

IXWORTH ixchange

Ixworth Free School is a proud member of the Seckford Foundation Free Schools Trust

The newsletter for Ixworth Free School | *"Providing a foundation for life"*

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IXWORTH
FREE SCHOOL



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FREE SCHOOL**

"Providing a foundation for life"

www.ixworthfreeschool.org.uk

Ixworth Free School,
Walsham Road, Ixworth, IP31 2HS

Dates for your

Diary

Mon 5 and Tues 6 September 2016

Professional Development Days

Wednesday 7 September 2016

Students Back to School

Twitter

Please sign up to follow us on Twitter, which enables us to share what is going on in the school.

Follow us @IxworthFS.

Please also check our webpage for regular news and events updates.

Safeguarding Update

Should you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact

Mr King, Designated Safeguarding Lead or Miss King, Assistant Safeguarding Lead on 01359 234 050

or for more information please visit www.ixworthfreeschool.org.uk/safeguarding

safeguarding

Ixworth Free School's nominated Local Advisory Body member for Safeguarding is Mr Na Nakhorn.

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Headteacher's Welcome

It is hard to believe that another busy academic year is drawing to a close. Recently Years 9 and 10, in particular, have taken their end of year exams and currently all students are enjoying their summer enrichment week activities. These range from trips abroad to Pompeii and the Opal Coast, to Medieval Week or Movies and Theatre.

A lot continues to be achieved at Ixworth. Notable successes include the school's continued charity work for local, national and international charities. The school has also had success in reaching the London finals of the national UK Maths Challenge. The school choir has performed throughout the year, but most notably alongside the St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir at an amazing concert at St Mary's Church in Ixworth, and our £4.4 million refurbishments of the school buildings have been completed.

With only a few days remaining this term, I'd like to wish you all a good break this summer. Staff and I look forward to welcoming students back to school on 7 September 2016. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy the overview of events and activities captured in this copy of the Ixchange.

Miss King, Headteacher



Miss King
Headteacher

New Head Boy and Head Girl



Congratulations to Johnny (left) and Georgia (middle), newly appointed Head Boy and Girl, and also to Stuart (right) their Deputy.

Summer Games and Fun Run



Our second Summer Games and Fun Run, which took place at the end of June, saw an increase of more than 50% in the number of runners taking part, compared to last year. Even though the weather refused to cooperate, 77 runners raced for glory, with some fantastic performances on the night. Luckily the majority of runners had finished before the heavens really opened!

Medals were awarded to all finishers, with trophies for the fastest male and female finisher, and fastest Ixworth Free School student, in each of the three distances. This year we introduced a prize for the fastest Year 5 or 6 runner in the 1k and 3k races, and saw a good number of

participants from a range of primary schools.

For non-runners and supporters there were a range of fun games and stalls, zorbs and a BBQ. The evening, organised by the Friends of Ixworth Free School, raised £300. Thank you all for your support!

The winners of the IFS perpetual trophies were:

1k Caitlin Stiff and Joseph Barber **3k** Maddie Combes and Johnny Neaverson **5k** Lois Clare Robson and Max Daplyn

Sky Sports Mentor Follow Up Visit

Ellie Koyander, a Winter Olympian in Freestyle moguls skiing, has visited the school on three separate occasions this year as part of the Sky Sports Living project.

On this latest, and indeed final visit, Ellie led a range of challenges which focused on developing leadership and teamwork. These challenges were well thought out and thoroughly enjoyed by all involved. The session enabled the students to reflect on their own skills, and identify areas they would like to develop in the future. At the end of the session students had the opportunity to ask questions and get autographs signed. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all and the school will once

again apply to be part of such a fantastic scheme next year.



Into the



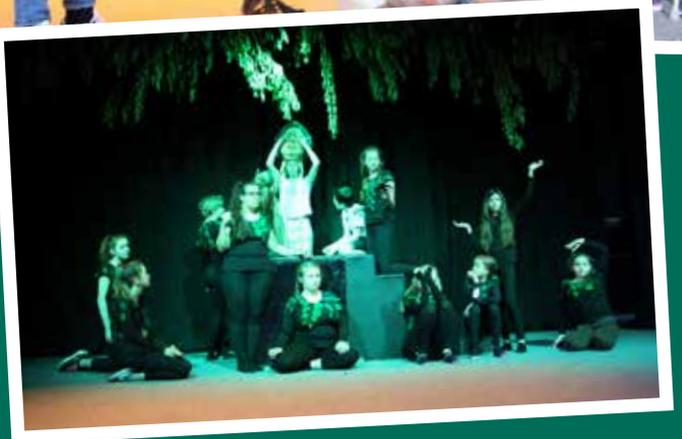
Our school musical 'Into the Woods' took place on 26 May 2016 with students performing a matinee to local primary schools and an evening performance to peers, family and friends.

Rehearsals started in January as part of our weekly enrichment and the cast of 35 began the journey of developing the production, leading to regular after school rehearsals three times a week. Students took on roles that played to their strengths but also ones that were slightly out of their comfort zone and challenged their acting skills. Their professionalism, resilience and commitment to the project was outstanding and this was reflected in two great

performances. Students led the show on the night running the front of house, backstage, lighting and sound with minimal assistance from Mrs Van Holland the production director. There were some exemplary performances from the students on the night and many compliments made by the audience.

'Into the Woods' is renowned for being one of the most challenging scores and complicated plot lines to perform and the students definitely rose to the challenge. As the Director I was so pleased with what the students produced and the support of the staff and audience on the night was greatly appreciated.

