

# Headteacher's Bulletin

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## Dear Parents and Carers,

With springtime finally in action and the sunshine firmly on our side, we've had a fantastic non-uniform day today. It's been a great start to the weekend seeing plenty of colour throughout the school, and we've raised a great sum of money for our **Rewards fund**. Thanks to parents, carers and students alike for your generous donations! For those who aren't aware, the Rewards fund enables us to reward students who consistently display good effort, good attendance and a good standard of behaviour by **exemplifying the Ivanhoe Way**. We are looking forward to using this investment to celebrate our pupils through upcoming events like Chocolate Bingo Reward Event next week.

### Still need to donate?

There's still time!

[Just head onto Wise Pay](#) - £1 minimum donation.



## Hopeful Futures focus

This week as part of our **Hopeful Futures theme**, the students have had assemblies focussed on Stephen Lawrence day. The assemblies have been based on raising awareness of knife crime and understanding preventative strategies. Adrian Green, former police officer, gave students real life case studies about his experiences of knife crime working in the police force. Stephen Lawrence day falls on 22<sup>nd</sup> April this year which is in the Easter break, so on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May the school will wear something orange as a Non-Uniform day** to recognise and mark the date.

It has also been an eventful week in the press with further commentary on the Netflix series Adolescence. At Ivanhoe School we have been **working to promote healthy masculinity and tackle toxic masculinity over the years and our MVP lessons (Mentors in Violence Protection)** have been in full swing this week. Our Year 9 students have been delivering sessions to Year 7s and 8s using different scenarios to explore:

- how to have healthy boundaries and communicate them well,
- how to handle targeted behaviours amongst peers, and
- what avenues of support or intervention are available to them.

**The Year 9 session leaders** have impressively led classroom discussions and have executed lesson content to effectively teach and instil a constructive and communal culture of expectations that **have made our teaching staff proud**. We are certain that the discussion and dialogue in these arenas are to be continued, and we are confident with the focus on Hopeful Futures that the efforts of activating respect for social values within our school community will support students as we navigate this ongoing journey.



## Year 10 Trial Exam Timetable

A reminder to all year 10 pupils that trial exams are running from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. The trial exam timetable is below so please ensure you are aware of all the exam dates. If you need any guidance with revision topics, your class teachers are ready to help!

[Familiarise yourself with revision pointers here.](#)

[Learn about the core four revision principles here.](#)

## Trial exam timetable:

Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May
AM	AM	AM	AM	AM
Combined Science: Biology 1h 15m Triple Science: Biology 1h 45m	Maths – Paper 1 1h 30m	English Literature 2h 15m	Geography 1h 30m	Combined Science: Chemistry 1h 15m Triple Science: Chemistry 1h 45m
PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
French – Writing 1h 15m Spanish – Writing 1h 15m	History – Paper 1 1hr 20m	Spanish – Listening 45m	French – Listening 45m	Computer Science – Paper 1 1h PE – Paper 1 1h

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May
AM	AM	AM	AM	AM
Bank Holiday	Food Preparation and Nutrition 1h 45m Design and Technology 1h 45m	Combined Science: Physics 1h 15m Triple Science: Physics 1h 45m	Maths – Paper 2 1h 30m	Enterprise/IT 45m
PM	PM	PM	PM	PM

## Year 11 Easter Exam Masterclasses

We are running Year 11 Exam Masterclasses during the Easter holidays in a variety of subjects to support pupils with revision topics. These 2 hour sessions will cover key exam content and techniques for GCSE preparation – details of sessions below.

[Sign up here](#) before Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April.

WEEK ONE		
	Session 1 10am – 12pm	Session 2 12:30pm – 2.30pm
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	English Literature	
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	French German	
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Science Foundation Others welcome to revise independently	PE
WEEK TWO		
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Science Higher/Triple Others welcome to revise independently	Geography
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	History	



## Art Workshop: Taxidermy Animals

This week our art students have had a taxidermy workshop to support their first GCSE art project of 'Natural Form'. The session was led by Creative Learning Services through Leicestershire County Council, who brought in different wildlife for the focal drawing points. The students practised their skills of drawing in proportion, drawing fur texture and using new materials

We had a lot of students say they really enjoyed it and wanted to go home and buy some new art materials to keep practising! As you can see, a great effort made by all!



