



PARENT/CARER BULLETIN

Friday 23rd May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this half-term, I'd like to again take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to reflect on what has been a particularly positive and eventful few weeks at school.

The recent spell of warm, sunny weather has certainly lifted everyone's spirits. It's been lovely to see students enjoying the sunshine, whether at break, lunch, in PE lessons, or after school activities. There's been a real sense of energy around the school.



We've been especially proud of our year 11 and sixth form students who are currently sitting their GCSE, AS and A-Level examinations. Their focus, determination, and mature approach to what can be a stressful time have been very impressive. The Armitage Hall has been a hive of activity, with year 11 students revising together, sharing ideas, and encouraging each other. Their efforts have been fuelled, both mentally and physically, by generous donations of tea, coffee, hot chocolate, and a wide variety of snacks from parents, carers, and Ilkley Town. Thank you for helping to create such a supportive environment.



One of the real highlights of this half-term has been our outstanding success at the regional football finals held at Leeds Beckett University. Reaching another seven finals is a fantastic achievement, bringing the football total this year to 8, and something of which we can all be incredibly proud. Every team – from year 7 to post-16 - has represented the school brilliantly, and we celebrate the success of everyone who took part. We're also delighted that four of those teams went on to bring home the trophy back to IGS.

I was fortunate to be able to watch four finals and cheer on our year 7 boys' and girls' football teams, as well as our year 11 boys' and girls' teams. Each team played with skill, determination, resilience, and pride, and it was a pleasure to support them from the dugout and see them in action.

The year 7 girls' team reached two finals in their first year – a truly outstanding achievement. Although they finished runners-up in both, they can be immensely proud of their efforts, particularly in two close matches against a strong Cardinal Heenan side. The year 7 boys' A team were crowned Leeds League champions after an excellent, skilful performance against Horsforth, while the year 11 boys' team won the Champion of Champions Cup following a hard-fought victory over Morley Academy. It was a particularly poignant occasion for the year 11 boys, as it marked the last time they will play together as a team for the school. Following the year 10 girls' victory in the West Yorkshire Cup Final last term and buoyed by their convincing victory against Morley Academy in the Leeds Cup a week earlier, our year 11 girls' team, which includes some year 10 players, also brought their school football journey to a memorable close, winning the Leeds Merit League final 11–3 against Prince Henry's. Across their League and Cup finals this year, the year 11 girls' team scored an extraordinary 22 goals - a phenomenal achievement. A special mention must go to the team's exceptional record: winning the league and cup double for the third consecutive year! Congratulations to all the talented players and to their dedicated coach, now affectionately known as Ms "Pep" Vangenechten! A full write up of all matches with accompanying photos will be included in the next parent, carer bulletin.



Due to our dominant presence at the finals, we were invited to take part in an interview with BBC Radio Leeds, which aired on Friday 16th May at 6:45pm. Year 11 student, Matilda Tricklebank, and year 7 student, Alfie Etherington, alongside Robin Burton, Curriculum Leader for PE, did a fantastic job representing the school. They were articulate, enthusiastic, and real ambassadors for both sport and Ilkley Grammar School. If you missed it, you can listen back on [BBC Sounds](#); IGS are on after 46 minutes.

As always, our students continue to impress us - not only on the pitch or in exams, but in the way they support one another and contribute to the life of the school.

A reminder that school closes for half-term at 3pm today and re-opens on Monday 2nd June – week A. NB: Please note, that reception is not manned over the holiday period; the admin@igs.mlt.co.uk email will be checked periodically but emails will not be forward to staff until after the holiday. If there is an urgent safeguarding issue, please contact school via the website, clicking on the safeguarding link.

Have a lovely half-term break.

Carly Purnell



Headteacher's Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Headteacher Award over the last fortnight: Eliza Browne 7GET; Iris Doherty 7JJS; Anna Hill 8JOW; Maisie Nuttall 8JJM; Max Blyth 9GMS; George Charlton 9JLL; Grace Hartley 9JDA; Beatrice Ritson 9PDH; Emily Benn 10NRP; Dylan Moore 10AJM; Oscar Beedham 12LDS; Daisy Nelson 12JM; Orla Murray 12KF; Taida Czwaczka 12JM

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.



