

FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

# MADELEY SCHOOL

## PRINCIPAL'S POST: PARENT EDITION



- **Brilliant Bamboo/Creative Freedom Project**



Last week, on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April, Brilliant Bamboo were back in school creating bamboo sculptures in the hall, where pupils were developing their engineering and creative skills. They installed a sculpture at the front of the school and painted a mural at the back of the Art rooms. Pupils worked with artists Faith Bebbington, Chloe Ricket, Reiko Kaneko and Francesca Wheeler.



The project now includes the local community, pupils will begin to design a living sculpture that will be installed at the telephone box in the village at the beginning of June this is in conjunction with the artist, Alice McCabe.

There is now an opportunity for adults to get involved, where a session with the artist has been planned. Booking and event details are:

Thursday 14 May 2026  
5.00pm - 6.30pm  
All Saints Church,  
Madeley, CW3 9PQ

Free: Booking on <https://brilliantbamboo.co.uk/events/>  
donations welcome.

Join Brilliant Bamboo and floral artist Alice McCabe, RHS Chelsea Flower Show supplier, in exploration of Japanese style of flower arranging - Ikebana - with bamboo and cut materials. Blend the democratic approach of the Sogetsukebana School (where all natural materials offer arrangement possibilities) with modern spin-off Freak-e-bana, a purely visual practice incorporating everyday objects in minimal designs without the formal training.

No previous experience of floral arranging is necessary. All materials and supports, including saws, scissors, wire cutters are provided with additions welcomed. Anyone who might need assistance or not feel confident chopping materials, please drop us a line before. A session for 16+.

This project is possible thanks to our @nulboroughcouncil #UKSPF funding, and partnership with @madeleyschool through our #CreativeFreedom project commissioned by Partners in Creative Learning (@piclstocecp). Big thanks to Rev. Tim and the team at All Saints church.

- **Year 11 GCSE Exams**

The GCSE exams have started today with our Drama students sitting their first written paper this afternoon. Wishing the very best to all our Year 11 students sitting their exams this Summer. Please can students ensure that they have all the correct equipment including a black pen, a pencil, a rubber, a ruler, a protractor, a compass and a calculator. A calculator will be required for certain exams such as some Maths papers and all Sciences.



### Important dates:

- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May - 17<sup>th</sup> June - Year 11 GCSE Exams
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May & Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May - Art Creative Freedom Project
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May - Year 8 HPV Immunisations
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May - Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May - Condoover Netball Weekend
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May - Photography Trip to Museum of Illusions



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• **Duke of Edinburgh**



Congratulations to all Duke of Edinburgh participants! Our Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh students successfully completed their practice expedition weekend on Friday 17th April to Sunday 19th April, demonstrating resilience and determination throughout.

Despite persistent rain, cold conditions and even frost on the tents for our Silver group on Sunday morning, the students displayed exceptional behaviour and worked hard every day that they were out walking. Bronze participants camped overnight for 1 night, while the Silver participants completed 2 nights, rising admirably to the challenge and supporting one another throughout.

The next steps are to ensure all remaining sections of the award (physical, skill and volunteering) including the Assessors reports, are completed as soon as possible so students are fully ready for the qualifying expedition starting on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

• **Year 7 Bikeability**



On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, some of our Year 7 students took part in the Level 2 Bikeability with Staffordshire Council. The assessors commented on how well the students did riding in the local community in both their ability and their excellent behaviour and attitude. Well done to all students!

• **The Mow Cop Killer Mile!**

A massive well done to Mrs Carter who yesterday evening took on the gruelling Mow Cop Killer Mile - a 1mile climb with a brutal 25% gradient! Mrs Carter is raising funds to support children who would benefit from additional support including confidence and resilience building, social skills, counselling and positive behaviour support. She would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that has sponsored her and supported this important cause. If you would still like to donate, please go onto: **Parent Pay - Mow Cop Killer Mile Fundraiser.**

• **Walk to School Week**



• **British Science Week 2026 Poster Competition**

Congratulations to the winners of our Science poster competition!

1<sup>st</sup> place - Charlotte and Layla-Mai

2<sup>nd</sup> place - Scarlett-Rose



The students were asked to create a poster on A4 or A3 paper and they needed to address the question: "What are children and young people's vision for a good/positive childhood?"

The winning posters have now been entered into a SET wide competition.

• **A Fantastic Day for Our Mathematicians!**

On Wednesday 29th April, 32 Year 7 pupils and 34 Year 8 pupils took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge as part of our G&T programme of activities. This was an important opportunity for students to experience mathematics in a different light: one that celebrates reasoning, creativity and problem-solving at the highest level.

The UKMT challenges are nationally recognised for encouraging deep mathematical thinking and helping pupils develop confidence in tackling unfamiliar problems. They are about far more than simply getting the right answer; they inspire curiosity, stretch young mind and foster a genuine appreciation for the beauty and challenge of mathematics.

We are incredibly proud of every pupil who participated. Throughout the challenge, they conducted themselves brilliantly and were outstanding ambassadors for the school and the department. They demonstrated **Aspiration** in embracing a prestigious national competition, **Resilience** in working through demanding questions and **Confidence** in trusting their mathematical instincts.

At the same time, they showed **Pride & Respect** in the way they represented themselves and our school, **Politeness** in their interactions and **Positivity** in approaching the experience with enthusiasm and determination. Most importantly, they embraced the **Enjoyment** that lies at the heart of mathematical discovery.

As a department, seeing our students embody Madeley's Core values so naturally is something we are immensely proud of. They truly shone.

Now, we eagerly await the results and are excited to celebrate their achievements when they arrive. Whatever the outcome, every student involved has already achieved something significant by taking part in such an enriching and challenging experience.

Well done to all involved - you have done yourselves, the department and the school proud.

• **Entrust Adventure Days are back during May Half Term!**

From outdoor activities to teamwork challenges, our Adventure Days are packed with fun. It's the perfect chance for children to stay active, make new friends and enjoy the great outdoors during the holidays.

Packed with an array of thrilling activities such as high ropes, BMX, bushcraft, climbing, and more, our Adventure Days offer an unforgettable experience. Drop-off is at 9:00 AM and pick-up is at 3:00 PM. For those requiring a later pick-up, we provide an option until 5:00 PM.

Ideal for children aged 5-16, taking place at the Standon Bowers Outdoor Education Centre, Weston Lane, Stafford ST21 6RD

**20% off all May Half Term Adventure Days bookings.**

Use Code - **ADSCHOOL20**

