best wishes,
IGS parent

[Redacted signature]

Sent: 14 February 2025 13:16

To: IGS Admin Email

Subject: For The Attention of Mrs. Purnell - Congratulations

Hi Mrs Purnell,

Hope you are well.

We moved to Ilkley about 18 months ago, so my son joined at the beginning of Year 8 and my daughter moved up from Ashland's primary to Year 7 this year.

I just wanted to say a huge congratulations to and your team and staff for your recent Ofsted inspection result, as Outstanding in all areas is truly amazing (especially for a school of this size).

However, I am not surprised as my children have both thrived at the school so far and have settled in great academically and socially making new friends and enjoying the extra after school clubs also. There is a lovely open, positive and professional atmosphere within the school.

Continuing on the theme of Amazing, we were at the school production of Les Misérables last night (as my daughter was part of the year 7 group in the cast) and have to say my wife and I (and the children's grandparents) all thought it was exceptional. The level of talent, performance and attention to detail was up there with the best at West End level.

A huge congratulations to all the performers, the musicians, directors, and your staff for bringing it altogether so professionally. You could see it all meant so much to the kids on stage, supporting crew, and musicians and I am sure is something they will never forget and give them great confidence moving forward. I know my daughter loved being part of it and cannot wait until the next one.

Thanks, and well done again, you and your staff should be so proud of all these great achievements.

Hope you enjoy some rest over the half term.

IGS parent

[Redacted signature]

Hello,

I'm certain that will be one of many messages you've received with regards to the school Production of Les Mis but I could not let the impact of watching last night's (Thursday) performance go unsaid. I cannot stop thinking about it.

My daughter was in the ensemble, it has done wonders for her confidence, she's made many new friendships and has enjoyed every moment, there were even tears that it was all over! What an amazing experience for her and all involved.

It's my first experience of a school production at Ilkley Grammar and WOW what can I say! I was utterly blown away! It was absolutely incredible from start to finish and exceeded anything I could possibly imagine a school production would be. My 10-year-old son (who can't sit still for five minutes), had already seen it with Ashland's primary school Monday, and he sat engrossed again from start to finish. We all absolutely loved it and haven't stopped talking about it since. Please pass on our thanks to all the staff involved in what must have been a mammoth undertaking. Their hard work and dedication to our children shone through brightly and I'm so proud to know that my daughter was a part of it. She'll remember it for ever.

Thank you.

Kind regards

IGS parent

SKI TRIP THANK YOUS!

Hi,

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to you and all the other staff who went on the ski trip. The time, effort and support you put in both at the planning stage and during the week is very much appreciated.

My son had a fantastic time on the ski trip and is already discussing when he can go skiing again.

I hope you all get time to catch up on your sleep and get some down time before Monday.

Kind regards,

IGS parent

[Redacted]
Just to say a huge thank you to you and all the accompanying staff too for giving up your half term to give the children this incredible opportunity. Half term is precious time, and it's very much appreciated!

The ski trip was a highlight of my schooling (too long ago now!) and I am certain the boys have had the best experience too, despite the travel disruption; I just hope they weren't too much trouble!

Please pass on my thanks to all of the staff involved, and enjoy a lie in tomorrow!

Best Wishes

IGS parent

[Redacted]
Hi Mr Carr

Just wanted to send my sincere thanks for organising the year 8 ski trip to Italy last week. My daughter had a wonderful time and enjoyed every moment of it. She has never skied before but loved learning and conquering the slopes and ski lifts!

As a parent it is amazing to see your child embrace the opportunities that are offered to them, and for them to come home full of so much joy for the experiences that they have had. Thank you so much - and to all the other teachers involved, I hope you will pass my thanks on - for all your hard work and for fostering the trust and enthusiasm that has obviously made the trip such a success.

With kind regards,

IGS parent

[Redacted]
Good morning,

I just wanted to share our thanks and appreciation to all the fantastic staff who attended the Yr8 Ski Trip last week.

