



14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of this half term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on our journey together and express my sincere gratitude for your continued support. This term has been one of progress, dedication, and positive change as we work together to move the school forward. Our shared goal is clear: to provide every student with a first-class education that empowers them to reach their full potential.

I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the parents who have reached out with messages of support and appreciation. Your encouragement truly means a lot to us. Leading the school through meaningful change comes with its challenges, and while not all decisions may be universally popular, please know that each choice we make is with the best interests of our students at heart. Together, we are creating a school our students are proud to attend, a community parents are proud to be part of, and an environment that equips young people with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to follow their dreams.

As we look ahead, I would like to remind you of an important expectation regarding false nails and eyelashes after the half-term break. Your support in ensuring these are removed during the break is greatly appreciated. As previously communicated, this decision is based on both research and practical experience. Our aim is to help students feel confident in their own skin and to reduce the pressures they may feel from social media or peer influences. Additionally, there are significant health and safety concerns, especially in practical subjects. Recently, a student sustained a painful injury from wearing false nails during PE, highlighting the importance of this policy.

To ensure fairness and consistency, any student who returns to school after the break wearing false nails or eyelashes will be placed in isolation until the issue is resolved. We understand that enforcing school policies at home can be challenging at times, and we truly appreciate your cooperation in supporting these uniform expectations. These guidelines are in place to promote unity, safety, and well-being for all students.

Looking ahead, our focus for the remainder of the academic year is to continue building a strong school culture. We want to create a strong sense of identity for Iceni, ensuring that students have a genuine voice through enhanced leadership opportunities. We are also exploring ways to expand enrichment activities beyond the classroom, giving students more opportunities to grow, learn, and develop valuable life skills.

While we will continue to reinforce our lines in the sand expectations, as these have proven to have a positive impact, our primary focus remains on fostering a positive, respectful, and aspirational school environment. I'm excited about what lies ahead and look forward to continuing our work together to make Iceni a place where every student thrives.

Finally, I wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable half-term break. I look forward to welcoming students back on Monday, 24th February, and to celebrating our first Icen Way Movie Night during the first week back.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr J Morris  
Vice Principal

