

Edition 20 : 06/03/25



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## Michelle King - Headteacher



Our Year 11 students have been hard at work, wrapping up their second week of mock exams. Their dedication is truly impressive!

Meanwhile, the students involved in our enterprise project have been busy raising money by selling their handmade items. It's been a huge success, and we can already imagine one of them making it to Dragons' Den in the future. Their creativity and entrepreneurial spirit are amazing—well done to all of them!

We have also had the pleasure of meeting many of you during our recent information evenings about upcoming school trips and the parents' evening. It was lovely to see and chat with so many parents and their happy children. Your support means a lot to us.

Thank you for being such an integral part of our school community. We look forward to more exciting events and achievements in the coming weeks, in the meantime enjoy the weekend.

## Lockdown Drill Practice



As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety and security of our students and staff, we will be conducting lockdown drill practices in individual classrooms ready for a whole school lockdown drill practice.

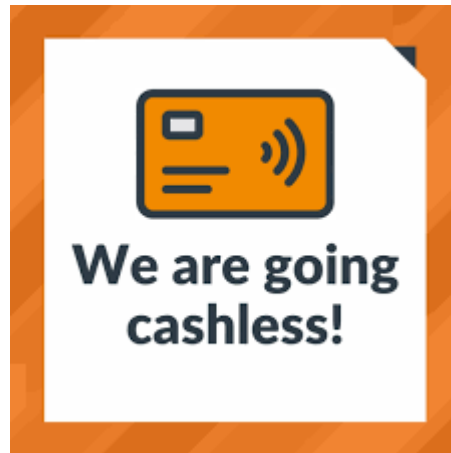
The purpose of this drill is to practice our emergency procedures and ensure that everyone knows what to do in the unlikely event of a real emergency. We understand that this can be a sensitive topic, and we want to assure you that the drill will be conducted in a calm and controlled manner, with the well-being of our students as our top priority.

Lockdown drills will be taking place every term, with a message to parents that a practice drill will be taking place on the day.

Please take a moment to discuss the importance of these drills with your child and reassure them that this is just a practice to help keep everyone safe.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Do You Send Your Child To School With Cash?



### *Important update regarding our school's payment system*

We are transitioning to a completely cashless system for all payments.

For many years, the majority of our community has successfully used ParentPay to top up dinner money and pay for trips. Moving forward, ParentPay will be the only method available for these transactions from Easter 2025. The machines for putting money on student accounts will be removed over the easter holidays.

The primary reason for this change is to enhance the security and efficiency of our payment processes. By eliminating cash handling, we can reduce the risk of loss or theft and streamline administrative tasks. Additionally, this system enables us to trace all payments quickly, avoids the need for pupils to carry cash, and saves valuable time for both parents and staff. Currently, there are fewer than 60 transactions processed through our cash machines each week, making this transition a practical and timely step.

We understand that this is a significant change, and we appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we make this transition. To ease the process, we will continue to accept cash for the purchase of planners and ties for the time being. However, our goal is to eventually eliminate all cash transactions within the school.

If you have any questions or need assistance with ParentPay, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We are here to help and ensure a smooth transition for everyone.

## Year 11 Prom



### Deposits Needed

***If you wish to attend Prom then your deposit of £15.00 needs to be paid by Friday 28th March.***

This can be dropped in to reception at school or passed to your form tutor. If you do not pay the deposit by this time you will not reserve yourself a place. Should you decide after that you want to go, then you will be added to a reserve list and we cannot guarantee you a place.

The VENUE, the PHOTOGRAPHER, the DJ, the DRINKS ON ARRIVAL, the FINGER BUFFET and the RED CARPET are all booked!