## Lost Property

All lost property will be held in Reception **until Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**. Please ensure your child collects and lost property before the end of term. Thanks in advance.

## PE Kit check

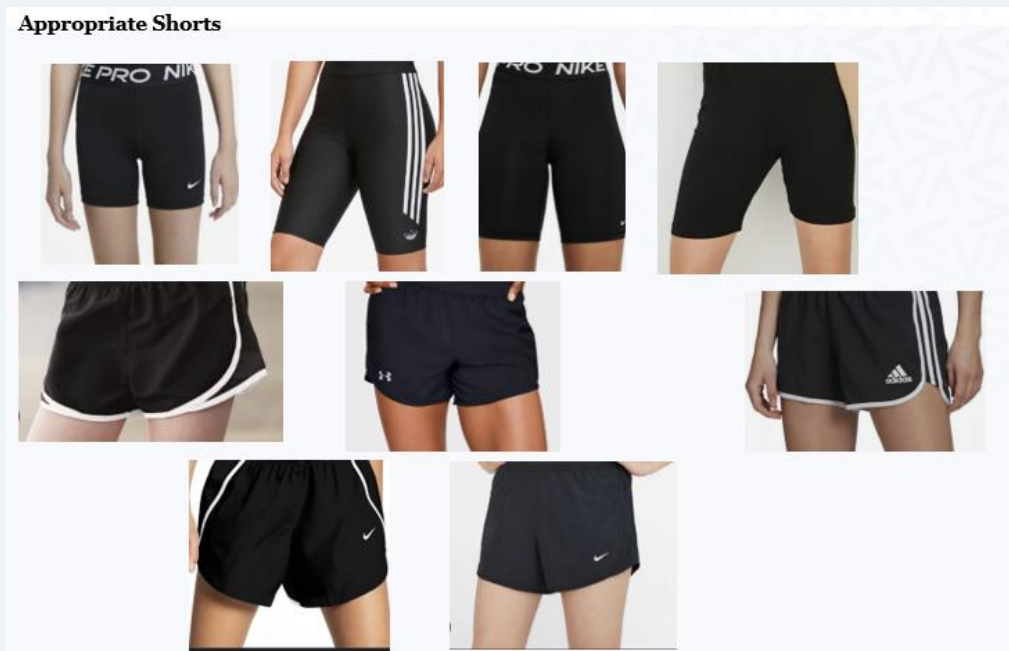
In PE at Ivanhoe School we aim to tackle gender inequalities and empower all girls to be more active. We know that PE and sport gives girls resilience, courage, self-belief and a sense of belonging. We tirelessly work to break down any barriers preventing girls from participating in PE and we listen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

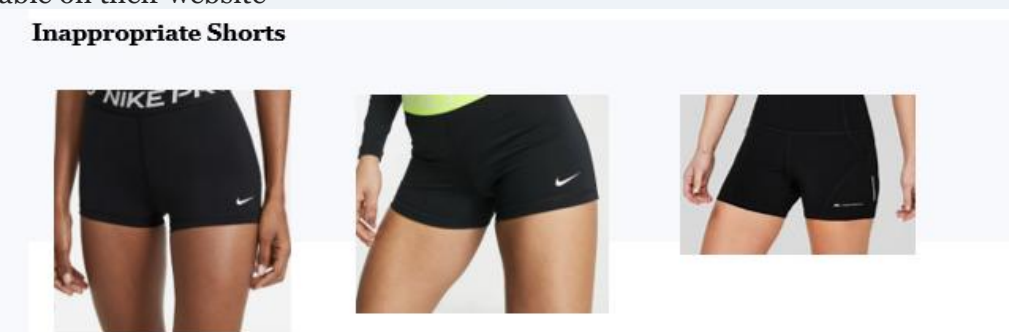
uniform acts as their uniform for the whole school day and some of the shorts worn are inappropriate in a school environment.

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.



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



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.

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## 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:

***Be ready to learn***

## 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	First Impressions	What is the Trinity
Year 8	Future Careers	What is Shabbat
Year 9	Resolving and Avoiding Conflict	Careers Lesson 1
Year 10	Careers Lesson 2	Careers Lesson 3
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

Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Golden Ticket Rewards Event
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	GCSE Art Exam
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 8 Careers Event
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> and Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Headteacher Interviews
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Sponge Throwing Fundraiser Last Day of Term

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

**Mrs Allford – Headteacher**