Edition 3: 27/09/24

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IDSALL SCHOOL

"great oaks from little acorns grow"

Part of MARCHES ACADEMY TRUST

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Michelle King - Headteacher



A Huge Thank You

It was great to see so many students showcasing their school during open evening and open morning this week, it was a fully packed night with lots of positive comments and high praise.

We are all very proud of our students and the part they played in the event, well done Team Idsall.

Our latest

We recognise we are on a journey and need to make some further changes to ensure we get things right, consistent and working effectively. Therefore, we are sharing the following changes and reasons with you so we can all work together.

What We Are Doing	What's New and Why					
The late system every morning	We've noticed an increasing number of students arriving late to school, and we want to remind everyone just how importar punctuality is for learning and success. Being on time sets a positive tone for the day and ensures students don't miss ou on valuable lesson time.					
Punctuality needs improving both to school and in some cases to lessons.	School starts promptly at 8:50, and students should be in their lineups by this time for registration. To help keep everything running smoothly, gates will close at 8:50 sharp. If a student arrives after this, they will need to sign in at reception and speak with a senior leader to discuss their lateness.					
	To support students in getting to school on time, the Canteen is open from 8:00 am each morning, where students can relax, chat with friends, and enjoy breakfast before the day begins.					
The Shore – social time						
Introducing additional supervision and more games	We have listened to student voice and responded to what they want – the games they requested have arrived, and two outdoor table tennis tables are on their way.					
during social time	#Idsallyousaidwedid					

October Half Term Holiday Reminder

In our school calendar you will notice the Marches Academy Trust has a two-week October half term and a slightly shorter summer holiday. This break helps split up the long September to December term and gives families a chance to take holidays outside of the busy summer period. This year, students will finish on Thursday, 17th October and return on Monday, 4th November.

Full calendar can be found here https://www.idsallschool.org/events

Headteacher Shout Out



A huge shout-out to Seb and Georgia in year 7 for stepping up and delivering their first public speaking event in front of hundreds of parents and visitors - they were absolutely amazing! Their courage and confidence shone through, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievement!

School Planners

WHAT WE ARE DOING AND WHY

school planner as part of their daily routine. To reinforce this, we are introducing some key expectations:

Planners on Desks in Lessons:

Students will be required to place their planners on their desk during each lesson. The planner will serve as a tool for them to jot down useful information, notes and reminders. Teachers use the red, amber, green cards and letter pages as teaching tools so quick access is essential to support learning.

Planners in the Corridors:

If a student is in the corridors during lesson time, they must show their planner with a signed note from the teacher explaining why they are out of class.

Any issues related to uniform will be recorded in the planner, allowing us to share this information with you promptly.

We want to make sure that every student is consistently using their While the school planner has been positively received by both parents and students, we have noticed that it isn't being used consistently by us all, and we need to improve this so that all children have clear expectations. The planner is a valuable tool for supporting your child's education, and it is essential that we all use it to its full potential.

> Additionally, there are students who may not be arriving to lessons on time or are out of class without permission, the planner contain each student's timetable, ensuring they are aware of where they should be at all times. These expectations will help us address and challenge such behaviours more effectively.

> The planner also provides a convenient way for us to communicate and ensure that all students are meeting these expectations

Ensure your child brings their planner to school every day.

Use the planner to leave notes for your child's form tutor and remind them to share it with their tutor.

Year 6 Open Evening - Huge Success!

On Thursday 26th September we held our open evening, which was attended by lots of excited primary school children and their families.

It was a very successful evening, and we are so proud of all of our pupils who helped during the evening - they looked very smart and engaged with parents brilliantly.

For further details about transition to year 7, please visit our website:

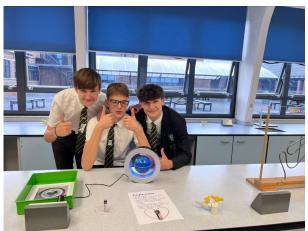
https://www.idsallschool.org/year-6-to-7-transitions

Remember the deadline for applications is 31st October, 2024.