*When : Wednesday 25th Jun 2025*

*Who : Year 11 - the Class of 2025*

*Where : The Shropshire, Granville Park, Muxton, Telford 7pm to 11pm*

*Cost : Total cost is £45.00*

**Join us all for the end of school PARTY!**

## **Year 13 Prom**

***Monday 30th June 2025***

The Sixth Form Prom will be held at the Parkhouse Hotel, Shifnal on Monday 30th June. a £15 deposit is required by Monday 17th March to secure your place. Please see Ashvin or Matthew for payment details.

## **World Book Vouchers**



The £1 Book Tokens expire on the 23rd March - these can be used to get one of the free books or get £1 off a book of your choice. Visit the website : [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com) for more information.

If you haven't received your free voucher, please ask your tutor for one.

## **Egg Baby Project for Year 10**



This week Mrs Sharkey's Year 10 Health & Social Care class participated in the Egg Baby Project.

This project involved students being given an egg to care for.

Students were tasked with looking after their 'egg babies' for three days which has included during school activities and home life. They were asked to write a diary about their egg,

recording a range of life events the egg experienced. This project has equipped students with understanding of life events and how they impact an individual's circumstances and PIES development.

Awards for 'Best Dressed Egg' and 'Most Loyal and Committed Egg Parent' were announced on Wednesday. Emily Lucas won the award for 'Best Dressed Egg' whilst Ellie Sanky won the award for 'Most Loyal and Committed Egg Parent'. Judging was extremely difficult as all students worked exceptionally well.

4<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Today, Barbara went to the park and went down the slide and went on the swing, she was also able to climb a tree, and she was able to play in the (afts and climb on a rock, she was accompanied and helped by her mother and auntie!! While doing this, we were able to teach Barbara road safety, as we had to cross a few roads to get to the park.



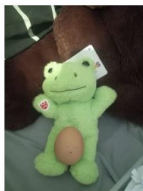


PIES:


Emotional: was able to explore and have fun. Going outside positively impacted mental health.

Physical: got eggsize (get it?) , physical health positively impacted.

4th March 2025



Today I left Isha at her Child minders as I had a busy day, I packed Isha's favorite baby food and baby snacks. The Child minder looked after her from 8am to 4pm as I couldn't get back any earlier. When I collected Isha, the child minder told me that she ate all the snacks and enjoyed them. Taking her to the childminder has helped with her social development as other children are there. This evening, I read to Isha and let her cuddle her frog teddy. I read to her from the miniature bookshelf I have so that everything would be her size, reading to her helps with her intellectual development as it like her to be a good reader when she's older. She came home with a small cough and slight temperature, so I gave her a bit of Calpol. She went to sleep with difficulty tonight as she kept crying around every 2 hours, which adds to her emotional PIES. She didn't have her nap today. I think she had a nice day though.









### **Black Eyes for KS3 Drama Club**

This week in KS3 Drama Club, students were given the opportunity to explore their design skills. The students were shown how to create a black eye using stage make-up and were then encouraged to design their own.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the session and made some fantastic designs on our mannequins!



## **Idsall School Joins Guinness World Record**

We are thrilled to announce that Idsall School is now part of a Guinness World Record!

Our Year 7 students collaborated with other schools on National Poetry Day to create a poem, and this incredible effort has been officially recognised.

Congratulations to everyone involved!

A photograph of three students in school uniforms standing in front of a display board. The student on the left is a boy with dark hair, the middle is a boy with light brown hair, and the student on the right is a girl with long brown hair. They are all smiling and holding their English Language Learning medals. The display board behind them has various educational materials, including a globe and text about English language learning.

## Dr. Mascarenhas Visits to Discuss Careers in Medicine



Last week, we were honoured to welcome Dr. Mascarenhas to the school for an insightful talk on pursuing a career in medicine. Dr. Mascarenhas, an experienced doctor, shared valuable advice on the pathways into medicine, the daily realities of being a doctor, and the rewards and challenges of this rewarding profession.

Students had the opportunity to ask questions during a Q&A session, gaining firsthand insight into the medical world. It was an inspiring event for all those interested in following a career in healthcare, leaving students with a greater understanding of the dedication and passion required to make a difference in the medical field.





