

Newsletter 20 June 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer



This week was a special one for teachers, as Wednesday 18 June was “Thank a Teacher Day” <https://thankateacher.co.uk/nationalthankateacherday/> However, we cannot forget that there are significant number of staff in the school who are not teachers, but who equally deserve to be thanked for everything they do for the school, its students and in turn the local community. With this week seeing the end to the GCSE and A-Level exams (well done to everyone in Year 11 and 13!), it was amazing to hear from individual staff members about the touching cards and emails they have received from parents, carers and students for their support during their time with us – thank you to everyone who took the time to do this, I know staff were really moved by the sentiment. Over the last two days we’ve also reflected back, and thanked those staff nominated by colleagues in the last staff survey as “A colleague who has been a great support recently” and “One unsung hero at the school” by sending cards to remind them of how they are valued. Finally, it was a privilege to also pass on handwritten notes of thanks from Rowena Hackwood, our CEO, to many of our staff for the amazing work they have done in the school, and beyond.

Year 6 try-before-you-buy events and other uniform updates

It was great to see so many parents/ carers at our Year 6 into 7 try-before-you-buy uniform event on Thursday. The school will be running two similar primary-school-based events next week at Westfield Junior School (Wednesday 25 June, 3.30pm-5.00pm) and Thorndown Primary School (Thursday 26 June, 3.15pm-5.00pm).

You will notice that the school’s uniform section of the website has been updated to reflect the new uniform for September and the changes suggested by our PAC. Here is a quick link to the pages: <https://www.astreastivo.org/uniform>

Parents/ Carers have been asking about the future situation regarding the St Ivo backpacks with reference to the forthcoming government changes to the number of branded items a school. I can confirm that the branded backpack will no longer be compulsory for new (or current) students from September. Students in the future Year 7 and 8 only need to have a black rucksack of their choosing (any logos should be discrete).

Sixth form refurbishment update

The new window openings for the Cafe are now in place, and I hope those of you who know the space agree that it makes the area so much lighter. All the new ceiling supports are also in place and with the Building Inspector allowing us to start the closing off of the ceiling spaces, we will start to see a huge improvement, quickly. On Monday the demolition of the hole for the lift shaft will begin – noisy work when no-one is in the building.



PAC meeting

The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) are interested in moving to a system where we receive parent/ carer thoughts on particular topics in advance each time we meet. Also, those parents/ carers with a keen interest in joining the PAC meeting for a particular topic are welcome to do so by contacting pac@astreastivo.org. The main topic for discussion at the next meeting this **Wednesday at 6.30pm** will be parents evenings. So, if you want to let the PAC know your thoughts on these in advance, or would like to join the debate, then please email us – thank you to those parents who have already done so!

Training Day Monday

Finally, I just wanted to remind everyone that this Monday, 23 June 2025, is a training day and the school will be closed to everyone. As all Cambridgeshire secondaries are coming together at the Longsands Academy for the day for collaborative working, there will not be anyone on site other than our site team, so reception will be closed.

Dropping off in the morning

Please can we ask parents/ carers not to drop off your children in cars at the top roundabout in the morning. The situation was particularly bad this morning and the amount of cars created heavy traffic clogging up the roundabout which meant that the school buses had difficulty getting in to drop off other children. It created a pinch point with cars darting across the zebra crossing when children were waiting to safely cross to get to school.

Cars should ideally use the car park at One Leisure to drop off and pick up not the school roundabout. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Have a great weekend!

Yours faithfully

Tony Meneagh

Principal

Art exhibition

St Ivo School Art Exhibition 2025

***Celebrating the achievements of our A level and
GCSE Art, Textiles, Photography and D.T students***

Wednesday 25th June 5–7pm

In the Art Department



Water safety

In this hot weather, we would like to remind families of the dangers of swimming in open water such as the River Ouse or Houghton Lock and Mill area. There can be many hidden dangers, such as undercurrents, reeds and obstacles. We would encourage families to discuss the very real dangers with children.

Further information and resources are available [here](#).

Walk-in vaccination clinics

MMR

HPV

DTP

MENINGITIS

TEENAGE BOOSTERS

**VACCI-
NATION**

WALK-IN CLINIC

21st July 2025

28th July 2025

2nd August 2025

4th August 2025

11th August 2025

18th August 2025

25th August 2025

1st September 2025

**Ross St Community Centre
Ross Street
Cambridge
CB1 3BZ**

0300 555 50 55 option 4

09:30-15:00

NHS

**Hertfordshire, East Anglia and BLMK
Community and School-Aged Immunisation Service**