

MADELEY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S POST: PARENT EDITION



As another academic year draws to a close, I am delighted to welcome you to our final edition of the **Principal's Post** for 2025-2026.

Looking back over the past twelve months, I do so with an enormous sense of pride. This has been another year of growth, ambition and continual improvement for Madeley School. Education never stands still, and neither do we. Throughout the year we have continued to challenge ourselves, reflect on our practice and make thoughtful improvements that will benefit both current and future generations of pupils.

Some of those developments have been highly visible, such as preparing for our new phone-free school day from September, strengthening our pastoral structure, investing further in our school environment and continuing to develop our inclusive provision through **The Hive**. Others are less visible, but equally important: refining our curriculum, investing in staff development, strengthening teaching and learning, embedding our EDI Strategy and ensuring every decision we make is guided by one simple question - *"Is this the very best thing for our children?"*

Whilst new initiatives and facilities are important, our core purpose remains unchanged: exceptional teaching and learning. Every day, our classrooms are places where curiosity is encouraged, high expectations are the norm and pupils are challenged to think deeply, work hard and believe in their own potential. Next year we will continue to invest significantly in professional development and the next phase of our Teaching and Learning Strategy, further strengthening the quality of classroom practice and ensuring Madeley remains at the forefront of educational innovation whilst never losing sight of the fundamentals that help every child succeed.

None of these developments have happened by chance. They reflect our belief that great schools are never "finished." There is always another opportunity to create, another barrier to remove and another way to improve the experience of every child. That relentless pursuit of excellence continues to shape everything we do.

Alongside these developments, there has been much to celebrate. Once again, Madeley School has proved to be **hugely oversubscribed** for September, with significantly more applications than places available. To continue to be the school of choice for so many local families is both humbling and incredibly rewarding. It reflects the confidence parents place in our staff, our values and the opportunities we provide, and it is a trust we never take for granted.

We were also delighted to receive national recognition for attendance, placing amongst the highest-performing schools in England for both attendance and reducing persistent absence. This achievement belongs to our pupils, families and staff alike and demonstrates what can be achieved when school and home work together with a shared commitment to every child's success.

Throughout the year, our pupils have continued to impress me every single day. Whether in lessons, on educational visits, representing the school in sport, performing on stage, supporting charitable causes or simply demonstrating kindness and respect around our school, they have embodied everything we mean by **The Madeley Way**. They remain our greatest ambassadors, and I could not be prouder of the young people they are becoming.

As Principal, I feel incredibly fortunate to work alongside such talented staff, supportive families and, most importantly, such exceptional young people. Schools are, above all else, about people, and throughout this edition you will see countless examples of colleagues who go above and beyond every day to make a difference to the lives of our pupils.

Now, after over 3 decades in education, one thing has become clearer than ever: the very best schools are built on strong relationships. Buildings, policies and facilities are important, but it is the quality of the relationships between pupils, parents, carers and staff that ultimately shapes a school's success.

That is why one message I would like to leave with our whole school community is the importance of treating one another with kindness, courtesy and respect. We ask a great deal of our staff because they care deeply about the children they serve, and they work tirelessly to provide the very best education, care and opportunities for every pupil. We know that schools and families will not always agree on every decision, we would never expect them to, but I firmly believe that the strongest partnerships are built upon mutual trust, respectful dialogue and a shared commitment to doing what is right for young people. When conversations remain constructive, even during moments of challenge, we model exactly the values we hope to instil in our children. If our young people leave Madeley understanding the importance of kindness, empathy and respectful disagreement, then we will have equipped them with lessons that reach far beyond the classroom.

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The end of the academic year also brings a mixture of celebration and farewell. We say thank you to colleagues who are moving on to new opportunities, whilst also welcoming a number of talented new staff and celebrating those taking on exciting new roles within our school. Every member of staff, whether leaving, joining or changing roles, has played, or will play, an important part in the continued success of Madeley School and I know you will join me in wishing them every success.