So who was the MURDERER



Thank you to everyone who visited Drama on Thursday evening... We hope you had fun trying to solve our murder mystery!

The murderer could be identified by the evidence marker number two - the lunchtime Drama pass.

This means that the murderer was... **Suspect two!**

Well done to those who solved the murder.



Kenya Jambo



Students of years 10, 11 and 12 were excited to meet with Sarah, the Regional Expedition Coordinator for Camps International, on Monday to listen to the exciting news on the life-changing, 4-week expedition to Kenya, during the summer of 2026.

Many of those students took a letter for home which gives more information on the forthcoming trip. *There is a copy of the letter below.*

Based in two locations in Eastern Kenya, students will work on a mix of meaningful environmental conservation and sustainable community-based projects, having a lasting, positive impact on the local communities. They will also experience local Maasai culture, developing a wide range of their personal core skills and exploring the local areas which will include heading out on safari and visiting a tropical white sand beach with coral reef offshore!

Information evening is Tuesday 1st October in the main hall - follow the link on the letter below to book a place and an information pack.





Jambo Kenya Expedition Summer 2026

COMING SOON - AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR YEAR 10, 11 & 12

We are very excited to announce that we are partnering with Camps International to offer students the opportunity to go on a life-changing, 4-week expedition to Kerrya, during the summer of 2026. Based in two locations in eastern Kerrya, students will work on a mix of meaningful environmental conservation and sustainable community-based projects, having a starting, postive impact on the local communities, as well as expensioning local Massa culture, developing a wide range of their personal core skills and exploring the local areas which will include heading out on safari and visiting a tropical withet sand beach with coral freed fifshore!

SAVE THE DATE TO COME ALONG AND FIND OUT MORE:

TUESDAY 1" OCTOBER AT 6:30PM IN THE MAIN HALL

During our Parents Information Evening you and your son/daughter will be able to hear more about Camps, the expedition and fundraising, as well as how to join the team.

In the meantime, to get an insight into the expedition, you can see photos from previous teams on the Camps Instagram page: https://www.instagram.com/campsint/

Students are encouraged to raise the funds for this expedition themselves, and whilst support will be provided, suggestions on getting started straight away with some helpful tips and advice can be found here: https://www.campsinternational.com/fundraising-for-your-expedition/

We look forward to sharing more about the expedition through both student assemblies and the Parents Information Evening. Questions and further enquiries are welcomed and can be directed to Mr. Pittam, who will be lead member of Idsall Staff on the expedition.

Kindest regards,

Idsall School









We are delighted to be working with Camps International, offering our students the opportunity to join us on a 4 Week expedition to Kenya in July*, 2026.

Date & Time: Tuesday, 1 October - 18:30 Location: Main Hall

https://register.campsinternational.com

Your School Code is 9419

namps International are award wining global leaders in ethical and sustainable school expeditions. They offer fully supported the chool expeditions, to industry leading, safety standards, across Africa, Asia and Latin America, providing an authentic cultural experience for every travelling student.

Where will they be going and what will they be doing?

Embark on an adventure with real impact on one of East Africa's most amazing destinations. Live and work alongside local people and get involved in a range of sustainable projects, from community development to environmental conservation.

Experience the warm and welcoming culture that Kenya is famous for on this immersive expedition. Spend your days working on sustainable projects with local people, helping to support the local community, wildlife and environment. Get to know the inspirin Mamas of the local village who will teach you traditional skills, meet the world-famous Maasai Tribe and experience the magic of a safari at Tsavo East National Park – one of Africa's top wildlife destinations.

What will they get out of the experience?

This fully supported expection will provide our students with a unique opportunity to live alongside rural communities, broadening their perspective on the world. It will allow students to push boundaries and step outside of their comfort zone, embarking on a personal development journey, It will enable them to reach and exceed their cardemic and personal potential, develop valuable life skills and gain key extra-curricular experience highly regarded by universities and employers.

