



Friday 24th October 2025

Dear Families

As we come to the end of this first half term, I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for your continued support and to share some of the many wonderful things that have taken place across the school since September. The first half term is always the most challenging, with new classes, new students and new routines, but it's also been full of learning, laughter, and togetherness here at Ivy House.

We know that many of you will have already read about our events and celebrations in previous **Family Update Newsletters**, and seen the fantastic photos we've shared on our **social media pages**, it's been a busy and exciting few weeks!

We've enjoyed a number of themed days and celebrations, including **Diwali** (our students' Diya lamps were beautiful displayed at the front of school), **Harvest Festival**, and **World Mental Health Day**, when everyone wore yellow to show support for wellbeing and kindness. We also celebrated **National Teaching Assistant Day**, recognising the incredible contribution our support staff make every single day.

A huge thank you goes to the **Friends of Ivy House**, who organised a brilliant **Macmillan Coffee Morning**, raising over **£700** for two incredible causes, and last night's **Halloween Bingo**, which raised over **£500**. We're so grateful to everyone who donated chocolate, came along, or helped make these events such a success.

Our **School Council elections** took place earlier this half term, and our group of students have already helped shape what **Enrichment Clubs** will look like on Friday afternoons. We also held our first **Academy Council Meeting** of the year, reviewing key school priorities and celebrating the progress we're making together.

This week we welcomed **Tilly Dower**, a visually impaired fashion designer from *Wanted Wardrobe*, who donates 10% of her profits to sight loss charities. She joined us for **The Dales Department Fashion Show**, where students designed their own t-shirts and proudly modelled them on our LED catwalk, it was such an inspiring afternoon.

Yesterday, our **Primary Department** enjoyed a trip to **Markeaton Park** as part of their topic "*Whatever the Weather*." Thanks to *Storm Benanjim*, it quite literally was "*Whatever the Weather!*" Despite the rain and wind, it was a huge success, the students had a fantastic time exploring and learning outdoors. A big thank you to all of the families who came along and supported their child on the trip.

Today's **Spooky Dress-Up Day** and discos have been a brilliant way to round off the half term. Thank you for helping your children with their amazing costumes! Keep an eye on our social media for photos soon.

It's been a busy but wonderful few weeks, and I hope this roundup gives you a sense of just how much has been achieved. I'm so proud of our students and staff for everything they've done, and so grateful to you, our families, for your continued support and encouragement. I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable half-term break. Thank you for helping make Ivy House special and caring community.

Kind regards,

George Turner | Headteacher



www.ivyhouseschool.org.uk



Ivy House School, Moorway Lane, Littleover, Derby, DE23 2FS



George Turner: Headteacher



01332 777920



Admin@ivy.set.org