Bon voyage, thank you and best wishes to...	Role changes, hello, congratulations and welcome to Madeley School...
Dr Tomlinson - Teacher of Science	Mrs Prokopiou - joining as Head of English
Mrs Staton - Teaching Assistant	Mrs Ireland - joining as a Teacher of English
Miss Bentley - Pastoral Leader & Head of Year 9	Mrs Jones - joining as Teacher of Spanish
Mrs Copeland - English Guest Teacher	Mrs Anderson - joining as Teacher of Science
Mrs Wilson - Guest Teacher	Mrs James - joining as Pastoral Leader and Head of Year 10
	Mrs Blatherwick - joining as Pastoral Leader and Head of Year 7
	Mrs Wood - joining as Attendance Officer
	Mr Ali - joining as Cover Supervisor
	Mrs Hodgkinson - Joining as a Teaching Assistant
	Mrs Farrington - stepping back from Head of English but continuing as Teacher of English
	Mr Walker - stepping back from Head of Year but continuing as Teacher of Geography
	Mr Stevens - promoted to Director of Personal Development

As we look ahead to September, there is plenty to be excited about. Over the summer, the Shaw Education Trust is funding a significant refurbishment of **The Hive**, creating an even better environment to support some of our most vulnerable learners. Inclusive education has always been central to our vision at Madeley School. Every child deserves to feel safe, valued, supported and able to thrive, regardless of the barriers they may face, and this investment further strengthens our commitment to ensuring every young person has the opportunity to succeed.

We also remain ambitious for the future of our school. Alongside colleagues from the Shaw Education Trust, I continue to work closely with the Local Authority to explore opportunities to expand our site and enhance our facilities. Whilst these discussions inevitably take time, we remain optimistic that, together, we can secure further investment that will benefit both our pupils and the wider community for many years to come.

The remainder of this edition captures just a snapshot of another incredibly busy year. From academic success and sporting achievement to performances, educational visits, enrichment activities, charitable events and community partnerships, I hope you enjoy celebrating everything our pupils have achieved. Their enthusiasm, resilience and willingness to embrace every opportunity continue to make me immensely proud to be Principal of Madeley School.

On behalf of everyone at Madeley School, thank you once again for your continued support, encouragement and trust. Schools achieve their very best when families and staff work together in genuine partnership, and we are incredibly fortunate to have such a supportive community behind us.

I wish all of our pupils, parents, carers and staff a safe, relaxing and well-deserved summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September as we continue our journey of **Inspiring Excellence** together.

Kind regards,

Lee Nixon

Important Dates:

- End of School Term - Friday 17th July at 3.05pm
- GCSE Results Day - Thursday 20th August (School will be open from 9.30am to 12.00pm to collect results)
- **School re-opens for All Students** - Thursday 3rd September 2025 at 8.35am
- DofE Bronze & Silver Launch Event - Monday 7th September 6.30pm - 7.30pm
- GCSE Drama Trip - Wednesday 9th September - Friday 11th September
- Year 9 London Trip Meeting for Parents/Carers - Tuesday 15th September 5.00 pm - 6.00pm



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@MADELEY SCHOOL





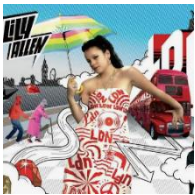
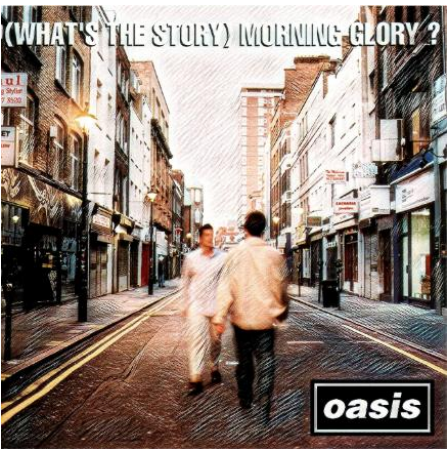
- Music

Year 7

Year 7 have been very busy this term learning all about Pop music, and the use of tonality as a musical element in this genre. All students have performed very well indeed during this term with a clear sense of development in musicianship. Some pupils were brave enough to perform at the school concert, which was very rewarding for all pupils, staff, friends and family. All Year 7 have progressed brilliantly this year and have learned specific musicianship skills that will come into their own in Year 8, when we learn all about the musical elements in different genres of music.

Year 8

Students of Year 8 have been practicing and learning all about harmony in their latest project, where they were given two songs (Lily Allen & Oasis) and asked to harmonise the melodies in any section of the song.



