

October 2016



Newsletter

St Ivo School



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Dear Parents and Carers

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the new school year and especially to welcome those families who are new to St Ivo, either in Year 7 or the Sixth Form. Our new students have settled well into life at high school and it has been great to see so many getting involved in lessons, clubs and other activities.

The start of term has seen a number of new staff join the school. We are delighted to welcome Mr Vollerthun (Technology), Miss Greenwood (Business), Dr Bidd (Science), Dr Koenig (Science), Miss Stocker (Languages), Mr Quinn (Maths), Mr Mackey (Maths), Mrs McCartney (Maths), Ms Hutchinson (Computing) and Mr Pires (Computing). We also have staff moving into new roles in the school; Mr Bamber is now Head of Year 10, Mrs Warriner is Head of History, Mrs Malster is Head of Media and Film and Dr Bell has moved to be a teacher of Media. We wish them all great success in their roles here at St Ivo.

You will read later on about our production of Les Miserables which takes place in February next year. This is a mammoth undertaking and I am sure it will be a fantastic success. As you will see from the article we are looking for help with sponsorship; if you are able to help then please get in touch.

I spent last Friday with 120 Year 9 students on the History trip to the Somme. It was a very long day (we left school at 1.30) but gave students a fascinating insight into the devastating events of the First World War. We ended the day with a short memorial at Thiepval which was a poignant and moving end to the day. It was a pleasure to accompany students and staff on this event.

The start of this month saw us hold our Open Evening which was attended by well over 1000 visitors. As ever there are a huge number of activities going on across the school which you can read about here. I would encourage parents to remind their children about the range of

Continued overleaf

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Head's Letter continued

events and do all you can to get them involved as it makes a huge difference to a young person's experience of school.

I would like to end by wishing the U14 Girls' Footballers the best of luck as they travel to Lilleshall this weekend to represent England in the home nations' tournament. As the students chant at fixtures: "Let's go Ivo".



Sam Griffin
Head

SISA News



SISA WINE "QUIZ"

**FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 8PM DINING HALL
ST IVO SCHOOL**

Taste 6 wines – 3 Red and 3 White – 125ml per glass – then see how much you actually know about the wines by doing our simple Quiz – what grape/combination of grapes, how is the wine described, where is the wine from and how much does the bottle cost?

**Price for the event is £12 per person
(Bring your own snacks)**

Please book via Parentmail – tickets must be pre-booked in order for us to cater correctly.

With the proceeds we are hoping to buy some Drawing Boards for the DT department – so please come along and meet parents and staff for a relaxed evening and raise some funds for the school at the same time.

Look forward to seeing you there
SISA EVENTS COMMITTEE

P.s – please note we need a minimum of 40 people to proceed with this event – so please support and book a place asap.



Bag2School News

Please don't forget that St Ivo School has organised a textile collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for new plants to enrich the school environment.

Please sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate any unwanted textiles in the bags which can be collected from main reception. We can accept clothing, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, bags & soft toys. <http://uk.bag2school.com/what-we-collect> In addition, it will also raise awareness amongst the students of the benefits of recycling and reuse.



Bag2School will be collecting from our school on TUESDAY 1st November (the first Tuesday after ½ term). Please bring your bag (or bags!) to the school delivery point by 9.00am on that day, and help us have a really good collection.

Many thanks indeed for helping us with this great fundraising opportunity.

Mrs Moore

Ivolumni News

CALLING ALL FORMER STUDENTS!

If you're a former student of St Ivo School, we want to hear from you!

Your experiences since leaving could help to motivate and inspire our current students to feel more confident in making decisions about their future. We'd love you to join our alumni network and stay connected with the school.

We've partnered with the national education charity Future First, who specialise in helping schools like ours to stay connected with their former students.

You can choose how and when you help – perhaps you could act as a career and education role model, provide work experience, become a mentor in person or online or help with donations, fundraising or even apply to become a governor!

It doesn't matter when you left us, whether you're in further education or employment, whether you still live nearby or have moved further away, there are still ways you can help and we would love to stay in touch.

