

15th May 2026

Headteacher

Responsible, Resilient, Ambitious

Our CoffeeHouse event on Thursday, organised by Miss Dungey, was another wonderful showcase of student performances. It was a pleasure to see so many young people stepping forward to share their talents. Performing in front of an audience, particularly one that includes unfamiliar faces, takes real confidence and resilience, and we are very proud of all those who took part.

As many of you know, mobile phones have been restricted at Ixworth for some time. We have found this to be a positive step, helping to reduce distractions and support students to focus on their learning and friendships. While this has recently gained wider attention nationally, it has long been part of our approach, rooted in the belief that a strong school culture matters most. Encouraging face-to-face interaction and reducing reliance on social media helps create a calmer, more positive environment for students, and reflects our values of respect and responsibility. Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us maintain this.

We have attached a themed menu for next Thursday 21st May- Hacienda Mexicana!

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Mr Gibb
Headteacher

Key Dates

Week beginning 18th May is Week B on our timetable

18th May	DofE Expedition Week
25th May	Half Term
1st June	First Day Back- All Students
1st June	Year 9 start KS4 Options
18th June	Year 7 Progress Evening
19th June	Year 11 Prom
6-10th July	Year 10 Work Experience Week
13-17th July	Summer Enrichment Week
17th July	Final Day of School

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Pastoral Notices

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Student Related Enquiries

General enquiries about students or student-related incidents should always in the FIRST instance go to their Tutor. If for any reason this does not resolve the issue, please then contact the Head of Upper or Lower school, whichever is relevant to your child.

Student Absence

Student absences should be registered with the School Office Team- aaa@ixworthhighschool.org by 9:00 am.

Lost Property

Items of lost property will be kept at the school Office. Please ensure you have all school uniform and sports kit clearly marked with your child's name on the inside of the item.

Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Miss Burgess; she is contactable via the school office.

We continue to push on high levels of attendance for our students across the school and in Forge. Thank you to the parents and carers in our community who support their children to make the right choice every day. Research tells us that 95% plus attendance adds one grade, on average at GCSE.

Below you will see the link to our Attendance and Punctuality Policy. This can be accessed on our website under Policies. <https://www.ixworthhighschool.org/assets/Documents/Attachments/Attendance-and-Punctuality-Policy-2024.pdf>

Careers- SWAY



[Up-to-date Career's News - Rolling Summer term](#)

Ixworth High School Careers Rolling Summer Term!

[Go to this](#)

[Sway](#)

15th May 2026

Exam Information

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Important GCSE Information / Exams next week:

- Monday AM - Chemistry
- Tuesday AM - English Literature Paper 2
- Tuesday PM - Computer Science
- Wednesday AM - French Listening & Engineering
- Thursday AM - English Language Paper 1
- Friday AM - Physical Education Paper 1

Arrive Promptly: Please ensure you are at the exam venue 15 minutes before the start time, ready to go.

- Equipment Check: Remember to bring your own clear pencil case with black pens, pencils, eraser, ruler, and any subject-specific tools (scientific calculator and compass are essentials).
- PM Exams: Please note that afternoon exams begin at 13:30. If you have approved extra time, your exam may finish after the school buses have departed. Please ensure you have arranged alternative transport home for these days.

Keep up the hard work! **Mr Beales & Miss Elmer**

Free School Meals

The FSM allowance will be increasing to £2.66 from 1st September 2026.

This means that as per Trust policy all prices will rise in line with this change:

- Paid for meals at primary schools will increase to £2.66
- Set meal deals at secondary schools will increase to £2.66
- Staff meals at all schools will increase to £3.20 (VAT inclusive)

Aspens are aware of these changes and will be implementing them from the 1st September.

CoffeeHouse

Last night's Coffeehouse was a truly memorable celebration of talent, creativity, and confidence, with every performer bringing something special! Our wonderful hostesses, Annie and Charlotte, guided the evening with warmth and charm, setting the tone for an uplifting showcase.

From Esme's powerful rendition of *So Much Better* to Bryony's captivating dance to *Game of Survival*, the audience was immediately drawn in. Sam's original guitar performance of *Day by Daylight* and Payton's soulful take on *Lover Girl* highlighted impressive musical skill, while Alice's *My House* and Imogen's *Santa Fe* were delivered with real theatrical flair. Bella and Ruby lit up the stage with their energetic *90s Mix*, and Eliza's piano piece, *I Will Leave You Some Words*, provided a beautifully reflective moment. Hridya and Summer's duet, *Thought I Saw Your Face Today*, was especially moving, followed by standout vocal performances from Isobel (*It Means Beautiful*) and Lydia (*From the Start*). Maisie and Imogen brought the evening to a deeply moving close, their final performance together leaving not a dry eye. I am incredibly proud of all involved for sharing their talents so generously, making the event such a rousing success!