My son, had an amazing time progressing from never putting on a pair of skis to skiing down a black run! He saw countries he has never seen before, built many friendships and has made memories for life. As a teacher myself, I know how precious school holidays are so another heartfelt thank you for giving up all of your well-earned break.

A special mention has to go to the staff on the very delayed coach as I imagine by that point all were more than ready for home, my son included. Also to Mr Carr, for all of his organisation, regular communication and returning to IGS to again support in the very early hours on Sunday.

Many thanks to you all,

IGS parent

[Redacted]
Mr Carr please don't worry. We are so grateful that you and the rest of the staff have made this trip incredible for our son. A broken down bus and a late night is resilience building for the kids. Please send all the staff my sympathies and hope they are all tucked up in bed soon.
IGS parent

[Redacted]
Thank you so much for looking after my children so well, as well as all the other kids on the trip. Please thank all the teachers who gave up their time to make the trip possible. We really appreciate it!!!!

Many thanks

IGS parent

[Redacted]
Hello

Just wanted to say a big thank you to you and all the staff who went on the skiing trip.

It is such a wonderful experience for the kids and all of your efforts are very much appreciated.

Our son was surprisingly chatty when he got off the coach and it's clear he's had a great time, although might avoid coaches for a while!

Many thanks

IGS parents

[Redacted]
Hi Matt

Just a quick note to say a big thank you to you and the other teachers involved in the ski trip.

My son had an amazing time. He's definitely developed a love for skiing and more importantly had a week of making great memories with his school mates....I think a couple of coach breakdowns will just add to the stories to tell!

IGS parent

[Redacted signature]

Hi Matt,

Thank you for what sounds like a great skiing trip for my son and his friends over the half-term! My son has been filling us in and it sounds like he's had a brilliant time - we're all v jealous! Shame about the delay at the end but these things happen. Just hope you're not too exhausted as a result.

Thanks again. It means a lot knowing my son has had a great time and has been well looked after 😊

IGS parent

[Redacted signature]

Dear Mr Carr,

Just a short note to express my thanks for a great trip for my son.

Despite the early / late arrive back he stayed up animated telling us all about and had clearly had the best of time.

Chapeaux,

IGS parent.

[Redacted signature]

Hi Mr Carr,

I hope you are resting after the long trip back to Ilkley.

My daughter has had a wonderful time. Thank you so much to you and the other staff members for giving up your time to enable the yr 8 children to experience such a wonderful activity. You are all amazing members of IGS.

We are not skiers and therefore this trip has enabled my daughter to experience the joy of the slopes with friends. Happy memories have definitely been made.

Thank you once again and we hope you have a stress free half term back at school.

Kind regards

IGS parent

[Redacted signature]

Dear Mr Carr,

We just wanted to say a quick thank you to you and the teachers who were on the ski trip and gave up their half-term to take the pupils. My daughter had a fantastic week and although absolutely shattered has come home with loads of stories and feeling very proud of her ski-ing! A special thanks also to the teachers who were on the delayed coach and for your regular updates - both were very much appreciated. We hope you can all get some rest at least before term begins again,

Many thanks,

IGS parents

[Redacted signature]

Dear Mr Carr and the rest of the staff on the Year 8 ski trip,

We just wanted to write to say a huge thank you to you and the rest of the staff on the ski trip for giving up your half term, and all the time that will have been taken to plan beforehand, to give our son, and the rest of the children on the trip, such a memorable and valuable adventure.

We didn't hear too much from our son during the week (which we took to be a positive and that things were going well) but I did make a deal with him that he'd try and summarise each day on the trip with 3 words or phrases. These were so lovely to read from him and always positive. Some of my favourites were:

Powdery snow

Went to a new place to ski

Brilliant skiing

Epic jumps

Above the clouds

No falling over

Sunshine

My least favourite was 'minor emergency' but that turned out to be that they were temporarily locked out of their bedroom, rather than the broken leg I was imagining!