## Animal Rights Activist Visits to Discuss Veganism and Ethics



We were fortunate to host an engaging talk from an animal rights activist, who discussed the ethics of animal experimentation, the fur industry, and the benefits of adopting a vegan lifestyle.

The speaker shared thought-provoking insights into the moral dilemmas surrounding animal testing for medical research and the fashion industry's use of fur, encouraging students to think critically about the impact of their choices.

Students were given the opportunity to ask questions and engage in a lively discussion on how they can make more ethical choices when it comes to food, fashion, and their everyday lives.



## Upcoming Career Events



### Upcoming Events:

- **British Army Careers in STEM Webinar** – Explore career opportunities within STEM fields in the British Army.
- **Brain Tumour Charity Ball** – Sixth Form support at Park House.
- **Mrs. Janine Webber Holocaust Survivor Talk** – A personal and moving account from Mrs. Webber.
- **Aberystwyth University Talks to Years 12 & 13** – Learn about student life and interview preparation.
- **Army Royal Engineers Practical Sessions** – Hands-on experience in engineering careers within the Army.
- **Telford Skills Show** – A chance to explore local career opportunities and skills development.
- **Auschwitz Survivor Talk - Mr. Arek Hersh** – A powerful reflection from a Holocaust survivor.
- **Careers Talk from Head of Birmingham Law School** – An insight into pursuing a career in law.
- **Army Royal Signals** – An interactive session to discover roles in Army communications and technology.

## Ice Skating Sensation

This week Lily, a year 10 student, had an authorised day off to ice skate in a British Ice Skating competition in Blackburn. Lily did incredibly well finishing in 5th place. Lily is planning on using this sport of her PE coursework.







## Jars Needed



If anyone has any jars with metal lids, preferably of the jam variety, please could you donate them to the food tech department at school - preferably cleaned!

Thanks very much - The DT Dept

## GCSE Geography Field Trips for Year 11



To support their work preparing for their forthcoming GCSE Geography examinations, Year 11 Geographers will be heading to Carding Mill Valley to conduct a river study.

Emails have been sent regarding arrangements for these trips and consent needs to be given via Evolve.

The trips will be on:

- Thursday 20th March 2025 – Groups C and D (Mrs Smith's group and Mr Pittam's 'new in Y11' group)
- Friday 21st March 2025 – Groups A and B (Mr Pittam's 'original' groups)

## Calendar and Trips



- Tue 25th Feb to Fri 7th Mar : Year 11 Final Mock Exams
- Wed 12th Mar : Boogie Nights
- Thu 20th Mar : Year 11 GCSE Geography Field Trip
- Fri 21st Mar : Year 11 GCSE Geography Field Trip
- Sun 23rd Mar : World Book Tokens Expire
- Tue 25th Mar : KS1 Primary Cross Country

### TRIPS

We are presently putting together potential / already in process trips for :

- Year 10 & 11 - Wolverhampton Grand Theatre Trip for Performing Arts Students to see Warhorse (20 March 2025)
- Year 7 & 8 - France Disneyland Paris and Paris <https://www.idsallschool.org/disneyland-paris-trip-presentation/> (April 2025)
- Year 8 - PGL (May 2025)
- Year 9 - France and Belgium Battlefields Trip (May 2025)

- Year 8 & 9 - Las Vegas Geography Trip (see Mrs Green in G3 for more information) (October 2026) <https://www.idsallschool.org/las-vegas-trip-presentation/>
- Year 10, 11 & 12 - Kenya Expedition (see Mr Pittam in G2 for more information) (Summer 2026)

## Sport Updates

### *Netball*

On Wednesday 5th march Idsall A (year 8) and Idsall B (year 7) competed in a central venue tournament at William Brookes School.

Both teams played exceptionally well with plenty of goals scored and saved from our 2 brilliant keepers Katie and Emelia.

Idsall A won the tournament on goal difference as a very competitive Oldbury Wells A team gave them a good run for their money.

Idsall B came 4th, which is a brilliant achievement considering the top 3 teams were year 8 and the other 2 teams were year 7.

Well done to all involved in playing.

There is a final CVL on Tuesday 11th march for year 7. Details have been emailed out previously, good luck to the 2 teams of year 7 we are taking for that.





### *South Shropshire Year 7*

#### **Year 7 South Shropshire Netball Competition**

The year 7 played some fabulous netball on Tuesday evening at William Brookes School. It was a good opportunity for the team to get used to playing together after a bit of a break in training and competitive games. The girls worked hard for each other, readjusting to playing in more than one position and played 3 games against skilful opposition. These games providing the girls with some much-needed competition, putting them under lots of pressure in attack.

#### **Results were as follows:**

Ids Vs William Brookes A (lost 8-4)

Ids vs. Will Brookes B (won 6-0)

Ids vs. Will Brooke C (Draw 1-2 – had to finish early due to poor light)

Coaches' player: Molly S, fabulous defence work, listened and acted on advice given. Well done for playing in an unfamiliar position.

Games coming up: Wed 12th March, Thursday 20th March. Details to follow soon via email.



### ***Biggest Girls Football Day***

On Wednesday 5th March, 16 Idsall Sports leaders hosted an afternoon of fun and football for 100 girls in KS2 from Shifnal Primary School. As part of this years FA day of celebration to inspire and empower the next generation through girls' football, Idsall students completing their level 2 qualification planned the event which included 8 activity stations for students in Years 3/4 and Years 5/6. They were joined by younger students in Years 7 and 8 who have been completing their GO LEAD training this year.

Last year, Idsall School were part of 465,000 girls participating in the event nationally.

Once again, we hope to help increase the numbers recorded for this year. Perfect timing to celebrate International Women's Day this weekend too!









### ***Year 10 Netballers TWSA Plate Champions***

After a successful County competition last week, we had high hopes going into the Telford Schools Year 10 Netball Tournament on Thursday 6th March.

The girls kicked off the competition with a strong 7-1 win against Charlton School, they settled into their positions well, especially as we had a few players missing so the girls had to



adapt. We were solid and calm in defence, turning over lots of Charlton's possession and converting to goals.

Next Idsall played HLC and again a solid win, 5-0. Burton Borough School were the final game of the tournament, and we knew it was going to be tough. It was a very close game and with a few minutes to go we were down 3-2. The girls kept their heads, and our defence were strong. We scored the next goal, a few minutes before the final whistle, ending in a 3-3 draw.

As both Idsall and BBS had two wins and a draw, the competition organisers went to count back (goals for) and Idsall were crowned Champions!!!

This team are a group of fabulous netballers, they are competitive, skilful and resilient, a real credit to Idsall school.

Coaches' player goes to Emily O for stepping up last minute and playing a super tournament.



## Year 11 Final Mock Exams

Next week is the final week of the year 11 Mock Exams. There will be time set aside afterwards for the catch-ups. These will be communicated with the students sometime next week.

Mock exams are taking place from **Tuesday 25th February** to **Wednesday 12th March 2025** with the exception of the Art and MFL mock exams which are on Friday 14th March 2025.

If, for any reason, a student is missing one of these please ask them to speak to their form tutor.

Year 11 Mock Timetable February / March 2025

Students must ensure they have all equipment needed for their exams. Scientific Calculators will be required for Maths Paper 2 & 3, Science, Psychology and Business Exams. **Mobile Phones, Ear pods, Smart Glasses, Revision Notes and ALL types of watches** are banned from the exam room. Only plain still water in a clear label free bottle is allowed in an exam room.