Some have excelled in this task and have applied harmony to all of the song. This is quite a challenging project that Year 8 have taken to very well indeed. So well done your 8, your performances were memorable and outstanding. Good luck in Year 9 next year, where we will explore more elements of music and prepare ourselves for the GCSE music level with some more challenging and exciting projects in music.

Year 9

Pupils have been working on their popular music project performances, where they were given a selection of popular music hits from the last 40 years, and had to perform these without the aid of the lyrics in front of them. All pupils performed brilliantly and made the most of their final ever KS3 music assessments, to go out on a high. We are very proud of our Year 9s for all the hard work they've put into the subject for the last 3 years and we are very grateful for their contribution to the last few concerts held at the school and the Church. Well done Year 9, good luck in your next chapter at Madeley. Wishing you all the very best!

Year 10

GCSE Music have been building upon their successes in the ensemble and composition components of the course and submitted some outstanding pieces of work. These projects will go towards the final grades for the end of Year 11 assessments. Some pupils performed their GCSE piece at the Summer Concert which was a delight for staff, friends and family to witness the hard work that they have been putting into their coursework. Additionally, all students sat their GCSE Music mock exam this term and have achieved some fantastic results, given that this was the first full mock to be completed this year.

Madeley Summer Concert

The School Summer Concert was held on Thursday 2nd July in the school hall, this was a fantastic spectacle to witness such talent and musicianship at the Madeley concert, with friends and family joining the celebration of our brilliant musically gifted students!



- Maths

Our students recently embraced a Taskmaster-inspired challenge, putting their mathematical thinking, creativity and teamwork skills to the test. The brief was simple: using only paper and tape, design and build the tallest free-standing structure possible.

As part of the challenge, students explored the geometry behind strong and stable structures, investigating how naturally occurring shapes can be used to create strength and height. By analysing real-world examples from architecture and engineering, they discovered why shapes such as triangles are commonly used in bridges, towers and skyscrapers.

The activity encouraged students to think critically, test ideas, refine their designs and work collaboratively to overcome problems. It was fantastic to see so much enthusiasm, resilience and innovation on display throughout the project.

A special congratulations must go to 8X2, who approached the challenge with exceptional determination and creativity. We would also like to recognise Zachary and Peter, whose outstanding design stood out from the rest. Using a triangular prism structure, they successfully constructed a free-standing tower measuring over 180 cm tall - an impressive achievement that demonstrated a strong understanding of geometric principles and structural stability.





MADELEY SCHOOL

- Spanish



It has been another fantastic year for Spanish, and we are delighted to report an excellent uptake for our next GCSE cohort. We are very excited to begin their GCSE Spanish journey with them and look forward to seeing them develop their confidence and language skills over the coming years. We have also launched the initial stages of our Cantabria Trip 2027, and we hope that as many students as possible will join us for what promises to be another unforgettable experience.

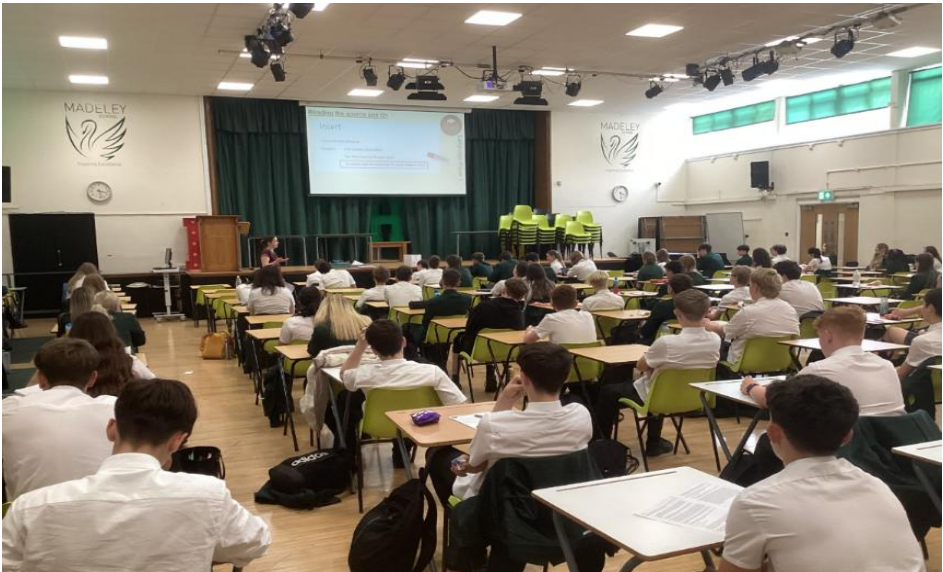
Our Year 7 students have made an excellent start to their Spanish journey at Madeley this year. They have approached language learning with enthusiasm, curiosity and determination, and have produced some truly incredible end of year assessment results. Well done, Year 7 - you should be very proud of yourselves!

