

# #IceniAcademy



July 22



@IceniAcademy

PROUDLY  
SHARING  
OUR NEWS

'Individually Strong,  
Unstoppable Together'

## PRINCIPAL'S POST

Dear all,

I am writing this in an empty academy, having had to close today and yesterday due to extreme heat. Thank you for your show of support in making this decision. It is never an easy call, but I was brought back to the fact that over 500 of our students get on a bus to return home to you during the hottest part of the day. With the government urging people not to travel on public transport, this sealed the deal for me. I look forward to seeing everyone back tomorrow for the final three days.

Please do spend some time looking through the articles and photos included in the newsletter. It is so inspiring to see so many of our students accessing a broader curriculum through trips and clubs. I am also so proud of the students who entered and won the Dive Project competition, detailed below. What a wonderful achievement, and what an exciting opportunity for all involved!

I wish you all a restful summer break with your families. If COVID has taught us one thing, it is to value the times we spend together with our loved ones. I look forward to the new term in September, when we will be setting up the parent focus group, as we look to continue make improvements together.

Lesley Hogg

### **Iceni Secondary Academy students dive deep into marine conservation**

Earlier this year, students at Iceni Secondary Academy entered the 'Dive Project Cornwall' competition, a contest to enable students at winning schools to learn to dive and achieve their PADI Open Water Diver certification, learn about the colourful and diverse marine and coastal environments of Cornwall and participate as part of the analysis team for a citizen science project. The competition sought 20 winning schools, one for each region of the UK – and so competition was fierce.

Having progressed to the second round of the competition, Iceni Secondary Academy students designed and made a marine creature using single use plastics, created and filmed a two-minute video on why they wanted to win the competition and, finally, collectively wrote an essay exploring the importance of protecting our oceans. 15 students from across Years 7, 8 and 9 participated in these activities, working collaboratively on the entry for Iceni Academy.

Iceni Secondary Academy students were thrilled to learn they had won the competition. A group of twenty students will be representing the eastern region in Pothkerris, Cornwall, in May 2023.

As part of the project, students will also be able to complete a 'Try dive' at Cristal Seas SCUBA in Norwich ([www.scuba4me.co.uk](http://www.scuba4me.co.uk)).

To find out more about the project, contribute to the project's crowd funding page or see some of the competition entries, please visit [www.diveprojectcornwall.co.uk](http://www.diveprojectcornwall.co.uk).



# NEWS FROM OUR YEAR GROUPS

## Year 7

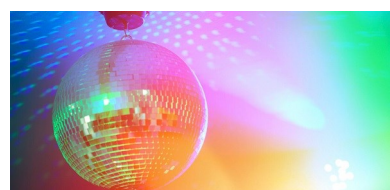
I can't quite believe that we've reached the end of Year 7 and our students are now ready to move into Year 8. In many ways, the year seems to have flown by and Year 7 have so much to be proud of: they have navigated their first full year since Covid, they have made fantastic academic progress and innumerable new friendships that will carry them through the following four years.

As we look back across the year, it is a huge achievement to see that collectively, since September, Year 7 have been awarded 20,987 positive points which reflect 6,338 positive events. This is higher than any other year group and a lead that I would like us to maintain next year! Well done Year 7!

Congratulations to the following students who have received the highest number of positives across the year:

Dylan W, Elivia M, Scarlett P, Roman R, Alex C, Teddy DP, Amelia R, Chloe I, Jack A, Freddie W.

We also end the school year on another high following the very successful Year 6 and Year 7 disco which was kindly organised by Mrs Doughty. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their Friday evening in order for this event to run. Thank you also to the students, who behaved impeccably and had a fantastic evening of dancing and fun.



On the theme of saying thank you, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our brilliant form tutor team who have worked tirelessly across the year: Mrs Jacobsz, Mr Boyd, Mr Tupper, Mr Solloway, Ms Pawsey and Mr Boudiba. Lastly and in no way least, we must thank Mrs Doughty who has been the glue for us all this year. Mrs Doughty has worked above and beyond to make sure that all of Year 7 have felt supported and listened to throughout the year. Her work with students has contributed enormously to the success of Year 7. In September, our new incoming Year 7 students will have the benefit of Mrs Doughty's kindness and expertise, and as Year 7 move into Year 8, we welcome Mr Ward as the Year 8 Student Support Officer.

