

# Headteacher's Bulletin

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025

## Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to all our students for the beginning of the summer term.

As you are hopefully aware, the school had an Ofsted inspection, with inspectors with us on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Both the students and the staff team have been fantastic on what is an out of the ordinary week for us, and I'm incredibly proud of everyone's efforts.

I would particularly like to thank you as parents for your support in filling in the Ofsted Survey.

**Two practical reminders** for next week:

- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May** - is a **National Bank holiday so the school is closed**. Have a good day!
- **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May** – the **school is closing early at 2pm**. (Year 11 German exam will continue as normal).

## Stephen Lawrence Non Uniform Day

Stephen Lawrence day was marked on 22<sup>nd</sup> April this year so in order to honour and remember this date, the school turned out in non-uniform wearing **something orange** today. Our aim was to raise awareness and promote solidarity. It was a special day, and here are some snaps of our students in orange.





## Year 7 London Trip

We have had a fantastic couple of days with our Year 7s on the annual London trip. Students have been kept busy with a full itinerary including the Tower of London, Natural History Museum, Piccadilly, Trafalgar Square, Thames River cruise, Buckingham Palace and the London Dungeons.

The pictures captured speak for themselves!





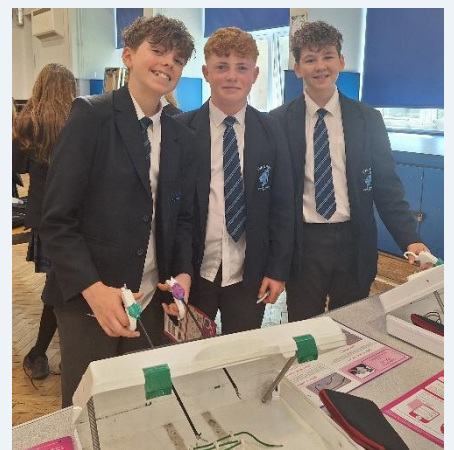
## Medical Maverick Workshop for Year 8

This week we were thrilled to be joined by the Medical Maverick team running an introduction into healthcare workshop for our Year 8 students.

Trainee doctors ran the session giving a medical equipment presentation overview first and then let the students loose to experiment on the apparatus. Highlights include ECGs, a fake arm to practise drawing blood, and looping the string through the holes to get a taster of key hole surgery.

Students also used an ultrasound machine to measure bone growth, and trialled goggles which simulate the impact of 14 units of alcohol on vision. This was an excellent session geared up to facilitating an insight into the healthcare and medical world for students considering this life career option.

As you can see – a great time had by all:



## Athletics Achievement



We are proud that some of our Year 7s competed at National Level recently in the Sports hall Athletics UK Finals at Stoke on Trent.

Stan and Aidan won a bronze medal in Relay and Riley got a PB in Long Jump. As a team, they finished 6th overall. Congratulations – what a fantastic effort!

You can see by the smiles on their faces how pleased they are with their efforts – Well done, boys.

## Student Art displayed in Ashby Arts Festival best

We are impressed by the work of our current Year 9 students who have their piece titled BBC Earth in Ashby's Community Arts festival this weekend. Adrian Samuel, Art and Ceramics teacher, explains about their inspiration:

“Our students created this board inspired by the documentary series Planet Earth. They chose this theme because of their shared fascination with animals and the natural world. At Ivanhoe, we often use Planet Earth documentaries in our learning to deepen our understanding of the planet and the incredible range of animals—some of which live on the other side of the world from us.

The narration by Sir David Attenborough is not only informative and inspirational, but also calming and therapeutic, helping students to connect emotionally with the content. The imagery from the series is iconic and instantly recognisable, and it continues to capture the imagination of viewers across generations. Students enjoyed every part of creating this display, applying a range of artistic techniques learned in their art lessons—including blending, flicking, impasto, and sponging—to build texture and depth in their work. Their creative process reflects both their appreciation for nature and their growing artistic confidence. May this project continue to inspire curiosity, care for the planet, and a love of learning through art and science.”





## Exams - Wishing our students the best

As the Summer term starts, we appreciate this is a mixed time for our students who are undertaking exams. We wanted to wish each individual the very best in every exam!

