

24th October 2025

Headteacher

Responsible, Resilient, Ambitious

This week we were recognised as one of the top twenty most improved schools in 2025 based on DfE data. We were recognised for our improvements in overall outcomes and improvement in English, this is compared to around 4000 schools. Within the top twenty schools we were the fourth highest in terms of SEN students, demonstrating that our pedagogy positively impacts all students – high quality modelling, questioning, feedback and a good knowledge of students we teach. This is an amazing achievement by the whole team at Ixworth and adds to our achievements this year including Ofsted good in all areas in April, good results in August and now Top 20 most improved in October.

We welcomed our newest member of staff; Miss Andrews to the office team this week, this is a new post at Ixworth. We remain fully staffed across all departments, with subject experts in all lessons. Jess will add valuable admin capacity at the end of the school day until 4:00 pm. We are advising that unless an emergency, please call from 13:30 as phone lines tend to be quieter.

Thank you for your continued support regarding mobile phones, we believe that social times away from the distractions of mobile devices are vital for our young people. At break and lunch, it is a pleasure to see students taking responsibility with organised football games, table tennis, netball and children sat talking to each other (and staff) enjoying each other's company, as well as the numerous enrichment opportunities provided by staff.

Our sold-out Year 6 taster session in Art completed our Year 6 events for this year, the deadline for applications to Ixworth is 31/10/2025, we will be advertising further events for Year 5 students early next year. Year 11 braved the weather on Thursday and enjoyed the sunshine today to complete the compulsory field trip elements of their Geography GCSE.

A reminder that as part of our enrichment offer, we have the professional pantomime "Cinderella" being performed in school to our students, tickets are also available for an evening performance on the 19th December bookable via the school website and Eventbrite.

As well as "Vehicle Works" Ixworth agreeing to sponsor our Netball uniforms, we have now found a sponsor "Hamabeads" for our football kit. Thank you to both these companies for this, we will now have smart high-quality kit that will add to the sense of pride our students already feel when they are representing Ixworth High school.

Wishing you a restful half term holiday, we look forward to welcoming everybody back on 3rd November.

Mr Gibb

Key Dates

Week beginning 3rd November is Week A on our timetable

24th October	Last day of half term
3rd November	School reopens for all students
3rd – 14th November	Year 11 Mocks
11th November	Remembrance Event
13th November	Presentation Evening (invite only)
4th December	Year 11 Progress Evening 4-7 and Year 11 Mock Handouts
5th December	PD Day STAFF ONLY
18th December	Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day
19th December	Panto Performance by British Pantomimes- Tickets available on website

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Pastoral Notices

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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
aaa@ixworthhighschool.org 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 child's 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 Miss Burgess, she is contactable via the school office. We continue to push on high levels of attendance for our students across the school and in Forge. Thank you to the parents and carers in our community who support their children to make the right choice every day. Research tells us that 95% plus attendance adds one grade, on average at GCSE.

Below you will see the link to our Attendance and Punctuality Policy. This can be accessed on our website under Policies.

<https://www.ixworthhighschool.org/assets/Documents/Attachments/Attendance-and-Punctuality-Policy-2024.pdf>

U13 Football

Tuesday 14th October, 13 of us from years 7 and 8 travelled to Stowmarket high school, for our first fixture of the season. All the boys worked hard throughout the evening. Unfortunately, results did not go our way, but we will continue to work hard in training, ready to go again for upcoming fixtures. Many thanks to all the boys who played!

S Gray Yr8

The 13 boys from year 7 and year 8 all worked very hard and kept their heads held high despite results not going their way. They conducted themselves very well, being polite to other players, coaches and referees. Their sportsmanship is to be commended as well with Albie.H, in one instance even admitting to the referee that it was a corner kick rather than his goal kick. Throughout the entire night all the boys worked extremely hard and kept going – this was typified by them scoring with the last kick of evening through J.Holmes who got his second of the night! While all the boys did well honourable mentions go to Max Savage and Alex Forbes who playing in their fixture for Ixworth, stepping up to play with the year above put in great performances in defence and midfield. Additionally, Finley. M, and Albie. H, both shone in goal making key saves. Well done to all those who played.

Thanks to all those who have support the U13 boys football team!