We wish all our Year 7 parents and carers a fantastic summer break. Thank you for your support this year, have a restful summer and we look forward to welcoming all our students back in September.

Mrs Cross

## Year 8

Year 8 has come to an end for this year group and I know many of them are now looking forward to next year which will come with many opportunities that the students will be able to take advantage of, such as the breadth of subjects they will be choosing for their options and the trips that are starting to be planned for the year ahead. I know many are also really looking forward to the summer holiday, and so am I! It has been fantastic to celebrate the students' successes this week in our celebration assembly, we did not have time to hand all of the certificates out during form time as there were so many. Well done to all of those students that were rewarded. A massive congratulations to Sophie, Zoe, Lydia and Amy for winning gold medals at the science fair for their slime! Finally, I would like to thank all of the students and parents for this year, I have thoroughly enjoyed being their head of year and the challenges and rewards that have come with it. I wish everyone all the very best for the future and leave the year group in the capable hands of Miss Tooze, who I know will continue to have high expectations for conduct, achievement and attendance and will do a brilliant job leading this year group into their senior secondary school years.

Mr Brown

## Year 9

Firstly I'd like to say that it has been a genuine pleasure to be acting Head of Year 9 for the past few weeks. From September Mr Magee will be taking the reigns as acting Head of Year 10, and I wish him all the best in this role.

As the end of term approaches, Year 9's thoughts will be turning to what to expect in September when they will be starting their options choices. Year 10 marks the end of Key Stage 3, and the start of their GCSE studies. The importance of these lessons cannot be overstated - GCSEs are not a test of intelligence, they are a test of effort. In my experience, students will achieve the grades that their efforts deserve and I am sure that this group of Iceni students will throw themselves into their studies wholeheartedly and make us all very proud.

I am sure that you would all like to extend your thanks to the Year 9 tutor team, and also to Mr Ward the Year 9 Student Support Officer, all of whom have worked incredibly hard to support the students this year. From September the students will fall under the remit of Miss Breheny, who will support them through their final two years at Iceni.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to celebrate those students who have really pushed themselves this year. The top 10 point scorers in Year 9 have been -

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Flynn F    | 281 |
| Amberley H | 281 |
| Chloe F    | 231 |
| Crea M     | 216 |
| Freddie R  | 210 |
| Alex S     | 209 |
| Thomas W-H | 209 |
| Wiktor J   | 208 |
| Noah R     | 207 |
| Kieran A   | 203 |

All the best in the future

Mr Carter



Year 10 have spent the last few weeks adjusting to being the top end of the school and have done so brilliantly. We have had many exciting trips, including a visit to College of West Anglia, a Geography Field Study trip, astronomy and Battlefields. The vast majority of students on all of these trips showed the school in an amazing light and made staff proud of them.

It has been with great admiration that whilst I was also looking after Year 11, this year group maintained their high standards with little coaxing from me. It has been a fantastic year and my final thanks are to all staff and parents that continue to assist this group in being fantastic role models for our community. Have a lovely summer in preparation for the big year ahead!

Mr Falder

## Year 10

## NEWS FROM OUR FACULTIES

# English

In Year 7, we are finishing studying 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Our Year 7s have been excellent in reading Shakespeare aloud in class and have produced some excellent work on the plot and characters.

Year 8s are finishing reading 'Noughts & Crosses', Malorie Blackman's speculative fiction on an alternate reality. We have been exploring the theme of justice and looking at the inequality in this imagined society.

Year 9s are completing their work on George Orwell's dystopian novel, '1984'. We have explored the London presented in 1984 and the acts of rebellion Winston Smith engages in throughout the novel. It is a complex novel that Year 9 have worked hard with. We look forward to them starting GCSE English in September and are sure that they will tackle these new challenges head on.

Last but not least, our Year 10s are completing their first year of GCSE English. They have all worked very hard this year with their GCSE Literature content and we are sure that they will continue in this way into Year 11.

Well done to all the year groups on their continued hard work in English. Enjoy your summer, take a well-deserved rest and we will see you in September when we return!