Mrs Dungey



Subject Spotlight- French KS4

Why is your subject important in this key stage?

French at KS3 develops students' communication skills, cultural awareness, and confidence in language learning. It supports literacy, memory, problem-solving, and listening skills, while fostering curiosity about the wider world.

Any teaching methods/strategies that would help people understand how teaching is taking place (implementation of curriculum)?

Beginning in Year 7, students receive balanced instruction across all key language skills— listening, speaking, reading, writing, and translation. More advanced grammatical structures, such as tenses, are introduced early through vocabulary and set phrases rather than as formal grammatical concepts, enabling students to build familiarity and accuracy over time. For example, Year 7 students learn phrases such as *je voudrais* without needing to understand the conditional tense, laying strong foundations for future success.

What are students covering in the Key stage/course?

Across all three years, students explore:

1. **Identity & Self-** Personal information, hobbies, descriptions, daily routine
2. **Family & Friends-** Relationships, personalities, family life
3. **School & Future Plans-** Subjects, timetables, opinions, ambitions
4. **Leisure & Free Time-** Sports, music, film, technology use
5. **Home & Local Area-** Describing where you live, your town, and what you can do there
6. **Food & Culture-** Meals, eating out, cultural festivals, traditions
7. **Travel & Holidays-** Directions, transport, booking trips, holiday experiences

How my subject fits into the wider curriculum

Core skills developed include listening comprehension, reading for meaning, spoken interaction, accurate written expression, and translation skills. Students also develop cultural understanding, grammatical awareness, and confidence in manipulating language independently.

Any competitions/House comps/ Homework you are running/have run and their results or aims.

Our department runs weekly homework clubs as well as GCSE clinics to support students with their learning.

How can parents support or extend their child in your subject?

In languages, when it comes to making progress, the golden rule is "*little and often.*" Parents can support their child by ensuring they learn vocabulary regularly in small, manageable chunks, rather than the night before an assessment when there are too many words to remember. This approach helps develop long-term memory and supports faster, more secure progress.

Anything current in the news, new books or research links to websites

Quizlet (<https://quizlet.com>) is a free, interactive website designed to help students memorise vocabulary as well as key grammatical concepts. By entering the name of the textbook used in class (Dynamo 1 in Year 7; Dynamo 2 in Year 8; Dynamo 3 in Year 9) along with the lesson title, students can revise in a fun and effective way.

Careers links/ties to post-16/university etc.

Business & International Trade, Travel, Tourism & Aviation, Translation & Interpreting, Media & Communications, Law & International Relations, Hospitality & Events Management and STEM careers.

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READ FOR GOOD READATHON LAUNCHING THIS SUMMER!

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL BE LAUNCHING OUR READ FOR GOOD READATHON DURING THE SUMMER TERM! THIS EXCITING INITIATIVE CELEBRATES THE JOY OF READING WHILE SUPPORTING AN INSPIRING CHARITY THAT BRINGS BOOKS TO CHILDREN IN HOSPITAL SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UK.

THE READATHON ENCOURAGES PUPILS TO READ WHAT THEY LOVE, CHALLENGE THEMSELVES AS READERS, AND MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE THROUGH THEIR EFFORTS. IT'S A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD READING FOR PLEASURE, PROMOTE KINDNESS, AND COME TOGETHER AS A SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO GET STARTED AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING OUR PUPILS ENJOY GREAT BOOKS FOR A GREAT CAUSE. MORE DETAILS WILL BE SHARED SOON!



IXWORTH HIGH SCHOOL
cordially invites
you to

A Night Under the Stars

YEAR 11 PROM 2026

on Friday, 19th of June
two thousand and twenty-six
at 6.30 in the evening

All Saints Hotel
Fornham All Saints

BURY TOWN TOMAHAWKS

SEASON 26/27
U13
(CURRENT YEAR 7S)

LOOKING FOR
NEW PLAYERS
FOR NEXT SEASON

OPEN TRAINING SESSION

20/05/26
ST JAMES SCHOOL
BURY ST EDMUNDS
6-8 PM

PLAYS SUNDAY | CUP WINNERS 25/26 SEASON | MAKE FUN & COME!

PLEASE CONTACT BEN OR DAVID
TO BOOK YOUR SPACE
COME ALONG AND BE PART OF THE TOMAHAWKS FAMILY

CONTACT: DAVID 07815 376059 | BEN 07730 586917