Mr Slow

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TASSOMAI TOP 10

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Freya Bennett | 6. Ruby Horrex |
| 2. Lia Wing | 7. Sophie Lewis |
| 3. Edie Watson | 8. Ethan Eggleston |
| 4. Layla Grace | 9. Caitlyn Johnson |
| Kenvin | 10. Vinnie Magnani |
| 5. Kiyah Ramm | |

Over **31,000** questions were attempted by our students last week! Well done for showing how ambitious you are with your science homework!



Save the Date: December 11th Our Christmas Cabaret is on the horizon, and we can't wait to share an evening of music, laughter, and festive cheer with you.

Keep an eye on the bulletin for details about when ticket sales will begin. After the half-term holiday, we'll be opening sign-ups and holding auditions—so if you've got a talent to share, get ready to shine.

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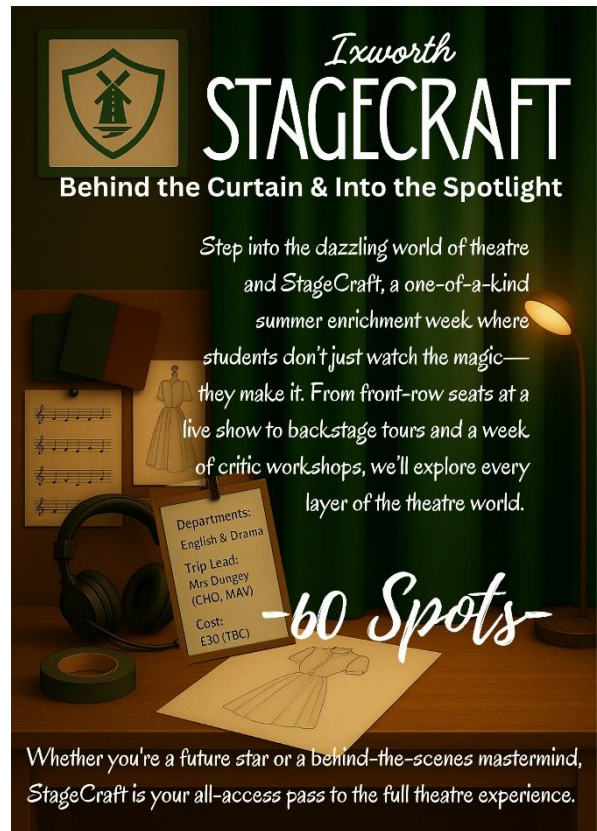
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Stagecraft Enrichment

SEW : StageCraft: Behind the Curtain & Into the Spotlight (Only 60 spots)

Step into the dazzling world of theatre and **StageCraft**, a one-of-a-kind summer enrichment week where students don't just watch the magic—they *make* it. From front-row seats at a live show to backstage tours and a week of critic workshops, we'll explore every layer of the theatre world.

Whether you're a future star or a behind-the-scenes mastermind, **StageCraft** is your all-access pass to the full theatre experience.



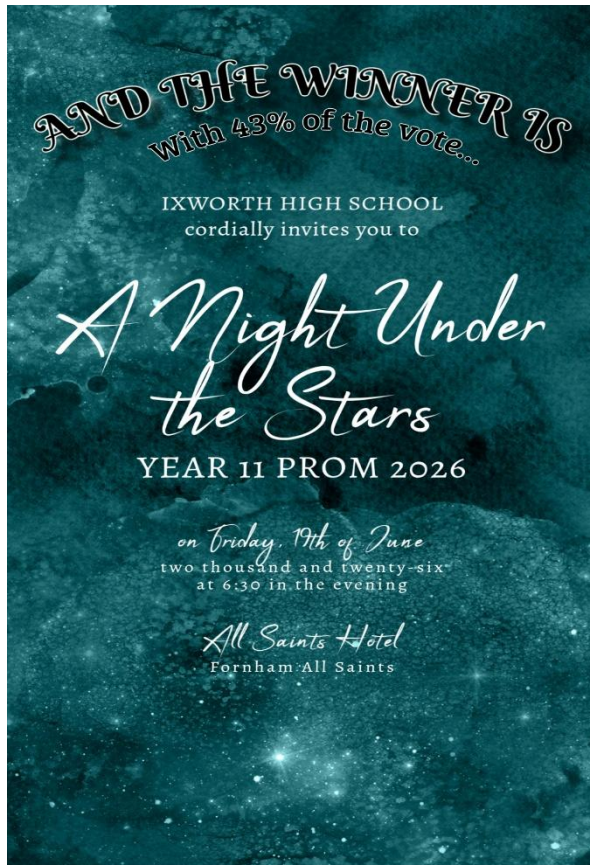
Ixworth
STAGECRAFT
Behind the Curtain & Into the Spotlight

