

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic Spring term we've had! There have been many great activities and achievements from the students. First and foremost, we want to wish all the Year 11 students the very best of success in the formal examinations (starting on Monday 12th May), and to all of our Year 10s who will be undertaking their trail exams (running between Monday 28th April through to Friday 9th May).

Some of our key to success include:

- A clear revision timetable
- Targeted and focussed revision including the Core Four Techniques—see Page 12
- Regular short breaks
- Exercise to help self-management and concentration levels
- Good sleep
- Good food to fuel you
- Drinking water to stay hydrated



We trust everyone has a good Easter break and we look forward to welcoming the students back in two weeks time on Monday 28th April.

Mrs Allford
Headteacher

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE:

- Steam Show
- Sports Hall Athletics Competitions and PE News
- Year 7 Camp Out
- British Science Week
- Maths Pi Day
- Chocolate Bingo Student and Sponge the Teacher events
- Food & Nutrition News
- Art Workshop
- Spanish tapas role-play
- Revision Skills
- And more

CHOCOLATE BINGO EVENT



This week students with golden tickets were invited to participate in a Chocolate Bingo event to celebrate and reward those who consistently, day in day out, put the Ivanhoe Way into practice. As you are aware, the Ivanhoe Way focuses on a good attitude teamed with good attendance to help aid excellent achievement.



It was a fun hour! Well played to all who were able to make it, and a special nod to the Bingo winners!



BOXING SESSIONS

This term some of our students have had boxing lessons with Zoe from Motiv8 studios. They've learnt defence skills, how to spar in controlled ways and flow patterns. The students have enjoyed feeling more confident, empowered and learning new techniques. They also feel that the focus has helped channel energy constructively resulting to increased discipline and calm levels.



MATHS YEAR 7 PI DAY



On Friday 14th March, the year 7 students celebrated Pi Day. The session included:

- **Learning about the world record for reciting the digits of Pi,**
- **The importance of Pi when working with circles**
- **Whether a crop circle found in Wiltshire in 2008 could mean that even the 'ALIENS' know about the digits of Pi too!**

The year 7s took part in a Pi-per Chain challenge to see who could replicate the digits of Pi accurately using a colour code. The teamwork, problem solving and resilience was great to see. The winning team came from a group in 7X2 (Mr Joyce) who correctly replicated Pi to 124 digits! Congratulations to the winning team and everyone who took part!

ART WORKSHOP



Some of our art students 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 sketching!



Sports Hall Athletics Competitions



This half-term has seen the return of the North West Leicestershire Sports Hall Athletics competition for our students in years 7–9.

Our Year 7 team participated with great energy and enthusiasm throughout the event finishing and finished in 1st place progressing to the county competition.

The Year 8 team worked fantastically together and showed great teamwork throughout securing a 3rd place finish.

The Year 9 boys won their competitions convincingly, and the girls finished 2nd overall meaning we agonisingly finished 2nd overall. The students involved were amazing and showed great character and were a credit to the school. Well done!

Sports Hall Athletics—County Competition

Our Year 7 boys took part in the county competition at Loughborough University. They competed against the best schools in Leicestershire in a number of events. They just missed out on 1st place finishing 3 points behind the eventual winners. The boys were outstanding throughout the North West Leicestershire rounds and the county rounds. They hope to take the crown next year!1 Fantastic effort!



Keep your eyes peeled for Athletics club starting after Easter in preparation for the upcoming Saffron Lane competition in the Summer term.

Year 8 Boys Football

Our year 8 boys' footballers had qualified for the knockout rounds of the Leicestershire competition. In the quarter finals they came up against a good Woodbrook Vale side. The boys played on the front foot and raced into a healthy lead. They eventually won the quarter final 6-2 progressing to the semi-finals.

In the semi-finals they came up against another strong school and within the normal game time it finished 1-1, this meant sudden death penalties. Unfortunately, the boys lost on penalties but Mr Green couldn't be prouder of the way that they have played and represented the school this year. Better luck for next year.

Sports Leaders

The year 9 sports leaders have been back in action supporting the NWLSSP with running primary sports hall athletics, Quick Sticks Hockey and the personal best festival. Once again, they did Ivanhoe School proud and received excellent feedback from all involved. Staff from the primary schools also commented on the amazing work they did with the younger students. Well done to all involved.

