

Newsletter 23 May 2025

Dear Parent/ Carer

Celebrations, celebrations and more celebrations have been the focus this week!

This afternoon there were two assemblies to mark the end of the year for our year 11 and year 13 students. Although many students still have many exams over the two weeks when we come back, and year 11 are still in school until after the last main exam on 16 June 2025, the end of this half term seemed an appropriate time to celebrate their time at the school and wish them all the best for whatever they want to do in the future. I would like to thank Miss Lewis, Mr Vine, Mrs Webster and Mr Braybrook for all their hard work in making these assemblies so special.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday we brought together the “Zero heroes” in years 7-10 from the last half term to congratulate them on being so amazing. These are the students who received two or fewer negative points over the course of the term – the students who almost always get it right, day in, day out. We don't insist on exactly zero negatives, as we not insisting on perfection for everything – even the best students are human, and can make the odd mistake.

Students received a certificate to take home, a doughnut (or other allergy-free alternative) and a badge to recognise their success. It was brilliant to see how packed the canteen was from each year group:

- Year 7: 190 students
- Year 8: 211 students
- Year 9: 190 students
- Year 10: 197 students





School Value Celebrations

Over the last month assemblies have focussed on three of the key school values, scholarship, curiosity and tenacity. Alongside this we increased the value of house points associated with each value. At morning welcome each day we celebrated the student/s that had gained the most of each of those during the previous day. Then at the end of each week celebrated and rewarded with certificates the students who had received the most events for each with certificates.

During this focus, we celebrated over 135 students across years 7 to 10.

Beat the Queue Golden Tickets

We have also recognised the students who received the highest number of Golden Tickets this half term. There were over 30 students in years 7 to 10 that received the cards which give them the opportunity, with a friend, to bypass the break or lunch queue – an award that students really like.

Golden Ticket Draw

Today we have also undertaken our termly Golden Ticket draw; students have the opportunity when they earn a golden ticket to place it into a draw at the end of each half term.

Winners receive a £20 Amazon voucher to recognise their efforts and attitude to learning.



KS3 assessments

As students approach the end of the academic year, we are confirming arrangements for our End-of-Year Assessments.

Assessments are a crucial part of the delivery of our ambitious curriculum at St Ivo. They enable teachers and school leaders to understand what has been learnt, and where more work is required. They are also a chance for your child to showcase and celebrate the amount of learning that they have done this year. Attendance during these assessments weeks is crucial.

The schedule for these assessments is below:

Year 7	w/b 9 June 2025	Religious education, art, drama, music, design technology
	w/b 24 June 2025	English, mathematics, science, geography, history, personal development
Year 8	w/b 16 June 2025	English, science, geography, history, religious, art, drama, music, design technology
	w/b 24 June 2025	Mathematics, personal development
Year 9	w/b 16 June 2025	English, mathematics, science, geography, history, religious education, art, drama, Music, design technology, personal development

Year 10 mocks start w/b 23 June 2025 – timetable to follow nearer the time.

Revision booklets and information for parents/ carers (including assessment timetables by subject/class) can be found below:

- [Year 7 Summer Assessment Revision Booklet 2025](#)
- [Year 8 Summer Assessment Revision Booklet 2025](#)
- [Year 9 Summer Assessment Revision Booklet 2025](#)
- [Year 10 Mock Exam Revision Booklet 2025](#)

This update follows feedback from parents/ carers after the January assessment window – we hope this makes the dates of each assessment clearer for you. Please encourage your child to revise and discuss the assessments with them – there is strong evidence that frequent revision leads to great outcomes later in a child's education. We would advise a 'little and often' approach to revision with breaks and other activities planned in too. Whilst we need your child to take these assessments seriously, and try their very best, we also want to support where that is necessary – if your child is feeling anxious about them please encourage them to speak to their form tutor or year team.

Before the summer, we will send a report detailing your child's performance in these assessments, relative to the whole year group.

We appreciate your ongoing support in helping us to provide the best possible education for your child.

Sixth form refurbishment update

Works continue at pace with the start of first-fix electrical and plumbing, and the last bits of the strip out being completed. The old internal glass wall to the common room has been removed, and the gents' toilet door moved. Now that the vast majority of the strip-out is done, work has also started on rebuilding the storerooms at the end of the common room – see pictures below:



Next week, during half term, will see work start on the replacement of the outside stairs. Some staff and students might not be aware, but there's a hidden classroom off the understudy that the school can't currently use because the old external staircase diverts water into the wall, causing significant damp in the room (K5) over the years. These works will allow us to use the room again in the future – see pictures below. Also next week, the noisy lift shaft breakout work should be undertaken to reduce the need for this to happen when students return and exams restart.



Summer uniform update

As the weather continues to warm up, it is important that students come to school with a water bottle that they can refill to keep them hydrated.

