

December 2008



Newsletter

St Ivo School

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Dear Parent / Carer

Geography inspection

The government have established a system of subject inspections of schools to compensate for the fact that a full Ofsted inspection does not have the capacity to report on each subject. Schools are chosen randomly for an inspection and we have recently had a subject inspection of **Geography**. **The school was visited by a member of Her Majesty's Inspectorate who graded the work of the department on a four point scale 1-outstanding, 2-good, 3-satisfactory, 4-inadequate and he came to the following conclusions.**

Achievement and standards - Both achievement and standards are outstanding overall, particularly at KS4 and KS5. Behaviour is very good, reflecting teachers' high expectations.

Quality of teaching and learning of geography - Outstanding overall. Teachers' planning is thorough and their subject knowledge is excellent. Lessons are stimulating and engaging. Marking is regular and accurate.

Quality of curriculum - Outstanding overall with a strong fieldwork programme, and an excellent interactive website.

Leadership and management of geography - Outstanding. The excellent geography team is very well led and managed. Self-evaluation is accurate and the department knows precisely what needs to be done to improve further.

Community cohesion - Outstanding. The school has the Eco-Schools Silver Award with the geography department a driving force behind this initiative. It has forged strong and effective links with Waitrose, the Co-Op and a local Fairtrade shop. Students enjoy excellent relationships with teachers and each other. Most students are fully engaged in their learning. They value each other and relationships between learners from different backgrounds are very positive.

The overall effectiveness of geography is outstanding. To put this in context the HMI said that he had never given outstanding in all areas to any secondary school department before. This report obviously reflects the high quality of leadership by Mrs Mottram, the effectiveness of her team and the positive attitude of our pupils. My congratulations and thanks to Mrs Mottram, Ms Monk, Mr Moon, Mr Chambers, Mrs Morey, Mr Gray, Mr Scott and Ms Bonin-Casey.

The full report is available on our website.

Litter

An area where we are definitely not outstanding is in litter prevention in the school. As a consequence we will be placing an emphasis on this with the aim of increasing awareness and introducing formal sanctions for pupils who drop litter. We will be launching this early next term.

Finally, can I thank you for all your support of your son/daughter's education in 2008 and wish you a restful and peaceful festive season.

Yours sincerely

Howard Gilbert
Headteacher

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ST IVO SAYS NO TO LITTER AND CHEWING GUM!

The school environment is important to students and staff alike. For many years now litter has become an increasingly unpleasant problem for the school to deal with. Piles of rubbish are left to blow around in the wind after every break and lunch time. Also, on the rise and equally unhygienic in its disposal is gum chewing.

Now the senior management, staff and students are going to STOP these dirty habits and clean up our school site so that it will become one that we can enjoy on an everyday basis and be proud of when visitors come to the school.

Beginning next term measures will be put in place which will result in a cleaning up and maintenance of the school buildings and playgrounds. New bins, litter surveys, teaching on how to care for your local environment, assemblies on litter and strict controls on littering and gum chewing, amongst others will all be introduced.

"IF YOU DROP LITTER YOU ARE A LOU!" (Year 9 boy).

"YOU SHOULD NOT CHEW GUM. IT IS DROPPED ON THE CARPETS, IT STICKS TO YOUR SHOES AS YOU WALK ACROSS THE PLAYGROUND, LOADS OF IT IS UNDER THE DESKS. IT'S DISGUSTING AND UNHYGIENIC!" (Year 10 girl).



The staff and students at St Ivo are proud of what we have achieved in an environmental capacity so far. We now have the SILVER ECO-SCHOOLS AWARD and are one of the few Cambridgeshire secondary schools to have done so. Yet, we can go no further with our eco-initiatives until the litter and gum chewing problems are resolved.

We know that you as parents will be fully behind us in this and we thank you in advance for your support. Please talk at home about the litter problem, not only in the school, but also in St Ives and the rest of the UK. We could all do with a BIG CLEAN UP! Insist that your child uses a bin to dispose of gum and rubbish or takes litter home. We would like St Ivo students to be good citizens of the world and the training starts now.

If you have any ideas of how litter can be tackled or you have seen good examples of successful litter and gum control in other places or secondary schools, we would be delighted to know. Please contact: Mrs Morey (Eco-Ivo Co-Ordinator) at St Ivo School.

Mrs Morey

End of Term Closing

School will be closing at 12.15pm on Friday, 19 December 2008. School coaches and buses will be collecting students at 12.15pm.

SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR STUDENTS ON MONDAY, 5 JANUARY 2009.

Thank you from EACH

A letter has been received from East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) thanking the school for a contribution of £351.61 which was raised at the School Leavers Reunion Party.

Resource Centre News

Children in Need – We had a fun day raising money for Children In Need. Activities included sponsoring RC staff to wear Pudsey bandanas in particular ways, a book sale and buying a personalised spot to stick on our big Pudsey. Grace (7Me) won the Guess the Sweets competition and Oliver (8La) won the Pudsey Sticker Hunt. We raised £37 for Children in Need – well done everyone!

Crafts – This term we made some lovely Rangoli patterns and puppets. A big thank you to Nathan (10Bw) for bringing in his puppets to show us. We are doing Christmas crafts at present, including decorations and cards.

New Resources – We have spent £1200 this term on new fiction, including books by David Eddings, Geri Halliwell, Charlie Small and R L Stine to name a few. Come and check them out. We have lots of new non-fiction as well.

Competitions – We are doing several competitions in the run up to Christmas, including a Wallace and Gromit quiz, a Christmas team challenge and a Christmas quiz. There will be a selection of small prizes for the winners.

Helpers – We need to say thank you to Kathryn (7Mc) and Georgina (7Me) for helping us this term, as well as Alex (10Bt/Ga) and Alex (11Ci/We).

Study Skills – Since half term we have had Year 7 Study Skills in the Resource Centre, finding out information about various cities and making posters. The posters are fantastic and are displayed in the Resource Centre.

We would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and a great 2009!

Mrs Mitchell

St Ivo Ballroom Club

This term has been a busy time with many new students joining the club. New members are still welcome. The sessions are on Wednesday lunchtime in the hall (6th form in the gym), with practice on Tuesday lunchtimes in the hall as well.

A group of 12 senior students participated in BBC Radio Cambridgeshire's Strictly dancing event for Children In Need. The event was held in the University Arms hotel in Cambridge. The students put on a scintillating medley at the interval and received a standing ovation! Well done to:

Hannah (choreographer), Andrew, Rebecca, Daniel, Abigail, Christopher, Bethany, Sam, Faye, Adam, Catherine and Phillip.

The next social events for the students will be the Cambridge University black tie ball and the Christmas party at the end of the term.

The club is now looking forward to Spotlight 2009. The Intermediate students will perform a latin medley and some senior students will perform a quickstep.

Mrs Bartlett

Year 8 News

'Steve' is a new member to the Year 8 team this year. Pupils have been working hard by gaining merits individually and adding them up as a form to win Steve for the week. The form who win Steve the most throughout the year win a cup in the final assembly. A big congratulations to the winners so far:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 9th Sept - 8Cn | 16th Sept - 8Bi |
| 23rd Sept - 8An | 30th Sept - 8Cb |
| 7th Oct - 8Cn | 14th Oct - 8Bi |
| 21st Oct - 8De | 4th Nov - 8Js |
| 11th Nov - 8La | 18th Nov - 8Cb |
| 25th Nov - 8Di | 2nd Dec - 8Hn |
| 9th Dec - 8Bi | |



'Steve'

Well done to everyone keep up the hard work!

Congratulations to all those Year 8 students who organised fund raising activities for Children in Need. The following pupils took part in a sponsored silence for the day: Jasmine, Amy, Beth, Leon, Robyn, Emily, Mariah, Chelsea and Gemma. Well done to Sarah, Amy, Catherine, Georgina, Erin and Annabel for organising a cake stall. Ben and Eden collected sponsors for shaving their hair off - Well Done Boys!

Well done to the following Year 8 students who took part in the district Cross Country - Keenan, Scott, Caylem, Ashfaq, Kaine, George, Sam, Callum, Caleb, Connor, Shane, Manjeet, Lewis, Ellen, Catherine, Amber, Chloe, Amy, Jess, Olivia, Alex and Stevie.

During November Year 8 pupils supported the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal by filling shoeboxes with gifts for children in some of the poorest areas of the world. The response this year has been fantastic and we delivered over 150 shoeboxes to the regional depot. A big thank you and well done to the Year 8 pupils (particularly 8La who made 23 boxes) and any others who supported this charity.



Year 8 Council - *The school council is the students voice. We make sure students' ideas don't go ignored and instead get made into reality. Students need to be heard and we are there to hear them. We don't do things on behalf of ourselves, we do things on behalf of the whole year. We have a great time in our meetings and everyone loves it.*
Written by Joe.

Miss Sherwood
Head of Year 8

Maths Department News

Senior Maths Challenge

Several maths sixth form students took part in the Senior UK Maths challenge early in November. Congratulations to the following students who all achieved certificates:

Year 13

Vito – Gold

Tom – Silver

Kate – Bronze

Alex – Bronze

Sujon – Bronze

Year 12

Anbesan – Gold

Peter – Silver

Senior Team Maths Challenge

Congratulations to Vito, Dan, David and Tom who spent an evening representing the school at the Maths Team Challenge. They competed against some tough opposition in several heats and did St Ivo proud.

Mrs Collings

Art Department News

Year 12 Curwen Printing Trip

We have had yet another successful few trips to the printing studio in Linton. Students have learnt different printing techniques such as dry point and mono-printing, all these have supported their first unit of coursework.

Year 12 & 13 Life Drawing Sessions

Students have enjoyed life drawing sessions, where they have developed their drawing skills and used a range of media.

We have also had visiting artists in the department, knitwear designer Rebecca Birch who works for fashion retailer Wallis came in and took a workshop with year 12 textile students. We are also due to have jewellery designer Paul Mercalf in during January taking workshops with the applied students.

Congratulations to Emily in Year 12 who entered a competition held by the council. She submitted a GCSE final piece which came 3rd and won a prize of £25. The piece was exhibited in Huntingdon library for a week back in September.

Fashion Swap Shop

Mrs Akers is arranging a Fashion Swap Shop, the art of swishing involves getting your friends together to swap clothes, all free of charge while disposing of those regretted purchases in the most eco-conscious way possible! Each person needs to bring at least one good quality piece of clothing or accessory. For more information visit www.swishing.org

Ms Watkins

Drama Department News

Congratulations to all students from Years 10-13 who were involved in this year's production of "The Visit" by Friedrich Durrenmatt. The cast and crew performed a very professional and stylised version of the play to packed houses. Miss Crellin would like to personally thank them for all their hard work and commitment since September. A big thank you also to all those members of staff and parents who helped and supported us with the production. **We couldn't have done it without you.**

If you missed the show, DVDs are available to buy from Miss Crellin and photos will soon be displayed on the school website.

Miss Crellin

Food Technology Department

Food Technology has changed at St Ivo since September. The pupils are now following the licence to cook programme initiated by the government earlier this year. We now have a 13 week programme of study where the pupils cook every week.

The dishes the pupils have cooked include, pasta or couscous salad, vegetable soup, mini fruit cakes, rock buns, macaroni cheese, fruit smoothies amongst many other delicious dishes.

The pupils have learned to follow a recipe, use all parts of the oven safely, weigh and measure accurately and use a knife safely. They practice the importance of food and personal hygiene.

All year 7 pupils will soon be receiving a great recipe book FREE so that all these wonderful skills can be practiced at home and give mum and dad the evening off from cooking a meal!

Mrs Watton

Sports News

Netball

At the end of November the Year 10 netball team hosted a tournament which was attended by five other schools in the district. St Ivo were unlucky to lose their first match to Hinchingsbrooke, though this made them more determined and they went on to win all of their subsequent matches and to claim first place in the tournament.

Congratulations to the team!

Team: Anna, Chloe, Daisy, Gemma, Karina, Tara, Charlotte, Daisy and Emily.

Miss Shipley

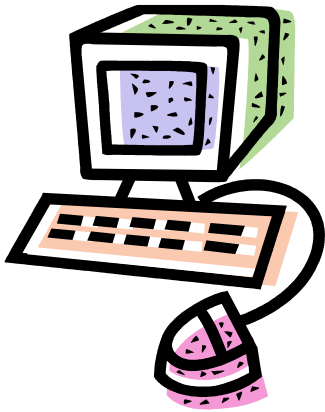


adult and community learning news

A-Z of courses from 12 January 2009

- **Antiques**, Collectables and Auctions
- **Art for Starters**
- **Astronomy**
- **Babysitting**
- **Book-Keeping** Level 2
- **Cake Decorating** Techniques, Chocolate Easter Cake, Novelty Cakes
- **Computing**: Computers Don't Bite Certificate, the basics and being comfortable with the internet and web
 CLAiT (Level 1 course)
 ECDL Essentials, Extra and Advanced
 Digital Darkroom for Beginners (Adobe Photoshop)
 Touch Type Crash Course, Touch Type Plus+
 Website Building
- **Counselling** Levels 2 & 3
- **Creative Writing**: Starting to Write and Workshops for Writers (Saturday option)
- **Curtain Making** & Soft Furnishing: Austrian Blind, Roman Blind, Professional Curtains, Padded Pelmet and Swags and Tails Saturday workshops
- **Dancing**: Ballroom Dancing, Belly Dance, Salsa
- **DIY**: Planning a Kitchen/Bathroom, DIY and House Maintenance, Plumbing and Heating, Tiling, Changing Doors, Locks and Skirtings
- **Dog Training** (Saturday option)
- **English for Speakers of Other Languages** (ESOL)
- **Family History** and Family History and the Internet (Saturday option)
- **Fashion Design/Dressmaking**
- **First Aid**: Until Help Arrives (Saturday option)
- **Food Hygiene** and Safety
- **Food and Wine Courses**: Best of British, Italian (main and dessert courses), Indian, Men in the Kitchen, REAL.....FOOD.....FAST, Vegetarian, Thai, Saturday Kitchens, Cake Decorating, Sugarcraft, Wines (European and New World)
- **French** Intermediate and Advanced
- **Gardening**: RHS Certificate in Horticulture
 Make and Take a Hanging Basket Saturday workshop
- **Guitar** Beginners and Intermediate/Advanced and Saturday workshops
- **Golf** (Saturday option)
- **Health, Mind and Image**: Aromatherapy, Body Massage, Indian Head Massage, Reflexology, Creating Your Professional Image, Years Younger, Looking Good!, Professional Image, Wardrobe Planning (dress for less), Top to Toe and Make-Up Saturday workshops
- **History**: Family History: Putting Down Roots, The Great War in Cambridgeshire, Upstairs, Downstairs – Life in the Victorian Household, Water Water Everywhere – Fenland History 1600-2008, In & Out of the St Ives Union Workhouse (Saturday option)
- **Jewellery** Making
- **Meditation** (Saturday workshops)
- **Mother's Day Treats** on Saturday 21 March: A choice of seven courses. (Gift Tokens available)
- **Ornithology**
- **Pottery** (hand building)
- **RHS** Certificate in Horticulture Level 2
- **Saturday Kitchens**: Balti Banquet, Italian, Spanish, Vegetarian Indian, REAL.....FOOD...FAST
- **Share Trading**
- **Spanish** for Your Holiday
- **Sugarcraft**: Lilies, Tulips, Sweet Peas, Gypsophelia, Ivy
- **T'ai Chi Chuan**
- **Tennis** (Spring)
- **Watercolours**: Beginners to the More Experienced
- **Website** Building
- **Yoga**

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www.aclearning.org.uk



Take the Challenge – Can you stay one step ahead of your children?

The requirement is that you have very limited computer skills and are prepared to take part in informal assessment.

Taking the challenge couldn't be easier, and is offered to parents/carers/older members of your family.

If you would like to take part we are offering this course at the reduced fee of £25 (normal fee £79).

So what are you waiting for? Take the first step right now! Telephone now to reserve your place. We are limited to 12 people per group. Day and evening options available.

Touch Type Crash Course starts 13 January 2009

You want to put wings on the heels of your children? Teach them to touchtype. They'll bless you for it in later life. Or they'll hunt and peck like electro-chickens for the rest of their days"

Prof John Sutherland, UCL.

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