

# MADELEY SCHOOL

## PRINCIPAL'S POST: PARENT EDITION



### • World Book Day - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Yesterday, we celebrated our culture of reading with World Book Day. The morning kicked off with a quiz for students to guess which members of staff the favourite books belong to. Students from KS3 were rewarded with new books to delve into for being the 'Best Dressed' in their year group - there was some phenomenal efforts across the school with some KS4 students engaging too! Forms will be rewarded next week for their amazing efforts to decorate doors to reflect the form's favourite reading books. Staff did not disappoint either with an array of costumes and character fancy dress, sparking conversations about literature and books. A fantastic day had by all!



### • Year 9 Immunisations - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

The Year 9 MenAcwy/TdIPV Immunisation Boosters will take place in school on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March. An email was sent out to all parents/carers on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February which attached a letter from the School Age Immunisations Service with a link to the online consent form.

**Please note the online consent form needs to be submitted by 10.00am on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March.**

### • Bentley Careers Visit



On Wednesday, we were very fortunate to have Bentley in during careers week to talk about pathways and the range of different roles within the company. We also got a special treat. They bought a special Bentayga to school for us. This particular Bentayga has been illustrated by British artist Stephen Wiltshire. Mrs Stockdale, Miss Leath and Mrs Sharratt took their classes out for a closer look. This car hasn't been into any other school before!

### • Science - Mars Day 2025

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March was Mars Day, organised by the European Space Agency and STEM Learning. In science lessons, pupils joined livestream events with guests ranging from astronauts, astrobiologists, the BBC Science editorial team and Tim Peake! We learned about the astronaut training program, dust devils on Mars and STEM careers in space. This was a great opportunity to hear firsthand about these fascinating topics. Thanks to Miss Jones and Miss Johnson for organising.



### Important dates:

- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March - Year 8 Parents/Carers Afternoon Face to Face (2.00pm - 6.15pm)  
The school will close at 1.15pm on the above date and school transport will collect to reflect the earlier close
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March - Year 9 MenAcwy/TdIPV Immunisation Boosters





• **Art and Computing Webinar with Aardman Animations**

Last week, the Art and Computing departments came together for an exciting live careers webinar hosted by the V&A. The session provided valuable insight into careers in animation, featuring Aardman Animations, the renowned British studio behind 'Wallace & Gromit', 'Chicken Run', 'Shaun the Sheep' and 'Morph'.

The talk was delivered by Gavin Strange, a director and designer at Aardman, who shared his expertise and experiences in the animation industry. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to learn about the creative and technical skills involved in bringing animated characters to life.



• **Artists and Photographers**

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February, our Year 10 artist and photographers worked with local print maker, Becky Bell @soft.pineapples. They spent their time learning about the process of making paper to create their own surfaces to work on and then the photographers created their own stamps to print on top of their photographs. Becky will be back for 4 more sessions introducing them to new techniques to build up an exciting body of work that supports their coursework project 'Growth and Decay.'



• **Gender imbalance in Computing**

Well done to Miss Hartley on demonstrating her commitment to improving gender balance in Computer Science! Miss Hartley completed the 'I Belong' programme and achieved a certificate from the National Centre for Computing Education which recognises her hard work.



• **Football**



On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February, the Year 8 boys' football team played their second league fixture of the season against Kings. It was a great performance, winning 7-0. The goals were from Zac, Ralph and Jenson.

• **Curriculum for Parents and Carers**

Many of you have asked for more details about our curriculum. All our curriculum information, including subject-specific pages, is available on our website:

<https://madeleyschool.org/our-curriculum/curriculum-intent>

• **Department Spotlight: Science**

Our Science curriculum inspires curiosity, problem-solving and innovation. Through hands-on learning, students explore scientific concepts, develop critical thinking skills and understand Science's role in society and future careers.

More information can be found here:

<https://madeleyschool.org/our-curriculum/science>

• **Cashless Catering Update**

Thank you to parents and carers for embracing our new **cashless catering system**. We have now improved the connectivity of our cashless tills and they are working even faster than before. Please remind your child it is their **right thumb** that is used.

We will soon be **removing cash tills completely**, so if you still need support with:

- ✓ Giving **biometric consent** on Arbor
- ✓ Adding funds to your child's **ParentPay** balance for meals

Please contact the school office for assistance.

• **Free School Meals and Cashless Catering**

If your child is entitled to **Free School Meals**, arranging **biometric consent** allows them to pay seamlessly at the till.

Please note that the **daily credit (£2.60) is intended for lunch** (meal deal), but some students choose to spend their balance at **break time** instead. While we will not restrict this (**unless you request us to do so**) - as we want students to eat if they are hungry- this may mean they have **nothing left for lunch**.

Any costs above the daily credit must be met by parents/carers via **ParentPay**. If needed, you can **top up** your child's meal account to ensure they have sufficient funds throughout the day.

For any concerns or to request spending restrictions, please contact the school.