Miss Hampson



# Maths

As we come to the end of the year, we reflect on the positive experiences we've encountered as a department. The pressures of this year's GCSEs didn't faze the cohort as much as we had anticipated so we were very proud of them for keeping the positivity high, trusting their instincts and always communicating their needs with us. It was a pleasure to end the year with them, experience a brilliant leavers day together and see them as mature individuals at Prom. We are very much looking forward to celebrating their successes with them on results day too.

I would like to take this moment to thank Mr Brown for his incredible maths teaching, excellent leadership as Head of Year 8 and for the experiences he brought to the department. He will be missed by staff and students alike. Good luck with your next adventure Mr Brown! In addition, a huge thank you to Mr Taylor who taught maths to a high level, developed confidence and resilience in the students and was an inspirational colleague to work alongside.



On more exciting news, we have successfully recruited two great maths teachers, Miss Bartrum and Mr Ovenden, who will be joining us in September and instilling a passion for maths in our students. Welcome to the team!

Miss Colson

## PE

The PE department have loved the wonderful weather in this final half term. Pupils have continued learning Athletics, Tennis, Rounders, Cricket, Football and Table Tennis. Fixtures have been dominated by Athletics, with 3 separate afternoons for Years 7, 8 and 9 at The Nicholas Hammond Academy. We also took a coach load of pupils to a Commonwealth Sports Celebration at Wymondham Rugby Club as well as a selection of pupils to the School Games Colour Run event. We are really proud to say, despite the Omicron disruption, 42% of Year 7-10 have represented the Academy in formal fixtures this year. Thank you to all of my staff for providing these opportunities.

At the time of writing this, we look forward to two final events to finish off the year. Sports day is due to take place over Tuesday and Wednesday of the final week of term. Fingers crossed the heatwave does not cause us to amend or cancel it. We have a plan B if necessary though, which will see the pupils still represent their Community and compete individually for the Victor and Victrix Ludora trophies, which have been awarded since 1979. Thursday will see all of those who have represented the Academy attend a Sports Celebration Assembly, with over 200 pupils due to receive a formal invite.

There is a tinge of sadness to this newsletter though, with two long term team members of PE staff leaving the Academy for pastures new at the end of term. Firstly, I would like to wish all the very best to Mrs Bradley. Mrs Bradley has taught at Iceni for 13 years. She has been a huge personality in both the department and school. For me, Mrs Bradley's greatest contribution has been to school netball. Before Covid, there would well over 50 girls attending netball club. One of the biggest challenges to teaching PE at Iceni is pupils having limited access to local clubs due to our rural setting. The nearest sustained netball club is probably Thetford. Therefore, the interest generated really was down to her teaching and coaching. I must also mention the many 'Sports Weeks' Mrs Bradley organised for our previous activities weeks. Hundreds of pupils enjoyed a range of 'unusual' sports and it became the most popular choice every year. Mrs Bradley, you will be missed.

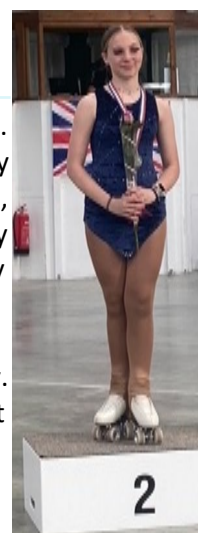
It is also time for myself to say goodbye to Iceni after nine years. My personal highlights were the National Cup (football) run in 2015 with Year 11, who reached the last 16. Despite the huge organisational task, I loved planning and running the Football and Netball Tours, of which we managed one to Malta and two to Spain, winning the football tournament in 2017. It was a pleasure to help with the Watersports Trips to France and Ski Trips to Italy. However, above all else, I am most fond and proud of those pupils that grew in confidence, smiled, made memories and went on to lead an active lifestyle because of PE and school sport here at Iceni. I wish you all the very best for the future; hopefully Norwich City can get back in the big league with the greatest club in the world: Manchester United.

Mr Taylor

Maddison Bourn competed in an event over the half term break. She competed at a national level in The National British Championships for Compulsory Figure and Loops for her standard and age, which is Cadet group. At the Championship, Maddison and her fellow competitors were judged on four separate loops and figures by five judges each time. The judges closely scrutinised every athlete's movement and body position.

