

# IXWORTH ixchange

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The newsletter for SET Ixworth School

## What's inside?

- > Welcome
- > Duke of Edinburgh Award
- > Vocabulary and Literacy
- > Careers
- > Fun Run and Sports Day
- > And finally...





SET  
IXWORTH  
SCHOOL

www.ixworthschool.org.uk  
SET Ixworth School,  
Walsham Road, Ixworth, IP31 2HS

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## Important Date!

**Wednesday 1 September 2021**

Start of term for Year 7 –  
Induction Day

**Thursday 2 September 2021**

Start of term for Years 8-11

## Students begin Michaelmas Term

## Latest News

Twitter  
Facebook  
Website

To keep up to date with the latest news and events from the School, please remember that you can follow SET Ixworth School on Twitter: @SETIxworth. Please also check our website for regular updates, and our Facebook page, just search for SET Ixworth School on Facebook.

## Safeguarding

Should you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact Mr H Popham-Cooper, Designated Safeguarding Lead on 01359 234050 or for more information please visit [www.ixworthschool.org.uk/for-parents/guidance-information/safeguarding/](http://www.ixworthschool.org.uk/for-parents/guidance-information/safeguarding/)  
SET Ixworth School's named safeguarding trustee is Mr Richard Lane.

## Head of School's Welcome

The Trinity term may be the shortest in the school calendar, however this academic year it has definitely been the busiest as our school community maximised every opportunity available to make up for the experiences put on hold during this year's lockdown and school closure.

Across the school year groups and subjects areas the curriculum has been as wide ranging and inspiring as ever:

Aboriginal art work in Year 7, analysis of the Cold War in Year 10 History, outdoor percussion and Drama lessons from our Creative department and Super Hero cross-curricular activities at Forge. Not forgetting the outstanding achievements of the MFL department in becoming regional and then national winners in the 12 – 15 age category for the pop music composition and video competition held by the Institut Français with their entry 'Au revoir confinement'.



Mrs P Parker  
Head of School



For Year 10 and 11 students much of the Trinity term focused on rising to the challenge of evidencing their efforts, progress and learning through assessments. Students will no doubt be justly rewarded, with the commitment and positive engagement they demonstrated embodying the spirit of Thomas Jefferson, 'I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it.'

During the second half of term, the school was re-energised by the freedom for students to move around the school and access subject specialist rooms. The immense joy students found in working in rooms such as our Science Labs, Drama Studio, Music, Art and DT rooms was tangible, and for those in Year 7 an entirely new experience.

With the seasonal sunshine and warmth of the final weeks of term, the school community were able to participate together in activities such as Sports Day and the Friends Fun Run. We have all been immensely grateful to see school-life return to some of the traditions and routines we have missed this academic year.

### Mrs Parker, Head of School



# Duke of Edinburgh Award

As part of the school's on-going efforts to make the most of our Enrichment programme, SET Ixworth School are delighted that, despite the challenges faced, we have been able to offer our Year 10 students the opportunity to participate in the Covid-safety adapted Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is structured with four key components that make up the overall award, these being: Voluntary Work, Skills, Physical and the Expedition. Each component exemplifies core values such as confidence, resilience, team working, communication and problem-solving, reinforcing SET Ixworth's 6Cs whilst raising aspirations for each and every student. This has been particularly the case this year, with students embarking on their Silver Award as the start point.

Despite the changes to the expedition component, on Thursday 10 - Friday 11 June and Thursday 24 – Friday 25 June our Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Award group set out on their treks. Working in teams, students navigated routes through the Suffolk countryside including Rede and Hoggards Green, Haughley to Bacton, whilst carrying their rucksacks of kit. Students demonstrated impressive camaraderie, working co-operatively and with great commitment. Well done to all of those who took part and a big 'Thank you' to the staff who made the expedition possible.



