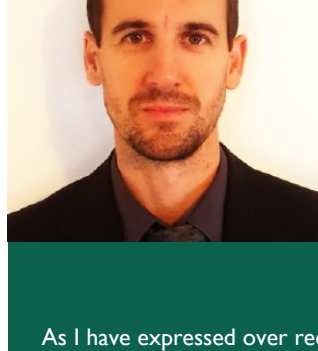




family BULLETIN



Welcome

Christmas is fast approaching and so are a number of events in school. In the bulletin this week you will see a summary of the plans for next week. Individual messages are being released regarding a number of these. In addition, we are making amendments to the way we report progress. These reports will be with you before Christmas, they will hopefully be clearer to follow and understand progress and potential trajectories. I would welcome your feedback about the new report and what further elements you would like to see in them. Please note that these reports are data based reports not full written reports.

As I have expressed over recent weeks, the national shortage of staff has had an impact on the school. We are running and re-running adverts to try and address this situation as well as chasing supply agencies to book long term supply. One impact is in the capacity of our office staff to manage all communication and requests. Further to this, when an incident occurs in school it is understandable that as a parent/carer there will be upset or worry. However, students are not permitted to use phones in school so communication around the incident should only be from the pastoral team in the first instance.

On a number of occasions concerned parent/carers have arrived at school to request meetings. While we would like to be able to accommodate everyone, the impact is that the team investigating the incident and the office team are unable to continue with their duties, including but not limited to resolving the incident in question. As such, the school has to operate a system of appointments only. If you would like a meeting to discuss an issue, please contact the office team to arrange.

Mr Jackson
Deputy Head of School

ENRICHMENT



Summer Enrichment Week 2024

Unfortunately, due to low sign up, we have had to cancel the summer trip to Ypres. Numbers are also low on trips to Amsterdam, London and Cuffley (Adventure Camp). We will be looking at these numbers next week – if still low we will have to cancel the trips. Please, if you have not already seen the itinerary for these trips, take a look and sign up if interested ([Arbor Trips](#)). The deadline for sign up is next Friday but I would recommend signing up before then. If we have to cancel trips, all signed up students would be fully refunded.

Christmas Enrichment

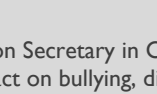
Christmas enrichment day is Thursday 14 December. The deadline to sign up is Monday 11 December, via Arbor. Pricing for these trips is confirmed as follows:

Years 7 and 8: Curve Motion - £15
Year 9: Super Bowl - £20
Year 10: Bury Bowl - £12
Year 11: Planet Laser - £20

Weekly Enrichment

Lent Term enrichment sign up window will open next Friday at 4pm. We ask that your child is signed up ready for next term before the 5 January. To sign up, please follow the same procedure as previously through the Arbor clubs page.

SAFEGUARDING



Mobile Phone Safety

As previously shared by the Education Secretary in October, mobile phone and social media usage in UK schools is having a direct impact on bullying, disruptive behaviour and attention within lessons. There are also clear links between screen time, social media and poor mental health.

Within the statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' it has stated 'that children's unlimited and unrestricted access to the internet via mobile phones means that some children, whilst at school or college, sexually harass their peers via their mobile and smart technology, share indecent images non-consensually (often via large chat groups) and view and share pornography and other harmful content.' Ofsted's rapid review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges, published in June 2021, has additionally highlighted mobile use in the sexual harassment of school girls, with the majority of the more than 900 children and young people surveyed, experiencing some kind of unsolicited images or sexist comments online or via mobile phone.

We have a clear expectation on mobile phones within school, they should not be seen or heard and we are working hard to ensure we are creating a positive culture around online safety within SET Ixworth. This includes work in PSHE and tutor time, alongside working with external agencies, to ensure students know how to be safe online, along with reporting harmful or negative content online.

To keep your children safe, there are a range of parental apps including, but not limited to;
[Oustodio](#)
[Google Family Link](#)
[Kaspersky](#)

Alongside this, I would highly recommend you read further advice about online safety from the [NSPCC Keeping Children Safe](#) which covers key topics such as the links between online safety and mental health, apps and social media, online games, and fake news and misinformation.