In order to sign up, just follow this link and fill in the online form – it will only take a couple of minutes, we promise.

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/stivo>



Year 7 News

Well done on a fantastic start at St Ivo School as a year group. Behaviour has generally been excellent, attendance also very good. Keep up the good work! It's always good to hear about Year 7 successes as well. These might be in-school successes or out of school. Please let your form tutor know! An example of this, is the Year 7 netball team who have won every game they have played so far, winning the district tournament quite comfortably. Well done, also, to the Year 7 boys rugby team, who have shown great promise. I'm sure they'll be successful over the next few years if they keep on working hard.



Wishing you a great half term break!

Mr Daly & Mrs Page

Year 8 News

We have had a really good start to this academic year. Our old mascot PENGUINO now has a permanent home with Ww/EI, as they won the weekly form competition last year the most times collectively.

We have a new mascot who sadly has yet to be named! Our snake will hopefully be named over the next couple of weeks and form groups are currently getting their heads together to come up with the best name possible.

Congratulations to CI, Hd, Ra, Ww/EI who have already had the pleasure of winning the mascot in this year's weekly form competition. This is judged on a forms collective merits and attendance over a one week period. But the leaders so far are Pi who have won it twice already over this first half term! Keep up the good work.

Mr Varey and Miss Trigg

Year 9 News

An excellent start to the new school year for Year 9 has been supported by our new merit mascot named 'Leroy', as chosen by the students. He has visited 4 different forms this year so far - 9Ci, 9Ln, 9Ph and 9Pz have all had Leroy stay with them for a week. Well done to all!



Well done to 9Sn who took part in a charity event to raise money for their chosen charity, the British Heart Foundation. They agreed to a 24 hour social media blackout and found family and friends to sponsor them to stay away from the internet, social media sites and mobile phones. In the 24 hour period there were no reported fallings out and the rumour is students had to talk to each other face to face! They raised a terrific £270.67 to contribute to the fight against heart disease.

Mr Braybrook and Mrs Daniell

Year 10 News



Year 10 have had a great start to the new term. The students have been settling into their new GCSE subjects with a great deal of enthusiasm and dedication. Students have also been looking ahead to the summer term and have begun to think about what they could do for their work experience placement in July. This is an exciting opportunity for each individual student to think about their future career path and gain valuable two weeks worth of experience in the workplace. If you would like more information on this, there is a handbook for parents that can be accessed via the school website. Mrs Carpenter coordinates this so if you have any questions please just get in touch at dcarpenter@stivoschool.org

As we move into the final half term of 2016, we look forward to great attendance and a real desire to achieve from all students.

We hope you have a lovely half term break!

Mr Bamber & Mr West

Year 11 News

As Year 11 approach their final 4 half terms, controlled assessment and revision sessions are in full swing across the school. Students are encouraged to seek advice from their teachers on any areas they are finding challenging or would like further support with.

They have had a number of assemblies on their Post-16 Choices with a large number of students attending the open evening a few weeks ago. Year 11 form tutors are working alongside students to help guide them with these decisions, and again, students should proactively seek advice from them, Miss Sherwood or Mr Nunn as the deadlines begin to approach for sixth form and college applications.

To help mark the end of their time in lower school at St Ivo, a Yearbook and Prom committee have been established. More information will follow on these in the coming months before Miss Sherwood and Mr Nunn distribute invitations to students in the year group for the Prom which will take place on Thursday 29th June at the Burgess Hall.

We look forward to seeing you at parents evening on Thursday 17th November.

Have a lovely half term.

Miss Sherwood and Mr Nunn



Careers News

Year 10 Work Experience 2017 is getting off to a flying start with several students having already found their placements and handed in the paperwork. Please be aware that the following companies do NOT wish to be approached by individual students or parents:

- Leeds Day Solicitors
- Medivet
- St Ives Nursery
- Waitrose
- Huntingdon Community Radio
- All local primary schools

All information about Year 10 Work Experience can be found on the school website, including a presentation explaining the process and a guide for Parents and Carers. Please feel free to email the coordinator on dcarpenter@stivoschool.org with any queries. Half term is the perfect time to think about and look for a placement.