Year 8 Basketball

The year 8 boys basketball team made it through to the knockout rounds of the competition. They were drawn to play St Pauls catholic school in Leicester. The boys played with great passion and cohesion throughout the contest. However, they ended up on the losing team with the score finishing 57-28. Well done to all involved.

Upcoming Events

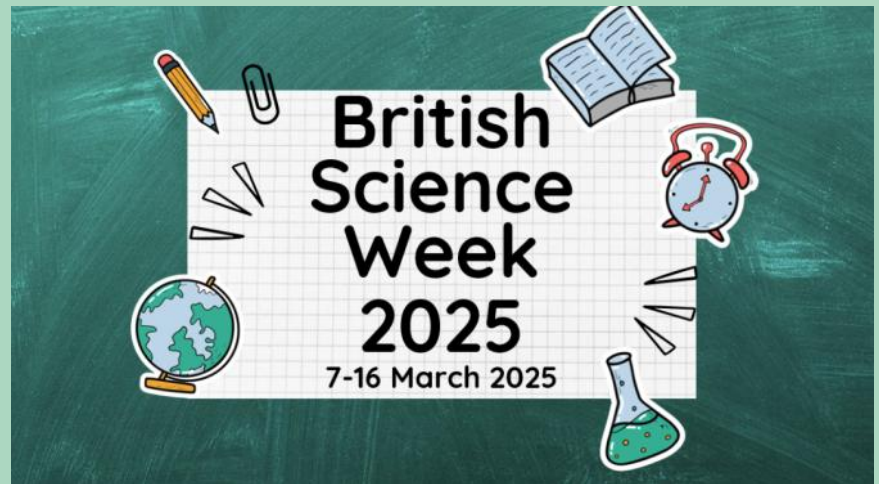
<u>Date</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Year groups</u>	<u>Gender</u>
21/5/2025	Athletics	All Years	Boys/Girls

MONDAY LUNCH	MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL
Cheerleading Club—Mrs Brennan	Level 1 Sports Leaders (Invite Only) - Miss Jones All Years Tennis—Mr Green & Mr Orton All Years Cricket—Mr Perkins
TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL	
All Years Tag Rugby—Mr Green	
WEDNESDAY LUNCH	WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL
PE GCSE Revision—Mr Grundy	All Years Athletics—Mr Green, Miss Jones, Mr Orton, Mr Grundy
THURSDAY LUNCH	THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL
PE GCSE Revision—Mr Grundy	Trampolining (Invite Only) - Mr Grundy & Mrs Brennan Rounders & Softball Club—Mr Green Level 2 Sports Leaders (Invite Only) - School Sports Partnership
FRIDAY LUNCH	
Cheerleading Club—Mrs Brennan	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All after school clubs run 3.15-4.15pm • All clubs are free! No sign up, just turn up. • Please organise a safe way to get home. • The timetable will change each half term to include different sports. • Please bring your PE kit if it isn't your P.E. day. 	

BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK 2025

This year we entered our fourth decade of celebrating British science week running from 7th to the 16th March.

This years theme was centred around change and adapt. Taking place annually in March, British Science Week is a national 10-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths, marked by schools, libraries, museums, businesses and more.



YEAR 7 CAMP OUT

The Year 7s had a great Camp out trip last month. Teams have been mountain-boarding, bouldering, on the jungle trail and more! And of course, campfire activities and marshmallows. Brilliantly run by Mr Stevenson and our staff volunteers



STEAM SHOW



This term saw the return of our amazing STEAM Show for it's 8th year! What an awesome array of projects we had from the 46 students who took part. A huge thank you to our sponsors this year, HSSP Architects, Inizio Engage, SMB College, The Rotary Club and Rolls Royce whose generous donations help us offer great prizes for the competition element of the STEAM Show.

Our Year 7s all visited the show during the day, giving them the opportunity to find out more about what's involved in the show, to inspire them to take part next year. They also used their iPads to take part in an interactive quiz, with answers hidden amongst the information in the exhibits. A huge congratulations to Elizabeth H and Charlotte A who were awarded the coveted Best in Show Award. Check out our Social Media for details of the other winners.