As usual the competition was very tough and consisted of the best in the country. Marks were very close, and gained a well respected Silver Medal. This makes her Great Britain (GB) Ladies Cadets, Vice Champion 2022.

Well done Maddison!



# Humanities

As ever, the Summer Term has been an immensely busy one for the Humanities Department. First and foremost, we have bid farewell to Year 11, having invested a great deal of time and effort in preparing them for the first public examinations since 2019. We hope that their efforts are successful and I would like to thank Mr Boyd, Mr Magee and Miss Laws for their gargantuan contribution. We await the results with anticipation!

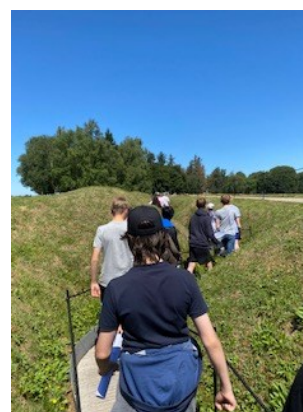
Inevitably, attention shifts now to Year 10 and to this end, both Mr Boyd and Mr Magee have been busy with GCSE fieldwork in Cromer, completing both physical beach studies on sea defences and human studies on the impact of tourism. Students had to overcome their reticence in talking to the general public in order complete their questionnaires and generally represented the academy with distinction.

In a similar vein, the history trip to the World War One Battlefields of Belgium and France also took place for the first time in three years. Despite a raft of Covid and Brexit related hurdles to overcome in the preparation of the trip, the visit itself went fantastically well and our students again behaved flawlessly. Hopefully, what they experienced will live long in their memories, including the largest British and Commonwealth cemetery in the world at Tyne Cot, the haunting last post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres and the Somme battlefields at Newwfoundland Park. I would like to thank the participating staff, Miss Laws, Mr Magee, Miss Thompson and Miss Tooze, as well as two parent helpers, Mr Pammenter and Mr Ferrie, for making the trip such a success. I would also like to thank both Mrs Harrison and Ms Shaw for their invaluable help in the admin of the trip, without which I would have drowned in a sea of Covid related regulations.

Finally, I would also like to thank Miss Pyke and wish her Bon Voyage in her new adventure to Dubai. It is hard to stress just how important I consider her work in the Humanities department to have been, where she has single-handedly established RE as a discreet subject at Iceni Academy and left the subject in such good health that we have a GCSE group for the very first time. Her unique brand of forthrightness will most certainly be missed by staff and students alike.

All that remains is to wish you all a happy holiday; we have certainly all earned it.

Mr Bedford



It was wonderful to be able to organise a languages day with Year 8 this year. The students had a busy day bringing language learning to life. The day was organised to give our students opportunities to widen their knowledge of European languages and their cultures!

The students were treated to some language taster-sessions. Mrs Gasiorowska came to teach Polish, with the help of some of our Polish-speaking students, and Mr Boudiba taught Spanish.

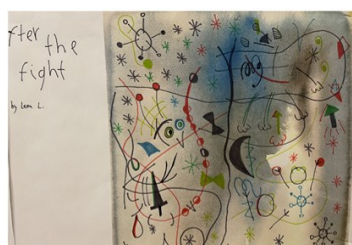


Mrs Crook and Miss Tooze were looking at the work of the Spanish artist, Joan Miro. The students produced some wonderful work, which is now on display around school. Miss Trichet was exploring the importance of languages in the wider world in preparation for choosing a language at GCSE. Miss Pawsey was in the food technology room with the students making crêpes. It was great to see some fantastic team-work from the students, and we even had some crêpe flipping!

The day was finished off with a quiz... this included the popular food tasting round. I think the chocolate round was the most popular! The students were really engaged and enjoyed the variety of activities.

Miss Trichet and Mr Boudiba were busy during Year 6 transition week, introducing French at Iceni.

The students were describing and creating monsters after being introduced to different body parts in French.



We are delighted to welcome back Miss Agoudjil, who is returning from France. She will be joining us in the MFL department in September, teaching French and German.

