

# Newsletter 4 April 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer

As we come to the end of this term, I want to thank all our amazing staff for their hard work this term, and our students for their dedication to their studies during this time. I wish you a very relaxing and well-deserved Easter break and look forward to seeing everyone when we return on Tuesday 22 April 2025.

## Start of term assemblies and heads of house

I am very pleased to announce that we now have a full compliment of heads of house in the school. These are:

- Bridge House (Green) = **Mr Blackman**
- Crosier House (Purple) = **Miss McAdam**
- Leger House (Red) = **Ms Hart**
- River House (Blue) = **Mrs Weaver**
- Wheatsheaf House (Gold) = **Mr Kennedy**

Our start of term assemblies on Tuesday 22 April 2025 will focus on the house system and leadership opportunities for students. As we are entering our important exam preparation period we will running the assemblies only during tutorial time and we will cover the additional tutorial work building on this during other tutorials.

- *AM Tutorial:* Year 7 and 8 in the sports hall
- *PM (early) Tutorial:* Year 10
- *PM (late) Tutorial:* Year 9

Although we won't be using period 1 this time due to exam preparation for additional tutorial work, it is good to reflect on the positive responses we received from sixth form students for the team work activities they completed at the start of last half term:

*"Great activity with my peers."*

*"Jumping through the hoop was very fun and bond-building – thoroughly enjoyed!"*

*"The hoop games was fun, it made us very competitive."*

*"I cooked on the marshmallow tower, and we won so the marshmallow reward was well deserved and tasty."*

*"It was nice to talk to some people I hadn't spoken to much and overall it was a nice, fun experience."*

*"Teamwork makes the dreamwork guys!"*

## Easter classes

To support students with their preparation for their summer exams, the following classes will be happening over Easter:

**Year 11:**

Monday 7 April

- Art and Textiles: 9.30am – 2.30pm in C6, C11, C12, C13, C15
- Dance: 9.00am – 3.00pm in Dance Studio
- Drama Script work: 9.30am – 3.00pm in P23
- English (Ms Stewart's group only): 10.00am – 1.00pm in L3

Tuesday 8 April

- Art and Textiles: 9.30am – 2.30pm in C6, C11, C12, C13, C15
- Child Development: 10.00am – 2.00pm in C7
- Computer Science Paper 1: 10.00am – 12.00pm in 24
- Drama Script work: 9.30am – 3.00pm in P23
- Geography Paper 2: 9.00am – 11.00am in geography dept
- Maths Higher: 10.00am – 12.00pm in maths dept
- Maths Foundation (4/5 borderline): 1.00pm – 3.00pm in maths dept

Wednesday 9 April

- Computer Science Paper 2: 10.00am – 12.00pm in room 24
- Drama Coursework: 9.30am – 3.00pm in room 25
- Film Studies: 10.00am – 2.00pm in Resource Centre
- PE: 10.00am – 12.00pm in room 16
- Technology: 9.00am – 3.00pm in C17, C19, C20

Thursday 10 April

- History (Superpowers paper): 9.00am – 11.00am in N2

Friday 11, Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 April

- English Pet-Xi (invite only): 9.00am – 3.00pm in room 11
- Mathematics Pet-Xi (invite only): 9.00am – 3.00pm in rooms 9 and 10

**Year 13:**

Monday 7 April

- Art and Photography: 9.30am – 2.30pm in C10, C8
- Computer Science P1/P2: 10.00am – 3.00pm
- Media Studies: 1.00pm – 4.00pm in C8

Tuesday 8 April

- Art and Photography: 9.30am – 2.30pm in C10, C8

- Politics- Paper 3 USA/Comparative Politics: via Teams
- Physical Geography: 11.00am – 1.00pm in N16

Wednesday 9 April

- PE (coursework): 10.00am – 12.00pm and/or 12.00pm – 2.00pm in room 9
- Media Studies (coursework): 9.00am – 12.00pm

Thursday 10 April

- History (Pitt to Peel): 11.15am – 1.00pm in N2
- Human Geography: 9.00am – 11.00am in room 23

### **Sixth form refurbishment update**

It was great to welcome a number of contractors this week to look around the school and in particular the sixth form block. It was really great to hear their feedback that this is definitely a 'do-able' request in the schedule of works suggested. However, it looks like the overall timeframe from ordering to delivering the internal three-storey lift may have to be pushed back until October half term (it would be available before, but would need to be installed when students are not on site).

