

Academy News

6th October 2023



Good afternoon,

Last week's assemblies were centred on the importance of moral courage. I fervently believe that a significant part of the education we offer is one that develops a child's moral compass. Too often we criticize young people for their choices yet we, as the adults in their lives, fail to equip them with the skills and lessons that enable them to make a positive moral impact in their daily lives. A recent news story reported how TikTok has been linked with a rise in anti-social behaviour - our young people deserve more connection with the adults in their lives; this serves as a balance to the persuasive draw of distorted social norms made prominent by viral trends. Our pastoral team, who often work with young people about these types of issues, welcomed a new member, Gabriella Stones, a Youth Worker (from 4YP) who will work with some of our students over the next year.

In other news, I have started to try the new menus from Caterlink in advance of their introduction and have also sought some feedback from students - there are some fantastic things on offer and I am really pleased that there has been such a strong response to the issues we have raised.

Since writing to you a few weeks ago about celebrating the success of individuals I am pleased to share with you that we now have a British Champion for Muay-Thai Kickboxing in Year 7. Arman travelled to Barnsley for the World Championships and won his age and weight division.

On Tuesday 17th October, we will be holding Year 7 Early Settling In meetings with Form Tutors - full details will be shared early next week.

George Anstee-Parry
Acting Headteacher

Year 10 CAT4 Testing

Next week, all Year 10 students will be sitting the CAT4 tests during registration, lessons 1 and 2. In addition, we will be running catch up sessions for Year 8 and 9 students who missed these tests earlier this year.

This is an online cognitive test on a computer. The units assess:

- reasoning with words
- reasoning with numbers
- reasoning with shapes and designs
- thinking with and mentally manipulating precise shapes

The results determine how your child learns, their strengths & weaknesses. We can, therefore, use this data to adapt teaching & learning to reflect this. It will ensure your child is able to learn effectively and to the best of their ability across their GCSE courses. This will subsequently improve their results next year to move on in education, to A level or vocational courses that they wish to study.

We will use the CAT testing to set precise targets for GCSE subjects, so that they are not simply based on English and Maths outcomes. This is important, therefore, we request that you ensure your child is in school, unless seriously unwell, on their form's allocated day, as this is for their educational benefit.

Monday - Deben Tuesday - Alton Wednesday - Gipping Thursday - Orwell Friday - Stour

Calendar / Upcoming Events

9th October - Flu Vaccinations
(Details shared separately)

12th October - Years 9-11
Careers Fair at Ipswich High School,
5-6pm

17th October - Year 7 Early Settling
In Evening with Form Tutors

20th October - PD Day

Ipswich Road, Holbrook, Ipswich, IP9 2QX

Tel: 01473 328317 Email: parents@holbrookbrookacademy.org



PE Clubs – Autumn Term 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before school				Netball - Shooting Yr 7-9 Girls Sportshall from 8:00am	Basketball – Shooting Yr 7 & 8 Sportshall from 8:00am
Lunch	Netball Sportshall Yr 7&8 (Girls) Fitness gym Yr 8/9/10/11 (PE kit req)	Basketball Sportshall Yr 7	Badminton Sportshall Yr 7 Fitness gym Yr 8/9/10/11 (PE kit req)	Badminton Sportshall Yr 8 & 9 Table Tennis Sportshall Yr 8 & 9	Badminton Sportshall Yr 10 & 11 Table Tennis Sportshall Yr 10 & 11
Enrichment	Year 7 boys football Year 7 & 8 girls football Year 8 boys volleyball Year 9 girls volleyball Year 10 football				
After School 3.15-4.30pm	Fixtures	Staff Meeting/Fixtures	Netball club all years until 4:30pm Fixtures	Fixtures	Fixtures

Please note that there is no cost for any of these clubs. To attend you simply turn up.

If after school, make sure that you have plans for how to get home. If you are using the late bus on Wednesday, remember to sign up for it at the front office by the end of lunch time.

For lunch time clubs, you do not need your PE kit, just some trainers to wear (except for the fitness gym – you need full PE kit).

Any questions please see a member of the PE department.

Useful Information

Links to support services:-

Childline: 0800 1111

The Wellbeing Hub 'Teen Tips' Log in information was provided to parents/carers on 26th May. Please contact the office if you would like the information sent to you directly.

Online bullying www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

Kooth - Online counselling service and peer to peer support for young people aged 11-25: www.kooth.com

Emotional Wellbeing Gateway website (Suffolk Infolink Directory) – Information, advice and guidance on common mental health issues. Access to mental health services like the Emotional Wellbeing Hub
www.emotionalwellbeinggateway.org.uk

The Source website for young people – Sources of information and advice important to young people in Suffolk, including emotional wellbeing support: www.thesource.me.uk/wellbeing

Mental Health Crisis – Call 111, option 2

Sexual Assault: Call NSPCC 0800 136 663 or help@nspcc.org.uk

Safeguarding Information

During school hours, please contact Mrs Watson (Designated Safeguarding Lead) or Miss Crabtree (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead) - 01473 328317

At all other times, please contact Customer First : 0808 800 4005 or

If you believe there is an emergency and a child is at risk of **immediate harm** please call the Police on **999**.