

November 2007



Newsletter

St Ivo School

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Dear Parent / Carer

By now you should have received a copy of the Ofsted report following our inspection on 10th/11th October 2007. The inspection team felt that standards were good and progress made by pupils was satisfactory at KS3 and KS4 and good at KS5. They also stated that standards are beginning to rise further and that no groups of pupils underachieved. The team were very positive about the ethos of the school with pupils being proud of the school, racial harmony being good and the majority of pupils happy, confident and enjoying school. Behaviour is good and has improved since the last inspection.

We have also had feedback from what is known as 'The Hartford Project'. This is an annual project where the local team of secondary support teachers visit the school for a week and observe the concentration levels of pupils. They identify about a dozen pupils for us to work with to improve their time on task/behaviour and then return after a couple of months to observe the progress that has been made.

This year they observed 63 Year 8 lessons and said that it was the best set of observations they had undertaken, with the behaviour seen being 'outstanding'. In fact, they could only find five pupils who they felt we should monitor more closely. Thanks to Martin McGarry, we have been benefiting from this project since 2005 and it has been very pleasing to note the improvement in behaviour during this time.

Finally, we have recently had our ICT provision assessed and were awarded the 'ICT mark' in recognition of the quality of provision. I was particularly pleased that the assessors rated many aspects of staff work in ICT as 'outstanding', a well-deserved accolade for the staff involved.

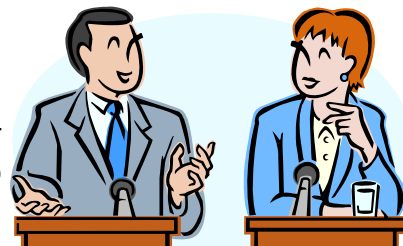
Yours sincerely

Howard Gilbert
Headteacher

Sixth Form Debating Society

Clash of the Titans

The first meeting of the Sixth Form Debating Society this academic year attracted four 'big guns'. Mr Gilbert (Headteacher) and Mr McGarry (Deputy Headteacher) faced Mrs Campbell (Chair of Governors) and Mr Burgess (Governor and ex-Headteacher of Westfield School).



There was a good turnout to the meeting from both staff and Sixth Form students.

The primary motion, 'This House believes that inequality is natural' was won by twenty-six to six - a victory for the Governors. A number of questions were asked: Are we born equal? Nature or nurture? What differentiates humans?

The secondary motion 'This House would rather be pretty than witty' was lost by three to twenty-nine - a victory for the teachers. This was interesting because the Governors seemed to think that teenagers spend all their money on beauty products!

Chairman **Jonathan** said "I wanted to get the second year of the Debating Society off to a strong start and with the quality of these speakers we certainly did that." He added "I was particularly pleased to see a number of the new Lower Sixth attending".

The Debating Society has been asked to organise and manage several debates within the Upper Sixth Assembly time. Tutor groups compete against each other and the two groups with the highest winning margins will be matched in the final.

The first debate took place on 15th October between 13Bk and 13Bs 'This House would torture terrorists' and 'This House believes that *Couch Potato* is a lifestyle choice' were the motions before the house. **Lizzie** and **Michael**, both of 13Bs, proposed both motions. They lost the first debate to **Steven** and **Peter**, of 13Bk, but recovered to win the second debate and the tie overall.

It was good to see all of Year 13 getting involved and excited about the competition.

Jonathan 13Bk

Chair of Sixth Form Debating Society

Sixth Form News

We had a fine take up of places on university courses for the outgoing Year 13 students. This year's students are well advanced in applying for university places - several have received offers and interviews already - we wish them all well.

Community Service - Thank you to all students who are involved in many forms of community service inside and outside school. The Ofsted inspectors felt contributions made by our students were outstanding and the staff who run the YMCA volunteers training programme have never seen a school or college who has so many volunteers. Forty eight students in Year 12 are taking part in the YMCA training programme. Over a hundred students are registered in the 'V' millennium volunteer scheme, sponsored by the government.