SPANISH TAPAS ROLE-PLAY



Students in Year 9 Spanish have transformed their classroom into a lively Spanish tapas restaurant this term, mastering essential food vocabulary while developing their conversational skills. Through engaging role-play activities, students have perfected the art of ordering typical Spanish dishes and drinks, with their pronunciation developing confidently.

"It's amazing to see how quickly the students have embraced authentic Spanish dialogue," shares their teacher. "They've gone from learning basic food vocabulary to confidently navigating menus and holding natural conversations as both waiters and customers."

This hands-on approach to language learning exemplifies our commitment to making foreign languages accessible and enjoyable. Students aren't just memorising words—they're experiencing Spanish culture firsthand and developing practical communication skills. One student shared "I can't wait to go to Spanish and practice my new vocabulary at Easter".

Year 8 students will have the opportunity to embark on their own Spanish language journey next year. More details to follow after Easter.

PROM TICKETS



We are looking forward to the Year 11 prom which is on Friday 27th June. If you haven't got your child's ticket yet, head to WisePay to purchase!

FOOD NEWS - SPRING TERM

It has been another busy half term in Food and Nutrition! Here are the highlights:

Celebrating festivals and traditions: Shrove Tuesday

On March 4th we celebrated a cultural tradition by making pancakes for Shrove Tuesday! Skills were developed in combining ingredients to make a batter, students also focused on controlling heat on the hob, whisking, weighing ingredients and measuring liquids as well as presentation and garnishing techniques. For some students this was their first experience of pancake making so it was great to see them learning new life skills for the future and applying them so successfully.



Fish Heroes

We have again been fortunate enough to receive a donation of free fish for our school as part of the national Fish Heroes project. Following previous donations of rope grown mussels and frozen salmon, this time we have received tinned salmon which will be used to make dishes such as fish pie and fishcakes during the summer term. This is a great national initiative which encourages young people to develop confidence in preparing fish and seafood, whilst also trying new foods that they may not have cooked before. Lots of our students were keen to try the mussel dishes and were pleasantly surprised! This is excellent preparation for the study of GCSE Food and Nutrition when students are required to demonstrate higher level technical skills such as filleting a fish. Watch this space for more Fish Heroes action coming to the classroom soon.



FOOD NEWS - SPRING TERM

Easter Baking

As we approach Easter, we have been creating some Easter themed bread by making an enriched dough. This dish has extended student skills considerably by developing skills in combining ingredients, zesting citrus fruit, applying an egg wash, measuring liquids, using the melting method, kneading and proving, shaping a dough as well as decorating. Some great examples have been produced! They look and taste delicious!

We have also made Easter inspired chocolate brownies in Year 9 which were very professionally and seasonally decorated. Students are always encouraged to experiment with new recipes and practice those recipes that we have made in school whilst at home so if you would like to make a recipe again, please ask for a copy when in class!



Pi Day- Friday 14th March- Cross curricular collaboration

In year 10 students have been able to engage in some collaborative learning by making a pi (e!) to celebrate Pi Day in Mathematics and also National pie week both of which were celebrated in March.

Students were able to apply their prior mathematical knowledge of Pi to calculate the depth and volume of their pie dish- a real life example of application of this mathematical knowledge to a practical concept.

In food the focus was to create shortcrust pastry, applying decorative features such as a lattice top. Some pies were savoury and others were sweet and all looked delicious!



SPONGE THE TEACHER EVENT

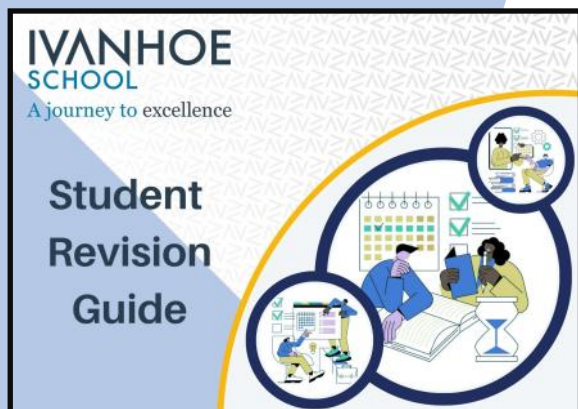
On the last day of term we had another fund raiser—the Sponge the Teacher Event. This was organised by Mr Perkins to raise money towards the Student Reward fund. The pictures speak for themselves—it was lively and well attended! Shout out to all the teachers (victims)...who were thoroughly good sports. This type of event is also part of our initiative to build brilliant attendance. FO-MO Fridays are here to stay. The first Friday after Easter is a “Wear Orange with your non-uniform outfit.