Overall a fantastic show, now to decide what's next years show...
Mrs Van Holland



Woods...





Congratulations to Amy
The first winner of the
Ixworth Golden Pin.
Well done Amy!



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Farewell from the Principal...

As my time leading the Seckford Foundation Free Schools Trust nears its end, I wanted to take the opportunity to say my final goodbye to the Ixworth Free School community in my final article for the "Ixchange".

Three years ago, we embarked on a journey to open Ixworth Free School and what a journey it has been!

Developed from a desire in the community for opportunity and choice in education locally, and spurred on by the enthusiasm and vision of those in the original proposer group and the Seckford Foundation, Ixworth Free School finally opened its doors in September 2014.

As I take this time to reflect on the successes of staff and students at Ixworth Free School over the last two years, I wanted to pay tribute to how much has been achieved by Miss King in that time. The school has gone from strength to strength, with students embedding themselves in the life of the school, the Trust and the local community in so many ways. I have spent a lot of time at the school over the last two years, and I am very proud of the students and how much they strive to achieve the "6Cs to Success". Students are articulate and aspire to greatness. There can be no more powerful indicator of the success that the school has had in achieving the Trust's vision, under the leadership of Miss King, than to have students come to school every day keen and eager to learn, make progress and achieve.

Not only have students and staff been achieving lots, but so have parents / carers and governors! I want to thank the 'Friends of Ixworth Free School', and the school's governors, for all their wonderful work supporting the school through their own events and presence at formal school events. The school is here because of the community, and it is a central element of our vision to have the community continue to be a core part of the life of the school, now and into the future.

So much has been achieved throughout the time the school has been open, it would be very difficult to recall every moment in this short article. Therefore, it is perhaps fitting that instead of looking back I would like to look forward by taking the opportunity to wish Miss King, all the staff, students and community all the very best for the future. I leave the Trust with a heavy heart, but I know I could not leave the school in more capable hands.

Good luck and best wishes for the future to you all.

Dr Cawley
Principal and CEO of the Trust



Cross Trust Competition Round-up!

Art Exhibition

On 21 April 2016, we played host to the Cross Trust Free Schools' Art Exhibition. A fantastic array of artistic talent was on display from across the three schools, and there were entries from Year 7, right through to Year 11.

The incredibly high standard made the judging panel's job very hard, but in the end they came to the following decision:

1st Place – Charlotte Lanham – Year 11 Beccles Free School

Runner up – Maisie Seaman – Year 7 Ixworth Free School

Runner up - Millie Cartwright-Jones – Year 11 Saxmundham

Congratulations to all students who had their work on display, and extra special congratulations to Maisie whose incredible artwork gained one of the three top prizes, even though she was up against much older students.



Debating

Students from Ixworth Free School travelled across to Beccles Free School on 11 May 2016 to compete against the other schools in the Free Schools Trust in the newest addition to the Cross Trust Competitions calendar, Debating. The three schools debated topical issues such as the EU referendum and internet usage for teenagers in the first Seckford Foundation Free Schools Trust debating competition.

Eight students from Years 7 to 10 at each of the three Free Schools were tasked with preparing and researching arguments, both for and against, on topical issues before debating them in front of their peers at the competition. In the closest Cross Trust Competition to date, just one point separated all three schools, with Ixworth narrowly missing out on first place. Congratulations to Beccles for winning the prestigious 'Cross Trust Shield' for their excellent debating skills and well-researched arguments.

Johnny Neaverson from Year 10 won the individual award for the best debater (upper school) after a fine individual performance as part of the Upper School Ixworth team.

Congratulations to all students who represented Ixworth so well at the competition.



Bake Off

A team of four students from Ixworth Free School battled against Saxmundham Free School to produce the best dishes inspired by Her Majesty's 90th birthday, in this year's Great Trust Bake Off.

Students from Years 7 to 10, were tasked with working in pairs to prepare two dishes each in 90 minutes with a budget of £10 for ingredients. The Ixworth Free School team impressed the judges with their main courses of pork done three ways, and chicken with béchamel sauce and roast potatoes, followed by homemade scones and jam for dessert.

Will Bowman, Seckford Foundation Executive Chef, said: "It was great to see students coming together to design, create and present their own dishes. As a judge I was looking at the presentation and taste of each dish, as well as the students' teamwork skills and creativity as they incorporated the theme of the Queen's 90th birthday. Despite Saxmundham Free School taking home the winning title, all students showed a real passion in the kitchen and I'm sure they will continue to learn and enjoy cooking beyond the school gates."



Champions Day!

Champions Day is probably the Cross Trust Competition that students (and staff!) look forward to the most each year. Held in the impressive grounds at Woodbridge School, it sees the best athletes from Ixworth Free School compete against the best from Beccles and Saxmundham, in a bid to be crowned Cross Trust Champions! The two athletes who finish first and second in our own sports day go on to represent Ixworth at Champions Day, so the standard is certainly very high.

There were some fantastic performances on the day from our students, and Ixworth were only narrowly beaten by a very good Saxmundham team overall.

However, we did manage to bring back some silverware to Ixworth, because of Johnny in Year 10. A fantastic performance, where he came 1st in Long Jump, 2nd in 100m and 3rd in 200m meant that he collected the trophy for "Best Year 10 Boy". Not only that, but he was also awarded the "Mace Trophy" for best individual athlete of the year for the whole Trust. Congratulations Johnny!



Contact us...

We welcome your feedback, news and comments.
Email us: enquiries@ixworthfreeschool.org.uk



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