The Sixth Form raised over £200 to support research into breast cancer on the annual "pink day". Currently plans are afoot for "Children in Need" day and an equally successful fund raising effort was held on "jeans for genes" day.



Sixth Form News continued ..

Thanks to the 120 Sixth form students who helped at the annual open evening especially to **Claire, Abi, Richard, Anthony** and **Nicola** who spoke to a packed audience of students and parents.

Congratulations are due to the successful candidates who now hold posts in the Sixth Form Committee.

Alice	is the new	Chairperson
Rosie		Vice Chairperson
Faye		Secretary
Hazel		Treasurer

Alice's interest in politics was furthered in half term when she was invited to meet Ed Miliband in the cabinet room of 10 Downing Street to discuss matters of interest to young people today and to raise issues relevant to government policy.

The Sixth form is in a healthy state with nearly 350 students from Year 12 and 13. We are enjoying tackling the challenges of post-16 education together.

Mr R Perry
Head of Sixth Form

Geography Department News

Geography GCSE

Year 10 students have recently been to Dunwich and Aldeburgh as part of their study on coastal erosion.

Advanced notice - on February 27 a speaker from Cambridge County Council is coming to talk to Y10 geographers about the new guided bus scheme.

Iceland

Following the success of last summers visit to Iceland there is a display of what the students did and saw while they were there, in the main foyer - do take a look. Plans are already in place for another visit with Year 10 in July 2008.

Y13 Geographers are off to London in November as part of their study on urban renewal with special reference to the London docklands and the new Olympic site. They will also be spending a half day in Cambridge, have a talk and walking tour to contrast urban re development on their door step.

Travel and Tourism

Y12 OCR students are going to Slepe Hall in November to look at the hotel facilities while in December the group will go to Stansted airport for a guided tour.

Y12 AS Travel and Tourism have recently been to the Marriott Hotel as part of their customer service unit and will be going to Cadbury World in December to carry out a mystery shopper survey.

Advanced notice - for those travel and tourism students going to New York in January the **parent/carers' information evening** is on Wednesday 9 January.

Mrs J Mottram
Head of Geography

Art Department News

The visual information that the Year 12 A level art students gathered on their trip to the botanical gardens was used to great effect at the Curwen Print press. They created a range of vibrant prints using intaglio and mono printing techniques.

Congratulations to the Art Bursary Students **Eloise, Emma, Emily** and **Lisa** who spent three days at the Curwen Press developing a vast portfolio of large scale prints.

Many thanks to all those students who have spent their own time painting the mural for Hemingford Grey Playgroup. It's really coming together now and we can't wait to see the finished result at Christmas.

25 A level students from the art department had an inspiring visit to Alexandra Palace to the Knit & Stitch Fashion Show. Pupils had the opportunity to talk to artists and designers themselves and look carefully at their work as well as enjoy a fashion show.

Young Enterprise

St Ivo School has two teams competing for the Young Enterprise Competition this year. One group attended a 'Master class' in Enterprise at The Robinson Executive Conference Centre in St Neots. The group met a variety of local entrepreneurs who explained the practical application of finance and marketing, and they were given individual advice on the start up of their business. As part of the team building activity the group had to build a tower out of spaghetti and marshmallows!

Business specialists from Marriott Hotels were on hand to advise the Young Enterprise groups in October. Each group was allocated a member of the management team from Marriott Hotels who were able to act as 'Business Dragons' from the BBC TV show the Dragons Den, and ask searching questions about the likely success and profitability of their businesses.

Music Department News

KS4 & KS5 Orchestral Trip

Pupils will travel to West Road Faculty of Music Concert Hall on Friday 30th November to hear a Cambridge University Music Society Symphony Orchestra (CUMSII) concert.