The journey home on the ill fated coach will have tested the patience, frustration tolerance and resilience of staff and children alike, and at one point, I did wonder whether my son's journey was going to rival his older brother's journey that included the Dover fiasco on the Easter trip 2 years ago. Thankfully, not quite! I can honestly say that the only text which was even remotely downbeat all week that we had from my son was the one which said, 'Mum the coach has broken again and it's the same problem that took 6 hours to fix in Germany.' I'm sure he wasn't the only one worried it was going to take as long to fix again!

My son is not the most confident of children and although he really wanted to be on the trip, he was very nervous beforehand. We kept telling him all week how proud we were of him managing being away from home and as he crawled into bed at 3.15am this morning he said something which brought tears to my eyes, 'I'm proud of me, too' before promptly falling fast asleep until after lunchtime!

I hope you all managed to get some rest today and that you all know how much your efforts are appreciated.

Best wishes

IGS parents

[Redacted signature]

Hi Mr Carr

We just wanted to say a massive thank you to you and to all the other teachers for organising and overseeing the ski trip this past week. My son's had a fantastic time and has now definitely been bitten by the ski bug. He wants to go again as soon as possible!

Managing everything and everyone during the eventful return trip must have been challenging, to say the least, but we really appreciate the calm way in which it was all handled and, judging from what my son has said, it was all part of the adventure in any case!

It was certainly a relief to pick my son up this morning but it definitely hasn't impacted on what sounds like a really enjoyable and fantastic week of skiing.

Thank you again.

Best regards

IGS parents

[Redacted signature]

Sent: 22 February 2025 22:18

To: IGS Admin Email

Subject: Ski trip

Hi,

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to you and all the other staff who went on the ski trip. The time, effort and support you put in both at the planning stage and during the week is very much appreciated.

My son had a fantastic time on the ski trip and is already discussing when he can go skiing again.

I hope you all get time to catch up on your sleep and get some down time before Monday.

Kind regards,

IGS parent

[Redacted signature]

Sent: 10 March 2025 21:47

To: Sue Varley (IGS)

Cc: Andrew Marshall (IGS) Adam Ewbank (IGS) ; Marie Wilson

Subject: Year 6 Visit to IGS

Dear Sue,

I wanted to say a huge thank you for our visit to IGS today.

The science activity was excellent and a perfect start to Science Week for our Year 6 children; they were all very engaged and motivated by the activity and thoroughly enjoyed using the Bunsen burners! This definitely provided them with an insight into the sorts of science they will encounter at secondary school and the environments in which they will be working.

The revamped idea for the tour of the school was also a definite hit. The children appreciated the opportunity for that extra bit of independence in an unusual setting and they were all able to access the challenges you and Adam had set for them.

This is the second time we have visited IGS during Science Week and I feel it adds a real enrichment to both our science work and our transition programme. I understand the additional workload that this must create during an already busy school calendar but this is very much appreciated and I would like to thank all of you for your kindness and support.

I look forward to our transition events later in the year.

Many thanks again.

Kind regards,

Peter



Spanish exchange

Sent: 01 April 2025 20:10

To: Carly Purnell (IGS) Matt Carr (IGS) Jamie Gutch (IGS)

Subject: Spanish Exchange

Dear All,

I would like to extend my thanks to all those involved in this year's Spanish Exchange: Kevin Kehoe, Matt Carr and all of the MFL staff members who accompanied the group to Madrid and helped welcome the Spanish students during their Ilkley stay. The preparation and work involved in these sorts of trips must be phenomenal, and so much of it no doubt carried out voluntarily in teachers' free time. The reward - for our youngsters - cannot easily be measured, but as parents, we can vouch for the joy, the cultural enrichment and the potentially lifelong friendships that this year's exchange has brought to our teenagers.

Once again, a huge 'gracias' to the MFL Department, and to IGS for providing this opportunity for our daughter and the rest of the group.

IGS parents



Sent: 01 April 2025 21:21

To: Carly Purnell (IGS) Matt Carr (IGS) Jamie Gutch (IGS) Kevin Kehoe (IGS)

Subject: Spanish exchange

Dear Ms Purnell,

My son recently participated in the Spanish exchange with school.

