

MADELEY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S POST: PARENT EDITION



• **An Unforgettable Adventure at Disneyland Paris!**



Our Year 10 and 11 Computing students have just returned from an incredible Computing Live trip to Disneyland Paris, where two days of excitement, learning, and a little bit of rain made for an unforgettable experience! Despite the weather, spirits were high as they explored the Disneyland parks, braving thrilling rides and diving into the world of technology behind the magic.

Students had the unique opportunity to investigate how projection mapping brings beloved characters and stories to life, while also putting their skills to the test by stress-testing the Disneyland app in real time. The highlight of the trip was witnessing the breathtaking Nighttime Spectacular, where stunning visuals and fireworks lit up the skies, showcasing the impressive blend of creativity and technology.

In addition to the fun, students attended an engaging seminar led by computer science subject specialists, gaining valuable insights into real-world applications of their studies. Rain or shine, the trip was a fantastic blend of adventure and education, leaving everyone with memories to last a lifetime!

• **Year 11 and 10 English trip to Poetry Live, Manchester**

On Wednesday 29th January, Year 11 and 10 students were taken to Manchester's Bridgewater Theatre to the Poetry Live lectures. The day consisted of readings and commentaries from poets such as Carol Ann Duffy, Poet Laureate Simon Armitage, Imtiaz Dharker and John Agard, all of whom feature in the Power and Conflict section of the Literature exam. The lectures provided an insight into what inspired the poets and messages in the text. The students also had guided examples from AQA examiners on the unseen element of the Literature exam. Mrs Mitchell was incredibly proud of the students, especially their positive attitudes and willingness to learn, reflecting the school's core values of 'Enjoyment of Learning', 'Politeness', 'Respect' and 'Positivity'. A valuable day was had by all, providing excellent preparation and support for the students' GCSE exams.



Important dates:

- Friday 14th February - School closes at 3.05pm for half term break
 - **School re-opens on Monday 24th February**
- Thursday 13th 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



• **National Apprenticeship Week**



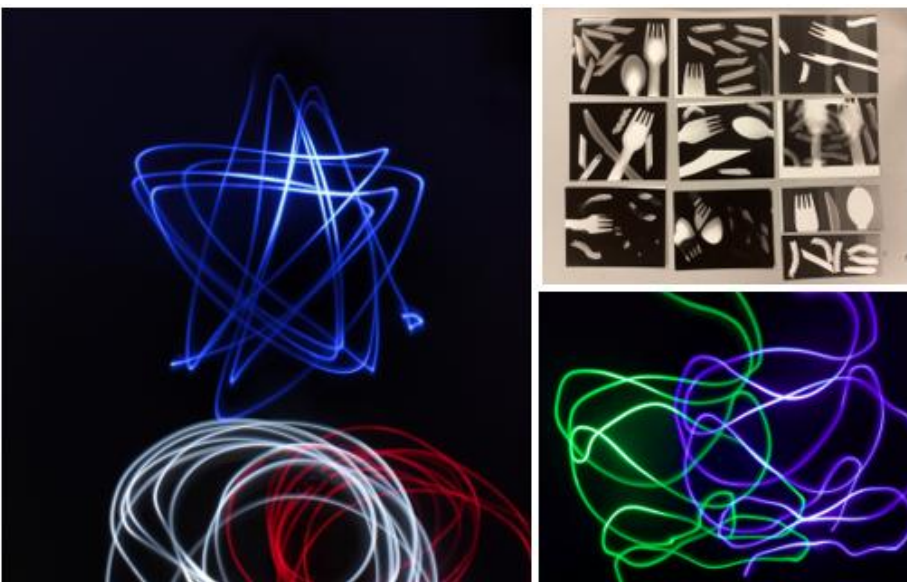
This week, we have celebrated National Apprenticeship Week. We have had some great careers-related events, including:

- **Talks from apprentices at Goodwin Ltd**, who shared their experiences.
- **A session from Stoke City Football Club**, covering apprenticeships and courses in football and coaching.
- **Year 7 and Year 8 assemblies** on careers and apprenticeships, delivered by Mr King and Mr McMeeken.

We have raised awareness of National Apprenticeship week in the following ways:

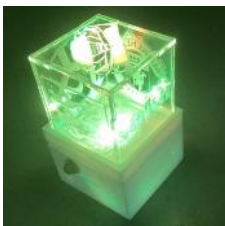
- **In lessons** - Promoting apprenticeships by sharing apprenticeship slides linked to each subject in school.
- **Department posters:** Subject-specific apprenticeship posters have been placed for display in each subject area.
- **Form time competition:** We have run an **Acrostic Poem Competition**, where students create a mesostic poem using facts about apprenticeships, with the word "**Apprenticeships**" forming the structure. The best poem from each year group will win a **box of chocolates!**

• **Photography**



Mrs Stockdale took 18 of our Year 10 photographers and another 7 budding Year 9 photographers for our annual visit to Cheshire College South and West. They spent the day working in their photography studios and dark room along with staff and A' level students. The students learnt the processes in the dark room to produce some photograms and then explored light painting, capturing movement and lighting and taking a beautiful portrait in their studio. This is a valuable insight to photography beyond Madeley and a fun day out with some fantastic outcomes.

• **D & T**



Well done to Theo in Year 9, for completing an excellent colour changing 3D printed and laser cut night light.

• **Year 9 Options Process for 2025**

We are pleased to have launched the options process for 2025 with our Year 9 students. All parents and carers should have received an email with an attached e-booklet outlining the process and the courses available.



Our curriculum is designed around the Department for Education's EBacc, though we allow some flexibility, as detailed in the booklet. A recorded **8-minute presentation** providing an overview of the process is also available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/DihsQtqPcNk>

If you have any unanswered questions, please email: options@madeley.set.org

• **PE**

Year 8/9 Newcastle Schools Mixed Volleyball Competition



A massive well done to the girls and boys 'A' teams who were crowned Newcastle Schools Volleyball Champions.

Girls 'A' team - Laicie-Jo W, Jessica S, Leilah F, Vivienne B
Boys 'A' Team - William E, Leon E, Harry K, Oscar W



County XC Competition at Betley Court Farm



Well done to Year 7 pupils Evelyn-Mae, Amelia B, Maddie S, Thomas M, Barnaby C who performed fantastically well representing the Newcastle Schools District team in what was a rather chilly county XC race meeting!

Newcastle Schools Swimming Gala at NULS

Despite not coming away with any winners medals in an event dominated largely by Newcastle-under-Lyme school, the Madeley swimmers showed great resilience and positivity in pushing themselves to their limits with some fantastic individual and relay swims.



• **Parental Feedback on Arbor**



We have been using Arbor for six months since it was introduced by the Trust, and we would like to hear your thoughts. Your feedback will help us understand what is working well and where improvements are needed. This information will also be shared with the Trust to inform future decisions.

The survey is anonymous and only takes a few minutes to complete. Please share your views here: <https://forms.office.com/e/MU89tR9FaE>

• **Stay Updated with Arbor**

<https://madeley-school.uk.arbor.sc/>

Remember, you can view **attendance, behaviour, attainment, and rewards data** in **Arbor** at any time -there's no need to wait for the termly school report. The system updates in real-time.

You can also use the **parent/carer self-service** functions to update contact details, log medical conditions, and more.

Having trouble with Arbor? Email arbor@madeley.set.org for support.

• **Teaching Assistant Vacancy**



Madeley School is looking to appoint a caring, organised, professional who is passionate about supporting children with SEN. The candidate will support individual students ensuring their specific needs are met and enabling them to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school career.

If you are interested, please see further information on our school website www.madeleyschool.org and click on the **Vacancies** Tab.

Closing date: **25th February 2025.**

• **The SEND Inclusion Award**

Ms Boustead is delighted to confirm that Madeley School has now achieved the Send and Inclusion Award (SENDIA), accredited by Optimus Education. This is the culmination of over 18 months of work by staff, supported by pupils, parents and the community and recognises our commitment to inclusion in all aspects of school life. We are extremely proud of this achievement.



• **Important Parents Afternoon/Evenings Dates**

Year 8 - Thursday 13th March, Year 10 - Tuesday 1st April
and Year 7 - Thursday 8th May
from 2.00pm - 6.15pm.

The school will close at 1.15pm on these dates to all students and school transport will collect early to reflect the earlier close.