

#IceniAcademy



February 24



@IceniAcademy

PROUDLY
SHARING
OUR NEWS

**'Individually Strong,
Unstoppable Together'**

Head's Headlines

We have come to the end of another busy half term.

We had a successful pre-public exams period. Students received their results this week; well done to all Year 11 students!

We continue to drive school improvements: students are responding well and there is a noticeable difference within the academy. There is still plenty to work on, but we are working hard on this.

Wishing everyone a good half term break.

Mr Rushton

End of half term Celebration assemblies

The end of another successful half term at the academy is marked as the students have had their celebration assemblies this week.

Awards were given out with the following categories

- Form with the highest positive points
- Form with the highest attendance
- Form with the most improved attendance this half term
- Tutor of the term
- Core values champions - for Aiming High, Working Hard and Being Kind
- Highest reward point values for three students in each Form



We also continue with 100 Club, Attendance cups, Hot Chocolate Fridays and our other positive rewards for students as we strive to embed positive culture at the academy.

Thank you to all students, staff and members of the community for your ongoing support. Have a fantastic half term when it arrives.

Mr Nicholls



Year 7

Thank you Year 7 for another wonderful half term at Iceni. Your form tutors, Mrs Doughty and myself are so proud of the progress you have and are continuing to make. Year 7 are still top of the attendance leader board: this is brilliant to hear. Thank you to all the parents and carers that have supported your pupils in attending school every day. As a reward for those pupils with 100% attendance in one week have been given a 100 Club ticket. This has allowed them to stand a chance of winning a canteen queue jump pass and free food token. I have loved seeing the joy from this reward, but also the fact that every week offers a new opportunity. Who will be next weeks 100% attendance winner? Alongside the 100 Club, we have also had Year 7's represent the academy during Hot Chocolate Friday with the Head of Academy. This has been a lovely way to start the weekend and so far 6 different pupils have been given this award. I am sure many more will after the holidays. As a Head of Year, it brings me joy to see our pupils achievements being recognised.

From everyone in the year team we hope you enjoy your break and we look forward to seeing you back for the next exciting half term at Iceni Academy.

Miss Ashman



Year 8

After returning from the Christmas break, Year 8 have really embraced the changes in our school and are now enjoying good, engaging lessons and seeing real progress in their learning. This half term we have had some wonderful positive learning points awarded to our students with special mention to those students who will receive well deserved certificates of achievement.

The next half term will see our school improving further and with it the attainment of all of our children. With the count down to Easter, Year 8 will be having their termly assessments and I am confident will show just how we have grown as a year group. Going forward I will look on with pleasure to see some of my students rewarded for their hard work in class and is something I will actively pursue. Special thanks must go to our Student Support Officer Miss Valentyna who works really hard for our year supporting us.

Enjoy your well deserved break, Year 8. Have fun and relax, however, as always stay safe and I will be here to welcome you all back after half term.

Mr Lord

Year 9

I would like to say well done to all our Year 9 students who have received many positive points this half term. I would also like to thank you all parents who have come to a successful and well attended Year 9 Options Evening. Year 9 Progress Evening was equally successful, and it was great to see so many of you. I am looking forward to next half term.

I hope you all enjoy a restful half-term break.

Miss Agoudjil

Year 10

Wow Year 10, what an absolute amazing term. This term has seen us improve dramatically across the board. Uniform is looking a lot better, behaviour around the academy is more mature and attitude to learning has taken a turn for the better since the release of the reports last month. So thank you for all those that have taken on board the changes to help improve our school.

I do feel that we are working up towards a solid start for year 11 which is just around the corner.

Let's keep improving and let's keep being the 'best versions of ourselves.'

Have a happy and safe half term.

Miss Tooze

Year 11—Raising Achievement Update

What a busy term it has been for Year 11! We are so proud of your hard work and resilience during your recent PPEs (pre-public examinations). Students have now received their results from these exams, and know what they need to work on next in order to improve further. This will be our key focus for next half term as we move closer towards the exams.

When I met with Year 11 this week, I told them about the importance of hard work in all their subjects so that they have every choice available to them after school: the more GCSEs they have, the more choice they have in their next steps and beyond! I explained that the results from their PPEs are not their final results—whether they were very pleased (as many of them were!), or disappointed. Either way, the hard work must continue, and we are here to support that.

As a group, students who have an average attitude to learning of 'good' or better performed on average 1.5 grades better than peers with an average 'very poor', 'poor' or 'variable' attitude to learning. It just goes to show that when students put in the hard work, they reap the benefits!! Attendance also had a massive impact on student outcomes—so I encourage all Year 11 students to live by our core values: aim high, work hard, be kind.

We wish Year 11 a happy and healthy half term, with a mixture of revision and relaxation, ready to go again when we return from the break.

Miss Staniforth, Vice Principal

Headlines

This half term started with Year 7-10 competing in our Community Cross Country based events, following the completion of their Indoor Athletics events. Effort from pupils was superb, and the results are further in this article.

