

## 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### Headteacher

In this bulletin I have included a summary of the positives and areas for development from the recent Trust review of our school. They found many positives, and the areas for development that they have identified align closely with our evaluations and plans for this year. The visit was thorough, and the evidence collected came from observations in classrooms, interviews with students and staff, surveys and other data.

One aspect we are keen to get right quickly is our communication with parents. I have attached a Communications Protocol document to this bulletin that summarises who to contact, how to contact, the expected timeframe and response for a range of queries you might have. It also includes the places that hold key information about the school that you can access at any time. Our staff list is also up to date on the website to assist in sending emails. I have shared the protocols with staff and explained the purpose of the document as well.

We are pleased to announce that we are currently top in the Senenca Homework table by a **very** large margin, this national resource records homeworks and activities logged by our students in English, Maths and Science. This is an amazing achievement and testimony to the hard work put in by our students, and support from home in completing homework. The EEF (Education Endowment Foundation) evidence shows that this aspect of learning is one the single biggest impacts a student can have on their outcomes.

Finally, but not least, our Year 9 girls were victorious in their first netball game of the season, beating Castle manor Academy 27-6. Well done to the team and Miss Burgess.

Please note that we have a Professional Development Day on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October and the school is closed to all pupils.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

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](http://www.ixworthhighschool.org)

We are working to update everything, if you have any question please do not hesitate to contact the school.

### Key Dates

#### Week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> October is Week B on our timetable

10 <sup>th</sup> October	HelloYellow and bake sale – see flyer attached.
14 <sup>th</sup> October	Staff INSET Day, school is closed to pupils
17 <sup>th</sup> October	School Photographs
17 <sup>th</sup> October	Coffee House
26 <sup>th</sup> October	Half term commences, school reopens on 4 <sup>th</sup> November
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Yr11 mocks commence until 15 <sup>th</sup> November
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Yer 7,8 & 9 Flu immunisations

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## Reports

Our parent reports are called Progress Check Points (PCPs). The first report, PCP 1, (Target Grades), has already been sent home. All of our target grades are based on the individual student's prior data; either Year 6 SATs data (Year 7,8 &9) or Year 7 CAT data (Year 10 & 11). Year 10 & 11 have different data as no SATS were sat in Year 6 due to Covid.

**How target grades are calculated**

A student's data is compared to the grades achieved by students with the same prior data, and a target grade produced. We use software produced by Fisher Family Trust (FFT) to do this. The targets are always aspirational.

For students in Year 10 & 11, PCP1 showed the targets for all of their individual subjects; core and options. The target grades for GCSEs are in the range 1 to 9 with 9 being the highest. For vocational subjects such as Health and Social Care, and Engineering, the grades are between a Level 2 Pass and Level 2 Distinction\*. A Level 2 Pass is equivalent to a Grade 4 GCSE, and a Level 2 Distinction\* equivalent to a Grade 8 GCSE.

For students in Year 7,8 & 9 the targets for this year are a percentage. These are again produced by looking at the student's prior attainment and predicting what they need to achieve to be on track to achieve their GCSE Target grades at the end of Year 11. Their GCSE target grades are also given to you as a guide to what they should achieve in Year 11.

**How progress reports are generated**

The next set of reports are due to be published at the end of this term. For Year 11 the report data will be based on their Mock exams that will be sat at the beginning of November, this data may also be used for college applications. Students and parents will be able to compare their target grade with the grade they achieved in the mock exam.

For Year 10 the report will be based on assessments completed up to the data collection point, these are graded in the same way as GCSEs and Vocational qualifications. Students and parents will then be able to compare their target grade with the grade they achieved in their assessments.

For Year 7, 8 & 9 the report will be based on the average of all the assessments completed by the student in lessons up to the data collection point in that subject. The number of assessments varies based on the number of lessons the student has each fortnight in that subject. This will be published as a percentage. Students and parents will then be able to compare their target grade % with the % grade they achieved in their assessments.

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## Trust Review Summary September 2024

### Positives

- Most pupils said they feel safe and do not experience bullying.
- Good range of subjects available reported by students.
- Good opportunities to participate in clubs and activities reported by students.
- Staff are positive about the leadership of school, and the behaviour and safety of pupils.
- The Team said uniform is consistently good around the school.
- The Team said good practice was seen in a number of classrooms during form time particularly with Ninja Maths.
- Staff say they feel that the school is moving in the right direction.
- Students like the move to 100-minute lessons; less moving around the school.
- Students like the new menu “new food is much better!” (Cheese on toast in particular).
- Students said behaviour standards have improved and are better.
- Students said more staff in post and fewer cover lessons.
- The team said that generally, there was a positive climate for learning across the school.
- The team said where teaching is strong, the behaviour is excellent.
- The team said presentation in books has improved.
- The team said literacy has a ‘sense of direction’ in terms of tutor time, generic and disciplinary reading.
- The team saw excellent use of Year 10 reading mentors.
- The team saw positives in leadership of behaviour, attendance and safeguarding.

### Areas to Develop

- Coaching and development of staff.
- Consistency of behaviour and challenge in lessons.
- Communication with parents, including expectations and protocols.
- The SEN offer and support.
- Further development and consistency of lesson routines, objectives and success criteria.
- Further development of the curriculum documentation.

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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**.

### 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.

## 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 these talented student!

Mrs Dungey

## Enrichment Trips

This is students last chance to sign up for the residential summer enrichment week trips. Please check the adverts sent previously and contact the school office or [m.stacpoole@ixworthhighschool.org](mailto:m.stacpoole@ixworthhighschool.org) for any questions.

- **France Trip**
- **Camp Trip**
- **London Trip**

If you have already signed up, please make sure you have signed the terms and conditions document. These are available to collect from the office, or email [enquiries@ixworthhighschool.org](mailto:enquiries@ixworthhighschool.org).

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## Former Student

On Wednesday we had the pleasure of introducing several of our cohorts to a former student of Ixworth. Maddie, has been very successful since leaving us with a raft of outstanding GCSE grades, most recently earning a First Class Degree at Durham University. Maddie gave an inspiring talk to our Y9, 10 and 11 students about her experiences, challenges and outcomes.

Following these presentations, she spoke to a small group from each of Year 10 and 11. She drew on her experiences to inspire our students to strive for excellence in all they do as well as showing them some of the options available to them at post-16 and beyond. Following her input, two of our Y10s took Maddie on a tour of the school, when she arrived back, she was full of praise for the outstanding interactions she had throughout the day, highlighting the significant improvements in the school since her time here. We are very pleased to have had the opportunity to work with Maddie and fully intend to repeat this in the future as well as invite in other Alumni.

Thank you to Maddie for her time with us.

Mr Jackson

## Arbor Information

I'm emailing to inform you about an issue that has impacted meal invoice generation in Arbor for the Cashless catering API services. The issue has caused meal invoices generated between 2nd October at 10am and 3rd October at 4.30pm to show a £0 value. This is in turn impacting Arbor balances. The underlying root cause has now been fixed however we're carrying out work to rectify the invoices currently showing as £0.

Whilst we work on this, you may see some discrepancies and missing charges on invoices generated between 2nd October at 10am and 3rd October at 4.30pm.

Our aim is to fix this within the next day, but I'll keep you updated on any progress.

I'm very sorry for the impact this may cause or questions this could be generating but can assure you this is being worked on as our highest priority.

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Arbor Support

## Netball Results

A fantastic start to the netball season with a huge 27-6 win over Castle Manor. From the opening whistle, the team demonstrated their hunger for success, executing precise passing, sharp movement, and relentless defensive throughout the game. Every player contributed to this outstanding performance, making it a true team effort. Well done girls!

Miss Burgess

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Ixworth High School



Presents

Disney  
**FROZEN** JR.

If you want to build a snowman  
sign up for auditions via Arbor

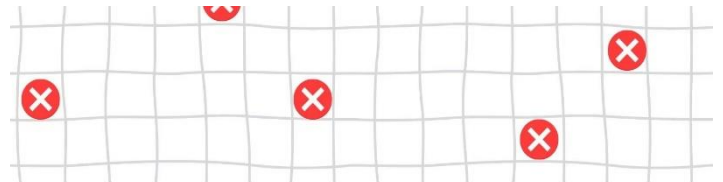
Audition day

Friday 11th October 13.30-15.10

Once you have signed up

Audition scripts and Music score

To be collected by Wednesday 9th October  
during lunch times in Olivier



# ABSENCES ADD+UP!

**MISSING JUST 2 DAYS**  
**A MONTH MEANS YOU MISS**  
**10% OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!**

