

27th February 2026

Headteacher

Responsible, Resilient, Ambitious

Welcome back after the half term break. This is a very short half term, 5 weeks, but we have a lot packed in with Year 9 Options Evening, Year 11 Parent's Evening, Careers Week and the second set of reports. Full details are in the calendar section of this bulletin. We will also begin the selection process for our student leadership team to replace the outgoing team in Year 11.

The first stage of the cosmetic and protection work for the walls in the corridors has been completed and looks very smart, there will be further work carried out over Easter and the summer holidays, I have attached some photographs below.

We have a team representing Ixworth at the Felsted Model United Nations Conference, this is being led by Mr Harrison. Students have the opportunity to consider real-world issues of today and to develop an understanding of the international co-operation needed to make a difference. They will be practising their skills of debating, communication and strategic thinking to voice their nominated nation's opinions and suggest solutions to bring about positive change. This is an amazing opportunity; we wish them the best of luck.

On Thursday 5th March we are celebrating World Book Day. We are inviting students to come dressed as their favourite book characters!

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Mr Gibb

Headteacher



Year 10 Mocks

Individual timetables will be provided to students before we break up for Easter. These are also available on the Bromcom app and Student Portal, although some are still being completed.

We have attached a Year 10 Mock timetable and exam checklist to this bulletin email.

The following items have been added to the Bromcom shop for Year 10 & 11 students in preparation for the Summer Exam season:

- Clear exam pencil case containing; 2 x black pens, 1 x highlighter, ruler, protractor, compass, pencil, pencil sharpener and eraser **£1.32 each**

- Casio FX83GT CW+ Scientific calculator **£11.10 each**

Any issues, please email k.elmer@ixworthhighschool.org

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Pastoral Notices

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>

Key Dates

Week beginning 2nd March is Week A on our timetable

2nd March	National Careers Week
5th March	Year 11 Progress Evening
19th March	Year 9 Options Evening
30th March	Easter Break
13th April	PD Day- Staff ONLY
14th April	First Day Back- All Students

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2026-2027

Sapientia Education Trust- Term Dates & PD Days

Autumn Term:

- Starts: Thursday 3rd September 2026- All Students
- **PD Day- Friday 18th September 2026- No Students**
- Half-Term: 19th October - 30th October 2026
- Last day: Friday 18th December 2026

Spring Term:

- **PD Day- Tuesday 5th January 2027- No Students**
- Starts: Wednesday 6th January 2027
- Half-Term: 15th February- 19th February 2027
- Last Day: Thursday 25th March 2027

Summer Term:

- Starts: Monday 12th April 2027
- Bank Holiday/ School Closed: 3rd May 2027
- Half-Term: 31st May - 4th June 2027
- Last Day – Friday 23rd July 2027

Macmillan Cancer Support

Thank You for Supporting Mr Morris' Marathon Fundraiser!

A huge thank you to our wonderful school community for your generosity during the non-uniform day before half term. Together, you helped raise £428 towards Mr Morris' marathon fundraising for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Your kindness didn't stop there — many of you also contributed directly through the JustGiving page ([James Morris is fundraising for Macmillan Cancer Support](#)), and we are incredibly grateful for every donation, message of support, and act of encouragement.

Events like this show the strength of our community and the positive impact we can make when we come together. Thank you for helping support such an important cause, and good luck to Mr Morris as he continues his marathon training!



Subject Spotlight- Ancient History KS4

Why is this subject important in this key stage?

Ancient History itself investigates a period of time that formed many of the global relationships and cultures we see around us today. The cultural conflict between the East and West that repeated in the Roman Empire, the Middle Ages through the Crusades up to the modern religious and ideological differences can all trace their roots back to the classical period. Furthermore, Ancient History develops a skill set that is beneficial to a significant number of Post-16 courses and careers.

Implementation of Curriculum

There is a heavy focus on justifying opinions as much of the information is broken or incomplete. Students are taught to think around a problem, analyse accuracy and reliability, infer, predict and discuss the plausible in reference to a significant number of Ancient sources.

What are students covering in the Key stage/course?

In KS3, students study one Ancient History based unit with direct links throughout Y7-9 to other relevant units and the skills required for GCSE.

- Students study four units at KS4.
- The Persian Empire from Circa 555BCE to Circa 450BCE.
- Alexander the Great
- The origins of the Rome and its seven Kings
- Britannia

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

Reading text from the period in modern formats, visiting museums and ancient monuments in this country and others, reading around the subject eras either in fact or fictional writing to get a feel for the period.

Current news, books, research, or links to websites etc. Students might find the below interesting/useful to access their studies or provide wider context and skills.

Significant new discoveries in Pompeii are helping understand the Roman world as well as several recent ones in Britain. Websites like:

- <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/archaeology/>
- <https://www.archaeologyuk.org/>
- <https://www.livius.org/>
- <https://www.worldhistory.org/>

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

Many Post-16 and universities would see this course as a useful course to aid your study. Roles as wide ranging as lawyers, lecturers, investigative services, Police and Public Services as well as any career where taking information, analysing it and drawing a conclusion are part of the role. Ancient history is an incredibly useful course for Students to undertake.