Step into the dazzling world of theatre and **StageCraft**, a one-of-a-kind summer enrichment week where students don't just watch the magic—they *make* it. From front-row seats at a live show to backstage tours and a week of critic workshops, we'll explore every layer of the theatre world.

Departments:
English & Drama
Trip Lead:
Mrs Dungey
(CHO, MAV)
Cost:
£30 (TBC)

-60 Spots-

Whether you're a future star or a behind-the-scenes mastermind, **StageCraft** is your all-access pass to the full theatre experience.



AND THE WINNER IS
with 43% of the vote...

IXWORTH HIGH SCHOOL
cordially invites you to

A Night Under the Stars
YEAR 11 PROM 2026

on Friday, 19th of June
two thousand and twenty-six
at 6:30 in the evening

All Saints Hotel
Fornham All Saints

Prom

This week Year 11 students have been voting to choose their prom theme.

The choices were between Masquerade, A Night Under the Stars and Enchanted.

The winner is:

A Night Under the Stars with 43% of the vote.

More information, including prices and how to purchase tickets, will follow in due course.

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MENTAL HEALTH *support*

TOP TIPS TO HELP TEENS' MENTAL HEALTH

The things that they need the most
help with is:



1 GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP

Teens need between 8-10 hours per night. This is vital for their growing bodies.



2 FOR US TO RESPOND NOT REACT

Stay calm and listened when they're having a meltdown - remember, you're the parent, not the child. They need you to be calm and listen to them.



3 FOR US NOT TO TAKE IT TO HEART

It's not about you. It's about them. They're having a meltdown because they're struggling with something. They're not trying to hurt you or anyone. They're just trying to get through it.



4 REGULATING DEVICE USE

Monitor what they're watching online - is it age appropriate? Are they using it to bully or be bullied? Are they using it to bully or be bullied? Are they using it to bully or be bullied?



5 BEING EMOTIONALLY PRESENT

Let them know you're there just for them - don't be afraid to ask them what they're going through. They need you to be there for them.



6 FINDING THE FUNNY

Help them find the funny side of things. Laughter is a great way to cope with stress. They need you to be there for them.

Support available over the
half term break



Under 25s

YOUNG MINDS
Crisis Messenger

Text YM to 85258
Open 24/7

THINK

Call 0800 000 4994
3pm - 12am, every day

childline
Open 24/7

Call 0800 1111
7:30am - 3:30am, every day

Over 25s

mind
for older people

Call 0300 123 3393
9am - 4pm, Mon - Fri

SAMARITANS

Call 116 123
Open 24/7

Parents

YOUNG MINDS | Parents

Call 0800 602 5544
9:30am - 4pm, Mon - Fri

For more advice and information
visit: [youngminds.org.uk/find-help](https://www.youngminds.org.uk/find-help)

SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH

- Text SHOUT to 85258 to contact the [Shout textline](https://www.shouttextline.com/)
- Call [HOPEPHONE247](https://www.hopephone247.org/) on 0800 068 4141 or the NHS on 111 and select option 2
- Contact [Childline](https://www.childline.org.uk/) by using [1-2-1 chat](https://www.childline.org.uk/1-2-1-chat/) or calling 0800 1111
- Anything at all – call Samaritans on 116 123
- Abuse - call Childline on 0800 1111
- Crime and traumatic events – call Victim Support on 0800 168 9111
- Crisis support – text SHOUT to 85258
- Domestic abuse (Wales only) – call Live Fear Free on 0800 80 10 800
- Drugs and alcohol – call FRANK on 0300 123 6600
- Suicidal thoughts – call HOPEPHONE247 on 0800 068 4141