# Vocabulary and Literacy

As part of the school's rich and diverse curriculum, subject leads have been working collaboratively in lessons and through Tutor time to support the explicit teaching of an ever increasing range of vocabulary. This work has included the practice of looking at new and tier three vocabulary using a select, explain, explore, consolidate model, with words carefully selected and taught using context and etymology as appropriate.

Teaching tools such as Frayer models and root words have enabled the vocabulary focus to flourish across the curriculum. Examples include Year 7 Science students who have been learning about reproduction in plants and in humans. As this topic has a lot of keywords, alongside dissecting a flower to find out more about this as a reproductive organ and identify different structures, students have also been looking at the origins of some keywords and practising using them within sentences. In Maths, Years 7 to 9 have been working on Ratios, Equations, Inequalities, Percentages and Averages and the department have focused on root words within Maths, for example building understanding that ratio relates to ration and median relates to medium. Demystifying and removing barriers to Elizabethan language also featured in Drama with Year 7 students developing and performing short extracts from Shakespeare's 'The Tempest', 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Hamlet'.



# Careers

With a trained Careers Leader and a Careers Advisor embedded in the SET Ixworth School team, time has been dedicated to understanding and capturing just how each of the Gatsby Benchmarks have been included in day to day school life, and how we can now do even more to ensure every student is equipped with an understanding of opportunities and career pathways that are right for them.

Immediate attention has focused on Benchmark 8, with personal guidance through one-to-one careers interviews being offered firstly to all Year 11 students to help with Post-16 choices, and moving to Year 10 to help them organise their thoughts, understand their strengths and use their final year to reflect constructively on these to help inform their future choices.

The reviewed careers programme required for Benchmark 1 is now approved and will be rolled out in full from September. It will be a packed programme that embeds careers in the curriculum to contextualise, personalise and localise the potential pathways. There's an early focus on understanding career management skills and building on these from Year 7. By the time students reach Year 11, the programme will have provided encounters with employers, inclusion in projects that help them evaluate their skills, dedicated events to focus on choices and transitions, informative assemblies, plus access to information and expertise that helps them discover who they are, what their goals are and how to achieve them.

To end the 2020/2021 year, work experience was brought to Year 10 in school with some inspiring activities, a diverse line up of speakers and facilitators and some fun and games too.



# Fun Run and Sports Day

During the second half of the Trinity term, our grounds and sports fields hosted two excellent whole school events reinforcing the recognised well-being effects of accessing outdoor learning, physical exercise and Covid-safe teamwork.

Friday, 25 June, was the annual Friends Fun Run, providing students and families with an ideal chance to show commitment and challenge whilst helping to raise money for our community. During the morning two competitive runs took place for Years 7 - 8 and Years 9 – 10, with students able to choose between the three target distances of 1km, 3km or 5km. In the afternoon the whole school community joined together on the field, with students wearing items of colourful, original and even zany clothing, for a vibrant and energetic Fun Run. The day was an overwhelming success raising many hundreds of pounds for future investment in outdoor learning facilities.



**Sports Day** is a perfect example of a school tradition which, through the energy, imagination and commitment of staff, continues to develop year on year. This year's event, held on Thursday 1 July, included a full range of track and field events and inter-house tug of war. The enthusiastic participation from all our students was impressive, with a stream of personal bests and as always students' support for each other was outstanding. Chef Pilmer and the catering team provided a delicious take away picnic lunch which students and staff were able to enjoy together in the warm summer sun. The final events of the day were the relays for all year groups, closing with the inter-House staff relay in which sixteen members of staff battled it out with Moore House crossing the line just ahead of Coleman.



# And finally...

Although SET Ixworth School is now closed for the summer holiday, there is lots of exciting work taking place on the school site during the coming weeks to ensure our learning environment is at its very best for the September start including the addition of three new netball/tennis courts...



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## Contact us...

We welcome your feedback, news and comments.  
Email us: [ixworth@seckfordeducation.org.uk](mailto:ixworth@seckfordeducation.org.uk)



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