

ISP SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Autumn Issue No1.2022



HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Wow! I can't believe that it's nearly the end of Term 2 and the year 2022! So much has happened, so many things to acknowledge and celebrate, many of which are highlighted in this newsletter but this is only the highlights. What I would like to also acknowledge is that we have welcomed 13 new pupils since September which is significant in a school this size. We have also welcomed new staff and said goodbye to Mr Garnett and Mr Ward and sadly we will now say goodbye to Mr Wayne, all longstanding ISP staff. One of our school's strengths is in our relationships and where it's always difficult when we experience loss, it's part of life and our aim is to support our pupils through life experience and help them to recognise that they are resilient and that they are equipped to manage change. This is evident in the fact that our pupils have had many successes and achievements so far in spite of all the many things/changes that have happened since September. Well done everyone! Have a wonderful break and looking forward to seeing you all in the new year. Mrs Cox

THIS YEAR

We have had a really busy start to the academic year and it already feels like we have, as a school, achieved so much. The pupils and staff have recently planted 400 trees with Miss Pearce which were kindly gifted to us by The Woodland Trust. What a pleasure it was for the pupils to do this and learn about the environment and the different trees and bushes that they will see grow over the next few years. Our upper years have been thinking about their next steps and have recently been visiting colleges in preparation for leaving, a very exciting time ahead for them all. We have had pupil wellbeing mornings, a carousel of RE learning about Harvest and Sukkot for KS3 and Diwali for KS2, a run for Pudsey, odd socks day for anti bullying, our new school in Whitstable (The Polar Restart Centre) has opened, our Student Council is up and running which now incorporates mental wellbeing for the pupils and staff have been participating in 'Movember' for charity (see pictures below). Our options have started in KS4 and what an absolute joy it is to see our pupils producing some superb work in Photography, Art, Hospitality, Sport and Land Based Studies. Some of our pupils have recently attended The Marlowe theatre to watch Snow White as a Christmas treat, which both the staff and pupils really enjoyed. We sadly said goodbye to Mr Ward after 7 years at ISP and welcomed some new staff. We are all excited about the year ahead and making more ISP memories. Have a fabulous Christmas. See you in the New Year.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Return to school - 4th January 23
February half term 13th - 17th February 23



CHAIR OF GOVERNORS UPDATE

Such a lovely start to the Academic Year..... new options for our students, which appear to be going really well; planting trees to improve our environment and learn about sustainability; having the use of the Sports Hall and learning about so many new things.

The young people have settled really well into the school year. Yes, there have been a few hiccups but they are always expected after the long summer holiday until the new routines have been established. I'm proud of the way that the school (young people and staff) present themselves as a place for learning, consideration and fun.

On my visits to the school I have seen some lovely examples of written work, some excellent photographs from those students doing photography and in general terms most students engaging well with their learning and being respectful of the adults and their peers.

I look forward to seeing what the new term will bring.

On behalf of the Governing Body I wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Hopeful New Year.

Jacqui Ward. Chair of Governors



Merry
Christmas
 and happy New Year



Focus on... Our environment

We work and come to school to in such a beautiful place and we have lots of plans for the future to work more within our own environment. Planting the trees has been a great success and as these grow the pupils will be very proud of their hard work and the impact we are all having on our own environment. Pupils all placed a tag on their own trees, identifying which tree belongs to them and what the name of the tree was which has enabled them to learn more about specific trees, how long they take to grow and what the impact is of planting these. Plans for next year include having a wild garden, outside of the MUGA, continue to develop the 'plots' with Miss Pearce and pupils within Land Based Studies lessons and to look at developing the curriculum further with environmental Studies becoming a possibility for future KS4 pupils. As we head to Spring next year the beautiful blossom will start to grow on the walkway allowing nature to once again flourish in our environment. We are all so very lucky to be a part of all of this and hopefully the new year will bring many more exciting projects for us all.



CHRISTMAS CORNER

What do you call a dog who works for Santa?

Santa Paws