A huge well done also to all of our Year 10 students who recently sat 3 Spanish mock examinations. For many, this was their first experience of completing full GCSE-style papers and they rose to the challenge brilliantly, producing some very impressive results. Their hard work and commitment have put them in a strong position as they move into Year 11.

We were also incredibly proud to take 40 of our Year 10 students to Cantabria this year. They were a real credit to the school, demonstrating resilience, enthusiasm and pride throughout the trip. It was especially pleasing to see so many students confidently speaking Spanish with local residents, embracing every opportunity to put their classroom learning into practice and immerse themselves in the culture. A special thank you goes to Mr Edwards and Mr Sargeant for generously volunteering their time to support the trip and also to Mrs Lee for all of her hard work behind the scenes helping to organise it. This experience simply would not have been possible without your dedication and commitment. ¡Muchas gracias!"



- English



In the final half term, Year 10 students attended a GCSE English Language Mock Exam Masterclass, focusing on the high tariff evaluation and creative writing questions. Their superb attitude and commitment are exemplary, and it's clear they are 'Inspiring Excellence', acting as outstanding role models for our younger students. We hope this drive and dedication will continue into their final year of study at Madeley.

- Computing at KS3

This term, students across Key Stage 3 have been developing their creativity and digital design skills through a range of exciting graphics and image-editing projects.

In Year 7 students have explored entrepreneurship by creating their own business ideas and designing professional logos to represent their brands. This project encouraged them to think creatively about marketing, branding and visual identity.

Year 8 students have been working on a design brief for a fictional theme park called *Adventure Realm*. They have designed unique logos and produced eye-catching promotional posters, developing their understanding of graphic design principles and visual communication.

The Year 9 students have been further enhancing their image-editing skills through a variety of creative tasks. These have included producing film posters, creating digital artwork inspired by Banksy and also designing vintage-style postcards. Through these projects, students have learned how to manipulate images effectively while considering different artistic styles and audiences.



It has been fantastic to see the creativity, enthusiasm, and technical skills demonstrated by our students, and we are proud of the high quality work they have produced.