We wish to work with parent/carers to ensure that all young people are remaining safe online, so if you have any concerns or would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to get in contact with a member of the Safeguarding Team.

Contact details can be found in this bulletin or on the website [here](#).

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On Tuesday 13 December we will be having our Christmas jumper day. Children are encouraged to wear Christmas jumpers for the day with their school uniforms, under their blazers. We are asking for a donation of £1 to support a school in Africa afford ingredients for their own school Christmas dinner. Pictured left is the school we are in contact with in Bhumba, Uganda. Our Executive Headteacher, Mr Fell, has visited the students and their teacher, Tiyeitu Yosia, and told us what a great school it is.



FROM THE OFFICE TEAM

Flu Vaccinations

On the 14th of December. This is scheduled to happen around the enrichment trips leaving times. This vaccination is the Flu Nasal spray so will not impact the enjoyment of the trip.

Thank you!

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thursday 14 December, from 6 - 8pm

There is still time to get involved with helping at the school Christmas Fair. So whether you would like to be a stall holder, donate a raffle prize or help in any other way please get in touch with the Friends of Ixworth via the school email with the heading 'School Fair'.

This is such a great opportunity to strengthen our community and I hope to see many parents, carers, students and friends there.

ixworth@seckfordeducation.org.uk



REPORTS OUT NEXT WEEK

We are improving the way data is presented in reports. As a result of these changes, we will be able to tailor the information released to each individual student more specifically. As with any change, there will be some adjustment time. We will publish the reports with information regarding their meaning and how to understand them.

ATTENDANCE



	WHOLE SCHOOL	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
CUMULATIVE	91.5%	92.9%	90.2%	85.1%	87.2%	88.4%
WEEKLY	89%	94.4%	91.9%	90.9%	89.1%	89.6%

SEND TEAM CONTACT

Please send all communications relating to SEND need to The Inclusion Team email sendteamixworth@seckfordeducation.org.uk

STUDENT-RELATED ENQUIRIES

PLEASE NOTE - 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. Please see the [staff list](#) on the website for tutor names and how to contact them.

Student absences should still be registered with the School Office Team.

Key dates 2023 - 24

Christmas break :
Last day of term - Friday 15 December

Wednesday 13 December - Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
 Thursday 14 December - Flu vaccinations
 Thursday 14 December - Christmas Enrichment trips

Lent term 2024:
Term starts - Thursday 4 January
Lent half term - Friday 16 February
Return to school - Monday 26 February

2024
 Thursday 11 January - Year 7 Progress evening, 5pm - 7:30pm
 Tuesday 23 January - Open Forum with Head of School, 9:30am - 10:30am

Safeguarding Information



Mr H Popham-Cooper
 Designated Safeguarding Lead
hpophamcooper@seckfordeducation.org.uk



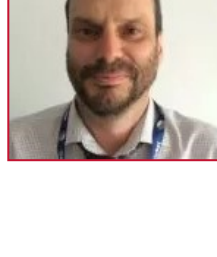
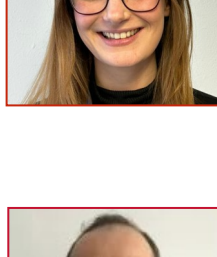
Mrs B Morris
 Assistant Designated Safeguarding Lead
bmorris@seckfordeducation.org.uk



Mrs K O'Halloran
 Assistant Designated Safeguarding Lead
ko'halloran@seckfordeducation.org.uk



Mr P Spurin
 Assistant Designated Safeguarding Lead
pspurin@seckfordeducation.org.uk



If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact the school to speak to one of our safeguarding team.

01359 234050

Useful websites and helplines

Crisis – 0337261800
 Child Line – 0800 1111
 Customer First – 0808 800 4005
 Samaritans – 116 123

Child Line – www.childline.org.uk
 Children's Society – www.childrenssociety.org.uk
 Food Bank – www.trusselltrust.org
 Kooth – www.kooth.com
 Mind – www.mind.org.uk
 NHS website – www.england.nhs.uk
 NSPCC website – www.nspcc.org.uk
 Place 2be website – www.place2be.org.uk
 Young Minds website – www.youngminds.org.uk

For more information, please visit the [Safeguarding](#) page of our website.

School office:
 01359 234050 / ixworth@seckfordeducation.org.uk