A Careers Pathway event for Year 12 took place on October 19th, when apprenticeship providers came into school to discuss career routes with students.

Mrs Carpenter

History News

The Somme Trip

Early in the morning of Friday 14th October 112 bleary eyed Year 9 students gathered outside St Ivo to board their coach to travel to see the battlefields of World War I in France. The trip was particularly special this year as it marks the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, one of the largest offensives launched by British troops in the First World War.

Our first stop was Vimy Ridge where Canadian and British forces fought against the odds to take a piece of strategic high ground from the German Army. Students were able to walk through the reconstructed trenches to get a real sense of how close the armies were. The beautiful memorial at the top of the site rises above the Douai Plain and commemorates 11,000 Canadian soldiers who lost their lives in World War I. We then moved on to Serre Cemetery, the final resting place of two St Ives men, Charles Butler and James Feary. Tom also found three of his own ancestors in this cemetery which was very moving. From there we visited the site at Beaumont Hamel where students could walk through the very trenches from which those brave 'Tommies' went over the top on 1st July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme. The trip finished with a ceremony at Thiepval Memorial where Bryony played the Last Post and Charles did a reading.



The students were fantastic ambassadors for St Ivo School showing a great interest in the sites and displaying very good behaviour despite the long day. We hope they had an enjoyable and memorable trip.

Mrs Warriner

Sixth Form News

Year 12

We have had a great start to 2016/17 and we are delighted to see that our Year 12 students have settled in so well.

Year 12 Science students have completed a careers survey and this will be used to assist us in providing careers and guidance throughout the year alongside existing STEM and mentoring events.

Year 12 aspirations are running high with a new initiative launched this year to support students who intend to apply for highly competitive Russell Group universities. Over 50 students have been involved in the new IvoAspire group, and have already started thinking about their future beyond the Sixth Form. So far this year students have started to work on their presentation skills, being put on the spot to deliver elevator pitches about themselves. We are currently working towards an important poster session in November, where the students have been asked to prepare a poster and short presentation elaborating upon an interest or experience. The school governors have been invited, and we are looking forward to an exciting afternoon of interesting and inspiring presentations. Further sessions planned throughout the year aim to cover a range of university skills, including writing personal statements and applications, public speaking, analytical thought, and broader cultural awareness.



The whole of the Year 12 group attended a Driver Safety workshop delivered throughout the day on 27 September by The Good Egg Company.

Year 13

This year's UCAS application process is now in full swing for Year 13, with 5 students having made Oxbridge applications. The majority of Year 13 continue to research universities and work on their applications, whilst other students are receiving support with researching apprenticeships and employment opportunities. Mr Witham, our

post-16 careers adviser, is in school every week and any students in Years 12 and 13 who would like his help should ask their form tutor to arrange an appointment for them.

Volunteering and Charity Events

We are very pleased that so many Sixth Form students have volunteered to help in lower school:

- 30 Year 12 students have signed up to support students in lower school through the 'SMILE Project'.
- **We also have 80 Sixth Form students who have volunteered as 'Reading Buddies' for Year 7 students to support them with their literacy skills.**
- 25-30 Year 12 and Year 13 students have volunteered in the Science department to support a number of Year 11 students in preparation for their GCSE exams.

This is a brand new scheme this year and the mentoring sessions have got off to a great start! A big Thank You to all Sixth Form mentors and Well Done to the Year 11s taking part.



Thursday, 20 October will see virtually all of our students take part in 'Pink Day' for Breast Cancer Research. This is a charity that St Ivo Sixth Form has supported for a number of years.

Mrs Perry, Mrs Rix and Mrs Gosling

Sixth Form News continued

Thank you to everyone who attended our very successful Open Evening on 6 October, especially the many students who represented our school as ambassadors for subjects and the Sixth Form as a whole.