Year 7 Gamelan Trip

Details of Year 7 Gamelan trip are soon to be released. Pupils will get to play a real Gamelan ensemble at Papworth in early January as part of a module on Indonesian music.

Christmas Concerts

St Ivo School Music Department Christmas Concerts take place on Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th December from 7pm until 9pm. Seats can be reserved online or at the business centre for £3 each. Tea, coffee and mince pies will be available for purchase during the interval.

This year there will be an opportunity for parents and friends to get involved in the music making and take part in one or both of the concerts. Do you sing? Even a little? Come and join us and set an example to the students! Rehearsals for parents and friends of the music department:

Wed 14 Nov	5.30-6.30
Wed 28 Nov	5.30-6.30
Wed 12 Nov	5.30-7.00 (refreshments provided at this rehearsal)

ICT News

KS3 ICT

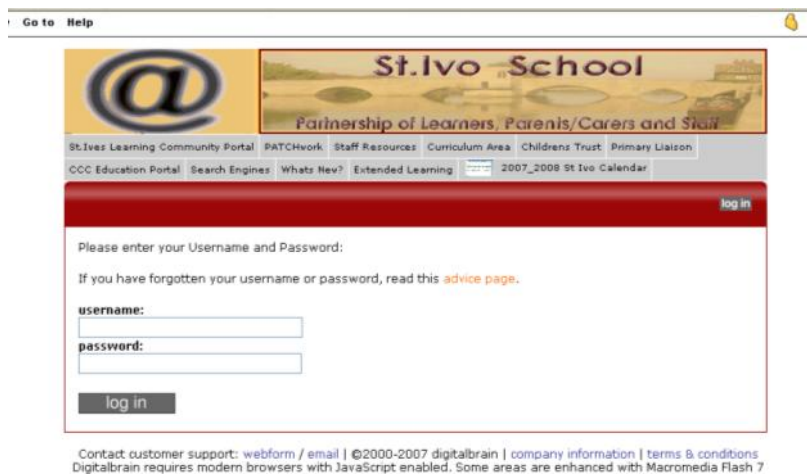
We would like to congratulate our wonderful Year 7 students who were so confident and enthusiastic last Thursday evening. They demonstrated how to use digital brain to the parents and students visiting the school. They also presented information about themselves showing their skills in the use of PowerPoint.

Thank you to all who helped out. **Sean 7Cb, Charlotte 7Rb, Charlie 7La, Gemma 7La, Kelly 7La, Oliver 7La.**

Digital Brain

All of our students have space on "Digital Brain". It is a safe space for sending and receiving emails. Every student has some website space where they can save up to six folders of work which they can access from home and school. If you have a broadband computer at home this is a great way to share workfiles between home and school. Make sure they know their log in, they can get it from the ICT department.

Mrs C Morrison



The screenshot shows the login interface for the Digital Brain system. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Go to' and 'Help'. Below this is a banner for 'St. Ivo School' with the tagline 'Partnership of Learners, Parents/Carers and Staff'. A secondary navigation bar contains links for 'St. Ives Learning Community Portal', 'PATCHwork', 'Staff Resources', 'Curriculum Area', 'Children's Trust', and 'Primary Liaison'. Below the navigation is a red bar with a 'log in' button. The main content area contains the text 'Please enter your Username and Password:' and a link for 'advice page'. There are two input fields labeled 'username:' and 'password:', and a 'log in' button at the bottom. At the very bottom, there is a footer with contact information and copyright details.

Follow the link from the school website www.stivoschool.com to reach the login for digital brain accounts.

Vocational ICT students studying the DiDA qualification had the opportunity to visit Linton Zoo in October. They were able to photograph and find out about the animals as part of a DiDA project. As the zoo was not busy the keepers were able to give our group a private display of their birds of prey and Tapirs. All the students were able to take some excellent photographs that they will use in their projects. Look out for the photos on the plasma screen in the school reception.