Date	Location	Period 1	Period 2	Break	Period 3	Period 4
Tue 25/02	Sports Hall Library	Site Set-Up	Site Set-Up		English Language Paper 1 105mins	English Language Paper 1 105mins
Wed 26/02	Sports Hall Library LEC	Biology Triple 105mins Biology Combined 75 mins	Biology Triple 105mins Biology Combined 75 mins		Music (LEC) 90mins History Paper 1 1hr 20m	Music (LEC) 90mins History Paper 1 1hr 20m
Thur 27/02	Sports Hall Library Conf 1/ P2	Maths Paper 1 Non Calc 90mins	Maths Paper 1 Non Calc 90mins		Psychology 105mins French Listening & Reading 80/105 mins Conf & P2	Psychology 105mins French Listening & Reading 80/105 mins Conf & P2
Fri 28/02	Sports Hall Library Conf 1	English Literature Paper 1 105mins	English Literature Paper 1 105mins		Geography 90mins German Listening & Reading (1) 80mins	Geography 90mins German Listening & Reading (1) 80mins
Mon 03/03	Sports Hall Library	Chemistry Triple 105mins Chemistry Combined 75 mins	Chemistry Triple 105mins Chemistry Combined 75 mins		Computer Science Paper 1 90mins Religious Studies 2hrs	Computer Science Paper 1 90mins Religious Studies 2hrs
Tue 04/03	Sports Hall Library	English Language 2 105mins	English Language 2 105mins		History Paper 2 1hr 50m	History Paper 2 1hr 50m
Wed 05/03	Sports Hall Library	Maths Paper 2 Calc 90mins	Maths Paper 2 Calc 90mins		French Writing 65/80mins German Writing (1) 60mins Food 105mins	French Writing 65/80mins German Writing (1) 60mins Food 105mins
Thur 06/03	Sports Hall Library	Physics Triple 105mins Physics Combined 75 mins	Physics Triple 105mins Physics Combined 75 mins		Business Paper 1 105mins	Business Paper 1 105mins
Fri 07/03	Sports Hall Library	English Literature Paper 2 2h 15m	English Literature Paper 2 2h 15m		Computer Science Paper 2 90mins Drama 70 mins Health & Social 2 hours	Computer Science Paper 2 90mins Drama 70 mins Health & Social 2 hours
Mon 10/03	Sports Hall Library	Maths Paper 3 Calc 90mins	Maths Paper 3 Calc 90mins		Geography Paper 2 90mins	Geography Paper 2 90mins
Tue 11/03	Sports Hall Library	History Paper 3 1h 30m	History Paper 3 1h 30m		Design & Technology 2 hours Physical Education Paper 1 75mins	Design & Technology 2 hours Physical Education Paper 1 75mins
Wed 12/03	Sports Hall Library	Business Paper 2 105mins	Business Paper 2 105mins		Physical Education Paper 2 75mins BTEC Sport 90mins	Physical Education Paper 2 75mins BTEC Sport 90mins

MFL Speaking mocks – Friday 14th March  
Art mock exam – Friday 14th March

## Year 9 Options - Final Week



### Final Choices due by Friday 14th March, 2025

As we approach the final week for the year 9 options we have done many subject tasters and there are a few final ones next week.

A copy of the GCSE option block and some information are the images below.

Final choices need to be made by the 14th March, 2025. This is via an online form, which is now available, so you are able to view and support your child.

Rest assured that guidance, advice and 1 to 1 support will be provided to ensure every student can make an accurate choice.

