

17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## Headteacher

Our first full week of 2025 has gone well. Attendance is one of the highest in the Trust and above National and Suffolk figures, thank you to parents and students in making attendance at school a priority.

Sporting fixtures have resumed, this week our students competed in the Suffolk Championship Cross Country event at Woodbridge school with some fantastic performances by all the team, but in particular Roman G who was fifth and Ava W who was twentieth, both in fields of 150 students. A full report is later in the bulletin.

Mr Beales met with parents this week to receive feedback on our reporting processes, these events are very important to us, thank you to parents that gave up their time both in the meeting and in telephone calls. A summary of the feedback is later in the bulletin, the system appears to be working well, but we will look for ways to develop this with the suggestions made in the meeting. This is our second parent's forum, with the first being on homework.

We have published our Relationships and Sex Education Policy as a consultation document on our website. The consultation will be open for two weeks until 31<sup>st</sup> September. If you have any comments, please email them FAO Mrs Heath through [enquiries@ixworthhighschool.org](mailto:enquiries@ixworthhighschool.org). We will also be consulting with staff and students regarding the policy during this time.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

**Mr Gibb**

## Pastoral Notices

### Student Related Enquiries

General enquiries about students or student-related incidents should always in the FIRST instance go to their Tutor. If for any reason this does not resolve the issue, please then contact the Head of Upper or Lower school, whichever is relevant to your child.

### Student Absence

Student absences should still be registered with the School Office Team by Phone 01359 234050 by 9:00 am.

### Lost Property

Items of lost property will be kept at the School Office. Please ensure you have all school uniform and sports kit clearly marked with your name on the inside of the item so if you do misplace anything it can be returned to you quickly.

### Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Hale, she is contactable via the school office.

### Nut Allergies

**Could we please remind parents that we have a no nuts policy at school. There have been a few incidents where people have brought in chocolate contained nuts.**

## 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

### Key Dates

#### Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> January is Week B on our timetable

23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025	Year 10 Parents Evening
27 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Year 11 Mock Exams begin
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Coffee House
14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	School closes for half term
24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	PD Day, School closed to all pupils
25 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	School reopens for all pupils

### Information

Please ensure that Arbor accounts are topped up for your child. We are not usually permitted to allow accounts to go into arrears. If you do not top up their account please send a packed lunch.

Our new website can be found here: [www.ixworthhighschool.org](http://www.ixworthhighschool.org)

### Cross Country

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January, five students from Ixworth competed in the Suffolk Cross Country Finals at Woodbridge School. The students were, as ever, exceptionally behaved throughout the course of the day. With every student also placing commendably in the top 100 (out of 150), they should all be proud of their achievements.

Roman G (11) ran in the inter boy's race. He had said before the race that he would 'take it easy' due to an injury that has kept him out of competitive racing for some time. His 'easy' managed to get him to 4<sup>th</sup> place out of 150 which meant he qualified with ease for the regional rounds on the 9<sup>th</sup> February. I overheard a parent saying to Roman that he had run such a 'brave race'. I would also use mature and composed to describe the way in which he ran, well done!

Almost as impressively, in the junior girl's race, running a year down, Ava W (8) secured qualification for the regionals by placing 20/150 which was outstanding considering age and quality of the field.

Well done to everyone that took part - another success story for Ixworth High School sport!

Positions:

Ava W - 20/150  
Roman G - 4/150  
Fynn E (8) - 49/150  
Fred F (7) - 75/150  
Charlie S (9) - 86/150

**Mr Stacpoole**

17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## Reporting – Parent's Forum

This week I met with a number of parents online, in person and over the phone to get your feedback on the reporting system, here is a summary of the key points.

The consensus was that the new reporting system is much easier to understand than the old one in terms of identifying which subject's students are doing well or not so well in. One area that caused concern was having a GCSE target on the year 7&8 reports, it was felt this was too early and the percentages alone were enough in terms of targets.

The RAG rating system is popular and gives a clear indication of strengths and weaknesses although further clarification would be useful on how the Red, Amber, and Green bands are set up.

The ATL grades we also well received by most, giving a clear indication of student's attitude in class, it was suggested for newer parents a reminder of how the grading system works might be useful.

As a summative document it was felt by most that the reports work well, the main area for improvement that you fed back to us was around how to make the process more formative. Ideas suggested were advertising the assessments on Arbor with what students need to revise two weeks before the tests are done, then post assessment letting students take the tests home so they can be discussed alongside this posting on Arbor some form of follow up filling the gaps catch up task on areas that have not been done so well.

We will take your feedback onboard and continue to refine and improve the process, so you get the information you need to help students at home.



***Ixworth***  
***CoffeeHouse***

*12 amazing acts  
accompanied with  
coffee and tea*

*Tickets available  
on Arbor  
£2.50 +vat*

***February 12th***  
***@5pm***

The poster features a background of a piano keyboard, musical notes, and a treble clef. In the foreground, there is a white coffee cup with a black handle and a small logo on it. The text is written in various fonts and colors, including red, black, and brown.