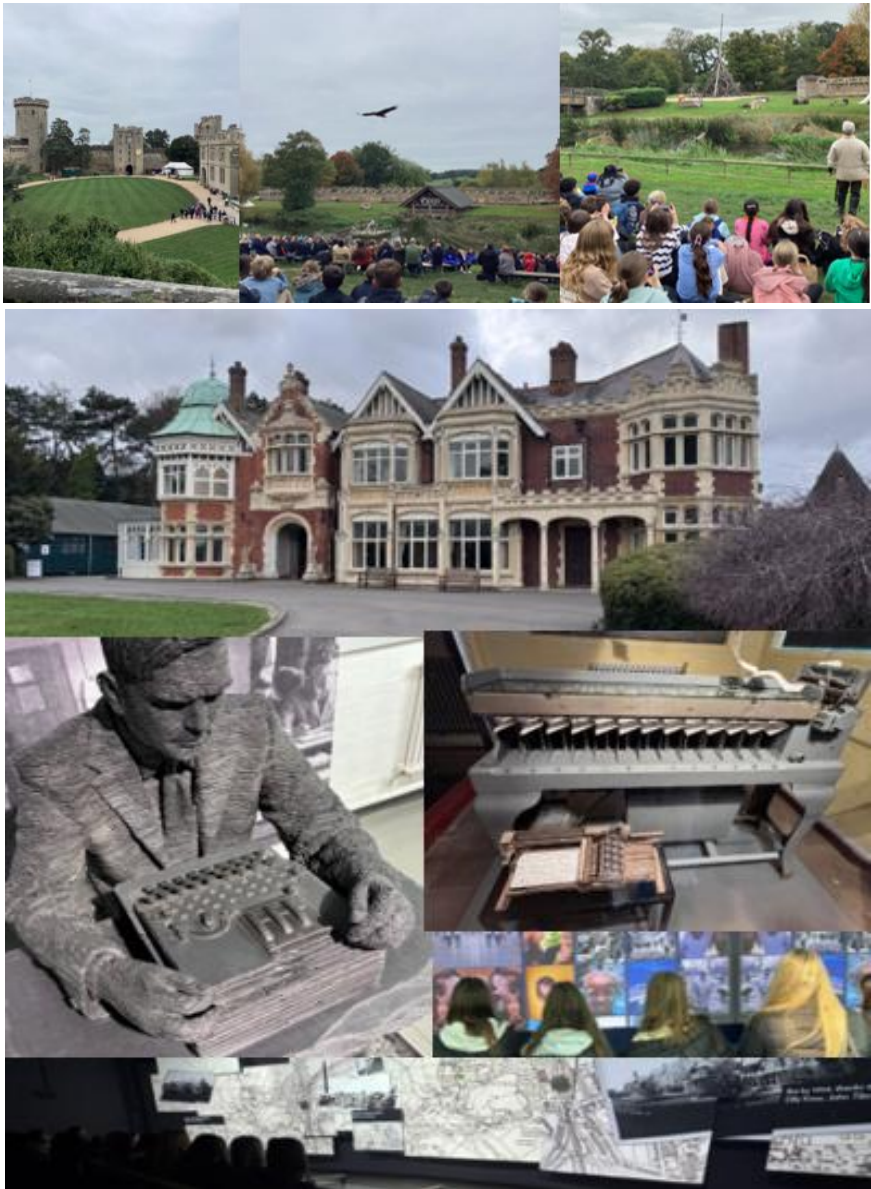
• Geography

With an impeccably behaved cohort of Madeley Geography students, we travelled to the North Beach of Llandudno to carry out our GCSE Geography Fieldwork Enquiry. Primary data was collected using clinometers, ranging poles and measuring tapes using Line Sampling to measure beach gradients at sandy and pebble sections of the beach in order to answer the question: 'Are pebble beaches steeper than sandy beaches?' After a brief survey of the sand dunes, we made our way to the town centre where our geographers completed Land Use Maps for our Human Geography Enquiry. The chief aim was to answer the question: 'Does Llandudno Fit the UK Tourist Resort Model.' Pupils, as always worked hard to complete all fieldwork tasks and were fantastically behaved throughout. A wonderful day's fieldwork. Thanks to Mr Walker, Mrs Sheppardson and Mrs Robinson-White for their support on the trip.



• History

The 2025-2026 academic year has seen some marvellous extra-curricular opportunities in the History department. With trips from Warwick Castle to Bletchley Park as well as working with organisations such as the Holocaust Memorial Trust and the New Vic Theatre. We hope that students have enjoyed these opportunities and have found a love of History.



• Religion and World Views

Key Stage 3 students have produced super work this term!

Year 7 explored different forms of worship across world religions, from prayer and chanting to silence and reflection. Their guided meditation session helped them connect this learning to the growing use of mindfulness in schools and wider society to support wellbeing.

Year 8 examined key religious symbols and how cultural and religious symbols can change meaning over time. Students linked this to current discussions about identity and cultural heritage.

Year 9 studied the impact of war and the role of religion in peacebuilding. Lessons during Refugee Week deepened their understanding of the global refugee crisis, encouraging empathy and awareness of humanitarian responses around the world.

All KS3 students were invited to take part in 'The Suitcase Challenge' to mark Refugee week. This challenge encouraged empathy, reflection and creativity by helping us think about what really matters when safety, comfort and certainty are taken away. Well done to all the students who entered!



During the last week in June, one of our Year 10 students delivered a fantastic assembly to all year groups to explain her personal connection to the CCPA charity- Childhood Cancer Parents Alliance. The CCPA works across Staffordshire and the West Midlands to support the families of children with cancer. We are asking for donations of Christmas gifts (early we know!) that the CCPA can distribute to families who have children going through treatment. Thank you for supporting this amazing charity!



What can you do to support this charity?

We want to collect Christmas gifts that will be distributed to families by the CCPA.

