



# IDSALL NEWS .... edition 74

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18 September 2026

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## Calendar



- Wed 23rd Sept : Sixth Form Varsity Football
- Wed 23rd Sept : Telford Schools Cross County Abraham Darby
- Wed 23rd Sept : Ingestre Hall Residential Teams Meeting
- Thu 24th Sept : MacMillan Coffee & Cake Morning
- Fri 25th Sept : Collaboration Day (School Closed)
- Mon 28th Sept : Start of Year 7 Reading Assessments Week
- Tue 29th Sept : Las Vegas Parent Meeting

- Wed 30th Sept : Telford Schools Cross County Telford Park
- Thu 1st Oct : Year 9 AI Parents Meeting
- Tue 6th Oct : Year 9 & 11 Individual School Photos
- Wed 7th - 9th Oct : Year 8 & 9 Ingestre Hall Residential
- Thu 8th Oct : Year 7 Transition Evening
- Wed 14 Oct : Telford Schools Cross County Idsall
- Mon 19th to Fri 30th Oct : Half Term
- Sun 25th Oct : Las Vegas Residential Departs

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**Michelle King - Headteacher**





### *Dear Parents, Carers and Students*

Thank you to everyone who supported our Open Evening this week. We were absolutely delighted to welcome over 1,000 visitors to Idsall School, giving prospective families the opportunity to experience the warmth, ambition and strong sense of community that make our school so special.

The evening was a wonderful celebration of our school. Visitors enjoyed exploring our classrooms and facilities, taking part in interactive activities and meeting the staff and students who make Idsall such a vibrant place to learn. Our students proudly showcased their talents through performances, demonstrations and subject displays, bringing the Idsall experience to life.

A particular highlight of the evening was hearing from our two Year 7 students, who spoke confidently to prospective parents and students about their experiences so far at Idsall. They were outstanding ambassadors for the school, sharing their stories with warmth and enthusiasm and demonstrating the confidence, resilience and leadership qualities we are so proud to nurture in our young people.

We were incredibly proud of all our students, whose kindness, confidence and pride in their school shone throughout the evening. Many visitors commented on the welcoming atmosphere and the genuine sense of belonging they felt during their visit.

A huge thank you to our students, staff, governors and families for making the evening such a success. Together, we showcased the very best of Idsall School, and we look forward to welcoming many of our future students in the years ahead. 💚

## Year 7 News



### Inter-Form Football Competition

Mrs Reeve is pleased to share that our inter-form football competition will start on Tuesday 22nd September, run by some of our 6th form pupils.

The competition will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes, with 2 matches taking place at one time.

Each form has appointed football captains, who will take the lead on organising their team, and keeping track of fixtures.

We look forward to updating you on results.



## Year 8 News

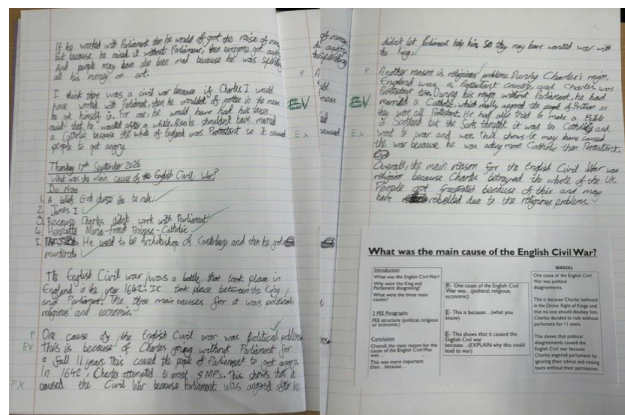
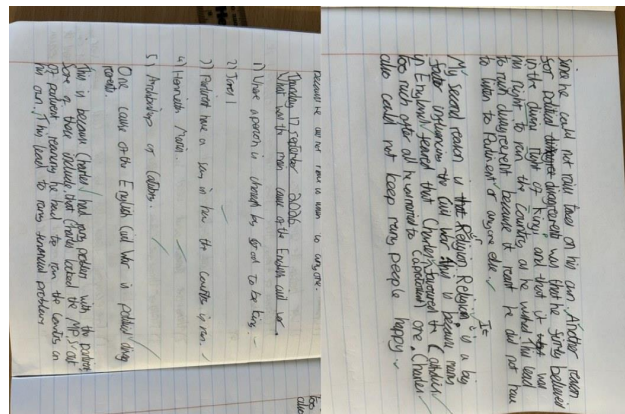
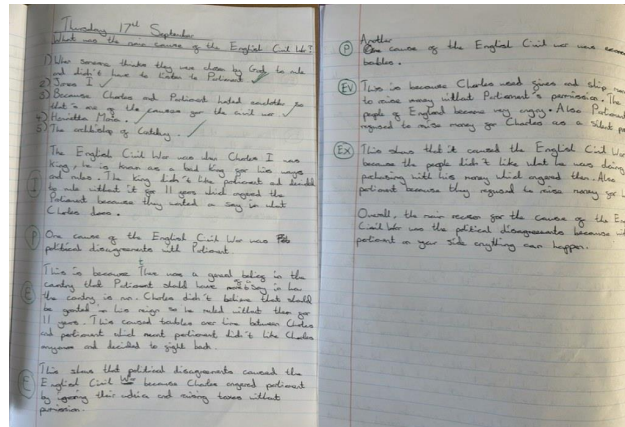


