

20th September 2024

Headteacher

We have continued to recruit this academic year for support staff and have two new staff joining us shortly as a Cover Supervisor and a SEN Admin Assistant. We also have vacancies available for a HLTA, Assistant Site Manager and two LSAs.

In this bulletin I am sharing the homework strategy that we are rolling out using Arbor. We would like to work with parents to ensure this strategy is working. If you are interested in taking part in a Parent Focus Group for homework, please email C.beales@ixworthhighschool.org. Taking part would consist of around two 1-hour meetings at an agreed time.

We had a visit from Thurston Sixth form this week explaining their Post 16 offer to our Year 11s. These visits are often an indication of how close we are to our students moving on to the next stage of their education, and how close we are to their first public exams. Our Year 11s have had a very positive start to the year, and we are pleased with their focus and enthusiasm. We will have a series of events to support them this year and signpost future opportunities.

On Thursday we were visited by our Trust to review the progress and plans for the school moving forward, they looked at the entire day from arrival to departure, social times, observed lessons and met with a range of staff and students. They also used the data from the ParentView site and how feedback will assist us in moving the school forward. The team were especially positive around the behaviour and attitudes of our students. I will share more details once we have the full report.

Mr Gibb

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

We are working to update everything. The main areas for parental information are updated. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Key Dates

Week beginning 23rd September is Week B on our timetable

26 th September	Year 8 – Year Ahead Briefing, 5-6pm
3 rd October	Year 9 – Year Ahead Briefing, 5-6pm
10 th October	SEND Coffee Morning
14 th October	Staff INSET Day, school is closed to pupils
17 th October	School Photographs
17 th October	Coffee Club
26 th October	Half term commences, school reopens on 4 th November

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Homework

We have finalised how we will set and monitor homework. In the last bulletin I explained how often homework will be set:

For Maths, English, Science, and all option subjects – up to 1 hour per week

For subjects with 2 lessons per fortnight – 2 or more homework's per half term

For subjects with 1 lesson per fortnight – 1 or more homework's per half term

We do not set homework usually for Core PE, PSHE or RE.

Homework will consist of a range of different tasks, it will be recorded on Arbor by the class teacher, this might provide a link to other platforms. We are checking each student to ensure that they can access Arbor and helping if needed. This is a short explanation of how parents can view set homework.

Step 1: Logging in

First time students log in all they need to do is enter their new school email and it will prompt them to set a password or to do password reset which will send a link to the school email. Students will need to use the website rather than the parent app.

Step 2: Submitting

If using a separate online platform to do the homework all students need to do is hit submit, as these are marked on the subject specific site no further action on Arbor is taken

If students are required to upload a document they upload a document and hit submit, once the teacher has marked it that mark will appear for the student and also in your gradebook.

Step 3: Parental tracking

On each students profile there is a dashboard of all outstanding Assignments, clicking on each assignment brings up the details of what's required. On the same page you will see marked assignments for pieces of work that are manually marked by teachers.



Year 11 Revision

Year 11 Revision Sessions

Science started this week on Tuesdays, next week we have English on Monday and Maths on Wednesdays.

To book a place please click on the consent for these sessions in the clubs section of Arbor.

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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**. Please find attached a letter outlining attendance and requests.

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 or email.

Coffee House

I wish to happily announce to our wonderful school community that the first Ixworth Coffee House of the year will be held on October 17th 2024.

A Coffee House is a western style open mic night/ variety show event. The name "coffeehouse" is derived from the limited menu which is typically available at the social event: coffee is usually the featured beverage, together with other non-alcoholic beverages such as soda, juice, and teas. Desserts and snack foods may round out the menu.

Students have auditioned to give you a night of their best performances, with warm drinks and sweet treats to enjoy a musical night with.

Doors open at 5pm and tickets can be bought on Arbor for £2.50 + VAT.

Please join us to celebrate our talented student!

Mrs Dungey

Ofsted

We welcome your views on the Ofsted Parent View site, this can be accessed here:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>