REVISION PREPARATIONS - ALL YEAR GROUPS

Preparing for your exams and tests can feel overwhelming for students. We understand that learning how to revise is a skill that needs to be learnt and developed over time, which is why we encourage students to actively revise for tests and assessments in KS3 so that once they reach their very important GCSE exams they can feel more confident.

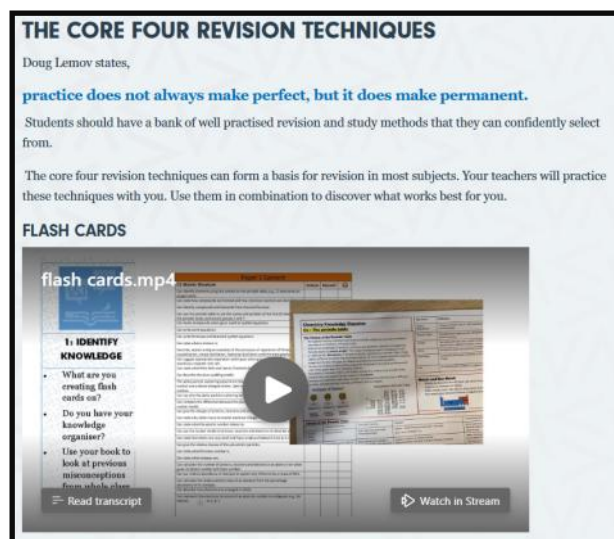
There are a number of core revision techniques that we recommend for students, but the journey to find out what works best and in what subjects is an individual journey that needs regular revisiting.



We have put together a range of revision resources for our KS4 students, but we would encourage all students to look at them. [On our website](#) you will find a link to the [Ivanhoe student revision guide](#) which will be as equally helpful for other year groups.

There are also some excellent videos from some of our staff members talking through the '[Core Four Revision Techniques](#)'. These are flash cards, self quizzing, mind maps and brain dumps.

We see time and time again that an improvement in revision techniques can have a huge difference on exam outcomes, regardless of the level a student is working at. And in addition we find that students who feel in control over their revision journey experience less anxiety around testing.



Parent Call To Action.

KS3 Parents - please have a look at the resources with your child and discuss how they may try one for their next test.

Year 10 Parents - please speak with your child about how they feel about their revision techniques. What do they think works best for them? After watching the videos are there any new techniques they are going to try this year?

Year 11 Parents - students have spent time in form going over some of these techniques. They have been asked to start writing their revision timetable in their revision planner. You can find all the dates to the [GCSE exams here](#).

By working together in a team; school, students and families we can ensure the best outcomes for our young people. Thank you for your support in this matter.



UPCOMING DATES

Friday 11th April	Break up for Easter holidays
Monday 28th April	Back to School
Thursday 1st and Friday	Year 7s London Experience Trip
Friday 2nd May	Stephen Lawrence Non-Uniform day (orange)
Monday 5th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Thursday 8th May	2pm finish for staff training
Friday 23rd May	Break up for Mid-Term Break

CONCERNS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS

We seek to do everything we reasonably can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students. I am sure you will appreciate that there are limits to this outside of school hours and especially during the holidays.

We would therefore recommend that you:

- Monitor closely your child's activity on social media. Most of the problems we have to deal with at the start of each term relate to antisocial behaviour that has taken place online during the holidays. If your child is being seriously abused online, contact the police. <https://www.ivanhoe.co.uk/protecting-your-child-online>
- Let us know if there have been any issues that we need to be aware of as soon as possible so we can respond promptly and appropriately when school reopens. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to respond to emails etc. out of school hours.
- Contact Social Services if you feel they should be aware of an issue.

You can call the Social Services Central Duty Team on 0116 305 0005 or

make an online referral via the following link <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-safety/report-abuse-or-neglect-of-a-child>

- Contact the police on 999 straight away if you believe a child is in immediate danger.

Thank you for your support on this matter.

Emma Boussida

Deputy Headteacher