

MADELEY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S POST: PARENT EDITION



- **Year 9 Remembrance Day**

On Remembrance Day, our Year 9 students took part in a special enrichment day to deepen their understanding of World War I. Through immersive activities, students reflected on the diverse experiences of individuals involved in The Great War, connecting with history in a personal and impactful way.

Each student began by adopting a character from a specific region, representing the wide range of backgrounds and roles in the war. This approach encouraged them to view the war from new perspectives, imagining the lives of those who served on different fronts or supported from afar. Throughout the day, students engaged in various sensory activities that brought their characters' experiences to life.

A significant part of the day was dedicated to creating artwork inspired by their reflections. This year, students worked with the Art department to design pieces that symbolised remembrance and hope. Activities included paper Crane making, a powerful symbol of peace, hope and joy.

By the end of the day, students had gained a deeper appreciation of the diverse contributions to WWI and developed a newfound empathy for those who experienced it. This enrichment day commemorated Remembrance Day and gave our students a meaningful way to engage with history and honour the memories of all those who served.

In addition to the on-site activities, a group of students had the opportunity to visit the local memorial service to represent Madeley in the community. This visit provided a powerful moment of reflection as they paid their respects to the soldiers from our own community who served in the conflict. Guided by their teachers, students laid a wreath on behalf of the school and



observed a moment of silence. We are proud of the thoughtfulness and hope these reflections will stay with them as they continue their journey of learning and remembrance.

- **Year 10 Music Students visit University of Derby**



Our Year 10 GCSE Music students thoroughly enjoyed their visit and workshop at the University of Derby on the 12th November. They were given a tour of the facilities, introduced to the lecturers of various music courses and then had a demonstration of the surround sound room, much to their delight!

In addition, they took part in a full day's assessment of their ensemble music performance which took place in the state-of-the-art rehearsal rooms and recording studios. All students benefitted immensely from this visit and have also been offered a follow up session to record their solo performances in Year 11. Pupils were extremely well behaved and represented the school with enthusiasm, pride and respect and aspiration for music performance. A well-received visit overall and the students are already looking forward to attending their visit to the University in Year 11.

- **Important Parents Consultation Afternoon/Evenings Dates**

Parents' Afternoons/Evenings will be held on the following dates:
Year 11 - Tuesday 9th December, Year 7 - Thursday 22nd January,
Year 9 - Thursday 12th February, Year 10 - Tuesday 24th March
and Year 8 - Wednesday 22nd April, from 2.00pm - 6.00pm.

The school will close at 1.15pm on the above dates to all students and school transport will collect early to reflect the earlier close, with the exception of the 2 D& G buses (routes 445 & 446) which collect at 3.05pm. Please notify the office, if your child will be remaining on site until you arrive at school for appointments or until 3.05pm, for safeguarding.

Important dates:

- Wednesday 3rd December & Thursday 4th December - Matilda School Show
- Tuesday 9th December - Year 11 Parents Afternoon/Evening - 2.00pm - 6.00pm
- Wednesday 10th December - School Christmas Concert
- Thursday 11th December - Christmas Market Food
- Friday 12th December - Christmas Jumper Day with normal uniform (£1.00 Donation)
- Tuesday 16th December & Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Lunch
- Wednesday 17th December - Year 11 Liverpool Geography Trip
- Thursday 18th December - Year 7 Panto Trip
- **Thursday 18th December - School Closes at 3.05pm for all students**





• Art

V & A Wedgwood visit

Wow! We had a fabulous day at V&A Wedgwood in Barlaston this week working with ceramicist Jacqui Ramrayka for our third Design Lab Nation project with the V&A Museum. We toured the 1882 factory seeing the whole process, from how they make the moulds, to pouring the clay, to fettling, stacking, firing, glazing, decals and quality control. They produce some weird and wonderful pieces for some well-known British artists, hotel chains and luxury brands that went to every corner of the world! Then we practised our hand building skills before trying out the potter's wheels. It was then finally onto the main activity building our own versions of Josiah Wedgwood's Portland Vase. They aren't finished yet. We have one more visit to go to complete the build. It truly was a fascinating insight to the industry.



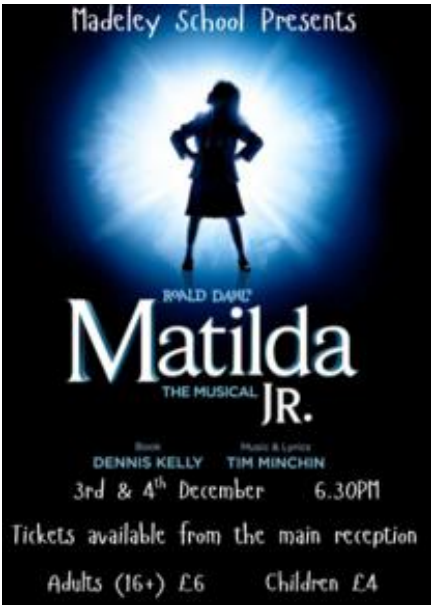
GetSetGo Competition

We are proud to say that the Art department has won a trophy from Shaw Education Trust for our entries into their GetSetGo Art Competition! Congratulations to Hugo, Evie, Ixsia and Alex who's work saw us crowned as 'Secondary Winner'. The Shaw Education Trust said 'We were so impressed with all the entries especially the 4 below, we thought they were not only original but capture the theme of 'Exactly like nothing else'.



• Matilda School Show - Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th December and the School's Christmas Concert - Wednesday 10th December

Tickets are currently available to purchase for both dates of Matilda and the Christmas Concert from the School Reception/Office. Ticket prices are as below:



• Hockey



The U12s girls' team played in the Tier 2 North West Indoor Hockey Championships at the Grange School in Northwich. Team B battled hard throughout the day with lots of learning along the way. The A team won all of their games conceding only 1 goal in the process. They played really well in each game and are deserved Champions!

• Misson Christmas



This year we are delighted to be support the Cash for Kid's Mission Christmas appeal. This is to raise funds and collect gifts for children in our local community who may not otherwise have a present to open on Christmas Day. In Staffordshire and Cheshire, over 5,000 requests have been received for support for families who are experiencing financial hardship, and we want to work with our school and wider community to support their work and make the festive season magical for local children.

There are 3 ways that we will be doing this:

Fundraising in school Please look out for information about activities being run by forms and year groups over the next few weeks. Every £1.00 that we raise can be used to buy the equivalent of £3.00 of gifts by working with their charity partner. We will also be having a lot of fun!

Donations from a wish list created by the children and referrers. You are able to purchase a gift by following this link: [Cash for Kids](#). These gifts will be sent directly to the Staffordshire distribution centre (even Santa needs a little help) to be forwarded directly to families in need. Gifts start from £5.00. Please send a screenshot of the gifts that you have donated, via email, to emma.boustead@madeley.set.org so this can be added the value to our tally chart.

Finally, we will be **accepting unwrapped gift donations**.

These must be new and in packaging/with labels for health and safety reasons. The age ranges 0-2 and 15-18 years old receive the fewest gift purchases/donations therefore anything suitable for these ages would be particularly welcome. Our aim is to raise the sum or equivalent of £1,000.00, which is the equivalent of just over £1.00 per member of our community. Please look out for further details on Arbor and your emails.



• Attendance Competition



Back by popular demand we are running the Attendance Advent Competition again between the 1st and 18th December.

For every day that a pupil attends school on time, we will give them a prize draw token. For every full week they will receive an additional two tokens. The more tokens, the bigger chance of winning!

The final draw will take place at the end of the term with a £100 gift voucher for the first prize, and two pupils will get a £50 voucher each for the second prize. It is great to see our pupils coming in every day with resilience and a positive attitude to learning; even when the days are cold and frosty!

• Principal's Open Office

On Thursday 17th December, there is a Principal's Open Office with Mr Nixon, 2.00pm - 5.00pm. If you require an appointment, please contact Mrs Downie. Email address: denise.downie@madeley.set.org