



# IDSALL NEWS .... edition 58

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20 March 2026

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## Calendar

- Thu 26th Mar : Year 11 Parents Evening
- Fri 27th Mar : Year 7 & 8 Disneyland Paris Trip Departs
- Mon 30th Mar to Fri 10th April: Easter Holidays
- W/C Mon 27th Apr : External Exams Begin
- Thu 30th Apr : Year 8 Parents Evening
- Fri 1st May to Mon 15th Jun : Main Exam Period
- Tue 5th May : Year 6 Uniform Evening

- Mon 1st & Tue 2nd Jun : Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
- Thu 4th Jun : Year 7 Parents Evening
- Thu 2nd Jul : 6th Form Parents Evening

## Contents



### Calendar & Events

- Headteacher Comments
- Sixth Form News
  - Garden Gets "Spruced Up"
  - House Games
  - A-Level of the Week - Biology
- **OTHER IDSALL NEWS**
  - House Sports Programme Week 2
  - Sparx Reader Competition
  - Language Nut Competition
  - Ex Student takes on London Marathon
  - From the PE Department
    - Netball
  - Trips Update
    - Disneyland 2026 - Latest Update
    - Ski Trip
  - KOOH Parental Support
  - Safeguarding
  - Students Who Use School Transport

- Contact Information

## Michelle King - Headteacher



### *Dear Parents, Carers and Students*

As we come to the end of the Spring Term, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership. It has been an incredibly positive and purposeful term at Idsall School, and we are so proud of how our students have approached their learning, behaviour and wellbeing.

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### *A Positive Term of Learning*

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Classrooms across the school have been full of focus, energy and curiosity. Staff have been so impressed by the way students have engaged with lessons, embraced challenge and supported one another. The atmosphere around school feels calm, purposeful and full of pride in our community.

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### *Phone-Free School Update*

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This term we have continued to develop our phone-free culture, and we want to thank students and parents for your support. Many students have shared with us that school feels *safer, calmer and more positive* without phones on show. We absolutely agree.

Students have also commented that classrooms feel *'louder—in a good way!'*, with more talking, teamwork and genuine interaction. That is exactly the environment we want for them.

Following student feedback, we are adding more clocks to classrooms and corridors to support everyone, especially those who don't wear watches.

We will keep talking with students and listening to what is working well, because the best way to get things right is to work together.

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### *Visits and Partnerships*

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Over the last three weeks, we have welcomed colleagues from a number of Trust schools and external partners. Visitors consistently comment on how polite, confident and honest our students are, and how proud they are of their school.

These opportunities to share practice strengthen our work across the Marches Academy Trust and allow us to continue learning from others, which benefits our students and staff.

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### *Celebrating Our Staff*

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I would like to express my sincere thanks to our staff team for their ongoing hard work and professionalism. From the quality of teaching and marking, to the planning, pastoral care and enrichment opportunities they provide, their commitment to our students shines through every day.

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### *Preparing for Summer Term*

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After the break, we look forward to:

- Supporting Year 11 as they enter their final weeks before exams
- Continuing to strengthen attendance and high expectations

- Further developing our curriculum and SEND provision
- Expanding student leadership and voice
- Building on the calm, positive ethos we have created together

Thank you once again for your ongoing support whether that's encouraging good routines, communicating with us, attending events or simply being part of our school community. Your partnership makes a real difference.

I wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable Easter break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for an exciting and successful Summer Term.

## Sixth Form News



### *Sixth Form Garden Gets "Spruced Up"!*

The sixth form garden is a beautiful outdoor space that blends calm, natural surroundings with a welcoming atmosphere for both socialising and study. With its greenery, open seating, and fresh air, it offers students a refreshing break from indoor classrooms while still providing a peaceful environment to focus on work. Whether used for group discussions, quiet revision, or simply catching up with friends, the garden is a relaxing and inspiring place at the heart of sixth form life.

We would like to thank Noah F and his team for their hard work and dedication to get the garden ready for the glorious spring sunshine!







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## *Sixth Form House Games*

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### *Volleyball*

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"I played house volleyball for Ragleth and the games can be very competitive, as everyone wants their house to win, but it is still very enjoyable.

