

Dear Families,

I am excited to take this opportunity in the final edition of this year's Ibstock Insights to introduce myself as the new Head of School for Ibstock School, effective from August this year.

I am looking forward to collaborating with my colleagues to build on the remarkable progress the school has made over the past 12 months. Ibstock School truly is a fantastic environment for young people to thrive, offering a multitude of opportunities and experiences for our students.

Having served as the Director of School Improvement for LiFE, I am familiar with the school and am eager to draw on my experience from working across all of our LiFE primary and secondary schools. My aim is to ensure that the students of Ibstock School continue to make excellent strides toward their goals.

During my brief time here at the end of the summer term, I have witnessed firsthand the dedication of our teachers and staff in creating exciting, engaging, and enjoyable experiences that complement their diligent work throughout the year. A highlight for me was witnessing our Year 10 students present to global brand VF Corporation as part of a work experience programme. The feedback from the employer was outstanding, and our students should feel immensely proud of the quality of their work.

On Thursday, 3rd July, we welcomed our new Year 7 students; it was a delight to meet them and observe their engagement across a variety of subjects. At the end of the day, we celebrated the commencement of their journey at Ibstock School by recognising a few students who demonstrated impressive learning behaviours.

As we approach the summer holidays, I wish all our families a restful and enjoyable break. I am genuinely looking forward to partnering with you all to make Ibstock School the heart of our community.

Take care,

Ben White, Head of School



Stephen Lawrence

In June our Stephen Lawrence Ambassadors attended the Stephen Lawrence Symposium event at De Montfort University. This important event saw other LiFE Multi-Academy Trust schools join organisations in recognising the legacy of Stephen Lawrence in standing up against racism. Our ambassadors' views were on display at the event and can be seen opposite. Well done to all our ambassadors who represented Ibstock School.



Lucas D Yr8 Age 13
Ibstock Community College

I am a Stephen Lawrence Ambassador because I want to show people that racism is not okay and to support people who struggle with racism. I also want to learn more about people's backgrounds and show people how to be upstanders not bystanders. People are people. There is no difference between us.



Evie B Yr8 Age 13
Ibstock Community College

I have lived through racism myself and I don't think it is right that Black and White people are treated differently because of race or religion. I also don't agree that if a White person hurt a Black person, they wouldn't get as much punishment because people automatically assume that the Black person is in a gang or has done something to the White person first. We need to stand up for our rights and stop the stereotypes of different cultures and religions.



Samuel M Yr9 Age 13
Ibstock Community College

I have many friends of different races and I do not want to have to get used to comforting them when they are upset about experiencing racism over and over again. I became an ambassador because I don't want to live in a world where racism is normal. I think it's disgusting that people find it okay or even amusing to make fun of people because of the colour of their skin. Before judging or saying something mean to someone, try to put yourself in their shoes. Imagine being treated horribly for something like that. I want all Black people to feel proud of who they are.



Grace Y Yr9 Age 13
Ibstock Community College

I think it is important to raise awareness around promoting anti-racism. If we educate young people about Stephen Lawrence, who was murdered just because of the colour of his skin, it can help prevent it happening in the future. Black people should not have to accept they will face discrimination because it's not ok. It never has been.

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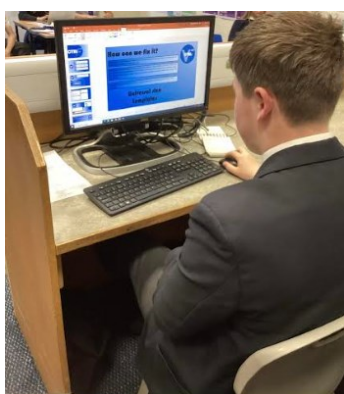
Careers Year 10

Incredible work from our Ibstock students who recently completed an inspiring work experience project with VF Corporation in partnership with the Leicester and Leicestershire Careers Hub.



Our students immersed themselves in the operations of VF Corporation, gaining valuable insight into the world of logistics. They not only toured the site but also actively engaged in informative workshops and were instrumental in launching the logistics beacon pilot.

The next day they had a full day dedicated to tackling real-world reverse logistics challenges faced by VF Corporation. It was phenomenal to see our students engage in thorough market research, meticulous



fact-finding, and ingeniously apply their own insights to devise innovative solutions.

The culmination of their hard work saw them pitch their brilliant presentations to members of the VF Corporation team.

We couldn't be prouder of their dedication, hard work, and fantastic attitude throughout this project.

Watching them collaborate seamlessly in their teams was truly wonderful. This experience truly embodies what education, and particularly careers education, is all about – practical learning, problem-solving, and real-world application.

Well done Year 10!

Careers Fair

We are excited to share the success of our recent Careers Fair at Ibstock School!

It was fantastic to see over 25 post-16 providers, including universities, local businesses, and nationwide companies, all under one roof. We were also honoured to have the Mayor of Ashby in attendance, showing great support for our pupils' futures.

A special shoutout to our Life Multi-Academy Trust, Ashby School and Bosworth Academy, for their fantastic contributions and presence!



The buzz in the hall was incredible as our pupils actively engaged with representatives, asking insightful questions and exploring the vast array of further education and career pathways available to them.

Events like these are invaluable in helping young people understand their options and feel empowered about their next steps.

A huge thank you to all the providers who participated and made this event such a resounding success, and to our dedicated staff and volunteers who helped organise it. It was truly inspiring to witness our pupils taking such proactive steps in shaping their futures!

Year 11 Leavers

We celebrated the time spent at Ibstock with our Year 11 students who had their Leavers shirts signed.

Good luck to our Class of 2025 and we look forward to seeing you on Results Day.



Litter Pick

It was great to welcome Year 2 from St Denys and North West Leicestershire Wombles for a fab litter pick! 12 of our Year 7s supported brilliantly, living our values in action.

We are proud to see community spirit and care for the environment shining through!



VE Day

Students observed a one-minute silence in remembrance of VE Day on Thursday May 8th. A special planter, filled with red, white, and blue flowers and a personalised plaque, now stands as a lasting tribute to those who served.



Year 10 Art Sessions

Year 10 Art students have recently taken part in two workshops delivered by Creative Learning Services. For these workshops, students have experimented with new techniques to further develop their skills. All students engaged really well with these sessions and the selection of outcomes were fantastic. Well done Year 10!



Citizens UK Event

A group of Ibstock School students recently took part in an inspiring Citizens UK event held at Braunstone Frith Primary Academy, where they joined forces with secondary schools across the LiFE Multi-Academy Trust.



The day focused on key social issues including votes at 16, mental health, and housing — all explored through a series of engaging workshops. Students were especially excited to meet Liz Kendall MP, who listened to their ideas and encouraged them to keep speaking up on issues that matter.



The event was a fantastic opportunity for our young people to develop their leadership skills, learn about local democracy, and make their voices heard. Staff were immensely proud of their enthusiasm, confidence, and commitment to change. The only complaint? They wanted more time to share their views! We're already looking forward to seeing how they build on this experience in future community projects. Students in attendance came from across Years 7 -10 and were:

Emily A, Jake C, Nicholas C, Lucas D, Shakira E, Ethan F, Zayn G, Lola H, Jasmine H B, Isabella P, Summer-Louise R, Jonathan W and Kirby W.

Marvellous MFL

Congratulations to our 5 year 8 students who represented Ibstock School in the Marvellous MAT MFL contest held at Bosworth Academy in June. They used their language skills to take part in a wide range of different activities, from team-building tasks and quizzes to preparing and delivering a marketing speech - all done in French! They only just missed out on bringing the trophy back, finishing in second place after a tie-break round. Félicitations et bravo!



Creative Writing

Our Year 8 and Year 9 students showcased their creativity and confidence during dedicated Spoken Word and Creative Writing sessions on Friday 4 July.

The students engaged enthusiastically in composing and performing powerful pieces, demonstrating impressive originality and expressive skills. These sessions provided a fantastic platform for students to develop their writing talents and confidently share their voices.



Monkey Forest

Everyone had a wild time at Trentham Monkey Forest! Watching the Barbary macaques roam free was an unforgettable experience for everyone—nature at its cheekiest!"



Pride

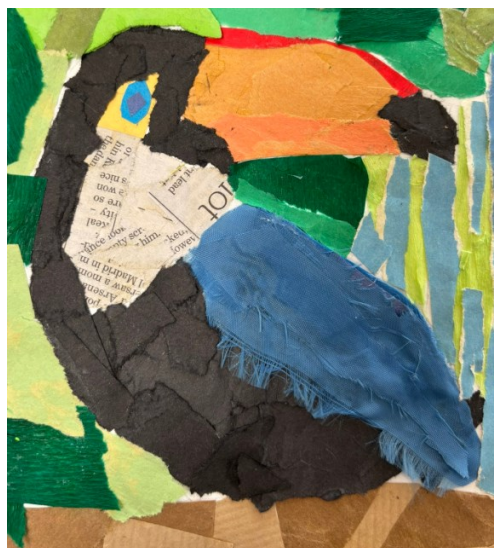
Our Annual Pride Festival was on Friday 27 June. We had a range of stalls, games, crafts, the Year 11 band and face painting.

This special event celebrated inclusion & kindness.



ADT Artwork

Our talented Year 8 students have been busy doing collage toucans inspired by the work of artist Nancy Standlee!





Our student spotlight shines on several students this half term:

Big news from Antarctica! Congratulations to **Jonathan W (7KGo)** whose flag made it all the way to St Andrew's Bay, South Georgia. The flag is now with the RRS Sir David Attenborough and accompanied by 150,000 King Penguins!



In early June **Jonathan W** also visited the Houses of Parliament for Prime Minister's Questions. "I saw Kemi Badenoch and Keir Starmer debate winter fuel allowance and aid to Gaza. We toured



Parliament and met North West Leicestershire MP, Amanda Hack," said Jonathan.

Well done to Year 7 student **Isabella O** who captained the Heather St Johns Under 12 Girls Football club team to win their league. The team were unbeaten in 18 games, winning 15 and drawing 3. This led to them being presented with the league trophy at Leicester City Football Club.

The team's success was further featured in the Leicester Mercury - great job Isabella!

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Well done to **Jensen S** who recently played in a hockey tournament in Beeston. Jensen played really well, captaining the side, showing real maturity throughout as they had quite a few younger players, and up against some very competitive teams. His team came 6th out of 12 teams.

If you wish for your child to be considered to be featured in Student Spotlight please email principalspa@ibstockschool.co.uk

Summer Safety Message

Summer is a wonderful time of year! The (hopefully!) good weather sees daylight at its longest through the year. Here are some top tips to help you get the most out of your summer:

1. Make sure that when you go out your phone is charged so that you can keep in contact with parents/ carers/ friends.
2. Avoid walking to or from home alone. Try to walk with friends or arrange for a parent/ carer to pick you up.
3. If you're out, make sure you take a coat or jacket- whilst the days are getting warmer, it is still chilly in the evenings!
4. Take some time to relax, sleep and have some downtime. Stay connected to friends.
5. If you are offered drugs or alcohol, do not be pressured to say yes. Remember, you must be 18 or over to smoke, vape and drink alcohol and there are a number of health risks associated with these things.

If you or your child/children are experiencing difficulties and need someone to talk to during this time, the following agencies may be of reassuring support.

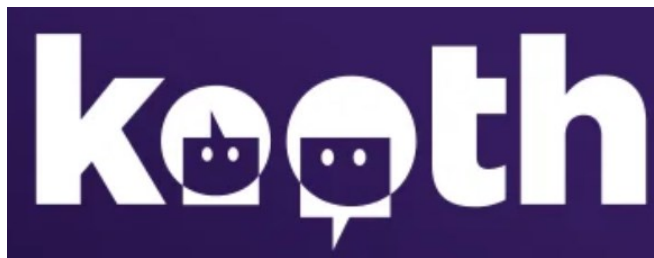


[Childline | Childline](#)

online support provided by the NSPCC

[Home - Kooth](#)

Kooth is your online mental wellbeing community. Access free, safe and anonymous.



[Health For Teens | Everything you wanted to know about health](#)

Health For Teens is a website that provides up-to-date and reliable information on various topics of health for young people, such as body image, sex, social care, knife crime, immunisation and anxiety.



[www.stonewall.org.uk](#) and [www.mindout.org.uk](#)

Stonewall is proud to provide information, support and guidance on LGBTQ+ Mindout confidential, non-judgmental and anonymous online live chat.

Open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

[www.samaritans.org](#)

We're here, day or night, for anyone who's struggling to cope, who needs someone to listen without judgement or pressure.



If you have a safeguarding concern during the summer holidays, please do the following; Please email DSL@ibstockcollege.co.uk – this email will be checked intermittently Monday-Friday

If you think it needs a same day response, please call Children's Duty at the local authority on 0116 305 0005

For other non-urgent issues you can email them at childrensduty@leics.gov.uk

Ibstock School will be closed over the summer break and will reopen on **Wednesday 27 August 2025**.

Please see below for in-term contact details:

Ibstock School, Central Avenue, Ibstock, Leicestershire, LE67 6NE

t: 01530 260705 e: admin@ibstockschool.co.uk w: www.ibstockschool.co.uk

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