Royal Society of Chemistry Analyst competition



Twenty-seven year 12 chemistry students recently took part in the annual Royal Society of Chemistry Analyst competition. The theme of the competition was the identification of contaminants in soil samples from a former industrial site. Working in teams, they applied their practical skills to perform a series of analytical tests, including flame tests, titrations and thin layer chromatography. Results are in the process of being submitted ahead of the June deadline, after which we will eagerly await the announcement of the winning team!

Etihad Stadium Tour

On Tuesday 13th May, we took 98 year 10 students over to Manchester to visit the Etihad Stadium for a tour and a presentation about the 'stadium as a business'. The day went brilliantly, and our students were exceptional throughout. The tour staff even made a point of coming out to tell us that we were one of the best school groups they'd ever had! When asked about the trip, Jacob Wood (10EAL) said:

"The day was a very well organised and enjoyable experience. I learned how a professional football club functioned and what goes on in the stadium daily that an ordinary person would not see. Additionally, I learned where the business gets all of their profits from and that only 5% of the profits come from matchdays. Overall, I would say that the Etihad trip was a great experience and the information I retained will help with my business/mathematical skills. I would definitely recommend the Etihad trip to others."



YEAR 13'S LAST DAY: FRIDAY 9TH MAY 2025



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FANTASTIC
YEAR 13 STUDENTS WHO CELEBRATED
THEIR LAST DAY ON 9TH MAY 2025. WE
WISH THEM ALL THE VERY BEST OF LUCK
IN THEIR EXAMS!



PRIDE



RESPECT



COURAGE



RESPONSIBILITY



KINDNESS



RESILIENCE



IGS Art Auction - submission deadline is the end of the first week back after half term (6th June)

Calling all artists
parents/carers/students/staff



IGS Creative Arts
Festival 2025

Use this form to
donate artwork:



Submit by the 6th June!

All art is TRANSFORMATION

Could your creativity help us to raise money to transform our school?

Do you have an artwork you can donate for auction?

Do you want to see what someone might be willing to pay for your artwork?

Submit artwork here: <https://forms.office.com/e/uC8fNxk7bu>

Delivered by the IGS PTA - Supporting the IGS Enrichment Fund

How will the auction work?

1. Fill out an artwork submission form <https://forms.office.com/e/uC8fNxk7bu>

- Name, title, medium, size and guide price and confirming (if required) that you have permission to donate.
- All artwork donated must be suitable for a school environment.

2. Deliver artwork by Fridayth 6 June

- **Students/staff** Deliver the artwork to Mrs Harris in her Art room on A Floor
- **Parents/carers** Deliver the artwork to IGS reception

3. Exhibition and cataloguing of work

- Work will be exhibited in B8 during each of the Creative Arts Evenings (1st, 2nd, 3rd July) and will then be available online via Galabid
- Work will be catalogued on the Galabid website, and each artwork will have its own unique QR code to make bidding easy.

4. Bidding for artworks

- This will be a 'silent auction' using the online bidding platform Galabid.
- Parents/carers will need to sign up to the online platform to participate – full instructions will be provided
- Students can only bid via a parent/carer
- Parents/carers can make a bid in person at the launch event on the evening of the 1st July and online bidding will remain open until the 10th July.
- A bid will be a commitment to buy the artwork at that price if yours is the highest bid
- The online portal will always show the latest bid.
- The auction will close on the 10th of July after which time successful bidders will be informed, and payment requested.

5. Payment and pick up

- You will be notified if your bid is successful, and an invoice will be generated automatically
- There will be a small 1.2% charge payable to Stripe which will be automatically included in your bid.
- There will also be the option to 'tip' Galabid to support the running of the platform.
- There will be the usual payment options available on the Galabid platform (e.g. Visa, mastercard etc.)
- Artworks will be available for collection from Reception from the 10th July once payment has been made.

Use this form to
donate artwork:



Art form submission: <https://forms.office.com/e/uC8fNxk7bu>



Sport Updates

England Hockey Awards Nomination for IGS Alumnus!