### **Equipment purchasing**

The Easter holidays is a perfect time to ensure you child is fully equipped for the summer term.

Whilst the majority of the school's required equipment (as detailed in the Behaviour Policy) is relatively easy to obtain, we understand that the mini-whiteboard and the reading ruler are little more 'niche'. This is the reason why we provided all students, free of charge, with this equipment this year. However, some students have lost the ones



provided, so will need to replace these.

To help with this, we have launched a shop on MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) to purchase these items. If you log on to MCAS and go to school shop, and then select the Equipment category you can purchase a mini-whiteboard and pen for \$1.50 and/ or a reading ruler for £1. Any orders placed over the Easter holidays will be delivered to students during the first week back.

Of course, you don't have to purchase this equipment from us, many other suppliers are available and parents/ carers may choose to purchase them elsewhere or via online stores at different price points. Here's just one example that I was able to find of the reading rulers by searching for dyslexic overlays/ reading

rulers: [https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B0BXPXF2RM?ref=ppx\\_yo2ov\\_dt\\_b\\_fed\\_asin\\_title](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B0BXPXF2RM?ref=ppx_yo2ov_dt_b_fed_asin_title)

### **Uniform reminders**

As we approach the summer term, I thought it was important to give you an update with regards uniform. As the weather gets warmer, I wanted to remind you of what students are able to wear as part of their PE uniform on the days they have PE and dance.

- **Shorts:** Students choosing to wear shorts after the Easter break must be wearing St Ivo school PE shorts, these can be old style black ones with the logo or the new style black with a maroon stripe. Students without school shorts will be expected to wear their track pants or leggings. Unfortunately, we will not be able to lend shorts so you must ensure you have your own school shorts after the break if you wish to wear them.
- **Skorts:** Students in years 8 to 11 can continue to wear their skorts should they wish to do so. If they need a new skort there is still a limited quantity available from our Price and Buckland stock.
- **Hoodies and quarter zips:** Students in years 8 to 11 are able to wear either the PE hoodie or the quarter zip as part of their uniform. Students in year 7 should have the black quarter zip only. Some students have started to wear black sweatshirts or the maroon v-neck jumpers as replacements for these. Students have been reminded that these items are not part of the PE uniform and they should not be wearing them on PE days.
- **Ties:** A few students in years 8 to 10 have misplaced their year group ties. Can we please ask for your support in checking whether your child has their year group tie, if not can we ask that the tie is replaced to ensure they have the appropriate uniform for school. Tie colour reminder: Year 7 = Blue stripe, Year 8 = Silver stripe, Year 9 = Green stripe, Year 10 = Yellow/ gold stripe, Year 11 = old-style tie
- **Shoes:** We still have a significant period of the school year left so can we ask you to check your child's school shoes are still fit for purpose and where necessary look to replace these to ensure your child does not arrive wearing their trainers.
- **Blazer:** All students should have their blazer with them everyday and should be wearing it as part of their uniform.

If you are needing to replace any items, the following information may be useful:

- **Price and Buckland stock (years 8 to 10):** Please use the school function on the MyChildAtSchool app to order items available. All sizes and items left will be shared through the app. If you order anything from here, we will ensure your child receives in on the first few days of the new term.
- **Chroma Sports stock (years 7 to 10):** If you need to order a new tie the following link will help with this, once on the page you can select the appropriate colour:  
St Ivo Academy Year Tie

If you wish to order the new style PE shorts, quarter zip, leggings, track pants or T-shirt they can be found using the following link: <https://www.chromasport.co.uk/shop/st-ivo-academy> When using ChromaSports, you can use the school as the delivery address and this will mean you do not incur the cost of delivery. We will then distribute to your child at the start of term.

### **New staff joining us**

Next term we welcome three new members of staff:

- Mrs Francis will be joining the English department, which will allow us to reduce some of our supply provision there due to maternity leave.
- Miss Brasher and Mrs Peers will be joining the school as cover supervisors, and this will support consistent expectations and improve fair implementation of policies across the school; something which isn't always easy to achieve with external supply teachers.

### **Parent engagement minutes**

It was great to meet with a selection of parents at the parent engagement evening on Monday 24 March 2025, to answer their pre-supplied questions and other questions raised in the meeting itself.

A copy of the questions and answers can be found here: <https://www.astreastivo.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Parent-Engagement-20250324.pdf>

### **PAC membership update**

The PAC membership has changed recently with the resignation of Glen Sharp. I would like to thank Glen publicly for his work with the PAC, the time he has volunteered to this, and the suggestions and advice he has provided to the school.

The PAC is particularly interested in recruiting current year 7 (and year 12) parents who would like to join. If you are interested in becoming a PAC member, please complete our Microsoft Form on the PAC membership page: <https://www.astreastivo.org/pac-membership/>

### **New website consultation**

The Trust are investing in the development of all school websites and have chosen to work with RealSmart to deliver this project. Examples of their website designs can be found at <http://realsmart.co.uk/school-websites/secondary-school-websites/>

The Trust is currently collating feedback from schools on what they want from the new design and structure, but as the main user/ consumer of our website content, I would really like your feedback on the drawbacks of our current site and opportunities for improvement.

Comments and feedback on the current website, and the samples from RealSmart, should be sent to [consult@astreastivo.org](mailto:consult@astreastivo.org) by Monday 28 April 2025.

### **Last call for draft Anti-Bullying Policy feedback**

Just a short reminder that we requested feedback on the updated draft Anti-Bullying Policy in my newsletter on <https://www.astreastivo.org/newsletter-21-march-2025/>. Here's another copy of the draft for ease of reference: <https://www.astreastivo.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/St-Ivo-Academy-Anti-bullying-Policy-2024-25.pdf>

Comments and feedback on the policy should be sent to: [consult@astreastivo.org](mailto:consult@astreastivo.org)

### **Year 11 and 13 summer study leave and leaving assemblies**

#### **Year 11:**

The last exam for *all* students is the science (physics) exam on 16 June 2025, with a couple of smaller exams for some students on 17 and 18 June 2025 as well. However, the exam board contingency day is Wednesday 25 June 2025 when all students need to be available in case any of the exams need to be rescheduled. Please can we ask that you do not book any holidays or events that would prevent your child being able to be in school before (and including) this date.

Year 11 are expected to continue attending all lessons until their subjects have finished, and the school will be delivering bespoke sessions during the time of finished classes to prepare for remaining exams. An individualised programme of study and attendance during the exam period will be provided earlier next term.

Please note that expected attendance throughout the exam period will count towards students' "Passport to Prom" and students whose attendance drops during these final weeks run the risk of not being invited.

As the exam weeks are so important, we also ask that parents/ carers do not arrange for non-urgent/ routine dentist or medical appointments during this period as these will not be authorised; there will be plenty of time to arrange these after the exams have finished. Students who wish to attend between 16 June 2025 and Friday 27 June 2025, after the vast majority of exams have finished, should inform the school in advance and a study room will be provided, but all lessons will have ended by that point.

Year 11 will have their leaving assembly on Friday 23 May between 12.45pm and 1.30pm.