How much does it cost and how will we pay for the expedition?

riss as-inclusive expedition costs £4380 and can be paid via scheduled payment plans. Payment plans facilitate both fundraising activities and financial management. All students are encouraged to fundraise the cost, teaching them important life skills such as money management, problem solving and event planning. If fundraising is new to you, then don't worry, the Camps international crew will support you and our students every step of the way.

We look forward to seeing you and your family at the presentation. Can't make it? Register anyway and we will send you more

Kindest regards,









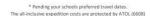












Year 9 & 11 Photos

This is a reminder that on Wednesday 2nd October year 9 and year 11 students will be having their individual photos taken during the morning.

National Poetry Day

World Record Breaking Live Lesson!



Thursday, 3rd October, our year 7 students will join poet Laura Mucha and over 60,000 students nationwide to co-write a poem on "What Counts" for National Poetry Day 2024.

This event aims to break the **GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS** title for the largest poetry lesson.

Year 7 students have been given permission slips, which need to be completed to register their attendance. We're really looking forward to this opportunity, and hope that we can be part of history!

The Army Visits Idsall



Army Artillery Group Presentation

The Army Artillery Group also visited our school to showcase their vital work in supporting military operations. They demonstrated how artillery units operate, focusing on precision targeting and the strategic use of heavy weaponry. Students learned about the various types of artillery and the teamwork required to execute missions effectively. This interactive presentation helped students appreciate the importance of artillery in ensuring safety and success during military engagements.



Army Air Corps Visit

This week, students had an exciting opportunity to learn from the Army Air Corps as they demonstrated their skills in assembling vehicles and flying virtual helicopters using advanced flight simulators. Students were able to engage with the technology and gain insights into the critical roles that aviation plays in the military. The hands-on experience sparked interest and curiosity about careers in aviation and engineering.

Sports Leaders 2024 /25

There have been lots of new faces show up for Sports Leadership club this week which has been amazing. The calendar of events for this term has been shared with students in meetings. If students still wish to join the club, they must attend meetings every Monday lunchtime, in E4, at 1.45pm.

This year we will continue to develop the skills, qualities and attributes to make confident leaders who support the local community. In addition to our school sport calendar where leaders can gain hours of service for running activities, there will also be the opportunity for students in school to participate in a leadership award. This will require students to participate in additional training over the course of the year as well as creating an evidence log for assessment.

The attached letter goes into more detail about the different qualifications on offer, and expectations for this year's courses.

Please remember that these are optional, and you can still do leadership club without having to complete a course.

If you require futher details please contact Mrs Thompson. The email address can be found in the letter.



Idsall

25th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been an exciting start to the year and I am already so proud of all the students that have shown an interest in sports leadership and have attended meetings to date. I have shared the leadership calendar with students this week and I am pleased to see the excitement this has created.

This year we will continue to develop the skills, qualities and attributes to make confident leaders who support the local community, in addition to our school sport calendar where leaders can gain hours of service for running activities, there will also be the opportunity for students in school to participate in a leadership award. This will require students to participate in additional training over the course of the years as well as creating an evidence log for assessment. Please note, there is no requirement for students who are part of sports leadership club to complete an award, it is an optional extra that has been made available. This year we will be offering 3 different awards through the Leadership Skills Foundation.

Leadership Qualification	Available to	Cost	Learning hours	Information/ Requirements
Young Leader Award	Year 7 only	£10	10	This is an introductory course that looks at the behaviours and behaviours of an effective leader and how to deliver safe practice. Students will need to complete a learner journal.
Level 1 qualification in Sports Leadership	Minimum age 12 before November 2024	£28	23 guided/ 31 in total	The Level 1 Qualification in Sports Leadership is a nationally recognised qualification that enables successful learners to assist in leading purposeful and enjoyable sport/physical activity. Students will need to plan and deliver a minimum of 1 hour of activity / 2 sessions within one community setting (this will be covered in the school sport programme at idsall).
Level 2 qualification in Community Sports Leadership	Minimum age 13 before November 2024	£38	24 guided/ 48 in total	The Level 2 Qualification in Community Sports Leadership is a nationally recognised qualification that enables successful learners to lead safe, purposeful and enjoyable sport/physical activity. The qualification aligns with professional standards for sport and physical activity leadership. Students will need to gain at least 5 hours of leadership soldwence for this avaidance of the control of the community of

If your child is interested could <u>you</u> please complete the slip below and return to Mrs Thompson in the PE office no later than Monday 6th October. Following this date, you will receive an email with links to the course specification and details of payment to be made prior to Monday 14th October. If you should require any additional <u>information</u> please feel free to contact me on the following email, <u>becky.thompson@ids.mmat.co.uk</u>:

Yours faithfully,

Mrs B Thompson Teacher of Physical Education / School Games Coordinator – Idsall School



Name of student Tutor Group ____

SPORTS LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATION INTEREST 24/25

Age/ D.O.B in November 2024 Please select the course from the below options								
Leadership	Available to	Cost	Learning	Information/ Requirements				
Qualification			hours					
Young Leader Award	Year 7 only	£10	10	Completion of leadership training and learner journal.				
Level 1 qualification in Sports Leadership	Minimum age 12 before November 2024	£28	23 guided/ 31 in total	Commitment to leadership sessions and directed learning. Deliver a minimum of 2 sessions within 1 setting (can be completed through school sport programme).				
Level 2 qualification in Community Sports Leadership	Minimum age 13 before November 2024	£38	24 guided/ 48 in total	Commitment to leadership sessions and directed study. Deliver a minimum of 5 hours leadership within 2 different settings (within school sport programme and within a local community club, under supervision)				

I am aware that passing the award/ qualification will require commitment to the course this year. Failure to do so will result in the course not being passed at the end of the year and money will not be refunded as a result.

:	Print Name:	
(Parent/Carer)		

European Day of Language Competition



Congratulations to all the students that took part in the activities over the week for the European Day of Language. The competition caused a huge stir with students and staff were impressed with the designs and cakes that were on offer. There are a few photos below of the cakes that have been regretfully cut up and sold in aid of charity.









6th Form Varsity Football



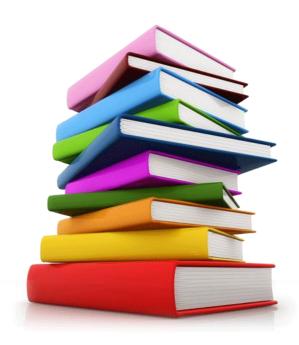
Idsall sixth form boys' football were back in action, bidding to retain their title of Marches Varsity Champions. A much-changed side full of fresh faces made an excellent impact with Reuben, Joe, Alfie, Josh and others making their first team debut.

The boys took on 4 other schools including SJT, The Marches, The Grove, and LLS. The boys were undefeated throughout the group stages not conceding any goals. Progressing into the semi final they faced tough competition from The Marches with the match goalless and going to penalties. Hero Josh saving all three penalties to take us through to the final against LLS.

LLS proved victorious scoring in the dying minutes to clinch the final 1-0.

Well done to the boys that represented, you did Idsall proud!

Library



During break and lunch it is lovely to see the library starting to fill up with students from all year groups. They are in there for such varied reasons. Some use it to access the computers, some for reading, some play games such as chess and some just for a quiet place to be. Whatever the reason all students are welcome.

Library passes are now available from the library. If a student uses the library on a regular basis they can apply for a library card which gives them access during break and lunch times.

We also have the programme up and running for students wishing to borrow one of our numerous reading books, with more titles being put on the shelves each week, there is a book for everyone.

Did you know research suggests that reading for 30 minutes a week increases health and wellbeing

Trips

We are presently putting together potential trips and more information will follow in the next 2 weeks for :

- Year 7 & 8 France Disneyland Paris and Paris
- Year 9 France and Belgium Battlefields Trip

We have also been asked by The Grove School to invite Idsall students on a Marches Academy Trust Trip to Las Vegas in October 2026. This is being offered to years 8 & 9.

The trip will be to explore the geographic features of that area such as The Grand Canyon, Death Valley National Park, Hoover Dam and Lake Mead.

I have attached a letter and if you wish for any more information please speak to Mrs Green in room G3 in the Geography Department. We will need the declaration of interest form back by Friday 4th October.



Please return this slip to Mrs. Green in G3 by Friday 4th October.

What's on

Tue 1st Oct : Kenya Parental Information Evening

Wed 2nd Oct: Year 9 and 11 Individual School Photos

Thu 3rd Oct : National Poetry Day

Thu 10th Oct : Year 7 Transition Parents Evening

Fri 18th Oct : PD Day (School closed to all students)

Mon 21st Oct to Fri 1st Nov : Half Term

• Mon 4 Nov : Back to school for all students

• Tue 5th Nov : 6th Form Open Evening

Feeling Safe at School



- Everyone has the right to feel safe in school.
- As a school we have a responsibility to create an environment where we all feel safe.

Reporting a concern is often daunting as students can fear the consequences of their report and actions or don't want to be seen as "telling tales", but without us hearing their concerns we can often not pursue them.

To help with this and to allow students the right to their voice, we have set up an anonymous online form which students can access and there is also a "report a concern" box by the crossroads as they often feel safer writing their report at home or when they are alone and posting it.

We are working hard to stamp out bullying at Idsall as students that are targetted and bullied by others can make them feel scared and unhappy at school. If anyone makes you feel like this please report it to a member of staff you feel comfortable talking to.

REMEMBER: if you don't report a concern and we don't know about it, we cannot help. If you report it we will support you and act on it.

Standards and Expectations



At the start of the school year, we issued every student with a planner designed to help support their daily school life as well as organise themselves and plan ahead for upcoming events.

It is designed to help them:

- Plan their work
- Record their achievements
- Set Targets for improvement
- Review their progress
- Manage their time
- Understand the rules, rewards and responsibilities they work under

Every morning during tutor time, form tutors check the planners to ensure our standards are being met and that students are set up to have a successful day.

As parents/carers, please take the time to have a look through the planner if you haven't already, it includes lots of important information and answers to most questions we get as a school. The planner is also designed as a means of communicating with the form tutor and us as a school.

Weekly Safeguarding Focus



Shropshire Council are running some "family drop ins" across various locations in Shropshire, where families can get support with housing, finance, SEN advice, parenting support, support for domestic abuse and lots more. See the poster, and scan the QR code to find out more.



Notices

- STEM club on Tuesday's is postponed until after half term it will resume on Tuesday 5th November
- If your student comes home with an item of clothing / books etc that have been accidently picked up can you please return it to the school reception

 Coats / PE kit are often being forgotten, in the canteen / library at break and lunch, it would be a good idea if you could put your students name clearly inside somewhere. We can then get it returned to the student.

Shifnal Junior Youth Club



Nothing to do on a Wednesday evening want to make new friends get out and about in a safe environment, then why not give the Shifnal Junior Youth Club a try!

Held every Wednesday evening at the Trinity Centre, Shifnal

There are two different groups

- Shifnal Junior Youth Club Wednesdays 5.30 7.00pm Open to students in year 6 to year 8
- Shifnal Senior Youth Club Wednesday 7.30 9.00pm Open to students year 9+

This week - Wednesday 2nd October:

Junior Youth Club - Mug Decorating, DIY Air Fried Pasta Chips and Dodgeball!

Senior Youth Club - Design your own Mug, DIY Air Fried Pasta Chips and Dodgeball!

Follow this link for more information: https://www.shifnaltowncouncil.gov.uk/council_events/shifnal-junior-youth-club/

Shifnal Junior Youth Club | Shifnal Town Council

Taekwon-Do Classes



Offering Idsall pupils a 10% discount on monthly fees.

Classes every Wednesday 6-7pm in the main hall.

Offering two free trial classes.

Contact us



Coppice Green Lane, Shifnal, Shropshire. TF11 8PD

Tel: 01952 468400

Email: admin@ids.mmat.co.uk

Website: idsallschool.org

Headteacher: Michelle King BA MA NPQH NPQEL

Our values:





