

Newsletter 2 May 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer

I hope those of you who attended the drama department's production of "Teechers" enjoyed it as much and I did. Students put on a brilliant performance which was hilarious at times, even though it was occasionally a little colourful in its language! I know I, and the teachers who attended, found some of the characterisations and situations very funny. Thank you to the drama department, and especially Mr Francis, for their hard work supporting this outstanding opportunity for our students.

This week also saw another brilliant event for our students: well done to the amazing group of Year 7s who went to the Living Sport Colour Run on Thursday, supported by Miss Sherwood and Mrs Webster. They tell me they were absolutely awesome in all their confidence and team challenges. Photos can be found below.

Sixth form refurbishment update

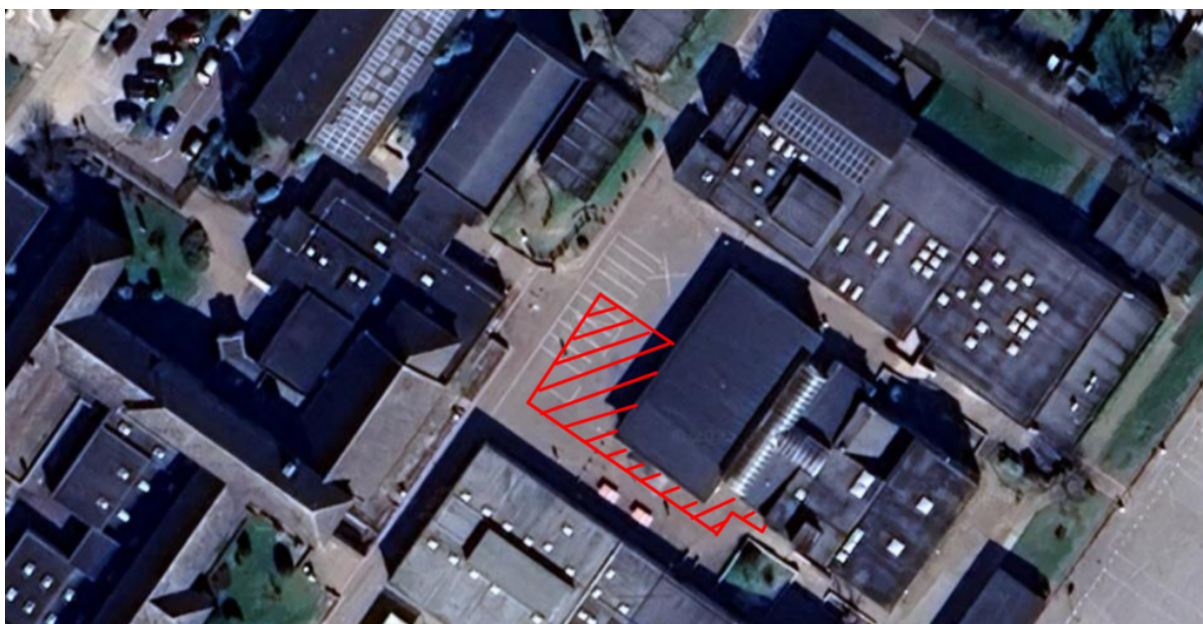
Our exciting sixth form development has moved another significant step forward!

Monday saw the appointment, following a procurement process, of Roka (<https://www.weareroka.com/>) to undertake the sixth form works. Roka has considerable experience in high-end fit-out projects and are truly excited to provide a safe, inclusive and exceptional environment for St Ivo students.

Sam Cooper Roka MD started out with 8 build, an office fit-out market leader and wanted to provide this kind approach to other markets, most notably in education where a crossover of quality and condensed programmes is key to project success.

Roka will begin to come on site next week, with hoarding going up in the resource centre playground for their works compound. Once the hoarding has been erected, we will start to practice fire drills to ensure that our adapted evacuation procedures work as well in practice as we have planned. In addition, a new external door for the pastoral office will be fitted over the coming weeks to enable student access to their year teams before "The Street" is also handed over to the contractors; access to the resource centre for sixth form students will continue to be via the external door to the playground.

Here is a diagram showing the position of the contractor compound on site:



In the pre-start meeting on Wednesday this week, it was agreed that the vast majority of deliveries onto site will occur before 8am, with other ad hoc transport onto site being fully supervised by staff. I want to reassure Year 11 and 13 parents/ carers that Roka has a detailed copy of our summer examination timetable and understand the need for low-volume work during these times.

Year 9 morning line-up will move to the Year 11's space on the basketball courts from Tuesday 6 May 2025, and Year 11 will either use the Craft playground to enter the main hall for exams, the service road behind the canteen to enter the gym for exams, or go straight to morning tutor if they have no exams in the morning.

VE Day

Next Thursday, 8 May 2025 is VE (Victory in Europe) Day; a few students have contacted me to ask whether they would be able to wear their cadet uniforms on this day. As always, the school is very supportive of such requests on these important dates.

We would like to reinforce the guidance that students travelling to or from school by foot or on public transport (not by car) either cover their uniform or change once in school.

Details about how to watch the flypast and procession on 5 May 2025 can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-watch-the-2025-victory-in-europe-ve-day-celebrations>

Hot weather

Although it appears that this week's excellent weather is going to be missing next week, please can we ask that parents/ carers ensure that their children have a water bottle with them so that they can keep hydrated during the day. While the school does have a limited number of cups for students being seen by first aid, proving them on a general basis for anyone to get a drink is not manageable (or environmentally friendly).

Unless the weather improves dramatically during the build-up to May half term, it is normally after the half-term break that we allow students to not wear their blazers in and around school. For the moment, we will naturally respond to the weather on a day-by-day basis by not requiring students to wear their blazers during break or lunch and being allowed to remove them in lessons after talking to their teacher, if it becomes warm. If the long-term weather forecast does improve significantly, we will write to parents/ carers to update them on our uniform expectations. Please can we reiterate that if students are feeling warm then the black jumper should be removed as it is the optional part of the uniform; students continuing to wear their jumper instead of their blazer run the risk of having the former confiscated. Also a reminder that students choosing to wear shorts must be wearing St Ivo PE shorts. These can be the 'old style' black ones with the logo or the new style black with a maroon stripe.

Staffing changes

One of our long-term supply teachers in English, Miss Taylor, left us at the end of last week. We completely understand that this is far from ideal, but please bear with us as cover is put in place, coordinated by the English department leadership, whilst we are supporting the final push for our Year 11 and 13 students. When the exams are over, we will aim to re-organise our English staffing resources to ensure these covered classes are then taught by subject specialists from the department.

Finally, I wish everyone a break bank holiday (hoping the weather forecast improves a little), and we'll see everyone back in school on Tuesday 6 May 2025. Have a great weekend!

Yours faithfully

Tony Meneagh

Principal

Year 12 parents'/ carers' evening

Parents' evening will be held online on Thursday 15 May from 4.00pm-7.30pm.

Appointments can be booked via [SchoolCloud – St Ivo Academy](#). Booking open on Tuesday 6 April at 6am, and will close at 8am on Tuesday 13 April. If you have any difficulties using the online platform, please contact the school office.

On the evening itself, please once again log on to [SchoolCloud](#) then click the "join video appointments" button. The system will then load your appointments, please see <https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call> for further information. You can use most phones, tablets, laptops etc to access this service. Please note that in order for the evening to run to time, calls will automatically cut off at the given end time (there will be a countdown on your screen).

Year 7 Colour Run

Well done to the amazing group of Year 7s that went to the Living Sport Colour Run on Wednesday. You were awesome in all of the confidence and team building challenges!







Junior Maths

Challenge

This week 52 incredibly talented mathematicians across years 7 and 8 volunteered to take part in the UKMT junior maths challenge. We are very proud of the curiosity and scholarship demonstrated by all those who took part and look forward to celebrating their success when results come in.