KS3 pupils then moved on to dance, rugby, football, table tennis, fitness or netball, focussing on the values of teamwork, creativity, resilience and responsibility. Year 10 have rotated to volleyball, fitness and table tennis, focussing on the values of responsibility and resilience. Year 11 have continued their preferred pathways, seeing our traditional, social and alternative sport options selected. Year 10 Sports Science pupils continue their current coursework unit, whilst Year 11 have just finished their final assignment – well done! They will now focus on the exam content ahead of their unit exam in late May. They will now have an influx of homework, which will be ‘revision based’ tasks to get them best prepared for this exam.

Year 9 also participated in taster lessons ahead of potentially selecting Sport Science as one of their Key Stage 4 options. If you have any further questions regarding this course, please do speak to any member of the PE department.

There will be another new club timetable circulated shortly, reflecting the weather and light available.

Fixture News

Football league fixtures resume this final week. The Senior boys are currently battling for top spot in the league having won all but one of their games. Our Thursday afternoon fixtures have been dodgeball, with Year 9, 8 and 7 afternoons taking place. Next half term will see boys rugby and girls football taking place. Fixture uptake so far this year has been fantastic, with over 50% of all Year 8 and 9 pupils having represented the Academy at least once so far: a ‘stat’ we are very proud of.

INTER COMMUNITY INDOOR ATHLETICS	
2024	
Attenborough:	500
Mandela:	478
Nightingale:	464
Pankhurst:	502



INTER COMMUNITY CROSS COUNTRY	
2024	
Attenborough:	1113
Mandela:	1140
Nightingale:	1186
Pankhurst:	1092



Special Mentions

Congratulations to Pankhurst who clinched the Indoor Athletics in the last lesson, by just two points. Our closest competition ever! Whilst Pankhurst proved to be the ‘speediest’ community, the positions were quite the opposite when it came to the stamina based Cross-Country events, with Nightingale coming out on top in this competition.

As ever, thank you to all pupils, parents and staff for all your contributions to PE and School Sport.

Mr L Taylor

Humanities

As we approach the end of another term it is with great pleasure that we reflect on the many exciting events and achievements that have taken place in the Humanities department.

We have just launched our Ely cathedral revision trip, exclusive to our Year 11 students studying Religious Studies. This trip will provide an opportunity for our students to delve deeper into their subject and strengthen their understanding of key topics. We know it will be a great success and help our Year 11s as they approach the summer term.

The dedication and commitment shown by our Year 11 students during their pre-public examinations deserve high praise. They demonstrated resilience and determination, with many showing some improvement since the start of the academic year. We commend their hard work and wish them continued success in their forthcoming summer exams!

In addition to the Ely revision trip, we were thrilled to announce the launch of our highly sought-after Iceland trip to our Year 8 students. This exciting excursion promises to be an unforgettable experience, allowing our students to witness the marvels of nature first-hand. From stunning landscapes to breathtaking waterfalls, this trip is designed to enrich their understanding of geographical concepts and inspire a lifelong love for exploration. Whilst all 20 places have now been filled, we are running a reserve list so please do get in touch if this is something you would be interested in!



Looking ahead, we have an exciting trip on the horizon. Our Humanities department is in the process of finalizing the details for the upcoming Battlefields trip. This educational journey will provide our students with a unique opportunity to connect with history and pay homage to those who have made great sacrifices. Stay tuned for more information! We have also recently finalised the plans for our Year 10 Geography students field trips to run in the final term of the year.

Lastly, we extend our warmest congratulations to the winners of the "Hot Chocolate Friday" award. This recognition was given to a select number of students who consistently demonstrate exceptional effort, kindness, and participation within the Humanities department. We applaud their outstanding achievements and encourage others to follow in their footsteps.

As we wrap up this term in the Humanities department, we are immensely proud of the progress and achievements made by all of our students. We would like to express our gratitude to both students and parents for their continuous support. Here's to a well-deserved break and a successful start to the next term!

Mr Dyer-Jones + Mr Haymes

One of the highlights of the English department this term was the completion of the spoken language endorsements for our Year 11 students. As part of their GCSE English Language course, the students had to prepare and deliver a presentation on a topic of their choice, demonstrating their skills in speaking, listening and communication.

We were very impressed by the range and quality of the presentations that we saw. The students showed great creativity, confidence and passion in their topics, which included farming, game shooting, mental health, music, sports, fashion, and many more. Some of the presentations were informative, some were persuasive, some were entertaining, and some were all of the above.

We would like to congratulate all of our Year 11 students for their hard work and achievement in their spoken language endorsements. They have done themselves and our department proud. Well done!

Mr Meneghello

Maths

Students enjoyed an evening watching 'The Maze Runner' together. and eating popcorn! Well done to all students who were invited to the Movie Night!