Congratulations to Harmanpreet Sandhu who has been nominated for the England Hockey Rising Star Award 2025!

Harmanpreet was a previous 'Blue Tie' at IGS who completed his A-levels and left IGS in July 2024.

The awards ceremony is on 7th June, and we wish Harmanpreet all the very best success in his hockey career!



IGS Tennis Team LTA HG Div 1 league results

The IGS tennis teams have enjoyed their first LTA HG Division 1 league fixtures vs Harrogate Grammar School. Well done to all students involved, it has been great to get on court again and offer so many debuts not only to new year 7 students, but many new players in years 8 and 9 who have worked hard developing their tennis skills over recent years!

Results for Harrogate vs Ilkley Division 1 matches:

Girls' year 9/10 Harrogate 10 - 2 Ilkley

Girls' year 7/8 Harrogate 0 - 12 Ilkley

Boys' year 9/10 Harrogate 4 - 8 Ilkley

Boys' year 7/8 Harrogate 10 - 2 Ilkley



Music News

Fresh off the back of performing at the Ilkley Lido 90th anniversary event, IGS bands Ayrborne (Anya S (vocals), Amelia N (vocals), John-James A (lead guitar), Sullivan L (drums), Sam N (rhythm guitar), Tom M (keyboard) and Arthur R (bass guitar) - all year 9) and DukTape (Sam W, (vocals/guitar), James N (drums) - both year 11 and Finlay C (bass guitar) - year 13) will perform at a new gig series presented by Slam Dunk and Launchpad at The Wardrobe on Saturday 21st June 2025 at 7:30pm. Tickets are £8 (+ booking fee) and under 14s are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent/carer. The gig will feature three other school aged bands alongside Ayrborne and DukTape with all of the bands involved presenting a 20-minute set of original material.

<https://www.launchpad-music.com/events/u18sgig>



Ilkley Pride takes place on Saturday 28th June at the King's Hall and Winter Garden and this year DukTape (IGS BOTB Winners 2024) will perform a 25-minute set in the afternoon alongside a whole host of other exciting acts. Tickets are available now: U-18 tickets are free and adult tickets are £5 (+booking fee).

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ilkley-pride-2025-tickets-1329706821899?scrlybrkr=b411e09d>

All of the IGS bands are busy preparing for their Creative Arts Festival performance on Thursday 3rd July 2025. This will be a great showcase of the full range of bands that are rehearsing together with many of them busy composing and rehearsing their own original songs alongside covers as well. We look forward to seeing you at a gig soon!



Eco-iLeaders: No Mow May Photo Competition

IGS is participating in No Mow May again this year

We are letting all the grass around school grow by not mowing for a whole month!

Why are we doing this?

- The UK has lost approximately 97% of flower -rich meadows, including vital food needed by pollinators, since the 1930's.
- Our school (and your lawn at home) can help! A healthy lawn with some long grass and wildflowers benefits wildlife, tackles pollution and can even lock away carbon below ground. With over 20 million gardens in the UK, even the smallest grassy patches add up to a significant proportion of land.



Power to the Flowers



Search 'No Mow May' & register your lawn or green space too!

PHOTO COMPETITION!

This year the Eco-iLeaders will award PRIZES TO THE BEST 3 PHOTOS of the school's wild flowers during No Mow May.

Send your entries to eco@igs.mlb.co.uk by Sunday 1st June

1st Prize - £30 voucher
2nd Prize - £20 voucher
3rd Prize - £10 voucher



SLAM DUNK & LAUNCHPAD PRESENT:

DUKTAPE

VERTIGO

ROADKILL

THE BELLATONES

&

AYRBORNE

21ST JUNE 2025

THE WARDROBE



£8 ENTRY

Launchpad



Funded by UK Government

YOUTH MUSIC



LOTTERY FUNDED

Supporting young people's creativity

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



Leeds CITY COUNCIL



PPL



Music Leeds



PRS Foundation

Talent Development Network



PPL



CITY OF BRADFORD



West Yorkshire Combined Authority

Tracy Brabin Mayor of West Yorkshire