Often we are asked, how students can keep up their language skills over the holidays. Here are some suggestions:

**Language Gym** - we will continue to have access to this online language platform next year. Should anyone need their password resetting, please come and see Miss Pawsey.

**Watch films or series** on Netflix or other streaming platforms, change the audio into your chosen language or add subtitles. Why not do this with your favourite film or series, as you already know the story!

**Duolingo** – a fantastic app (which is free) to help you learn a language, there are lots of language to choose from!

Why not **research a dish** from a French or German speaking country and have a go at making it. Can you translate the recipe into the target language? Send us pictures of your dish!

**Research a city or destination** in a French or German speaking city, where would you like to visit, how would you get there?

**Finally, if you go on holiday over the summer, we'd love to receive a postcard to see where you've been... in the UK or anywhere around the world.**

**Why not write us a message in French or German, or even in the language of the country you are visiting. We'll use them to create a display in the MFL department.**

We wish you all a fantastic summer and look forward to seeing you all in September!  
Miss Pawsey



## Science



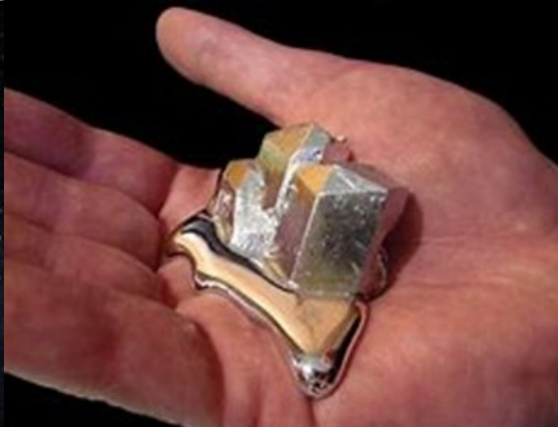
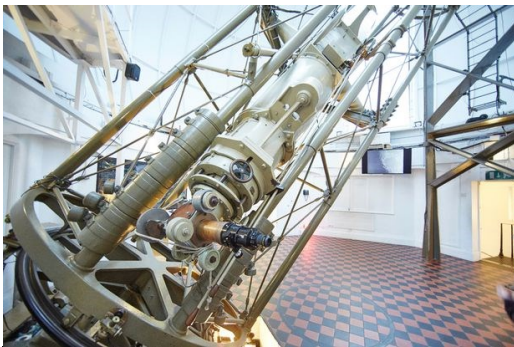
We took 30 pupils to the Royal Observatory In Greenwich. We experienced a show in the planetarium as well as having a lesson on stellar distances with a real life Astronomer!

Gardening club have been really busy this half term and have started to harvest some produce. So far we have grown radishes, peas, carrots, spring onions, lettuces, cauliflowers and blackcurrants.

Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> July saw our Science and careers fair. Pupils enjoyed mocktails, keyring making and the rowing machine which were brought in by our local colleges and employers.

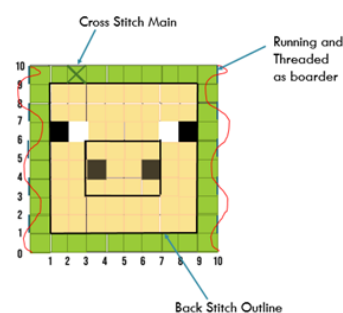
The projects this year were great; we had projects on gallium, climate change, buildings that survive earthquakes, astronomy, the science of lightsabres, and ooblek to name but a few!

Miss Williams





Our students have spent the last term creating some fantastic practical work in all aspects of Design and Technology. Years 7, 8 & 9 have been completing their first ever rotation in textiles learning the basic stitches used and creating some fantastic cross stitched images. They have also been busy in the workshop making their very own wooden pencil cases ready for their brand new stationery for next academic term. Food technology has really started to blossom with our amazing new teacher Miss Tooze taking the reins. The students have made some fantastic dishes such as scones, pizza toast, fish and chips, stir fry, and scotch eggs.



We have really enjoyed the opportunity of welcoming our new Year 7s within our department this last week. They had a fun time designing and making keyrings, team building structural challenges and making chocolate shortbread.

