

St Ivo School – Press Release

For release week beginning 13th July 2015

St Ivo football goes international!

Students at St Ivo School are building on their success on the national stage to go international! The school is taking two girls' football squads to the Gothia Cup, otherwise known as the Youth World Cup. As you read this, the girls are in Gothenburg, Sweden competing in the under 14 (school years 7 and 8) and under 15 (years 9 and 10) competitions.

Under the leadership of Lisa Trigg, PE teacher, girls' football at St Ivo continues to go from strength to strength. Champions for all age groups in the district for the last two years, the girls also compete at regional and national level. The under 12 team won the National Cup last year, this year, as the under 13 team, they reached the National Final, a prestigious event held at Madejski Stadium in Reading. Students in years 9 and 10 have also been successful, reaching the sixth round of the National Cup this year. Since competing for St Ivo, the under 15 squad travelling to the Youth World Cup have always finished within the top sixteen teams in the country. An international opportunity, therefore, is the next logical progression.

The Gothia Cup encompasses 1600 teams from 80 countries playing 4500 matches on 110 fields! Only 38 English clubs are playing in the tournament. The under 14 team are the only English squad in a group of 110 teams from 9 different countries. Meanwhile the under 15 squad are in a group of 166 teams from 12 countries, which includes 3 other English teams – one being Chelsea Football Club!

However, this ambitious plan to take St Ivo on to the world stage simply would not have been possible without the generosity of parents and the local community. From bag packing in local supermarkets to sleepovers in the school hall, many hours have been given up fundraising. In addition, the school is very grateful to the following companies for their sponsorship: CamBio, D A Green & Sons, David Smith, ParentMail, Playfords, R Costings, St Ives Rotary Club and Viva Wood.

In total, we have raised around £25,000, with £7,450 from local companies. This has allowed the school to charge just £150 per student for travel, accommodation, food and new kit, making this opportunity of a lifetime accessible to all of our successful female footballers!

Now we eagerly await the result of the Swedish campaign!