



IXWORTH FREE SCHOOL

*"Providing a foundation for
life"*

WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR FAMILIES NEWS UPDATE Week ending 8th September 2017

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to a new academic year at Ixworth Free School, and a particularly warm welcome to new students, families and staff. We are fully staffed with a specialist and committed team of staff and are looking forward to another highly successful year.

It has been a very busy start to the new academic year for staff and students alike. Our new Year 7 students have made a very positive impression on me and the staff with their enthusiasm and commitment to their work. Year 11 students have returned with a sense of purpose and determination; and my assemblies have focused on Malala and the school's focus on commitment.



I am pleased to report that our students look very smart in their school uniform and this will continue to remain very important for the school as it sets the tone for all we do. Excellent student attendance is another basic expectation that we have for all students, including arriving at school on time in the mornings. Please note that schools do not have the authority to grant any absence in term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. All the evidence very strongly shows that excellent attendance plays a significant part in helping our students to be more successful with their learning and enables them to achieve their best in public exams at the end of Year 11.

As this is the start of a new academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to mention our safeguarding procedures. The school has very robust safeguarding procedures as part of keeping our students safe. This includes ensuring that the school is secure during the school day, with all visitors reporting to Reception. If you have any safeguarding concerns at any time please contact the school as soon as you are able to do so. Details of our Designated Safeguarding leads can be found on our website: <http://www.ixworthfreeschool.org.uk/safeguarding/>

On our website, we are in the process of making our website more 'user friendly' and informative and are regularly using Twitter to share information about school events. Do consider following us on Twitter! We also have a Facebook page which is regularly updated with school news and events.

Finally, thank you for your support with our students at the start of this academic year. They have looked very smart and ready for their learning, and I look forward to seeing their successes during the year ahead.

Mr M Barrow
Headteacher

Welcome to new staff

Mrs Tracy Alvarez – Teacher of History
Mr Darren Clark – Caretaker
Mr Paul Kinnard – Teacher of Geography
Mr Stephen Tully – Pastoral Support Assistant

Miss Phillipa Wilkinson – Teacher of English

Extended Leadership Team

Mr Adrian King – Assistant Headteacher
Mrs Pia Parker – Head of Upper School
Mr Jamie Hudson – Head of Lower School
Mrs Stacy Bell – Inclusion Leader and Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mr Chris Beales – Subject Leaders Maths and numeracy

Mrs Carol Steed – School Administration Manager

The Headteacher's book

The following students have been entered in the Headteacher's book for excellent work and academic achievement.



Achieving an A* in GCSE French

Hayley Campbell (Year 8)

Victoria Campbell (Year 10)

Maths Challenge

Robert Simpson (Year 8)

THE WEEK AHEAD: KEY EVENTS

11 th September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 7 Science Trip to RHS Hyde Hall. <i>Letters have gone home.</i>
12 th September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual student photographs.• Y11 interviews with the Headteacher.
13 th September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• University talk for Year 10 and Year 11 students (during enrichment).• Friends of IFS AGM 6.30 – 8pm. <i>Letters have gone home.</i>
14 th September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 10 GCSE Information Evening. <i>Letter to follow from Mrs Parker.</i>

ParentMail and ParentPay

Over the summer break we have changed systems and we are no longer using ParentPay. Please do not add any monies onto your ParentPay account linked to Ixworth Free School. We have experienced some minor technical problems with ParentMail and we appreciate your patience as we work through these. We are anticipating ParentMail will be fully functional as of Tuesday 12 September. Very soon we will be using ParentMail for forms and for booking progress evenings.

Mrs Steed; School Administration Manager