



Ian Ramsey News

Christmas 2017



Dear Parent / Carer

It has been a very busy and successful autumn term at Ian Ramsey CE Academy. Ofsted finally arrived in the first half term and thanks to everyone's hard work over the last 3 years, we were graded Good in all four areas with an overall Good judgement. (Our Ofsted inspection report can be found on the academy website.)

In addition, our pupils have also had many individual and team successes across the academy in the sports arena, with their charity work, in the creative arts field and in their academic progress.

I hope you enjoy reading about these in our newsletter. To keep up to date with current events, follow us on Twitter (@ianramseyce) and Facebook (@ianramseyceacademy).

Also look out for our new website which will be launched in January. This has been developed following

Message from the Head of School



feedback from parents, carers and pupils last year and has improved compatibility with phones.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyous Christmas.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature of Mr. James.

Mr James
Head of School



Pupils entertaining residents
at a Christmas sing-a-long.
More photos inside.

Ian Ramsey rated a Good School by Ofsted

We are delighted with the results of the September Ofsted inspection, which was the first since 2014. The full report is available for you to view on our website (ianramsey.org.uk). Some of the highlights are:

- Overall effectiveness **GOOD**
- Effectiveness of Leadership and Management **GOOD**
- Quality of teaching, learning and assessment **GOOD**
- Personal development, behaviour and welfare **GOOD**
- Outcomes for pupils **GOOD**





CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to Mrs Neilson, who, with a group of pupils in Year 11, decided that they would like to ask pupils, parents, staff and governors to donate items of non-perishable food to be sent to the Salvation Army to distribute at Christmas. The school organised this in 2015 and it was very successful.

Every tutor group was given a box at the beginning of November and asked to decorate it with a Christmas theme



and fill it with non-perishable food.



We were all very excited about this project, and were delighted to fill just over 40 boxes with over 1000 items, helping us to give to families who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Big Draw Festival

Ian Ramsey celebrated the Big Draw Festival this year by drawing with light. Pupils used an iPad app to create long exposure light trail images with a light source. Around 50 pupils braved the dark in the drama room where they worked collaboratively creating imagery and negotiating equipment. Everyone joined in the fun. One pupil asked, 'Can we do this every lunchtime?' and another exclaimed, 'This is the best thing ever-it's so cool!' Staff created some interesting drawings too using the unfamiliar technology.

Activities like this fit with our programme to promote 'Action for Happiness'.



Colour Run



Congratulations to Year 11, who were joined by 10R to take part in the Colour Run at Stewarts Park. They raised just under £2500 for Teesside Hospice.

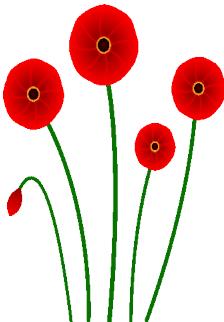
Thank you to everyone who took part. Everyone had a great time participating!



Ian Ramsey Remembers



The academy held a remembrance service on Friday 10th November. We were proud to host and hear addresses from the Durham Light Infantry & The Rifles Association, along with Bishop Mark. All pupils at Ian Ramsey took part in specially planned lessons, marking the occasion, and were able to watch the ceremony on a live stream direct to classrooms. Prior to the day, pupils designed and made beautiful wreaths that were placed on display during the ceremony as a mark of respect. Thank you to everyone who attended and to Mrs Chapman-Jones for organising a beautiful ceremony.



Dedicated Viven making a difference

Viven in Year 11 has been praised for his dedication to others in the community. Viven, a member of Stockton Youth Council, volunteers at a number of organisations across the area.

He has now been nominated for a Gazette Young Community Champion Award.

Mrs Proudman, Pastoral Manager for Year 11, nominated him and said, "Viven is a remarkable young man who gives up so much of his free time to help out within his community. He strives constantly to enhance the services that are available to his peers, in order to help improve their chances. He is an active member of the Stockton Youth Council, where he

works hard to increase young people's awareness of their rights, the choices that they can make, and helping young people shape the services that are available to them in the area. In addition, Viven (pictured with Head of School, Mr Janes and Mrs Proudman), also volunteers at Elm Tree

Community Centre, Stockton Health Watch, and also often on weekends, at the British Heart Foundation.

Good luck with your nomination, Viven!



Pupils to Embark on Adventure of a Lifetime

Three Ian Ramsey pupils are preparing to embark on a life changing experience! Jamie Watson (Y11), Phoebe Marshall (Y11) and Hannah Williams (Y8) are members of the 1st Fairfield Explorer Scout group; the three pupils have been selected to represent the local district on an epic adventure to West Virginia, USA.



After an initial participation in a selection event in July 2017, they were subsequently chosen to join a group of 30 individuals (26 young people & 4 leaders) at the 24th World Scout Jamboree in 2019.

The event takes place over a two week period and brings together around 40,000 scouts from across the globe to share ideas, learn about different cultural activities, and participate in a great number of activities such as climbing, white water rafting and camping to name but a few. During the 2 week period, the three representatives will also take part in a home hospitality experience, staying with a family in either West Virginia or Canada.

In the lead up to the experience, each of them will have to undertake a number of personal and group fundraising tasks to raise over £3600 each to fund the visit! We asked the three, "What would you hope to achieve and gain as a result of this visit?" These are their responses:

"It's going to be a life changing experience, a once in a lifetime opportunity! I hope to meet new people and build some new friendships at the same time as learning lots of new skills. I feel very proud to represent my area and the UK and I feel very lucky to have been chosen to participate in a scout Jamboree!"
(Jamie Watson, Year 11)

"Going to the Jamboree will be an incredibly fun and exciting experience, one that I can't wait to take part in with scouts from around the world. I look forward to exploring other cultures. Being a scout has given me so many opportunities already and this one is promising to be the best yet."

(Phoebe Marshall, Year 11)

"Attending the Jamboree means having the fantastic opportunity to share my love of scouting with other scouts around the world, building new friendships, sharing scouting experiences and learning new skills in the process. It brings with it an amazing way of experiencing new cultural outcomes to grow and mature from. I am so proud to be chosen to represent not only scouts in the UK, but scouting in Stockton-On-Tees, alongside Jamie and Phoebe." **(Hannah Williams, Year 8)**

Please look out for fundraising opportunities around the school and at events. We hope that you will be able to support our students in their exciting venture!

Pupils Showcase their Creative Skills

Pupils with their amazing homework projects for English: models of the Globe Theatre (right and below).



The winners of the Humanities Year 7 Castle Competition

Year 8 African Masks

Year 8 art pupils have been learning about African Masks and have made some fine examples. Thanks to all families who have been involved in creating this magnificent art work.



Pupils Hone Their Nerd Skills

Y10 and 11 honed their nerd skills at The Festival of the Spoken Nerd in York. They watched experiments and were in their 'element!'



Ghostly Daphnia

Year 7 science detectives have been investigating ghostly daphnia under the microscope.

Daphnia, commonly called water fleas, are a freshwater zooplankton found in ponds and lakes all over the world. Daphnia received the name water flea due to their jerky swimming motions.



Praying to the World through Christingle

10R prepared for advent this Christmas through praying for the world with their Christingles. What is Christingle you ask? Here are some interesting facts:

- The orange represents the world.
- The red ribbon represents the love wrapped around the world and the blood Christ shed on the cross.
- The fruit/sweets represents God's creations and the four seasons.
- The candle represents the light Jesus brings to the world, and hope for those in darkness.

Pupils Welcome Author

Author Danny Weston (pictured right), was welcomed at Ian Ramsey to read his novel, "Scarecrow".

The book is a story set in the Scottish highlands about a grumpy scarecrow called Philbert and his unlikely friendship with a teen from London.

Pupils were very keen to greet him and to learn more about his work.



Thank you Class 7A

A big well done to Miss Nicholson's class and Emily (below).



The aim was to fill 2 shoeboxes for the Shepherds' Purse Christmas appeal, but they managed 12!

Merry Christmas from Year 7.

Cracking Christmas Cards

Our annual Christmas Card competition got underway this year with some beautiful creations by our Year 7 pupils.

It was a hard decision, but the winning card this year was by Kieran Casling of 7M (shown left).

Well done to the runners up, (shown left to right), Imogen Holmes-Carrington of 7R and Kailan Watson of 7A. Well done!



Year 7 & 8 Design and Technology

Pupils have been very busy designing and making some fantastic products this term. Well done and we hope you enjoy using them.

The after-school club has also been very popular with pupils making all sorts from stools, pewter cast keyrings, resin jewellery and display boxes.

Well done to everyone who has worked so hard and had such fun along the way.



Year 11 Leavers' Presentation

Ian Ramsey welcomed our Year 11 summer leavers at our annual presentation evening.

Our students were congratulated on their achievements by Executive Headteacher, Mrs Booth, Head of School, Mr Janes, and The Archdeacon of Sunderland and Chair of the

Board of Directors, The Venerable Stuart Bain.

Also taking time to congratulate our leavers, were visitors Tom Brewitt, a player at Middlesbrough Football Club and Peter Hood, Assistant Academy Manager at Middlesbrough Football Club.



Pupils Treat Residents to a Christmas Sing-a-Long



Ian Ramsey Choir have been doing the rounds in the community this Christmas, spreading Christmas cheer. One of their visits was to the Dementia Hub in Thornaby that caters to people living with Dementia and their carers. They joined in



with the Hub's Christmas Party on Friday 15th December, singing and chatting with them and helping to ensure that the festivities were enjoyed by all.



Mrs. Brewer, Head of Creative Arts and leader of the choir, said: "We have been visiting care homes for a few years but I also wanted to offer our singing for people living with Dementia and their carers. This is our fourth visit to the Dementia Hub in Thornaby, the first being in 2015."

The feedback that we get from our carers and those with dementia attending has been overwhelming."



The choir, which comprises of pupils from Years 8-11, also visited Shotley Park Care Home in County Durham.

Geography Gallery



Christmas Concert

Many thanks to Mrs Brewer, our Choir and our instrumental pupils, for putting on a fanstastic Christmas Concert.

It was a lovely mix of songs and dance. Our pupils practice tirelessly each year to produce an amazing concert and this year was no exception.

Thank you!



Dates for your Diary

Event	Date	Time
GCSE Mock Exam Results Morning	Tues 9th January	8.30am
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Wed 10th January	4pm
Year 8 Options' Evening	Wed 7th February	4pm
Year 8 Parents' Evening	Wed 21st February	4pm
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Wed 14th March	4pm
Year 7 Parents' Evening	Wed 25th April	4pm

Merry Christmas from Everyone at Ian Ramsey Academy

We enjoyed a thoroughly festive Christmas lunch this week. As you can see, we had a couple of helpers on this occasion!

Thank you to all our kitchen staff, site team, tutors, admin staff and pupils for a cheerful, musical and heart-warming occasion. It is a shame it only happens once a year!

Merry Christmas, everyone!



Physical Education

New Rugby Kits Get an Airing

Year 7 looked resplendent in their new kits (kindly donated by Vision for Education).

Ian Ramsey played 2 matches against Ingleby Manor School, and won both! We won 3 tries to 0 against their A team, and won 5 tries to 1 against their B team.

Fabulous performance, boys.

Well done!



Physical Education continued

Year 7 Rugby Team Has Its First Run Out

The year 7 rugby boys (below) had their first tournament recently at Northfield School. A baptism of fire and a fantastic effort all round... Well done, boys!



Footballers off to a Winner

Massive well done to the year 7 and 8 footballers who comprehensively beat All Saints 9-4. A fantastic result!



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9A Netball Team

Well done to the 9A netball team who played at the Stockton District tournament at Egglestone School.



As always, they were fabulous, representing Ian Ramsey to the highest standards of performance but also in etiquette, attitude and the way they conducted themselves.

A truly delightful group of girls!

Well Done, Allana

Well done to Allana McDonald in Year 9 who recently swam in the Scottish nationals at the Royal Commonwealth pool in Edinburgh.

This was Allana's first national competition. Although she did not make it to the finals, she was placed second in her heat, and swam a personal best.

Onward and upwards, Allana.