#### **Year 13:**

Year 13 study leave will start on Monday 2 June 2025; however, lessons will continue for those who wish to attend until the last exam in each subject.

Year 13 will have their leaving assembly between 12.00pm and 12.45pm on Friday 23 May 2025.

Finally, have a great Easter break.

Yours faithfully

**Tony Meneagh**

**Principal**

## Year 7 parents'/ carers' evening

Parents' evening will be held online on Thursday 1 May from 4.00pm-7.30pm.

Appointments can be booked via [SchoolCloud – St Ivo Academy](#). Booking open on Wednesday 23 April at 6am, and will close at 8am on Tuesday 29 April. If you have any difficulties using the online platform, please contact the school office.

If you wish to book an appointment for dance, please note that Miss McAdam teaches every student in year 7. We therefore kindly ask that you only book an appointment to see her if your child has particular interest in dance for further progression.

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).

## Clubs timetable for the summer term

Day	What's on?	Who?	When is it?	Where is it?	Staff Contact
Monday	GCSE Art	Yr 10 and 11	3pm – 4pm	C6	Mrs Harness
Monday	Girls Cricket	Yr 7 – 10	3pm – 4pm week B only	Rec Centre	Mrs Nisbet
Monday	KS4 Computer Science programming Club	Yr 10	3.15pm – 4 pm	24	Mr Hill
Monday	Reflex Dance Company	Yr 7, 8 and 9 invitation only	3pm – 4.15 pm	Dance Studio	Miss McAdam
Monday	Orchestra	Yr 7 – 13	3.15pm – 4.00pm	L5	Mrs Drummond
Monday	Senior Dance Club	Yr 10, 11, 12, 13	3.00pm – 3.45pm	Dance Studio	Mrs Notarnicola

Tuesday	Homework Club	Yr 7 – 11	3pm – 4pm	25	Mr West
Tuesday	Cricket Club	Yr 7 -9	Lunchtime	Rec Centre	Mr Farr
Wednesday	GCSE Art	Yr 10 and 11	3pm – 4pm	C6	Mrs Harness
Wednesday	Homework Club	Yr 7 – 11	3pm – 4pm	25	Mr West
Wednesday	Newspaper Club	Yr 7 – 13	Lunchtime	25	Ms Bentley
Wednesday	Christian Union	Yr 7 – 13	Lunchtime	C17	Mrs Seekings
Wednesday	GCSE Table Tennis	Yr 10 invite only	Lunchtime	Table Tennis Hall	Mr Cook
Wednesday	Food Club	Yr 9 – limited spaces	Lunchtime	C2	Mrs Evans
Wednesday	Junior Dance Club	Yr 7, 8 and 9	3pm – 4 pm	Dance Studio	Miss McAdam
Wednesday	Coding for Gamers Club	Yr 7, 8 and 9	3.15pm – 4pm	Room 24	Mr Hill
Wednesday	Steel Pans	Yr7 – 13	Lunchtime	L5	Mrs Miller
Wednesday	Choir	Yr 7 – 13	Lunchtime	School Hall	Mrs Drummond and Miss Yip
Wednesday	Girls Sport Fixtures		3pm – 5pm		
Wednesday	Eco-Ivo	Yr 7 – 13	Lunchtime	N13	Mrs Westbrook
Thursday	Trampolining	Yr 7 – 13	Lunchtime	Gym	Mr Farr
Thursday	Homework Club	Yr 7 – 11	3pm – 4pm	25	Mr West
Thursday	6th Form Volleyball	Yr 12 and 13	Lunchtime	Rec Centre	Mr Braybrook
Thursday	Boys Sport Fixtures		3pm – 5pm		
Thursday	Law & Politics Society	Yr 10	Lunchtime	N7	Mr Lake



Thursday	Chess Club	Yr 7 – 13	Lunchtime	N6	Mrs Seekings
Thursday	Film Club	Yr 8 – 13	Lunchtime	N4	Miss Hart
Thursday	Girls Football	Yr 7 and 8	3pm – 4.30pm	Field	Mrs Nisbet
Thursday	Yr11 Computer Science Catch Up	Yr11	3.15pm – 4.00pm	24	Mr Hill
Friday	Flag Football	Yr 7 & 8 boys and girls	3.10 – 4.00pm	Field	Mr Blackman
Friday	Table Tennis Club	Yr 7 – 13	Lunchtime	Table Tennis Hall	Mr Farr
Friday	Rebound Dance Company	Yr 10, 11, 12, 13	3pm – 4.15 pm	Dance Studio	Miss McAdam
Friday	Recorders	Yr 7 – 13	Lunchtime	L5	Mrs Drummond
Friday	Lavender Club (LGBTQ+)	Yr 7 – 13	Lunchtime	N6	Mrs Seekings
Friday	KS4 Computer Science New Joiners	Yr 10/11	3.15pm – 4pm	24	Mr Hill

## Sporting Success

Congratulations to Charlie in Year 7 who competed in this seasons prestigious U13 Inter Counties Squash Championships finals last weekend in Sheffield, as part of a team of 5. The team finished second in the plate finals – comprising the best placed runners-up from the regional qualifiers. This was Charlie's first appearance in such high level event. Well done!

## Eco-Ivo News

### Earth Day 2025

In celebration of the 55th Anniversary of Earth Day on 22nd April, Eco-Ivo would like to invite all students to participate in a school-wide competition. The theme selected by our Eco-Ivo students is **“Protection of our Rivers and Waterways”**

We would love to see students create a piece of literary or visual art that answers the following questions:

1. What are the main threats to our rivers and waterways?
2. Why should we protect them?

### 3. What could be a solution?

You could create a poster, infographic, diorama, write a poem – the choice is yours! Bring it to the Geography Department in N Block any time during the week 22nd -25th April. Prizes up for grabs!

#### **Sustran Walk and Wheel**

A big thank you to everyone for taking part in this year's Walk and Wheel. We hope pupils have enjoyed getting outside and exercising and it has been brilliant to see the numbers of students walking and cycling increase over the two week period (although the weather has helped!). Once all of the data has been collated we will update with the results of where the school ranked.

## National Youth Strategy

As part of the formulation of a national youth strategy, young people are being asked to complete a questionnaire. The Student Council have raised this as an opportunity to impact national planning and so have requested the link be made available to students. The link will be made available via Bromcom but is in no way compulsory, but simply an easy way for those that wish to access the link to find it. It is completely confidential and anonymous but students under 16 will need a parent/ carer to complete the first few questions.

## Year 12 Work Shadowing – week beginning 30 June

Year 12 students will be participating in work shadowing placements during the week beginning 30 June. These placements provide a valuable opportunity for students to gain real-world experience in workplaces linked to their career aspirations and future goals.

By engaging in meaningful work environments, students will develop a deeper understanding of their chosen fields, build key employability skills, and gain insights that will support their transition beyond school. We encourage them to make the most of this opportunity by observing, asking questions, and reflecting on their experiences.

Thank you to the businesses and organisations already supporting our students. We also welcome interest from anyone who may be able to offer work shadowing opportunities. If you or someone you know can support this initiative, please get in touch, we would love to collaborate in inspiring the next generation.

## Preparing for adulthood SEND festival

JOIN US FOR AN  
INSPIRING SEND FESTIVAL!

# PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD: YOUR LIFE, YOUR FUTURE



Event is on the 11th July 10-2pm at Burgess Hall, St Ives

This event is for young people, 14-25 years, parent carers and professionals. We will be having Information stands, interactive activities, fun activities and information sessions for young people and parent carers. We are also keen for school and colleges to attend in class groups, or young people can visit independently or with parent carers.

To register please contact marty on:

[martine.simpson-thomas@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:martine.simpson-thomas@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or register via the QR code here:

