

St Ivo School



Newsletter

May 2008

Dear Parent / Carer

As I write this the examination season has just started for Year 11 and is about to start for Years 12 and 13. Good luck to all of you with sons/daughters involved in exams this summer and I hope that it will be a successful time for them.

Over the last few months it has been exciting to plan for September and our designation as a Humanities College. The ethos of a Humanities College is based around respect: respect for the individual, for society and for the environment. As such it fits in very well with the school's existing ethos. The extra funding has enabled us to reduce class sizes for year 7 next year, invest in more ICT equipment and training and to appoint three 'Advanced Skills Teachers' who will work with colleagues to incorporate best practice into schemes of work. We have also appointed an Advanced Skills Teacher in Science. I am delighted with our achievement in gaining Specialist Humanities College status and feel that it will make a significant difference to pupil experience and outcomes.

Finally, I hope that you enjoy reading this newsletter which gives a flavour of the many achievements of our students.

Yours sincerely

Howard Gilbert
Headteacher

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Modern Foreign Languages Department News

'Abroad' comes to St Ivo

Every language teacher knows that ultimately the best way to learn a language is to go and use it 'for real', but it is simply not practicable for every pupil to spend some time abroad in preparation for their exams. The language department has therefore tried to bring a touch of 'abroad' to the Ivo by offering every year 11 pupil of French, German and Spanish the chance to participate in a special, extended, experience beyond the classroom. Surrounded by adults who apparently couldn't speak any English, pupils had to put their language skills to good use to carry out various activities. The initial apprehension may have been palpable, but the sense of achievement and increased confidence afterwards far outweighed early reservations.

Pupil and staff feedback for the special events has all been so positive that we hope to repeat the opportunity each year in the run-up to the speaking examinations.

Stadtallendorf exchange 2008 - 2009

This is a 6 day exchange, open to year 10 pupils taking German GCSE. On each leg of the exchange there is an organised programme of visits, school lessons and social activities. A letter will be circulated next half term, once dates have been agreed with our partner school.

Schwalmtal exchange 2008 - 2009

This is an 8 day exchange, open to pupils of German in years 11, 12 and 13. Sixth formers undertake a 5-day work placement in Germany while year 11s have a programme of German tuition, time in school with their partners and cultural visits, including Cologne and Bonn. On their return visit all German pupils do a 5-day work experience. Informal social activities are organised privately for the evenings and weekend. Once dates are finalised a letter should be circulated, hopefully before the current year 10 start their work experience in July.

C.Meadowcroft

Modern Languages Department

'Home from home' sought for German sixth former

Could you offer Jan-Philipp Bodenbender a 'home from home' for the first half of the Autumn term next year,

on a paying guest basis? He is a German sixth former from Marburg, who is keen to come and study in England for a few weeks in order to improve his English language skills and to experience British culture at first hand. He is 16 and lists his interests as playing football, badminton, table-tennis, and the piano. He is very interested in politics and writes articles for the newspaper. He is currently involved in a competition on the topic of climate change, for which he has helped produce a cinema-spot with the university in Stuttgart. Further details are available from Mrs Meadowcroft at school.

Year 8 Koblenz Trip

There will be an information evening for pupils, parents and carers on 16th June from 6pm - 6.45pm in the school hall.

Geography Department



Forthcoming Events

Yr 8 - in June Yr 8 geographers are off to Stibbington to carry out their river study.

Yr 10 - July - a group of 32 Yr 10 GCSE geography students will be off on their travels to Iceland. They have an action packed five days away visiting, volcanoes, glaciers as well as swimming in thermal pools such as the Blue Lagoon.

Yr 12 Geographers will be going to Snowdonia after exams as a start to their A2 level course - glaciation and rural management issues will be the basis of their four days there.

Yr 9 - all of Yr 9 students will have the chance to be involved in the Geography Department Japan Day which this year will be on June 6th. All students will be off timetable and have the opportunity to be involved in a range of activities relating to Japanese culture.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Alex 9Ww**, who has been selected to represent the Under 14 Eastern Counties Rugby team against Middlesex.

Sixth Form Debating Society



Special meeting

It has been a busy time for the Debating Society.

In February we were fortunate to have ex-Dragon's Den member and entrepreneur, **Doug Richard** speaking at our meeting. Doug spoke about his personal history and told stories of both success and failure in his business life. His stories were highly entertaining as he spoke with a dry sense of humour. He talked about his time on Dragon's Den and the people he met there.

However, his life was not always as successful as he told us of his younger days when he was a difficult person to work with and always thought he knew better than his bosses. This led him to many changes of career and a number of sackings!

He also gave hope to us all, as he believes that most people, given the right circumstances, have the potential to be entrepreneurs.

The meeting ended with a question and answer session. Doug willingly answered questions ranging from the American presidential election to living in England, (he is an American by birth).

Jonathan 13Bk (Chairman) commenting on the meeting, explained, "Doug told me that he had received over seventy invitations to speak in schools this year and he was only able to accept two. We were so lucky to have him. The meeting was a great success"

Assembly debates

The Upper Sixth have been involved in an interform debating competition. A league format was created and the top two (**13Bs** and **13Lg**) competed in a final. The two motions were 'This House believes that everybody has the right to die' and 'This House would abolish cash'. The winners were **Lizzie** and **Michael** from **13Bs**, earning themselves a £10 HMV voucher each. Congratulations to them!

Monthly debate

For our monthly meeting in March we had a *Question Time* format based on the BBC TV series. A panel of five people answered questions set by the audience. **Alice 12MI** (Chair of the Sixth form committee), **Geoff** (Town Councillor), **Adam 12MI** (Future Joint-Chair of the Debating Society), **Andrew** (Reporter from The Hunts Post) and **Mr Perry** (Head of the Sixth form) made up the panel. They answered questions covering the death penalty, twenty-four hour drinking and the American elections. The final question concerned

Prince Harry who apparently asked for bangers and mash on his return from military conflict: 'If you had been involved in military conflict abroad, what would be your first request upon your return?'

New Chairpersons

The St Ivo Sixth Form Debating Society was one year old on 7 February 2007. The meeting involving Doug Richard was held to celebrate this.

It has been a great success in raising both serious and less serious issues. A number of Sixth Formers have had the opportunity to speak at the debates and they have provided many ideas for their audience to consider. Both staff and governors have spoken as well as external speakers.

With my final A-level examinations getting closer, it is time to pass on the Chairmanship of the Society. **Rosie (12Mi) & Adam (12MI)** agreed to take on the responsibility of running the Society. I wish them every success in the future and I am sure that the society will continue to thrive.

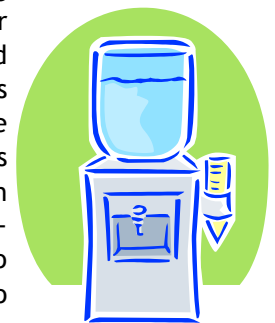
Finally I would like to thank all the students and staff who have supported the Debating Society since February last year. Speakers, helpers and audience have all been vital to the success of the Society. The teaching staff have been supportive in many ways and a big thank you goes out to them.

Jonathan (13Bk)

Former Chairman of 6th Form Debating Society

Medical Room

The summer is fast approaching and we all hope for some warmer weather! Please may we remind you to ensure your child brings water/drinks into school. There are now water cooling dispensers around the school where children can fill up their own bottles during the day so no child needs to go thirsty. Dehydration leads to headaches and lack of concentration therefore children need to drink regularly during the day.



There has been an increase recently in children using the medical room as a GP surgery with regards to old injuries. May we remind parents that we are here for medical emergencies only that occur in school time.

Thank you for your co-operation

School Nurses

Year 9 water-aid charity collection

The aim of this charity is to enable the worlds' poorest populations to gain access to

- Safe water
- Hygiene education
- Sanitation

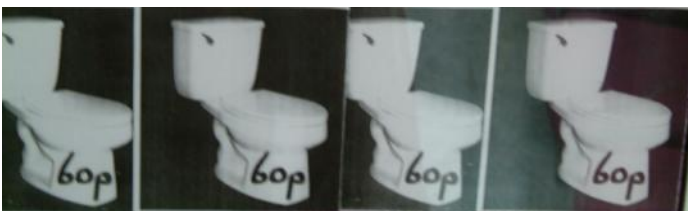
For 60 pence a dry covered latrine helps each family gain a healthier lifestyle. We take this for granted but year 9 collected enough to buy 150 latrines (£90).

Mrs Mitchelson and Mrs Lambert decided that something had to be done and thought it was a worthwhile charity, they asked each student to donate 30 pence each, the price of a packet of crisps.

- A child cannot wait 61 years for the toilet. *
- We must do more now.

* The UN's target will not be met until 2076 in Saharan Africa - 61 years too late for a child in 2008.

Adam 9Ax



St Ivo Ballroom Club

This term has been very busy with most members attending a number of public dances. Students have recently met Vincent and Flavia as well as Darren and Lilia. The inspiration these couples have been for our junior dancers is immeasurable.

Two senior couples now attend lessons at Cambridge University where they have an opportunity to dance with members of the Cambridge DanceSport team.

The senior club is looking forward to a trip to Blackpool at the end of June where they will dance in the famous Blackpool Tower Ballroom.



Mrs Bartlett

The face of Tammy

After a nationwide search, **Aiesha 10Wt** beat 1000's of competitors to win a competition to find style icons and was chosen to be the face of Tammy for Bhs. One of four style icons, she will be used in a nationwide marketing campaign. She won her own photo shoot and £250 of vouchers to spend in store.

Meet the style icon:

Name: Aiesha

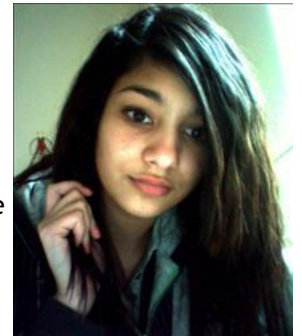
Age: 14

Hero: Audrey Hepburn, Vivienne Westwood

I can't live without: sleep

About me: Average 14 year old, love my friends, family and pets. Love fashion, travel and trying new things. I'm the type of person who isn't afraid to explore and try new things. Everything I do I wear with a smile and self confidence.

Well done Aiesha!



Year 7 Reading Mastermind

As part of the World Book Day celebrations in March, Year 7 took part in St Ivo's third 'Reading Mastermind' competition, organised by Mrs Senior. 102 pupils entered round 1 and between them they read 45 books (two each) and answered 1,125 questions!

In the final, eight pupils answered 190 questions on eight books (of their choice) ranging from "Across the Nightingale Floor" by Lian Hearn to "The Demon Thief" by Darren Shan. Questions were compiled by members of the English department with Mr Andrews acting as question master. Contestants had to answer a maximum of 25 questions within 2 minutes. The winner with 21 correct answers was **Bradley of 7De**, who answered questions on Darren Shan's "Trials of Death". Bradley won a trophy and a £15 book token.

Well done Bradley!



Blue Vision Twirlers

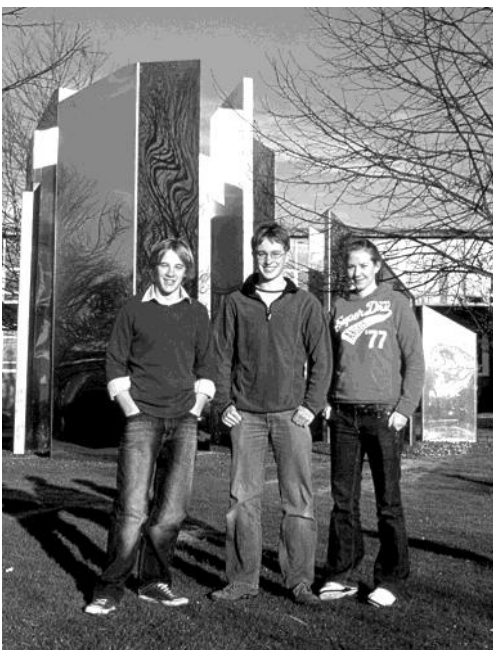


Hi, I'm Amber from 7La and I go to 'Majorettes' along with Sam from 11Pa. The troupe we are with is 'Blue Vision Twirling Team'. I've been doing majorettes for six years and Blue Vision (the troupe I go to) have been together for five years. It's great fun and I really enjoy it. Every year we take part in area competitions and also one big competition called the 'Nationals' where we compete against thousands of girls and boys. Overall our troupe has achieved 666 trophies and medals. There are 32 people in our troupe with an age range of 6 to 26+. It is for both girls and boys!

Did you know - Miss Sherwood used to be a majorette!

Amber 7La

Schools' Analyst Competition



Once again St Ivo School was invited to take part in the annual School's Analyst Competition organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry, and year 12 students **Daniel**, **Andrew** and **Katie** were the 2008 team members for the East Anglia heat on 12th March.

They spent a day at the Hatfield campus of the University of Hertfordshire, working in the chemistry labs usually occupied by undergraduate students, and carrying out three analytical tasks - using equipment and apparatus not available in school, as well as some standard sixth form equipment. They were competing against fifteen other year 12 teams from schools in Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex, but, sadly, were not placed in the top eight. They did, however, have a great day out - and even got a free lunch!

The St Ivo team at Hatfield after the conclusion of the day's events.



ST IVO SCHOOL

St Ivo needs you!

JOB VACANCY

We are seeking a person for the role of minute-taker. This position will be on a permanent basis and initially we are looking for someone to minute the following meetings which occur half termly:

- *Governors' Premises meeting (held on a Monday evening, starting at 6.00pm for approximately one hour)*
- *Curriculum Management Group – held on a Tuesday (3.15pm to approximately 4.15pm)*

*Salary: Scale 2 point 14 £7.85 per hour
(Payment for attendance at meetings plus the time to transcribe the minutes.)*

- *This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.*
- *All appointments are conditional and subject to an enhanced CRB disclosure.*

We are seeking someone who is trustworthy and able to work to deadlines. You will need the facility of a computer at home.

All members of staff are required to serve a probationary period of 3 months.

Please contact Jane Jest, Headteacher's secretary, for more details Email office@st-ivo.co.uk or telephone 01480 375400.

Summer Course Collection

Car Maintenance Basics (a 2 hour workshop)

Cookery:

Real Food Fast;
Cake Decorating;
Sugar Craft;
Italian Desserts (all 5 week courses)

Computing: (daytime and evening courses available)

Computers don't Bite – a practical, hands-on course for people with little or no experience of computers. Price: £10 for the course and assessments to gain a certificate;
CLAiT;
ECDL

DIY:

Tiling;
Changing doors, locks and skirtings (both 3 week courses)

Dog Training (5 week course)

First Aid: until held arrives (3 week course)

Food Hygiene: Upon successful completion of the 2 week course, you will achieve the Foundation Certificate in Food Hygiene.

Language courses:

Spanish for beginners
Spanish for your Holiday
French for you Holiday (5 week courses available)

Touch Typing (5 week crash course for adults and young people)

Understanding Stress and Relaxation

Wine Appreciation – Wines of the World

Weekend School of Workshops

Basketmaking with Willow

Cookery:

Indian – Vegetarian Dinner Party
Italian – The Perfect Dinner Party
Cakes and Cookies

Counselling – Introduction Day

Look, think and feel younger workshop

Make-Up, Wake-Up Workshop

Make a Roman Blind in a Day

Meditation Workshop

Wardrobe Healthcheck Workshop

For further information or to book your place, go to: www.aclearning.org.uk

Or call: 01480 495717 / 375308

Spare seats for purchase on School Buses

Under Cambridgeshire's Home to School Transport Policy, pupils who are not eligible for free transport may be allowed to pay to travel on existing buses contracted to the County Council, if seats are available.



The current cost is £110 a term for a return journey ticket or £55 for a one-way journey. If families meet certain low income criteria a reduced charge of £70 a term is applicable. This represents excellent value, equating to £1.73 (£1.10 low income rate) per day when averaged out over the school year.

Seats are available on a termly or half-termly, 'first come, first served' basis. Please note that buses cannot deviate from their existing routes/timetables.

Parents can apply now to purchase spare seats for the summer term 2008.

Full details of the spare seats scheme is available on the website www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/education/parents/getting

Tennis

Year 10 girls, Phoebe Carter, Lizzie Fabisz, Emma Coleman and Isobel Sherlock won their 1st league fixture against Peterborough High, six rubbers to nothing. They are now favourites for the league.



6th Form County Cup

Congratulations to all the boys who took part in last weeks county cup final in Peterborough. The team won 5-2 with goals from Rob (2), George (2) and Ant. Well done!

TESCO Vouchers

Thank you to everyone who sent in Computers for schools vouchers. The winning year group was Year 7 (30,538) and the winning form was 7Sh who collected 4,553. Well done 7Sh.



www.stivoschool.com

Adult & Community Learning

You want to put wings on the heels of your children? Teach them to touch-type. They'll bless you for it in later life. Or they'll hunt and peck like electro-chickens for the rest of their days." **Touch-Type crash course** starts on Tuesday 3rd June, one hour for five weeks.

Tutors required for September 2008

Part-time evening course tutors needed for the following subjects: Website Building, Using Adobe Photoshop, Accounts, Basic English Cookery, Chinese Cookery, Adult Numeracy, Pilates, Creative Writing, German, Spanish, Breadmaking, Yoga and Nail Care.

We also hold a tutor list should other vacancies arise. Please contact us on 01480 495717 or email: enquiries@aclearning.org.uk for an application form or informal chat if you are interested in tutoring a topic not listed above as we are always interested in adding new courses to our programme. Visit: www.aclearning.org.uk for further information.

Athletics

Well done to the following boys for taking part in the schools athletics competitions:



Ryan	Liam
Jack	James
Nick	Ryan
Harry	Barnie
Innes	Tom
Liam	Tom
Josh	Jonny
Tom	Patrick
Andrew	

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