### 8A1 History

We had a brilliant email from Miss Bingham in History earlier this week, telling us how amazing 8A1 were doing in History and showcasing some of their work, so we thought we would share this with you all. Miss Bingham said : "This is some work from 8A1 in History - they have done

some excellent extended writing work and then peer assessed each others. Some of them confidently shared their answers with the class too 😊 "

What a fantastic start to year 8 History! Keep it up!



Thursday 17th September 2016  
What was the main cause of the English Civil War?

1. A king chosen by God / best representation on earth.
2. James I
3. Parliament wasn't a king in how they were run.
4. Henrietta Maria - French princess
5. Archbishop of Canterbury.

What was the main cause of the English Civil War?

The English Civil War was a war that began in 1642. This Civil War was against the King and Parliament.

One cause of this Civil War was religion. This was because Charles believed in the divine right of kings and that it was his right to run the country as he wished. This shows that religion caused the Civil War because Charles believed that it was his right to run the country as he wished and ignored the parliament's advice by closing the schools together which angered parliament.

Another cause of the English Civil War was that Charles was against economic disagreements. An example of this could've led to the Civil War was that Charles used fines and this money went to parliament's permission. This could've led to it.

because this would've made the parliament and the people to disagree him. This shows that religion disagreements caused the English Civil War because Charles then used that money on his own which most people disagreed on.

Overall, this in my opinion needs economic was the main reason of the Civil War because Charles always brought in taxes to get stuff for his own needs. An example of this is when he fought a war in 1640 he lost and had to pay taxes to leave England.

One cause of the English Civil War was Charles's religious beliefs. This was because Charles believed in the divine right of kings and that it was his right to run the country as he wished. This shows that religion caused the Civil War because Charles believed that it was his right to run the country as he wished and ignored the parliament's advice by closing the schools together which angered parliament.

Another cause of the English Civil War was that Charles was against economic disagreements. An example of this could've led to the Civil War was that Charles used fines and this money went to parliament's permission. This could've led to it.

Charles made a war with the parliament and the people. This shows that it was because the people and Charles had different views on how to run the country. Charles wanted to be a Catholic and the people wanted to be Protestant. This led to the Civil War because Charles wanted to be a Catholic and the people wanted to be Protestant.

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## Year 9 News



### Year 9 Students Explore Artificial Intelligence

This term, Year 9 students have been taking part in an exciting unit of work focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI). As part of the project, students have been given access to a restricted version of Microsoft Copilot within school.

To ensure that AI is used safely and appropriately, the IT team have implemented significant safeguarding and filtering measures. The system has been configured to prevent students from using AI to generate complete answers to their work. Instead, the focus is on helping students understand AI technology and learn how it can be used as a tool to support learning, research, and critical thinking.

Throughout the unit, students explore what AI is, how machine learning is used to train AI models, and the impact this technology is having on society. They are encouraged to think critically about both the opportunities and challenges presented by AI and to consider how it can be used responsibly.

Topics covered during the project include:

- Understanding ethical considerations surrounding AI.
- Analysing real-world examples of AI and identifying potential ethical concerns, including bias.
- Developing reasoned arguments about when AI should and should not be used.
- Learning how to create effective prompts to improve AI responses.
- Evaluating and refining prompts to produce higher-quality outputs.
- Identifying appropriate and responsible uses of AI in education.

The project aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate an increasingly AI-driven world. By developing an understanding of both the capabilities and limitations of AI, students are learning how to use emerging technologies responsibly, safely, and effectively.

This forward-thinking approach helps prepare our students for the future while reinforcing the importance of critical thinking, digital literacy, and ethical decision-making.

### Alfie Races for Midlands Championships!

A huge well done to Alfie in Year 9, who competed in the Midlands Championships earlier this week.

Alfie achieved a fantastic 3rd place in the Open 14 age group and was also placed an impressive 4th overall in his regional races.

What a brilliant achievement and something to be incredibly proud of. **Well done, Alfie!** 🏆

Below is a great photo of Alfie proudly displaying his trophy!



### Erin Succeeds at Regionals

During the holidays Erin Rose Young and the lovely Thingymabob, represented Albrighton Hunt Ponyclub at the Regional Championships in Dressage.

She rode really well in a very competitive section and secured a 4th place with a very good score of 73.60% and only 0.4% off the winning score.

Congratulations Erin! Keep it up!





## Year 10 News

### HOY Shoutouts!

A massive **WELL DONE** to Year 10 Business (10B/BS - Mr Reeve) and Year 10 Construction (Mr Northall) - both members of staff have complimented the students on their mature attitude to a new course, a hardworking attitude as well as a positive mindset.

A fantastic start from students in both option courses! Their positive attitude and enthusiasm for learning has been outstanding.

***Keep it up!***

## Sixth Form News



### Sixth Form Host Coffee Morning

Thursday 24th Idsall School and Sixth Form are throwing open the doors to the local community and inviting you all to our very own Macmillan Coffee Morning!

Come along between 10.00 and 12.00 and enjoy some tea, coffee and cakes whilst relaxing and just have a nice chat!

Tiff, a Sixth Form Student and one of the organisers of this event, asks if anyone can donate any cakes/goods that would be greatly appreciated.

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***Please, help spread the word, see Idsall in action, and help support a fabulous charity!***

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## OTHER IDSALL NEWS

### \* Introducing Matt Johnson!

When we heard Matt Johnson was returning to Idsall, we thought it would be great to introduce him to everyone and share his story so far!

Matt is working with the PE department as he trains to become a secondary school PE teacher and we have every confidence he will be an amazing success!



*My name is Matt Johnson, and I'm delighted to be back at Idsall School. This time as a trainee PE teacher.*

*I was a pupil at Idsall from Year 7 to 11, and it feels very special to return to the school where my own journey began. After leaving school, I went to college before joining the Royal Navy as an Aircraft Handler, serving on HMS Prince of Wales. Serving in the Navy taught me the importance of teamwork, discipline, resilience and performing under pressure. All qualities that I now bring into teaching and sport.*

*After leaving the Navy, I decided to pursue my passion for physical education by studying Physical Education and School Sport at the University of Wolverhampton. My degree strengthened my understanding of sport, health and how young people learn, while confirming that I want to become a secondary PE teacher.*

*This year I've taken the next step by starting my PGCE with Haybridge SCITT through Thomas Telford School. I'm incredibly excited that my first placement is here at Idsall, working alongside the PE department that inspired me when I was a student.*

*I hope to encourage pupils to enjoy being active, build confidence and discover the value of teamwork and perseverance, both in PE lessons and beyond*

*It's great to be back. Just in a different kit!*

*Matt Johnson*

*Trainee PE Teacher*

### \* SSCFA Debuts

Thea Blaney, Year 8, and Lucy Stokes, Year 9, made their SSCFA (Shropshire County Football) debuts this week in a match vs Cheshire SFA. The girls played brilliantly and have done extremely well by making the county team.

We are very proud of them both!

*Keep up to date with the girls fixtures on Instagram @sscfa\_girls*



### \* House Captain - Last Chance to Apply

**REMINDER** to any students wishing to apply to be a Sports House Captain. Applications must be done by Monday 21st September. Students can either email their application to Mr Goodison or drop it off into the PE office over the next 2 weeks.

### \* Las Vegas Educational Visit

There will be a parental meeting, held in the lecture theatre on Tuesday 29th September at 5pm. This will be the opportunity to give you the final plans ahead of the trip and a chance for you to ask any questions.

- If you have your students passport at home, can this please be handed in at the school. We now keep them in the school safe ahead of the trip.
- **ESTA** - please apply for your ESTA - official ESTA website is : [Official ESTA Application Website - Home](#). Please email, send a copy, of the ESTA into the school once you have got it

### \* Ingestre Hall - Parent Meeting

There will be a parental meeting via Teams on Wednesday 23rd September at 4pm. An invite for this will be sent out via email by early next week.

The meeting is aimed to go through any final information ahead of the trip. This is also a chance to ask any questions.

A link to the powerpoint will be attached to the newsletter next week so if you are unable to attend you will be able to find all the information from there.

Any issues with this, please contact [cathy.leverington@ids.mmat.co.uk](mailto:cathy.leverington@ids.mmat.co.uk)



### \* From the PE Department



## Netball Session 6

A huge **WELL DONE** to all year groups for attending netball session 6 on Tuesday - with over 45 in attendance!!

As Zara Larson sings: summer isn't over yet!!

What a beautiful Tuesday afternoon it was. Please keep showing up for training as games shall start very soon!

The PE team are very proud of all in attendance - can we get over 60 next week?!





## Session 6 Timetable

# SESSION 6

# PE

PE department | 3:40pm - 4:30pm

### MONDAY

**BTEC SPORT INTERVENTION** | GPA

**GCSE PE INTERVENTION** | EWH

**VOLLEYBALL** | YEAR 9,10,11 | MLO

### TUESDAY

**NETBALL** | ALL YEARS | SDU & EWH

**BADMINTON** | ALL YEARS | FDU

**GIRLS FOOTBALL** | ALL YEARS | JBR & PGO

**BOYS FOOTBALL** | YEAR 7 | SBE

### WEDNESDAY

**BOYS FOOTBALL** | YEAR 8 | GPA

### LUNCHTIME

**LEADERSHIP**  
MONDAY | E4 | BTH

**BASKETBALL**  
FRIDAY | GPA

V7 & Y9 boys  
SBE

V8 & Y11 boys  
GPA

Y10 boys  
PGO

V7 girls  
PGO

V8 & Y9 girls  
MLO

Y9, & Y10/11 girls  
JBR

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO  
MAKE SOME NEW FRIENDS, TRY  
SOMETHING NEW AND  
REPRESENT YOUR SCHOOL!

September - October HT

## IDSALL SCHOOL

## \* Safeguarding



## CATFISHING

**CATFISHING**  
Protect Kids and Teens Online

**What is Catfishing?**  
Catfishing is when someone pretends to be another person online, using fake profiles, photos, or stolen identities. They often appear on social media or dating apps like Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Tinder, Bumble, and Hinge. While some catfishers may not mean harm, many deceive others for personal gain, attention, or worse.

**Tips to Keep Kids & Teens Safe**

- Stay cautious** Teach kids to verify who they're talking to online.
- Video or audio calls** A simple video call can confirm identity.
- Talk to friends/adults** Encourage kids to share concerns.
- Do research** Google names and profiles to verify legitimacy.
- Reverse image search** Check if photos are stolen.
- Privacy settings** Keep accounts private to limit strangers' access.
- Ask specific questions** Questions only locals or real friends could answer.

**What to do if you Discover a Catfish...**  
Block them on all platforms, stop communication immediately & report to the platform and, if necessary, contact police.

**WARNING Signs**

Watch out for these red flags

- Avoids video calls** Excuses for not showing their real face.
- Few followers/friends** Small social circle to avoid exposure.
- Avoids meeting in person** Especially if they claim to be nearby.
- Asks for money** Gifts, travel, or personal emergencies.
- New or fake-looking profiles** Recently created or suspicious accounts.
- Uses stolen pictures** Photos may be from stock sites or other people.
- Requests explicit content** Never send photos/videos to strangers.
- Very few images** Profile pics seem outdated or limited.
- Over-the-top messages** Rapidly escalating friendship or romance.
- Minimal online presence** Only one account or hard to verify online.

**Why Do People Catfish?**

- Revenge or harassment
- Hiding behind anonymity
- Mental health struggles
- Insecurity or loneliness
- Sexual exploration
- Financial scams

**REMEMBER**  
Catfishing can range from harmless pretending to serious scams. Awareness and open communication are key.

**KIDSONLINEWORLD**  
www.kidsonlineworld.org

## \* From the Canteen

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*What's on the Menu Today*

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Our fabulous catering team have put together this QR code for parents and students. This will show you what food is on at the canteen each day so you can look in advance to see if you want the main course, pasta, sandwich bar etc.



### **\* Safeguarding Launch**

We are pleased to share that the safeguarding team have launched an anonymous concern reporting form.

If you have a concern about the welfare of an Idsall School pupil, and wish to report it electronically or anonymously – please scan the QR code below and follow the instructions. It will be shared with the safeguarding team for action.

If the concern is urgent, and involves the immediate safety of a child – please telephone the school, or the police, as needed.

## Share a Concern Anonymously

If something is worrying you and you wish to report a concern - you can do so here - with or without using your name. No details are tracked.



**It's confidential. We're here to help.**

### Share

Scan the QR code and tell us the concern...

### Confidential

Your message is anonymous and secure.

### Support

Every concern is reviewed by the safeguarding team so the right support can be provided.

**Scan here**  
to share a concern



**If you have an immediate concern, please call and ask to speak to a DSL**



We are here to listen. **We are here to help.**

## What's On In The Local Area





## Contact Us

# IDSALL SCHOOL

*"Great oaks from little acorns grow"*

Part of MARCHES ACADEMY TRUST




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**LINK : [Home - Idsall School](#)**

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Idsallschool.org

Michelle King BA MA NPQH NPQEL

## Our values :