## September 2025 – GCSE Option Blocks

A	B	C	D
Geography	Geography	Geography	Geography
History	History	History	History
	Separate Science	Computer Science	French
			Separate Science
Construction			
ICT (BTEC)		Music	Psychology
Drama	Business (GCSE)	Business (GCSE)	Business (GCSE)
Psychology	Health & Social (BTEC)	Photography	Sport (BTEC)
PE (GCSE)	Religious Studies	Product Design	PE (GCSE)
Health & Social (BTEC)	Food	Food	
Art			Art

You MUST choose one subject from each column (block) A, B, C and D.  
**At least one** of your four choices MUST be from the top, shaded section of any block.  
 Construction requires two blocks (A and B).  
 Business Studies and PE & Sport have two possible pathways, GCSE or BTEC/CNAT. Both routes in each subject lead to A level.  
 If you want to study Biology, Chemistry and Physics as 3 separate GCSEs you must take Separate Science.  
**NOTE:**  
 We reserve the right to withdraw an option if insufficient students choose to study it. We reserve the right to reassign students to other blocks or subject if the subject option is over-subscribed.

**Wednesday 26th February (5pm) to Thursday 13th March (5pm)**  
**Options Selection (Online).**  
**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February (6pm – 7pm) – online information evening.**

Further support and guidance will be given to students over the next couple of weeks.

### Key Dates and action

If you have any concerns or require some help, then please contact Mrs Marston – [michelle.marston@ids.mmat.co.uk](mailto:michelle.marston@ids.mmat.co.uk); or Mr Barbary – [gavin.barbary@ids.mmat.co.uk](mailto:gavin.barbary@ids.mmat.co.uk)

The options form will be sent to **each student's email address** after school on **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February**. Please take the time to complete it with them.

Please **only submit ONE response** per student.

## Subjects your child must take: The Core

English	4 x option subjects	10 hours
Maths	Maths	4 hours
Science	English Language and Literature	4.5 hours
P.E	Combined Science	4.5 hours
PSHCE	PSHCE	1 hour
	P.E	1 hour

## Trip Updates

### Disneyland Paris



#### *Disneyland Trip*

Thank you to everyone for attending the parental meeting on Thursday. I have, as promised attached the powerpoint to the website. Please follow the link :

<https://www.idsallschool.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2025/03/Final-Presentation-for-Disneyland-2025.pdf>

If you haven't already handed in the students passport and EHIC/GHIC card please do so this week. I know some people are still waiting for them through the post so please hand them in as soon as possible.

Any further questions or if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Email is : [cathy.leverington@ids.mmat.co.uk](mailto:cathy.leverington@ids.mmat.co.uk)

## Ski Trip 2025



Thank you to everyone who has already handed in their passport and EHIC/GHIC. If you have not had chance yet can you please do so early next week.

We know some of you are waiting for your GHIC's but if you can please send those into the school as soon as you receive them.

If you have any questions about the trip please email : [phil.goodison@ids.mmat.co.uk](mailto:phil.goodison@ids.mmat.co.uk)

## Safeguarding



This week's safeguarding focus is raising awareness of a fantastic resource for parents to use – which is part of the NSPCC website, focused around online safety.

The website has advice, tips, instruction guides and more, for topics including online abuse, sharing of images, explicit content, chat apps, online technology, setting up your child's phone and more.

The website can be found here: [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#).

## Taekwon-Do Classes

### *New Beginners Programme Starting*



Mr Morris is starting up a new beginners programme in Taekwon-do on a Wednesday evening at Idsall School.

So if you are looking at trying something new why not go along - you get **two free trial classes!**

- *Offering Idsall pupils a 10% discount on monthly fees.*
- *Classes every Wednesday 6-7pm in the main hall at Idsall.*
- *Offering two free trial classes.*

***INTERESTED ... contact Mr. Morris on 07969 996055 to book and for more information.***

## Contact us



Coppice Green Lane, Shifnal, Shropshire. TF11 8PD



01952 468400



admin@ids.mmat.co.uk



Idsallschool.org

Michelle King BA MA NPQH NPQEL

### Our values :



**Excellence:** striving always for mastery and personal success



**Integrity:** consistently acting with honesty, compassion and respect



**Empathy:** embracing and supporting the uniqueness of every individual



**Creativity:** inspiring and challenging through invention, experimentation and exploration



**Equality:** ensuring fair opportunity for all