The students who attended were: Ryan TM, Katie M, Freddy H, Rhys F, Freddie C, Finley C, Dylan W, Max K, Alice W, Aimee R, Logan J, James L.

Each half term we identify the most improved in each class for the times tables challenge. We have the most improved time and the most improved score. Here are the results for this half term.

	Most Improved	
	Score	Time
7X1	H Andrew	C Tappin
7X2	B Fletcher	C Walker
7X3	A English	B Cooper
7Y1	C Mills	J Sanderson
7Y2	E Baker	H Austen
8X1	J Knapman	P Bunten
8X2	M Saunders	N Collins
8Y1	S Brown	G Buckfield
8Y2	S Tucker	L Cooper
9X1	A Garrod	M Standing
9X2	H Devall	S Reeve
9Y1	C Shelbourne D Grimwood	S Taylor
9Y2	E Stuart	F Withers

Certificates have already been issued.

A big congratulations to K Murfitt (Year 11) who has been offered an interview at the Cambridge Maths School after passing the Aptitude Test. Kieran has demonstrated our core value of 'aiming high'. This is a great achievement and we wish him the best of luck for his interview.

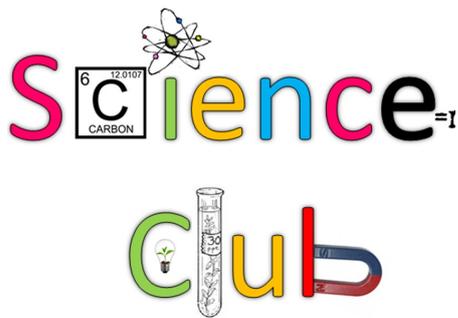


Science

Science would like to welcome Mr. Gambold and Mr. Spurgeon to the department both of whom joined us this term.

Mrs. White is starting up our Science club after half term. There are 20 spaces available to only Year 7 pupils. In this club we will be exploring science through practicals!

Miss Williams



Food Technology

The food room again has seen some wonderful creations this half term with Year 7s learning about fruits and vegetables and enzymic browning alongside the making of a wonderful and tasty apple crumble. Year 8s have been learning about macronutrients, and using protein to produce a bolognese sauce, whilst the Year 9s have been learning about food and different cultures and made a light and fluffy Victoria sponge.



Year 10s have continued working on factors that affect food choice and have which has seen them think about different medical conditions and allergies. Their practical sessions have been concentrating on high skill dishes and they all jointed and deboned a chicken whilst two lucky groups went even further than that and had a great opportunity to prepare fresh pheasants and ducks. The students literally learnt about farm to fork and prepared and cooked them in the same lesson. The students did extremely well and they were proud of their achievements for having that hands on experience.

Year 11s are still working on their NEAs and preparing for their practical exam that will take place in March and will see them cook and prepare three international breakfasts, which I am very much looking forward to seeing.

From the food department—keep on cooking and creating amazing dishes.

Happy Half Term.

Miss Tooze

Year 11 Prom 2024

This year the prom will be held at Hockwold Hall and will be a Masquerade Ball themed event.

Students have been working hard to raise money for the finer things, such as a photographer, photo booth and table décor.

Fundraising events have included;

Bake Sales X3

(Always a great hit!)

Candy Canes

Valentine Roses

Name the Valentine Bears

Funds raised up to date are in excess of £800

We would like to thank all the parents who have supported their children in the making of cakes and cookies for these events, and those who have given generously to the worthy cause!

We are looking forward to having a fantastic prom this year and the students are so excited in their planning (and purchasing!) of dresses and suits; not to mention 'after parties'!

Mrs Crook- Year 11 Form Tutor



Domestic Abuse awareness....

Are you aware that as well as supporting your children in school, Miss Bartrum and Mrs Stonach are also trained champions in supporting adults and children who are experiencing domestic abuse?

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, we would urge you get in touch to access support. We appreciate that there are many potential barriers to accessing support and some forms of domestic abuse are subtle, so you may not instantly recognise these as domestic abuse. Below are some questions for you to consider.

- Does your partner have an issue with you seeing or speaking to family or friends?
- Do you behave differently to avoid sudden changes in your partner's behaviour?
- Has your partner ever made you take out loans for them in your name?
- Do you feel like you have to give your partner your passwords to your phone, computer and social media?
- Are you worried to do the wrong thing, even though it could be okay to do this/wear this yesterday?
- Does your partner question your judgement and make you doubt yourself?

Are you fearful that your partner may hurt you, your children, or family pets? If you answered yes to any one of these questions, it is likely that you could be experiencing domestic abuse. We would urge anyone that thinks that they might be experiencing domestic abuse to contact us for free, confidential, and non-judgemental advice and support. 1 in 3 women and 1 in 5 men will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime – you are not alone, and we are here to support you.

If you have any concerns for yourself or anyone you know, please feel free to drop us an email for some confidential advice and support.

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