Mr D Tilley

Modern Foreign Languages News

A small group of Year 11 and 12 students went on an exchange trip to Schwalmtal, Germany. The Year 12s did work experience in primary schools and a bookshop. All pupils had the opportunity to accompany their partners to school. The Year 11 also went on day trips to Cologne, Mönchengladback and Bonn where they visited the main sties and sampled some of the museums. Everyone agreed that the trip was both great fun and extremely helpful for improving their German. Plans are now underway for the return visit in February.

Mrs C Meadowcroft

Anti-Bullying Week

Monday 19th November

The Local Authority is launching its Anti-Bullying Policy at St Ivo and is followed by an all day conference involving St Ivo students.

Wednesday 21st November

Year 7 Anti-Racist Bullying Actorshop Theatre group will be presenting to the Year group during the day. From 6.30-8.30p.m. all parents/carers of Years 7-9 are invited to an evening workshop in the school hall.

Thursday 29th November

The Black Cat Theatre Group will be presenting to Year 8 students in the Burgess Hall.

Mr S Crisp
Assistant Head

School Crossing Patrol on Houghton Road

Governors, staff and parents have expressed concern over the absence of a crossing patrol person in the afternoon. The Highways department has advertised regularly for a person but unfortunately no-one has applied.

Congratulations to ...

7Hn made the grand total of £78.51 for 'Children in Need' by having a cake stall at break time. Every form member baked cakes, organised the stall and served customers - it was a great success! Well done **7Hn**. A special thank you to **Rebecca** for suggesting the idea to the form. Even Terry Wogan sent his congratulations!

In October, **Georgia** of **11Ea** was involved in a star-studded charity event for Great Ormond Street Hospital in London. She gave a speech for the "kiss it better appeal" which raises money for GOSH, in front of celebrities such as Ruby Wax, Nick Knowles, Claudia Winkleman and Vernon Kay. Nick Knowles (from DIY SOS) was so impressed that he rang Mcfly for Georgia and she spoke to Harry. The group also sent Georgia a signed photo which Georgia is very kindly going to auction to raise money for GOSH.

Congratulations to ...



Sarah 7Sh and **Beverley 9Cc** who both won a number of trophies in a championship feis for Irish Dancing in October.

Mrs Perry's Y9 English group should be praised for their super poems and analytical essays on the novel 'Stone Cold'.
Well done Year 9.

Emily 8En wrote an excellent story as part of our 'Writing in Genre' topic.

Natalie 8Ge wrote a superb story in English.

Joe 7Sh wrote a super Angel story as part of our 'Skellig' topic.

Christina 12Py has learnt to knit and has made her first jumper. Christina has also been offered the regional agency for Maybelline but says she wants to concentrate on her needlecraft.

Emily 12Py passed her cycling proficiency test first time (with Distinction).

Joel 12Py has been appointed as the Chair of the Peterborough United Supporters' Club (Juniors, St Ives branch).

Ifan 12Py scored a maximum 147 in snooker at the Huntingdon Snooker Centre (unfortunately not in an official tournament).

Congratulations to all Gifted and Talented Sporting students who feature in the Cambridge Evening News on the 20th October as part of the Youth Scene. Pupils included: **Helen, James, Sophie, Olivia, Y11 football team** and **Y11 netball team**.

Hairspray

'Big hair, big heart, big hit' Telegraph

'A gorgeous new star, great actors and a big heart' The Observer

On Tuesday 30th October 2007, a new star was born. Twenty-two-year-old **Leanne Jones**, ex St Ivo pupil, stole the opening night of the new musical, Hairspray. Currently starring alongside Michael Ball and Mel Smith as her mum and dad, Leanne sings and dances her socks off and has justifiably received the kind of rave reviews she could only have dreamt of. Playing Tracy Turnblad - the bubbly teenager who battles sizeism and racial segregation on an American TV show, Leanne effortlessly commands the stage, indeed she is rarely off of it! It's hard to believe Leanne had to fight her way through 13 auditions to land one of the most coveted West End roles of the year. Hairspray is the musical with everything, including our very own leading lady! Why not go and see it and have a really fantastic hair day?

Links www.hairspraythemusical.co.uk click on video clips

Review by Tony Burgess

Governor at St Ivo School and formerly Leanne's Headteacher at Westfield Junior School



Autumn/Winter Saturday Course Collection Schools of Beauty, Food, Home and History

Saturday 10 November	How to Make Curtain Tie Backs (one of a series) 9.30am
Saturday 17 November	Look, Think and Feel Younger German Baking Workshop The Perfect Italian Dinner Party
Saturday 24 November	Wardrobe Healthcheck The Perfect Thai Dinner Party Christmas Food Workshop Make-up, Wake-up Workshop In and Out of the Workhouse
Saturday 1 December	The Perfect Traditional Indian Dinner Party – coming later Balti and Vegetarian Quick and Easy Entertaining Christmas Food Workshop Top to Toe (Indian Head Massage, Aromatherapy and Reflexology) 11.00am
Saturday 26 January	Stress and Relaxation Workshop
Saturday's, as required	Food Hygiene Certificate (£58) Basic First Aid, until help arrives Golf, Beginners, afternoon sessions (£49)

Class sizes are small ensuring plenty of individual attention.

Courses start at 10.00am (unless otherwise stated) and begin with coffee, introductions and a briefing. Prices (unless otherwise stated) range from £25-£35 depending on length of course and materials needed/included.

Gift vouchers available, redeemable on any of our courses throughout 2007/2008.

www.aclearning.org.uk
info@aclearning.org.uk
 01480 495717/375308

Book two Saturday courses/two places save £5.00

"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. Touch-Type crash course for adults and young people starts Tuesday 13 November, one hour for five weeks.



Learn to Touch Type

"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." Prof John Sutherland, UCL.

Our 5 week Touch-Type crash courses for adults and young people are being held on:

Tuesday 13 November 7-8pm

Tuesday 8 January 7-8pm

FREE Course!

Would you like to improve your Maths skills? Have you always wanted to be able to do simple sums, understand fractions, decimals and percentages? Are there areas of maths that you need for work or to help your children?

Why not enrol on our FREE 'Maths Made Easy' course and study in an informal and friendly environment? You'll even receive an Entry Level Certificate qualification. The next course will be on:

Monday 7 January 2008 12:30 – 2:30pm

Please book by Monday 3 December to guarantee your place as they are limited.

Everyone can improve their Maths skills – it is never too late!

For further details and to enrol on any of our courses, please visit our website: www.aclearning.org.uk or call: 01480 495717/375308.

Christmas Crafts and Cookery

Get into the Festive Spirit with one of our courses

Festive wine tasting
Cooking the Christmas meal
Christmas cake decorating and sugar craft
Vegetarian cookery
Cooking for an Italian, Thai or Asian dinner party
Quick and easy entertaining
Jewellery making
Fabric crafts & decorations for Christmas
'Make-up wake-up' and 'wardrobe health check'
workshops
Plus many more

(Courses are held on weekday evenings and some Saturdays)

Stuck for Christmas gift ideas?

Why not treat someone to a gift voucher for a course...

Our full range can be viewed at:

www.aclearning.org.uk or call us on 01480 495717
for further information

Sports News

Year 7 Rugby

The team have played 5 fixtures this season, and still have a County Tournament to play on Saturday 17th November at Hinchingsbrooke school. All boys that have been involved have made great progress and many have shown great commitment. There have been many excellent performances especially by **Sam, Jordon, James**. Hopefully even more people will get involved next year.

Mr Varey & Mr Daly

Year 8 Rugby

The Year 8 Rugby team have had mixed fixtures this year and have been on the losing team in some very close games against Sawtry, Longsands and Hinchingsbrooke. However, they did record a 4-3-0 victory against St Peters in a superb performance with tries coming from **Joe, Jordan, Innes, Sam, Callum, Pat** and **Liam**. Well done to all players who have participated in training and fixtures.

Mr Braybrook

Year 10 Rugby

Congratulations to the Year 10 Rugby team who have defeated Longsands, Hinchingsbrooke and Sandy Upper School in the Daily Mail National Cup. They lost to a good Sharnbrook side in the next round. Remaining games are against Kings Peterborough and the Plate competition in the Daily Mail and the County Tournament on Saturday 24th November. The side continues to develop well, and has been captained by **Aidan**.

6th Form Rugby

The 6th form rugby team has made a very positive start to the season and the boys involved have competed with teams from Huntingdon and Cambridge. Although we are not by any means the next world champions there are some very talented rugby players who will go on to play at a higher level.

The boys are - **Adam, Josh, Matt, Dan, Mark, Tom, Jamie, Martin, Milton, James, Rob, Gian, Iwan, Ali** and **Matt**.

Well Done

Mr Havard

Year 7 Football

The Year 7 football team have reached the 3rd round of the national cup after getting a bye in the first round and beating St Guthlac school, Peterborough 10-1. Goals came from **Nikolai (2), Sam (2), Jake, Jake (2), Tom, Jordan** and **George**. Well done to the whole team and good luck in the forthcoming round.

Mr Braybrook

Year 9 Football

Fantastic result in the County Cup Preliminary Round coming back from three goals down to beat City of Ely 4-3! **Ben** scoring four goals.

In the next round we faced Sir Harry Smith, another brilliant team performance saw us win 9-0! Hopefully the lads can go on to win this competition just as they did in Year 7.

Year 9 football team - **Dan, Jack, Jack, Alessio, Ollie, Adam, Anthony, Ben, Geroge, Tom, Ryan, Lewis, Mitchel, Cameron, Max**.

Mr Daly

Sports News continued ...

6th Form Football

The 6th Form team have made an excellent start to the season making it through to the 4th round of the ESFA National Cup. Best of luck for the up and coming fixture.

Mr Varey

Yr 11 Netball Teams

Both teams have been training very hard this term I have been extremely impressed with their effort and commitment. There was evidence of their enthusiasm in the run up to the district tournament when the teams where to be found practising in all weathers - wind, rain, hail!!! This paid off handsomely when the 'A' team won the tournament and the 'B' team came 6th!

I am sure that the success of the teams was due in part to the team shirts!

'A' team - **Hanna, Zayna, Beth, Laura, Lauren, Courtney, Cathy, Sophie, Lisette.**

'B' Team - **Keziah, Sam, Tashin, Ella, Rachel, Hannah, Lauren, Ashley.**

Well done to both teams I am very proud of your achievements. Good luck in the county tournament!

Miss Sherwood

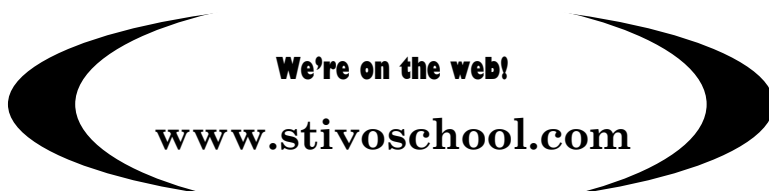
Yr 7 Netball Teams

Yr 7 have got off to a great start with a large number of eager students attending netball club. All teams 'A', 'B' and 'C' took part in the district tournaments and played very well.

Sarah, Alex, Ellen, Angela, Zoe, Maddison, Abigail,, Camille, Courtney, Chloe, Caitlin, Frances, Emma, Olivia, Amy, Megan, Olivia, Martyna, Megan, Frances, Laurena, Alex, Katie, Gabrielle, Jade.

Well done to everyone - keep up the good work!

Miss Sherwood



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