I wanted to email and let you know that I was so grateful to the teaching staff who organised the exchange - that is both the Spanish and return leg - I appreciate it must have been a lot of work and effort to make things run so smoothly.

My son had a fabulous experience in Spain and his partner and family went to great lengths to make sure he was happy and enjoyed his visit to their home. Mr Kehoe and other colleagues also went above and beyond and my son told me they made all the days out great fun. In addition, when Ryanair broke his suitcase, the teachers were amazing and sorted everything out swiftly so he didn't worry about it.

His exchange partner was really lovely and when he visited Ilkley on the return leg of the visit we took him to Whitby - the 199 steps, the abbey and the Dracula experience all followed by a walk down the beach to Sandsend and traditional fish and chips. We also took him to Malham tarn which he loved.

Mid way through the week I invited all 50 English and Spanish students to my house for a party. They had a ping pong tournament, lots of loud music and food. Not a single thing was spilt or broken! All of the kids were amazing - polite, fun and such a credit to their schools.

Many thanks for running such a fabulous scheme.

IGS parent



Sent: 08 May 2025 07:41

To: Cath Walsh (IGS); Alexander Fox (IGS); Robert Greening (IGS); Nathanael Adams (IGS); Joshua Sykes (IGS)

Cc: Carly Purnell (IGS)

Subject: Text message from year 13 leaver's parent

Hi Cath,

Forgive the long message, but it's extremely important that I express my gratitude to you and your colleagues for the extensive support you have given my child throughout their time at IGS . . .

Throughout my child's time they have been blessed to be supported by many amazing teachers and support staff. I especially wish to thank yourself, Mr Urwin (who often listened to and supported them through tough times), Mr Fox, Mr Greening, Mr Sykes, Mr N Adams. I could go on, but sadly I do not know everyone's names.

I know that without the support of all of you my child would probably have left 6th form last year without getting to the optimum place where I feel they currently reside, in readiness for moving on to University.

My child has had some excellent examples of positive role models, and I wish to remind all of you that the smallest interaction can sometimes have a massive impact on a pupils/student's life.

Sadly, it's a very polarised society we seem to be living in at the moment, and yet I have seen my child battle prejudice and ignorance amongst peers and adults alike, to become the person they are. Without the support of you and your colleagues, these battles would have been significantly harder for them. As a proud father I can honestly say that in all my years I have never met anyone so brave at such a young age.

I know us public sector workers often receive a bad press despite our very best efforts, so I just want to emphasise my gratitude, and to state that certainly in my child's case, you have all made a significant impact on a young person's life, and you should all be very proud of a job very well done

Warmest regards and gratitude forever,

IGS parent

Sent: 19 May 2025 11:09

To: IGS Office

Subject: Feedback Dr Marshall - Chemistry

Good morning.

I wanted to share feedback my son has just given me on Dr Marshall. (he doesn't know I am sending this email)

My son stated that Dr Marshall is an absolutely exceptional teacher. The greatest of all time. Anyone who knows my son knows he does not speak in this way about anyone (apart from his business studies teacher) but I felt it should be passed on. He came out of the exam happy and I would like to thank Dr Marshall for giving my son the love of chemistry which he now seems to have found.

Have a great day.

Regards

IGS parent

Sent: 21 May 2025 09:25

To: Sue Varley (IGS)

Subject: Nice praise

On the note of teachers I would like to express how impressed I was at parent's evening with all your teaching staff. The very in-depth knowledge of my child and his understanding, some of your teaching staff were on point and aware the best way to assist him in his learning. I was impressed a well organised event I have been meaning to send on this email since parents evening.

A point I have meaning to express was how extremely impressed with Mrs Brown's understanding and insight into how to achieve the best out of my child with his dyslexia. Since he has been in Mrs Brown's class it's the first time in years that he hasn't got worked up, stressed, emotionally distressed or in tears about English. This is all to the credit of Mrs Brown and the relationship she has built with him.