

Newsletter 7 March 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer

In the same way I said well done to Year 11, Year 13 need congratulating on completing the majority of their mocks exams this week. Only Year 12 are remaining, starting next week – I wish them all the best for these forthcoming mocks.

Paris

As I write this week's newsletter, Year 10 students are on their way back from three days enjoying the sights of Paris and practising their language skills. They have climbed the Eiffel Tower, had a boat tour along the Seine, visited Sacré-Cœur, the Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Élysées and Trocadéro. Some amazing pictures below if you haven't already seen them on social media:





Year 10 Shaping Futures

On Monday, St Ivo was proud to welcome 45 local business professionals, employers, volunteers and industry experts to conduct mock interviews with our Year 10 students. Additionally, some of our Shaping Futures partners interviewed students for real-world opportunities, while 20Twenty led an engaging assessment centre.

This was the first time St Ivo had hosted an event of this kind, and it was an overwhelming success! Every Year 10 student took part, gaining invaluable experience in interview techniques, confidence-building, and career preparation. Our visiting professionals were incredibly impressed by the students, with feedback including:

- *“The students were amazing to meet and learn about their diverse experiences through the interview, they were a credit to the school and their families”*
- *“I found all the students were engaged and very polite. I was impressed with their ability to answer each question positively and with thought – You should be proud of these students”*
- *“The students were all polite and prepared to engage. They wanted to learn about the interviewing process. It was a pleasure to assist them”*

Students also shared their thoughts on the experience:

- *“I see doing this as one of my big achievements and its really helped my confidence”*
- *“This interview was good motivation for my life”*
- *“it made me think more about linking my skills to a job”*

Next week, we take the next exciting step in the Shaping Futures programme, moving into mentoring and project sessions. Leading employers including Deloitte, Mott

MacDonald, Aviva, and Ingleton Wood will be working directly with our students to provide invaluable insight and guidance.

Well done, Year 10 – we are incredibly proud of you!

Personal development and drama

Our personal development and drama departments joining forces to organise a performance on Wednesday from Tie It Up theatre company. The company performed “I Love You Mum, I promise I won’t Die” and followed it up with a drama workshop for Year 10 and 11 drama students, exploring techniques used in the play such as thought tracking and tableau. We have received some fantastic feedback from students on how engaging and educational it was, and GCSE students loved using the 3D models to support their understanding of staging.

Thank you to Mr Smith for organising this opportunity.





Sixth form rebuild update

The sixth form student leadership team started picking out the colour for soft furnishings this week, settling on a steel and dark blue palette rather than the green shown in the architect's visuals. Sample furniture items have been ordered in the new colours so that we can see the choice in the flesh before ordering the full furniture list.



Miss Sherwood and I have also met several times with our building consultancy firm over the last two weeks to confirm other design details in order to finalise the room data plans for the building firm when they are confirmed.

Yours faithfully

Tony Meneagh

Principal

Year 9 curriculum evening

We look forward to meeting Year 9 families on Thursday 13 March for our curriculum evening from 6pm to 8pm. There will be talks in the main hall with senior staff at 6pm and repeated at 7pm. There will also be the opportunity to visit all subject areas and hear from subject staff.

Subject preference forms will be sent to students following the evening.

A reminder that our [Year 9 into 10 preferences booklet](#) is also available to help with these important subject choices for key stage 4.

Parent guide to cyberbullying

Assemblies recently have been about being kind. To help support this and promote kindness between peers please take a look at this [parental guide to cyberbullying](#), created in partnership with Home Office 'Prevent', for some useful tips and advice on how to keep your child safe.

Critical incident drill

There will be a **practice** 'critical incident lockdown' exercise during next week. A critical incident is an emergency situation on the school site. Fire alarm drills are relatively common, and hence it is sensible to also prepare students and staff for other possible types of emergency. The likelihood of a critical incident is very small, but we want all members of our school community to be safe. The critical incident exercise will be conducted in a brief, calm and controlled manner, and carefully observed by senior leadership staff and the site team in order to learn lessons for any necessary future improvement.