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Alexander the Great, 356-323

and Philoemus. He admired Aristotle from the beginning and loved him not less, as he himself said, than his father, as he gained the gift of life from his father, but from Aristotle he had learnt how to live nobly. In later years he was more suspicious of Aristotle, not that he did him any harm but his friendliness towards him was less warm, which was proof of an estrangement between them. However his natural interest and enthusiasm for philosophy, which he demonstrated since childhood, did not leave him as he grew older as can be shown by his respect for Anaxarchus and the 50 talents he gave Xenocrates and his close association with Dandamis and Calanus.

When Philip was making an expedition against the people of Byzantium, Alexander, aged 16, was left in charge of affairs in Macedonia and was keeper of the king's seal. When the Maedi revolted, he overcame them. After capturing their city he drove out the barbarians and settled a mixed population there and renamed the city Alexandropolis. He was present at and took part in the battle against the Greeks at Chaeroneia, and it is said that he led the charge against the Sacred Band of the Thebans. Still even in my time an ancient oak tree is pointed out as Alexander's tree next to the River Cephisus where he pitched his tent at the time of the battle; the general burying place of the Macedonians is close by.

Because of this, as one might expect, Philip was very fond indeed of his son and was even delighted when he heard the Macedonians calling Alexander their king, and Philip their general. But the disturbances in the royal household, brought about by his marriages and his love affairs, caused problems in his kingdom very similar to those in the women's quarters of the palace and resulted in great quarrels between Alexander and his father, which the bad temper of Olympias, an envious and sullen woman, made still worse, as she encouraged the young man. The most obvious quarrel was brought about by Attalus at the time of Philip's marriage to Cleopatra; Philip fell in love with a young girl, even though he was too old for her. Attalus was her uncle and when

Notes

Aristotle **Alexander**

- Alexander admired Aristotle from start.
- Believed he gained the gift of life - education?
- From Aristotle he had learnt how to live nobly.
- Later years Alexander was less warm / friendly → Aristotle

Q - Alexander, battle (16 years) - left in charge.

- maedi revolted - Alex' overcame
- drove out barbarians + settled mixed population. Alexandropolis
- took part in battle against Greeks.
- Pitched tent, at general burying place of Macedonians close by.
- Macedonians called Alexander their king, Philip - general.

Olympias:

- bad temper
- envious → created a disturbance
- sullen
- encouraged Alexander in his quarrels

from conquest to province

Gold stater of Cunobelinus, cAD 10-40

Front of coin (obverse) Back of coin (reverse)



Ear of corn, CA and MV (LDDVNM) Horse, CUNOBELINVS
British Museum 1977.0434.11

Prescribed source for students to analyse about the conquest of Britannia

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Notes on what is being learnt about Alexander and his relationships from the prescribed texts.

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Careers Week

Careers Week Monday 2nd March - Friday 6th March

What is Careers Week?

Careers Week is a dedicated week in school where students explore the wide range of opportunities available to them after school and beyond. It helps them understand how their learning today connects to their future choices.

During the week, students may take part in:

- Careers fairs with local and national employers
- Guest speakers from different industries
- Mock interviews with professionals
- Sessions on further education, apprenticeships and training pathways
- Activities focused on workplace skills such as communication, teamwork and problem-solving

Why is Careers Week Important?

Careers Week helps students:

- Understand the different routes available after Year 11
- Build confidence when speaking to employers
- Develop key employability skills
- Make informed subject and career choices
- Raise aspirations and broaden horizons

It supports the school's careers programme in line with guidance from the Department for Education and the Careers & Enterprise Company, ensuring students receive meaningful encounters with employers and further education providers.

How Parents and Carers Can Support

You can support your child by:

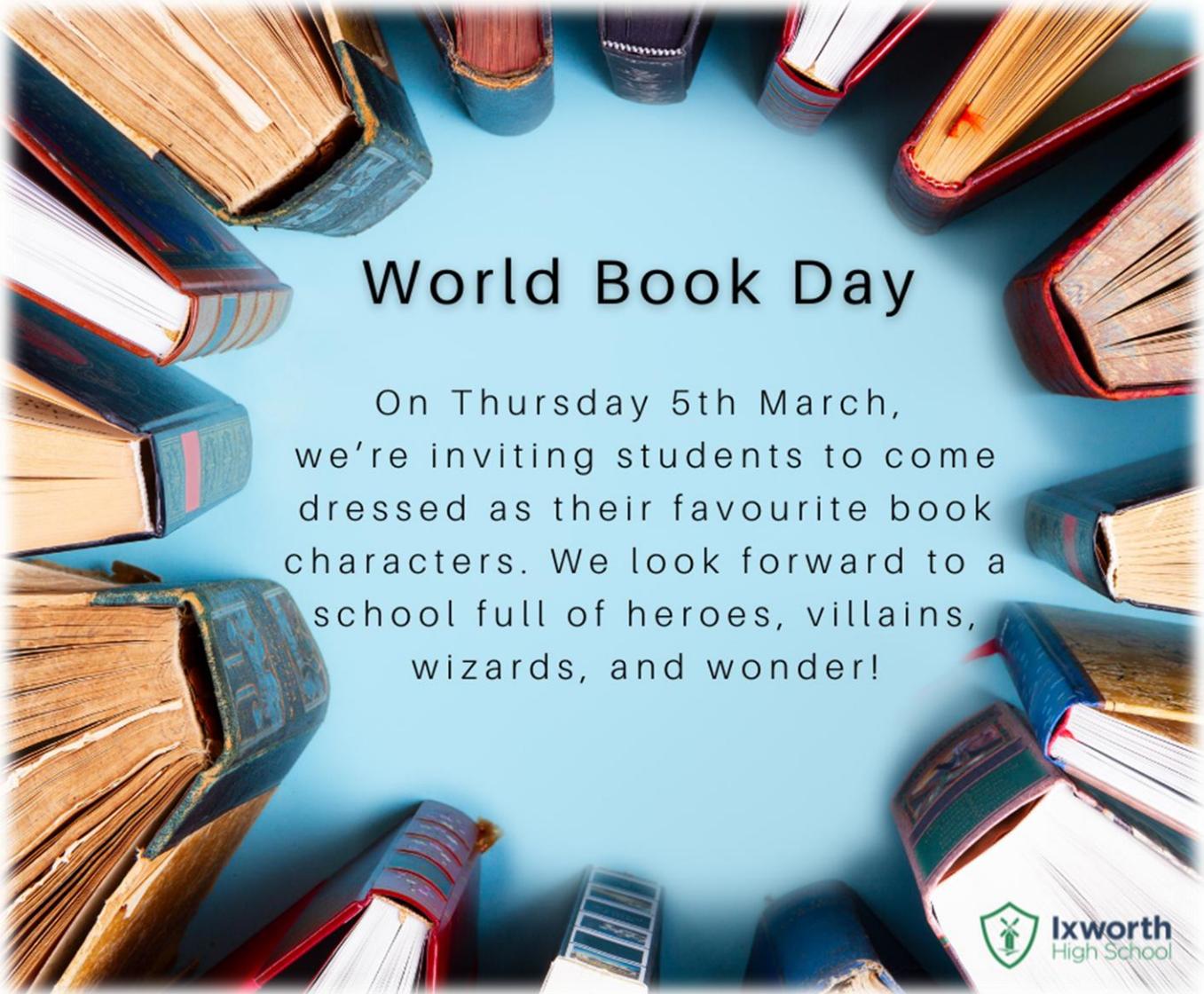
- Talking to them about what they learned during the week
- Encouraging them to ask questions about different careers
- Sharing your own career experiences
- Helping them research pathways such as apprenticeships, college courses or university

Careers conversations at home make a real difference in helping young people feel confident about their future.

Please find attached the timetable for these events if you have any questions, please direct these to Mrs Heath at d.heath@ixworthhighschool.org

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World Book Day

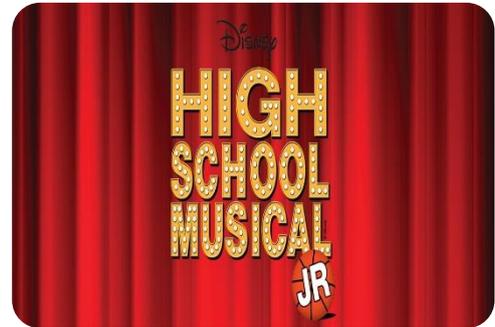
On Thursday 5th March,
we're inviting students to come
dressed as their favourite book
characters. We look forward to a
school full of heroes, villains,
wizards, and wonder!

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High School Musical JR!

Disney's High School Musical JR. is playing at Ixworth High School on the **25th and 26th March 2026**. The fun-filled 60-minute musical, designed for high school-aged performers, is based on the 2006 Disney Channel Original Movie and the subsequent National Tour. The cast includes 60 students, ranging from tech team to performers directed by Mrs Howson.



CALLING ALL WILDCATS!

This up-beat throwback to the ins and outs of high school drama is a nostalgic romp for young and old alike! Adapted for young performers, this musical includes favourite *High School Musical* songs such as "Get'cha Head in the Game," "Stick to the Status Quo," and "We're All in This Together." With its inspiring message of friendship, self-discovery, and teamwork, you'll be singing and cheering along!

Tickets are available via the links below please highlight and copy the link into the search bar.

Cast 1- Wednesday 25th March at 17:30

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1982669013391?aff=oddtcreator>

Cast 2- Thursday 26th March at 17:30

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1982682025310?aff=oddtcreator>