University Challenge

We are delighted to announce that a team from St Ivo Sixth Form won this year's Schools' University Challenge competition, which is run by Lincoln University. The team qualified as winners from the regional heat in July, knocking out last year's winners, Hills Road Sixth Form College. This year's final was held on 30 September and the team, consisting of Ross (Capt), Tom, Sam and George, had to answer questions ranging from chemistry, Roman architecture to fashion designers. The boys won by 5 points, beating over forty teams to take the title.



We are very proud with the boys' achievement - not only did they win a hoodie and £50 each; they also won £1000 for our school. Some of this money will be spent on further improvements to the Sixth Form facilities and the boys would also like to spend some of their money on sharing their victory with the St Ivo community. Well done team!!

Mrs Rix

Year 12 v Year 13 Cup

On a beautiful Friday at the end of September the test event in the inaugural Y12/13 Cup took place. The first sport up was girls' netball. Both teams fielded squads of 10 players made up of regular players and others who have not worn a netball bib for some time.



Despite an early resistance from Year 13, including a goal, Year 12 ran out easy winners with a final score of 8-1.

Pictured: The winning Year 12 team

Next up in the series is boys' rugby union. This will be a twelve aside match. If you are interested in playing, please see either Tom J/Tom E in Year 13, or Will /Ollie in Year 12.

Mr Cook

Sixth Form News continued

Faculty Cup Football

The first week of the Faculty Cup was well supported by both Year 12 and 13. The first two matches of this year's tournament were Gorbachev Galacticos (History) v Maths, and Science v Ice Age Milan (Geography). Gorbachev Galacticos and Ice Age Milan run out easy winners, with the scores 8-0 and 3-11 respectively. This year we have 10 teams split into two leagues with the play offs and finals scheduled for March. All proceeds from this year's tournament will go to Cancer Research.

Jack
Year 13



Languages Department News

Cambridge University Languages Student Visits Classes

Students were visited in their German lessons recently by Oscar, a student of languages at Cambridge University. Oscar delivered a presentation about his year abroad, which he spent working and studying in Germany and Italy. Many students have also read his blog about his time abroad.



Mrs Moore

Year 7 Spelling Bee



We have entered all of our Year 7 language learners for the 'Foreign Language Spelling Bee'. This is a national language competition for Year 7. It runs in England and Wales. The competition has 4 stages, in which the competitors must learn and spell out (using the French / German alphabets) 50 words per stage, totalling to 200 words if they reach the national final.

At Christmas 10 winners (one from each class) will be chosen, and in the Spring term these 10 pupils will compete to be school champions. Last year we even had two pupils reach the East of England Finals!

Pupils will be practising in their language lessons and for homework. There are some impressive students in year 7 – so this promises to be an exciting competition!

Mr Murphy

Classics News



“A” level Classical Civilisation

“It was fantastic !” That was the verdict about the Classics’ Study Day at Cambridge University attended by sixth formers and Mr Thorne on 27th September. Particular favourites were the lectures on democracy and Homer where pupils felt that they had benefitted hugely but they also enjoyed their first taste of study at university. One student wrote:

‘I really enjoyed the Cambridge Classics day. I feel that I gained a better understanding of the university environment as well as the topics that we are doing in class. I felt that the first lecture on Athenian democracy was the most useful as it built on the knowledge of the topics we have looked at. I would definitely recommend it to future students as I learnt a lot.’

Another commented:

“It was interesting to partake in the courses and learning offered by a University; to understand the environment and the ways in which the lecturers present their work.”

Another added:

‘all in all, each lecture was interesting and I learnt a great deal in each. It was very beneficial and is certainly worth attending in the future.’

Pupils are looking forward to their next visit to the department at Cambridge.

Classics at Cambridge

We have ordered more copies of the booklet “Classics at Cambridge” and will let you know via the school bulletin when these arrive.

Classical Civilisation from 2017-9

The new Classical Civilisation course to be introduced in September 2017 is just the course for those bitten by the bug of the ancient world. It would also be the ideal subject to take alongside English Literature and Art. The course (waiting, as many others, for approval) consists of a study of Homer and Virgil and other literature, Philosophy and Art and Architecture. There is a display giving you answers to relevant questions in **the “street” between the resource centre and the sixth form centre but if you think you may like to take this subject in the sixth form please do contact Mr Thorne, Mrs Perry or myself (Mrs Zähler) for further details.** We also have a mailing list you can ask to be put on so that we can give you details as they arrive at school.

Classics News continued

Latin - Beginners, level 1, level 2 and GCSE

*The front of the house Caecilius owned in Pompeii.
Notice the spaces either side of the door (with a label on it) for his
laundry business*



The term has started well for Latin at St Ivo. Two courses are running for the 18 beginners this year and the pupils' standard of translation is already pleasingly higher than in recent years. Pupils have so far looked at where Caecilius lived and who was in his household. They have studied the forum and the wide range of businesses and trades' people in the town. In a moment's loss of concentration the barber has caused *much blood to flow*.

The level 1 course afterschool on Tuesdays appears to grow in size week by week and the 8 pupils in it have been fascinated by the stories of Salvius and his wife Rufilla who have just "escaped to the country" in Britannia. Anyone else thinking of joining this course is encouraged to do so sooner rather than later as it gets harder to cope with the later you leave it.



GCSE Latin has got off to an impressive start with the pupils adopting quickly the more independent style of learning that we have introduced this year. The pupils have just started looking at Roman religion and are currently exploring the 12 key gods and goddesses.

As for the year 11 level 2 pupils, they, too, are following the exploits of Salvius with some suspicion as well as looking at the Romans response to the Jews at Masada. In Latin Literature, they have enjoyed Ovid's "Pygmalion" but cannot accept uncritically what Ovid is claiming. I look forward with interest to their essays.

Mrs Zähler

Science Department News

The science department has got off to a flying start this new academic year with loads of exciting news!

Prince's Teaching Institute



Mr Slingsby

St Ivo Science Department is proud to announce we have been awarded the **Prince's Teaching Institute (PTI) Mark of excellence for 2016**. The PTI is supported by the Prince of Wales and its aim is to recognise and encourage further the development of excellent practice in schools.

The Science Department has taken part in the schools programme and has been awarded the prestigious mark for the work it has done in a range of areas. The Science Department looks forward to continuing to work with the PTI in the coming year as it looks to develop further and continue to enthuse and spur on the next generation of scientists.

STEM Club

Our scientists of the future in Years 7 to 9 have been attending STEM club on Wednesday lunch times. So far they have powered a boat by just using soap, they have developed crumple zones to protect a president in a car crash and competed with each other to build the best raft. We are now embarking on this **year's BP Ultimate STEM Challenge where groups will enter a national competition where they design and build a water powered rocket**. As part of the Challenge, the students will be able to gain a Bronze CREST award!



Dr Angus

Y12 Careers Guidance

Ms Marshall has been working hard to piece together all the information that could be of use to students that are keen on taking their STEM studies further. She has compiled a careers guidance bulletin and carried out a survey of the interests of our current Year 12s with regards to careers. We are aiming to improve the support offered to our 6th form students that want to be the next generation of scientists and engineers.

Ms Marshall

6th Form Mentoring

A scheme has been established in the science department for 6th form students studying science to mentor Year 11 students one-on-one. For more information, visit the 6th form section of this newsletter.

Miss Smart

Amey Cespa Visit

We were lucky enough to have been visited by a speaker from Amey Cespa on Friday 14th October. Year 13 applied scientists, as well as two Year 7 classes, found out about the importance of recycling, and how this local company works to meet its aim of reducing waste and its environmental impact.

Ms Marshall

Science Department News continued

6th Form Poster Competition

This year will be the debut of the 6th form poster competition. Any 6th form student studying a science subject is encouraged to submit a poster about an area of science in the news that interests them. The deadline for poster submissions is the 3rd November. On 24th November we have a guest speaker Dr Alice Denton coming from Cambridge University to judge the posters and give a talk on her work. Parents will also be invited to the event so they can see what our 6th formers have found out!

Open Evening



Science was full all evening with prospective Year 7 and 6th form students. Our Chemistry Show, dissections, demonstrations and wide range of exciting hands on activities really inspired students, demonstrating the strengths of our department. Dissecting hearts, methane bubbles fire, flame tests, making esters and the Rubens flame tube were some key highlights! Our current STEM Scholars and Arkwright Scholar, as well as other keen 6th form science students, were on hand to talk to parents and prospective students about their great experiences studying science at St Ivo.

2020 STEM Scholars

Our nominated Year 12 STEM Scholars this year are Emily, Eleanor and Jasmine. These three girls have shown commitment to science and will act as science mentors and model science students to those lower down in the school. They have already attended an initiation conference at Foxton, discovering what the role entails and meeting STEM Scholars from other schools in the area.

Dr Angus

Smallpeice Visit – Physics STEM Day

On Thursday 13th October an exciting STEM day took place for sixty 6th form students studying Physics and/or Maths. The task was to work in groups of 5-6 to design a working speaker, as well as market it by producing an advert. The students had a great time and worked very well together, coming up with very creative designs and entertaining adverts. Their commitment and dedication to the task was commended by Smallpeice.

Dr Angus

Resource Centre News

Congratulations! Thanks to your visits, the Resource Centre is buzzing with reading, homework and some of our highest issues ever. It's great to see you all making the most of this amazing facility! It's been a pleasure to welcome new Year 7 students, who no longer need to bring extra ID to borrow items now pictures have been imported into our management system.



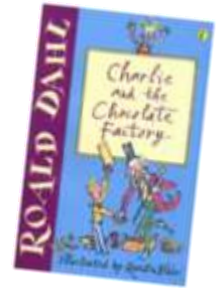
Independent Research: Year 7



Year 7 have made an impressive start to their academic career, working towards independent research during the 3 dedicated lessons in the Resource Centre. Students have learnt how to independently locate resources (printed, on-line, pictorial), effectively research from them and then apply this knowledge. Complimenting work in English lessons, we've been very impressed with the facts found about the characters and events of Homer's *Odyssey* and look forward to seeing the skills learnt applied to other subjects in the future.

100th Anniversary – 13th September

ROALD DAHL



We celebrated this momentous occasion with lots of Roald Dahl activities, as well as a vote for St Ivo School's favourite Roald Dahl book. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory came first, with Matilda closely following.

The Bridge Book Award – Cambridgeshire students have their say



Students have had the opportunity to nominate their favourite book published in the last 2 years. The top titles from St Ivo and other Cambridgeshire schools have been compiled into a longlist (see the Resource Centre Blog for full list), which can now be borrowed from the RC. Students have until 2nd November to read as many as possible from the longlist and nominate their favourite. Book tokens and merits can be won by those who participate so, keep reading!

Competition time: Design a Spine-Chilling Bookmark: Year 7


Like to draw spooky designs? Want to see them in print? Why not enter our Spooky Bookmark Competition. Simply ensure that they measure 210 x 73 mm (or pick up a template) and contain the words "Resource Centre"; ideally in a snappy slogan. First prize is a £5 Amazon voucher with merits and chocolate for 2nd and 3rd. All winners will see their artwork in print.

Closing date: Monday 31st October (Halloween!!). Good luck!



Dance Department News

Ivolution Dance Show—not to be missed!!



IVOLUTION
DANCE SHOW 2016

**ST IVO SCHOOL
IVOLUTION DANCE SHOW
22ND AND 23RD NOVEMBER 2016
7:00PM
BURGESS HALL**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
ST IVO SCHOOL BUSINESS CENTRE**

TICKET PRICES
ADULTS £7
CONCESSIONS £5
FAMILY (2 ADULTS + 2 CHILDREN) £20

Dance Department News continued

Firstly the Dance Department would like to congratulate all of our BTEC dancers who completed their courses last year! Our BTEC Level 2 dancers passed with 100% Distinction* - Pass, with Alexandra accepting her place at Ballet Theatre UK! Our BTEC Level 3 student Ciara achieved a Distinction* and is now studying for her Dance Degree at Arts University Bournemouth. We are incredibly proud of everybody's achievements, congratulations!

At the start of the term we began rehearsing for this year's annual production of *Ivolution*! Dancers from all year groups are busy learning and choreographing new dances for the performance on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd November. Tickets will be available to buy from the Business Centre after half term. We have over 100 students involved and it proves to be better than ever! We hope to see you there.

You can now follow the Dance Department on Instagram @stivodance to see pictures and videos of what we're getting up to!

This term we welcomed teacher and choreographer Jordi Guitart to the Dance Department, as he led a street dance workshop with our BTEC Level 2 and 3 students, contributing to their BTEC courses. Dancers from Year 10, 12 and 13 spent time learning a new and challenging routine which will be performed in *Ivolution* later this term. Well done dancers!



Collette Guitart



Finally, the dance department is delighted to see St Ivo School alumni student Collette Guitart has graduated from Body Work Dance Studios and is now performing in the new London musical "27" co-directed by Arlene Philips! Staff have been to see Collette's performance and have been wowed by what a talented performer she has become. Congratulations Collette!

Miss McAdam

Drama & Music Department News

Les Miserables Production

St Ivo School proudly present their biggest ever theatre production, 'Les Miserables School Edition' which takes place in The Burgess Hall at 7.30 pm on the 7th, 8th and 9th February 2017. The Drama/Music Department joint production is led by Amanda Crellin (drama) and Athena Bell (music) and supported by a wide range of school staff with a theatre company of 80 performers plus. Rehearsals began in earnest this term and the casting has been across the entire school age range with performers from 11 to 18.

This is a colossal undertaking for the school and is likely to be a sell-out as seats will be restricted to approximately 300 per night. Tickets will go on sale in January and be sold on a first come, first served basis: £9 adults and £7 concessions.



We are putting together a programme which will feature advertising material from local businesses. If you wish us to include an advertisement for your company in the programme then please contact Nick Perry, Head of Drama at the school to arrange submission of copy dates and prices.

Mr Perry

Food Department News

Year 11 pupils have been busy organising a cake sale in support of Macmillan Cancer trust. Pupils, parents and staff donated a great selection of bakes and between a team of pupils from Years 8 and 11 managed to raise £103.51! A great effort, especially from Melissa, Georgia and Joe.



Mrs Evans

Geography Department News

Princes Teaching Institute Mark



We are delighted to have been awarded the Princes Teaching Institute Mark for the third year running. As well as focusing on developing teaching and learning, including challenge for all initiatives, we have continued to work extensively beyond the curriculum, sharing ideas and resources with other Geography departments across the country, launching our new online portal in September last year www.geobytes.org.uk and organising and leading training for Geography teachers across the county on the use of ICT and GIS. Some of our other new initiatives have included the “Great Geography Breakfast” (as part of fair-trade fortnight) and establishing a well received A level Geography Ambassadors scheme. We look forward to continuing our work with the PTI through the 2016-2017 academic year as we continue to strive for excellence and endeavour to enthuse and spur on the next generation of geographers.

Open Evening

The department would like to thank the Year 12 and 13 Geography Ambassadors who helped out at the successful October Open Evening. The department was buzzing with Year 6 and 11 students and parent/carers. Some of our Geography Ambassadors also supported our Fairtrade initiative by serving Fairtrade tea and coffee. We would also like to thank Costa in St Ives for kindly donating cups to support us with this. The Year 6 students took part in a number of practical geography activities including the use of OS maps and many entered a competition to win a brand new Atlas which was won by Gracie from Westfield Primary School!



Year 8 Grafham Trip



137 of our Year 8 students took part in a fun filled trip to support their 'Rivers' topic work back in September run by the Grafham Water Centre. The outdoor classroom is the best way to bring geography to life and it provided students with a unique and valuable experience to consolidate what they have been learning about in the classroom. The day started at Brampton Mill, canoeing on the Great River Ouse. A variety of river landforms were on the check list to view, including a flood plain, river cliff and slip-off slope and students learnt other key terms related to their rivers topic. The afternoon involved a team building challenge at Grafham water followed by an orienteering activity and an opportunity to build on and develop their map skills. Students thoroughly enjoyed their learning adventure!

Royal Geographical Society's Geographer of the Year competition

A number of our Year 13 students have taken part in the RGS's 'Geographer of the Year' competition, submitting essays exploring the question "How is Britain Changing?" giving them an opportunity to research and develop their own ideas and opinions on the implications of a range of changes in both the physical and human geography of Britain.

Geography Department News continued

Stretch and Challenge



We have recently started a 'stretch and challenge' library in the department for our sixth form geographers with an emphasis on reading around the subject from a range of different perspectives. As well as topic specific books such as Geopolitics and Climate Change there are texts which explore the evolution of societies around the world and human geography as we know it, such as "Prisoners of Geography" and "Guns, Germs and Steel". Students are welcome to borrow any of the books and we encourage it as part of developing students ability to 'think like a geographer' and the development of 'flair' two important aspects to reach the highest grades at A level. (a small selection shown in the picture). Our A level Geographers also have a dedicated twitter feed in which relevant news stories are frequently shared. These are also shared via our Facebook page.

Geography at University

The department have been looking at how best we can support our Year 13 students who are applying to study Geography at University and we have now published some resources to support these students on our online portal here <http://www.geobytes.org.uk/geographyuniversity.html>.



We were also delighted to welcome Dr Iris Moeller from the University of Cambridge Geography Department (a coastal geomorphologist and Deputy Director of the Cambridge Coastal Research Unit) into the department back in September. Dr Moeller met with 7 of our Year 13 geography students to discuss Geography at University and answered many questions they had on applying for university courses. We would like to extend our grateful thanks to Dr Moeller from the Year 13 students who attended the session - they found it extremely informative and useful in their preparations for applying for university.



Geography Club

We are delighted to have relaunched Geography Club for this year. More than 20 students from Year 7 and 8 attended our first meeting and the club will meet every Thursday lunchtime in N15 with Miss Raine and Miss Booth. All those interested are very welcome - students should see their Geography teachers if they have any questions or would like further information!

Iceland 2017

After unprecedented interest in the year 10 Iceland trip, having worked with Rayburn Tours, our tour company, we are delighted to be able to take our largest group yet, providing the opportunity for all 66 students to experience the land of fire and ice.

Adult & Community Learning



Adult Learning and Skills



St Ives



Weekday Workshops and Courses Starting November/December 2016

Cookery: Chocoholics

Baking for Beginners

Authentic Indian Cookery Made Easy

Gourmet Burgers

Thai Cookery

Ultimate Homemade Pork Pie

Photoshop: An Introduction

Beginners' Buying on eBay

Website Design for Beginners

FREE - Living with Dogs

Body Massage Beginners

First Aid Baby and Child

Reiki I

FREE - Computing for Beginners

Book your place online at
www.aclearning.org.uk
or call us on 01480 495717

One Day Courses

Saturday 19th November

Craft: Vintage Teacup Candle

Cake Craft: Luxury Chocolate Cake

Local Honey Fudge & Cinder Toffee

Emergency First Aid at Work

MakeUp - Refresh Your Look

Bellydance

Saturday 3 December

Vegetarian Indian Cookery

Chocolate Truffles and Florentines

Flower Arranging: Christmas Flowers

Dowsing: An Introduction

Beginners' Buying on eBay

Sing! At Christmas

Cake Craft: Modelling Christmas Characters

Windows 10 for Beginners

Christmas Mosaic

Treat Yourself This Autumn...