After May half term, we will move onto a summer uniform system for the remainder of the academic year:

- Students can choose whether to wear their blazers without asking for permission*
- Students may wish to consider wearing short-sleeved shirts*
- Students may wish to consider wearing tailored shorts (black or grey) instead of trousers*

Please note the following:

- The rest of our uniform expectations are still in place

- Coats/ Hoodies/ Other outside layers must not be used instead of the blazer; we expect students to continue to bring in, and wear, their blazer if the weather is not warm enough*
- Please note that the V-neck jumper should not be worn instead of the blazer during the final summer term if students are cold; if students need another layer over their shirt, then this should be the blazer not just the jumper
- Any student wearing inappropriate summer attire instead of meeting our uniform expectations may be asked to go home and change, or removed from the rest of the student body until the matter can be resolved.

** These adaptations refer to standard uniform days only*

Uniform and equipment purchases over half term

Please can we ask that parents/ carers check that their children have all the necessary uniform items they need for the final summer half term. The school break is a perfect opportunity to purchase these items: <https://www.chromasport.co.uk/shop/st-ivo-academy> We need to be completely transparent that we only have a limited stock to lend on an ad hoc basis, not on a daily basis. Students repeatedly failing to wear the correct uniform may have to wait in reset until parents/ carers can bring in uniform items. Also, just a reminder that last term we launched a shop on MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) to purchase any missing hard-to-find equipment items such as mini whiteboards and reading rulers. 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 May half term holiday 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. As circulated before, here's just one example 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

The full list of required equipment can be found in the school's behaviour policy on page 11: <https://www.astreastivo.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/SIA-Secondary-Behaviour-Policy-2024-25.pdf>

Start of term return assemblies

Just like we did at the start of this term, the return assemblies will happen in the sports hall during AM and PM tutorials for years 7 and 8 (AM) and years 9 and 10 (PM) as the main hall will be set up for exams. The theme of the return assemblies will focus on a quick reminder of expectations (summer uniform and equipment), an overview of any slight changes for the final summer term (mainly how homework detentions are logged – no change to the procedure), moving up day arrangements on 17 June 2025, preparing for the assessments/ mocks during the term and managing workload, and really importantly – rewards.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a well-deserved break over May half term, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 2 June 2025.

Yours faithfully

Tony Meneagh

Principal

Year 11 Prom

We are now going to open the doors for the Year 11 Prom at 6pm rather than the original start time of 6.30pm. This is to lessen the likelihood of long queues and to give students that extra bit of time to enjoy their prom experience. Please be aware arriving at the earlier time of 6pm is not essential as food is not served until 7.30 and the photographer will be there throughout the night.

The vast majority of Year 11 students have done fantastically well with their behaviour and attendance of extra revision sessions over the last couple of months. With this in mind, we expect almost everyone to receive their confirmation of prom place by Friday 6 June.

Please don't wait for this date before buying your ticket as it's important we know how many students are coming as soon as possible for planning purposes.

Safeguarding reminders

As the school is now on the half-term break the safeguarding team would like to direct parents and carers to the following booklet and external services available to help our students and families.

Email contact details:

- Safeguarding contact email: safeguarding@astreastivo.org
- Bullying contact email: itstopsnow@astreastivo.org

Child Exploitation Online Protection (CEOP) is a police service where you can report online abuse. Visit www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/

To report a significant safeguarding concern directly to Cambridgeshire Social Care visit their website at: www.safeguardingcambspeterborough.org.uk/children-board/ or call 0345 045 5203.

Mental health support

- In crisis—if immediately life threatening call 999
- In mental health breakdown/crisis—contact NHS 111 opt 2
- In mental health need—see your GP/talk to school/self-refer to Centre 33

[Student support services booklet](#)

Eco-Ivo

We have had a jam packed half term at Eco-Ivo! Firstly, we would like to thank everyone for their participation in the Sustrans Walk & Wheel. We managed to come 25th nationally! Well done to Year 8 who were the year group with the highest number of journeys recorded. What was most impressive is that we almost doubled the number of journeys from the last time we participated in 2023 with over 5,324!

Thank you to all participants in the Earth Day competition, it was really hard to judge as there was such an array of talent and effort put into each piece. A big well done to Sam and Ben who achieved first place with their entry. It was informative but incredibly artistic too.

In addition, Mrs Westbrook visited Holt Island. They are keen to develop a relationship with young people locally and would love more participation in their events. Their next event is the July AGM. There will be a talk on otters as well as pizza and refreshments! For further details please contact Mrs Westbrook.

We will be running some events over St Ives Green Week running from 9 – 13 June. Keep your eyes peeled for more details!

Any students interested in joining Eco-Ivo and getting involved should please come to N21 on Wednesday lunchtime, or speak to Mrs Westbrook.

Vaccinations

Are you fully Protected?

Offering All Childhood Vaccinations

Have you missed vaccinations at school?
The team will be in school on 14 July 2025

Sign up for the HPV vaccine offered from Year 8 at this link
<https://imms.hct.nhs.uk/hpv/2024/cambsandpeterborough>

Sign up for the Men/DTP vaccines offered from Year 9 at this link
<https://imms.hct.nhs.uk/dtp/2024/cambsandpeterborough>



Your dedicated Immunisation Service;
Providing children and young people with the vaccines they need across Hertfordshire & East Anglia.

Tel 0300 555 5055

option 4

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

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