## Showcase My Work Event

Our interhouse competition based on the quality of student work was held this week and one student was selected to represent their form. They were invited to share a piece of work that they are most proud of with a member of SLT and a Governor. We were blown away by the quality and passion of all the students who showcased their work to us. Prizes have been awarded to one winner from each house, but everyone that took part received a certificate and a small treat.



## Online diligence with Whatsapp groups

It has been brought to our attention that there is a large Whatsapp group that has been set up (not in Ivanhoe school, this is a national issue). Unsuspecting people, including children as young as 7 have been added to this group which contains over 200 members. When the group was opened, over 3000 messages downloaded, some containing extremely indecent sexual images and messages. There are also numerous voice notes too.

The group is called '**add every body yk**' and was created on Sunday. A poll was added asking the year group that they are in, this contained people in Years 4, 5, 6 and above.

You may wish to check your child's phone and talk to them about this to ensure they are diligent and safe online.

## PE Kit check

In PE at Ivanhoe School we aim to tackle gender inequalities and empower all girls to be more active. We know that PE and sport gives girls resilience, courage, self-belief and a sense of belonging. We tirelessly work to break down any barriers preventing girls from participating in PE and we listen to our students to bring about change.

As the weather has got hotter we have started to see more girls wearing lycra running and cycling shorts. We are in full support of girls wearing what they feel most comfortable in during PE lessons and what are widely worn by girls and women within sport. However, as you are aware students PE uniform acts as their uniform for the whole school day and some of the shorts worn are inappropriate in a school environment.

In support of your daughter, we will allow **appropriate** lycra running and cycling shorts to be worn as their PE uniform for the day but please support us in checking that their shorts are a length that is suitable for school.

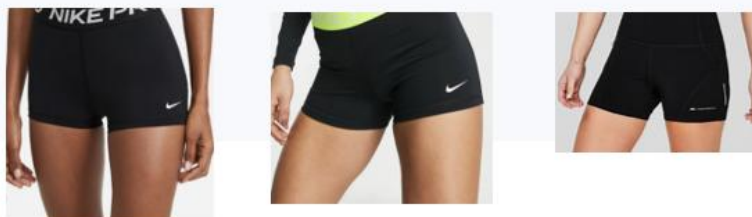
What is meant by **appropriate?** Here is an array of photos we hope will support you as parents and the students as to what is appropriate and what isn't.

Appropriate Shorts



Our preferred PE uniform supplier, Lisssport ([www.lisssport.co.uk](http://www.lisssport.co.uk)) have a selection of appropriate shorts available on their website

Inappropriate Shorts



Please note: We receive lots of queries regarding Nike Pro shorts. Our research tells us they come in three different lengths – we do not allow the shortest of these, the Nike Pro **8cm** shorts.

Our preferred PE uniform supplier, Lisssport ([www.lisssport.co.uk](http://www.lisssport.co.uk)) have a selection of appropriate shorts available on their website.

## Ivanhoe Way Focus

Throughout the year in form time, we look at practical ways that the 'Ivanhoe Way' can be applied to help students achieve and be happy learners. Next week we will be focussing on:

***Read every Day***

## PSHRE and Wider Personal Development

Please find below information about next week's topics for PSHRE. If you have any queries regarding these, please contact our subject leader Claire Gee on [c.gee@ivanhoe.co.uk](mailto:c.gee@ivanhoe.co.uk). The curriculum resources for these all lessons are available for parents on request.

	PSHRE Topic	RE Topic
Year 7	Vaccination and Society	What are the Ten Commandments
Year 8	What is Radicalisation	What are Bar and Bat Mitzvah
Year 9	Careers Education 2	Careers Lesson 3
Year 10	Careers Education 4	Careers Lesson 5
Year 11	Independent Revision	Independent Revision

## Reminder – 2pm Finish for Professional Development of School Staff

All LiFE MAT schools will be finishing early on the following dates to facilitate Cross- MAT professional learning opportunities for our staff.

• 08/05/2025

• 26/06/2025

Finishing the school day at 2 pm offers significant benefits for teachers by providing dedicated time for professional learning that includes both subject-specific training and career development.

## What's Coming Up

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	National Bank Holiday – school closed
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	School closes at 2pm – exams continue as normal
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 7 Parent Evening face to face
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 7 Parent Evening online
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term – school closed

That's all for this week. Have a lovely weekend.

**Mrs Allford – Headteacher**