For most of the sixth formers, house games will be very missed when we leave as it is the time that we all come together to play sports and to have fun without thinking about the upcoming exams.

Once everyone had played the other houses a select few of us got to play against a few of the teachers in the PE department which became more competitive than playing the other houses."  
(Harriet year 13)







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*A-Level of the week - what our current pupils think about their post 16 subjects*

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*Biology*

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Biology A Level builds on the knowledge that you will have already gained at GCSE. The course covers a wide range of topics including cellular biology, genetics, animal physiology, plants, and ecology. You will gain an understanding of the core principles underpinning Biology as well as the latest advances in biological research. You will learn to recognise the value and responsibility of Biology in society.

Biology has a direct influence on our lives and to study it is to understand ourselves and the world we live in better. You will learn to open your mind to a greater understanding of how

every living thing around us comes to exist and interact with its environment. Advances in medicine, agriculture, biotechnology, and many other areas of biology have brought improvements in our quality of life.

A Level Biology is an excellent basis for further study on a variety of university courses including: Biology, Biochemistry, Medicine, Nursing, Midwifery, Veterinary Medicine, Genetics, Forensic Science, Sports Science and Environmental Studies. Careers with Biology include medicine, biomedical scientist, pharmacist, pharmaceutical and ecologist.

Pupils really enjoy the practical experiments at this level, to enhance their learning.

- *“I take Biology because I really want to study veterinary science at University. I enjoy the practicals the most, as I love hands-on learning.” Grace*
- *“Biology is interesting as I like to know how the world around me works. It helps me pay more attention and give more appreciation to our natural world.” Heidi*
- *“I chose Biology, because it links in with what I want to do later in life.” Lilly*









## OTHER IDSALL NEWS



## \* House Sports Programme Week 2

Students taking part need to ensure that they have all equipment and give it their best and earn points for their House during this competition.

*Please note we will run an alternative non house for any students that can't join in with these fantastic, fun and friendly tournaments.*

Please note :

- Basketball, Volleyball and Badminton activities are indoor, indoor PE equipment required and clean trainers.
- All football, tag rugby and Netball will be on the all weather big blue surface - trainers essential and warm PE tops may be required.
- All Rugby will be on the grass - boots and studded trianers essential and mouth gaurds strongly recommended. (and a carrier bag for muddy PE kit often handy).

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*Why not ... Get Involved ... Have Fun ... Earn Points Towards House Trophy*

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Day		House Match	period	Timings
Monday	23rd March	Y11 Y basketball Boys	3	11.30am till 12.30pm
		Y11 Y Girls volleyball	3	11.30am till 12.30pm
		Y8 A Boys Rugby part 1	4	12.30pm till 1.30pm
		Y8 A Girls Badminton singles	4	12.30pm till 1.30pm
		Y9 L Boys Rugby part 1	5	2.10pm till 3.00pm
		Y9 L Girls Badminton singles	5	2.10pm till 3.00pm
Tuesday	24th March	Y11 X basketball Boys	1	9.10am till 10.10am
		Y11 X Girls volleyball	1	9.10am till 10.10am
		6th Form badminton	4	12.30pm till 1.30pm
		Y8 L Boys Rugby part 1	5	2.10pm till 3.00pm
		Y8 L Girls badminton singles	5	2.10pm till 3.00pm
		Y8 L Boys rugby part 2	1	9.10am till 10.10am
Wednesday	25th March	Y8 L Girls badminton doubles	1	9.10am till 10.10am
		'9L BOYS Rugby part 2	2	10.10am till 11.10 am
		Y9 L Girls badminton doubles	2	10.10am till 11.10 am
		Y8 A Boys badminotn (double lesson)	3 & 4	11.30am till 1.30pm
		Y8 A Girls Tag rugby (double lesson)	3 & 4	11.30am till 1.30pm
		Y7 L Boys rugby part 1	1	9.10am till 10.10am
Thursday	26th March	Y7 L Girls badminton singles	1	9.10am till 10.10am
		Y9 A Boys rugby part 1	2	10.10am till 11.10 am
		Y9 A Girls badminton singles	2	10.10am till 11.10 am
		Y10 Y Boys badminton doubles	5	2.10pm till 3.00pm
		Y10 Y Girls football/netball	5	2.10pm till 3.00pm
		7A Boys rugby part 1	2	10.10 till 11.10pm
Friday	27th March	7A Girls badminton singles	2	10.10 till 11.10pm
		Y9 A Boys rugby part 2	3	12.30 till 1.30pm
		Y9 A Girls badminton doubles	3	2.10 till 3.00pm
		7A Boys rugby part 2	5	2.10 till 3.00pm
		7A Girls badminton doubles	5	2.10 till 3.00pm

## \* Sparx Reader Competition



Year 7	1	Mia E
	2	Thea B
	3	Mila D
	4	Maiya S
	5	Samuel B
Year 8	1	Hallie G
	2	Jasper F
	3	Adilen L
	4	Annabelle S
	5	Lucy S
Year 9	1	Lilly-Mai R
	2	Lacey J
	3	Ruby L
	4	Zac W
	5	Joseph D

## \* Languagenut Competition

The March Hatter competition has now finished . A special well done to the EAL students who have recently got access to Languagenut and have really hit the ground running.

Year 8 managed to secure the top 3 positions and half of the positions in the top 10! Looks like the year group to beat in the next competition!

Prizes will be distributed to the following students next week:

- 1st place: Holly Wilson
- 2nd place: Penelope Caunce
- 3rd place: Arash Salahi
- Best in Year 7: Sara Sofizai
- Best in year 9: Daniel Hawkes











All students in the top 10 will also get a certificate.

Please see the Leaderboard below:

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**Well done to all the students who took part!**

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Rank	Name	Class	Points	Certificate
1	Wilson Holly	8A2 2025-26	85,200	
2	Counce Penelope	8L1 2025-26	82,600	
3	Arash Salihi	EAL	82,000	
4	Sofizai Sara	7L4 25-26	70,600	
5	Daniel Hawkes	9A4 2025-26	70,400	
6	Webber Alexander	7L1 25-26	69,200	
7	Mubashera Mosawi	EAL	61,500	
8	Finnley Byles	9A4 2025-26	58,000	
9	Riley Ford	9A4 2025-26	55,600	
10	Rahman Khoshal Khail	EAL	50,000	

### \* Ex Student Takes on London Marathon

Grace Ashwell, an ex Idsall students is about to take on the massive challenge of the London Marathon. Grace was diagnosed with cancer just 4 years ago whilst studying for her GCSE's after persistent back pain symptoms, tests revealed Stage 4 Hodgkins Lymphoma which spread to her lungs and bones.

Grace endured six months of chemotherapy and has had a long fight back to fitness over the last 4 years.

Now she is taking on the London Marathon to raise money for the Molly Ollys Charity. The charity works to support children with terminal or life-limiting illnesses and their families and help with their emotional wellbeing. As well as providing wishes, they donate therapeutic toys and books to both children directly and to hospitals throughout the UK.

Please follow the link and read Grace's story :

['I'm a Shropshire teenager who was diagnosed with cancer when I was 15 - now I'm about to run the London Marathon to raise money for a cause that helped me through my illness' | Shropshire Star](#)



### \* From the PE Department



### Netball

Our Year 8 netball team travelled to compete in the Year 8 netball trophy — and what a performance it was! 🏆

They played brilliantly throughout and secured an amazing 2nd place 🏆

Absolute stars on the court — we're so proud of you all! ★



## \* Trips Update

### Disneyland 2026 - Latest Update



#### **LATEST UPDATE**

Today students have been given a "latest update" sheet. It has also been emailed out. This has the new times of departure for the trip and a few "bits to remember".

The coach now :

- **arrives at Idsall at 23.00**
- **with a view of departing Idsall at 23.30 (this is Thursday evening (26th)).**

Students not to arrive at Idsall before 23.00 as there will be no access to the coach prior to it being packed up.

Please remember that it is a full coach - there are **no spare seats** for students.

Any questions / queries, please email [Cathy.Leverington@ids.mmat.co.uk](mailto:Cathy.Leverington@ids.mmat.co.uk).

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The link : <https://tinyurl.com/idsall-disney>

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### **Ski Trip**

Letters went out on Tuesday to all students that had put their name down for next year's ski trip. Due to the large amount of students that wanted to go on the ski trip and the limited number of spaces available, there are students on the waiting list.

Please check your email inboxes if you have not received any notification.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



### **\* Safeguarding**



Our school is part of Operation Encompass - which is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and police forces. Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to

the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced domestic abuse. As a school we have ensured that key members of our staff, (including our Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, have been trained in the Operation Encompass procedures, allowing us to then use the information that has been shared, in confidence, to support the child/ren in our care.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 identifies children who experience domestic abuse as victims of domestic abuse in their own right. On 24 May 2024 Royal Assent was granted to The Victims and Prisoners Act. The Act placed Operation Encompass into Law. This places a statutory obligation on police forces to share Operation Encompass notifications with schools/educational settings. We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and through Operation Encompass we will be able to provide the best possible support to our children.


If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Mrs Marston or Mrs Reeve at school.



### \* Students Who Use School Transport

Please find below the latest guidance for behaviour on school transport to and from school. This is a copy of the Shropshire Council Behaviour on School Transport Policy.

If your students uses school transport please have a read at the transporation guidance below :



### Shropshire Council Behaviour on School Transport Policy

Safe and respectful behaviour on school transport is critical to ensuring the safety and well-being of all passengers and staff. This policy establishes clear expectations and responsibilities for pupils using home-to-school transport, emphasizing safety, mutual respect, and zero tolerance for dangerous or abusive conduct. It aligns with legislation such as the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and fosters cooperation among the Council, schools, parents, and transport staff to maintain a safe, orderly environment on school buses and other transport modes.

#### Scope and Principles

The policy applies to all pupils using Council-arranged transportation, including mainstream and special educational needs transport. It supplements school behaviour policies and travel conditions, making good conduct a condition for riding the bus. Positive behaviour is encouraged, while unsafe or disrespectful behaviour results in sanctions.


#### Roles and Responsibilities

##### Pupils – Expected Behaviour

Pupils must always follow the driver's instructions, use their assigned vehicle and stop, and carry a valid bus pass daily where issued. Boarding and disembarking must be done safely and orderly, with adherence to the Green Cross Code when crossing roads. During the journey, pupils must remain seated, wear seat belts where provided, keep aisles and exits clear, and refrain from distracting the driver. Respectful behaviour towards drivers, assistants, and fellow passengers is mandatory, with bullying and abusive language strictly prohibited. Eating, drinking, smoking, and vandalism are forbidden, and misuse of emergency equipment is a serious offence. If a pupil misses their bus, they should report to school staff and contact parents rather than attempting alternative travel independently. Any concerns or incidents should be reported promptly to parents, schools, or the Council.

##### Parents/Carers – Responsibilities

Parents and carers play a vital role in reinforcing good behaviour and ensuring safety. They must ensure children travel safely to and from bus stops, supervise young or vulnerable pupils, and have contingency plans for delays or missed buses. Parents should ensure children carry valid bus passes where issued and understand the importance of using designated routes without requesting unscheduled stops or unauthorized riders. They are encouraged to discuss and reinforce the bus conduct rules, support school and Council discipline efforts, and ensure children do not carry prohibited items. Parents are financially



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liable for any damage caused by their children and should maintain communication with schools and the Council to address any issues or concerns.

#### Schools and Council – Responsibilities

Schools treat travel [behaviour](#) as an extension of the school environment, communicating transport rules and integrating them into overall [behaviour](#) policies. They have authority to discipline pupils for conduct on the journey to and from school and cooperate with the Council in managing incidents. Drivers maintain order through instructions and report incidents, while passenger assistants supervise and support pupils, especially those with special needs. Both schools and the Council promote positive [behaviour](#) and maintain open communication with families about [behaviour](#) expectations and incidents.

#### Unacceptable [Behaviour](#) and Prohibited Conduct

The policy prohibits aggression, bullying, abusive language, dangerous distractions, refusal to obey safety rules, vandalism, theft, throwing objects, substance use, unreasonable [behaviour](#) toward staff, and other illegal or dangerous acts. Such [behaviours](#) are considered serious breaches and will lead to disciplinary action. Some [behaviour](#) may also require the involvement of the police. [Generally](#) a sanction will only be applied after investigation of an incident (however where there is a serious health and safety risk an immediate sanction may be applied).

Examples of the type of [behaviour](#), which will invoke a [sanction](#), are listed [below](#):

- Bullying/harassment/intimidation (physical and/or verbal)
- Distracting/assaulting the driver
- Failure to follow instruction from the driver
- Standing forward of the driver
- Using the emergency exit
- Drug misuse
- Moving around the vehicle
- Sitting in the stairwell
- Throwing objects inside the vehicle or out of the windows
- Health and safety breaches (including tampering with safety equipment such as emergency exits, CCTV cameras, smoke alarms, fire extinguishers, first aid box)
- Smoking
- Spitting
- Verbal abuse - swearing



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- Bringing unsafe objects onto the vehicles (i.e. pen-knives, cigarette lighters)
- Playing personal stereos without headphones
- Assaulting the passenger assistant
- Vandalism/damage to the vehicle (criminal damage will be reported to the Police and parents will be held responsible for any damage caused to the vehicle)

This is not an exhaustive [list](#) and each incident will be investigated on its own merit.

#### Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

We [recognise](#) that pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may display a wide range of [behaviours](#) as a result of their individual needs, and we understand these situations can sometimes be stressful for families and children. Our team is committed to working collaboratively to support each child's needs and create the safest and most supportive environment possible for every pupil.

We rely on parents/carers keeping us informed about their child's needs, which helps us respond effectively and deescalate scenarios swiftly if required. We also work closely with schools to assist when necessary, and we appreciate their continued partnership in managing individual [behaviours](#).

There may be times when a child or young person's [behaviours](#)—including those that are challenging, disruptive, or present a safeguarding concern—make it unsafe for them, fellow passengers, or transport staff to continue travelling on school transport. In such instances, we will discuss alternative options and may offer travel assistance in the form of a Personal Travel Budget (PTB). A PTB is financial support provided to families so they can arrange suitable travel for their child. If this becomes necessary, we will contact you directly to explain the process and support you through the next steps.

#### [Non-Entitled Pupils Accessing TSPS](#)

Those pupils who have no entitlement to free school transport but access our Temporary Seats Payment Scheme may be permanently withdrawn from the scheme where there is repeated poor [behaviour](#). Parents will then be required to make their own arrangements.

#### Consequences and Enforcement

[Misbehaviour](#) leads to graduated consequences:

- **On-the-spot corrections:** Drivers or passenger assistants issue verbal warnings for minor issues, expecting immediate compliance.



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- **Reports and investigations:** Significant or repeated incidents are reported and investigated, including the use of CCTV footage where available and witness statements.
  - **Warnings and parental notification:** First-time or less severe incidents result in warning letters sent to parents, emphasizing the importance of good conduct and potential escalation.
  - **School disciplinary actions:** Schools may impose sanctions aligned with their policies, including detentions or exclusions, coordinated with the Council.
  - **Temporary suspension of transport:** For dangerous or persistent **misbehaviour**, transport privileges may be suspended for a defined period (usually starting with one week and increasing incrementally), with parents responsible for alternative arrangements.
  - **Permanent withdrawal of transport:** Extreme or repeated misconduct can lead to permanent exclusion from Council-provided transport, requiring families to arrange their own travel. This is a last resort after other measures fail.
  - **Support and alternatives:** The Council may offer alternative transport solutions or budgets for eligible pupils during suspensions, focusing on safety and attendance continuity.
  - **Reinstatement and behaviour agreements:** Temporary bans may end with review meetings and **behaviour** contracts; permanent bans may be reconsidered upon evidence of improved **behaviour**.
  - **Restitution and legal action:** Parents are liable for damages caused by their children, and serious offences may involve police action, including criminal charges.
  - **Appeals:** Parents can appeal long-term transport exclusions through a formal process, with decisions reviewed by a panel. Appeals should be emailed to [schooltransport@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:schooltransport@shropshire.gov.uk) or for children with SEND [special.transport.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:special.transport.team@shropshire.gov.uk)



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## Contact Us

# IDSALL SCHOOL

*"Great oaks from little acorns grow"*

Part of MARCHES TRUST ACADEMY





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Idsallschool.org

Michelle King BA MA NPQH NPQEL

## Our values :



**Excellence**

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



**Integrity**

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



**Empathy**

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



**Creativity**

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



**Equality**

**Equality:** ensuring fair opportunity for all