We are asking for gifts that cost between £2.00-£5.00

- Chocolate/ Sweets/ Selection boxes
- Fluffy Socks
- Facemasks/ Bath bombs
- Lip balm sets
- Books
- Lego
- Gift cards
- Hot chocolate sets
- LED lights
- Money donations/ Gift Vouchers



Please drop off your donations to MRS Derrington in room 4
If you are donating gifts, please make sure they are new! ☺

• Science



Congratulations to our Year 8 students who took part in the British Physics Olympiad.

Every student achieved an award, with all participants earning at least a bronze certificate.

A special mention goes to Barnaby, George, Wynter-Rose, Layla, Jack, Michael and Thomas who placed in the top 25% of entrants nationwide and were awarded Gold certificates for their exceptional performance!



• Art



We ended the year on a high with the Art Exhibition last Thursday evening, showcasing just a snippet of the wonderful art and photography work from all year groups. Everyone has made fantastic progress throughout the year, tried out new media, practiced newfound skills, and pushed their imaginations, creativity and enquiry to produce some thoughtful and individual outcomes. The celebration certainly humbled us and showed us how far everyone has come.



Mrs Stockdale and Miss Leath are very proud of each and every student who has come through our doors this year, whether it was in their Art lessons, Booster sessions, KS3 Art club, Warhammer, Knit and Natter or the numerous Art and Photography trips and Artist workshops they might have attended or even just to stop by and have a chat. Well done everyone. We can't wait to see what we achieve next year.

All GCSE work will be available to collect from the end of October. Any KS3 work that was on display will be available after the Open Evening for collection. If you missed the exhibition or would like to see more work from our students, please follow us on Instagram @artphotographymadeley, we will also post reminders about collection dates as well as competitions that come up throughout the year.

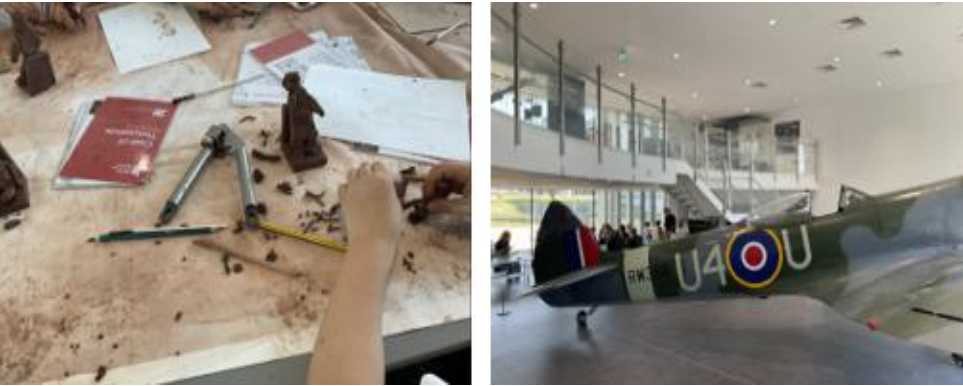
• Culture & Enrichment

Wow! What a term. Pupils have engaged with so many enrichment and cultural opportunities that have spread across the whole curriculum. This year the school introduced Cultural Passports, where pupils have had the opportunities to reflect and log different cultural experiences. A quarter of the school have taken the time to evidence their different experiences, and it was my pleasure this term to hand out their passports in assembly. There are Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum passports depending on the number of experience that pupils have evidenced. 2 pupils in Year 7 received their Platinum Passport after completing all cultural experiences and 42% of Year 7 pupils received a passport too. Well Done! The Creative Ambassadors are now going to review this scheme and amend and refine the process for the next academic year.

Some of the highlights from this term have been the conclusion to the Brilliant Bamboo Creative Freedom Project where 120 Year 7 and 8 pupils completed the Bamboo and Flower installation at the village phone box and visited the Bamboo Parklet in Stoke.



A workshop took place at the Potteries Museum and Art Gallery, where 30 Year 7 pupils took part in the Cast of Thousands project, where they worked in the Spitfire Gallery.



Finally, pupils have been celebrating at 2 presentation events: 22 Clay Museum pupils received their Bronze Arts Award, presented by BCB and PMAG in school and Year 10 artists visit the V&A at Wedgwood to see their work on display and receive the certificates for completing Design Lab Nation.





• Design & Technology



In Product Design this year, our GCSE Fashion students have enjoyed some fantastic enrichment opportunities. They visited the NEC to attend a Fashion and Embroidery Show, where they explored the latest trends, techniques and innovations within the industry. More recently, they visited Staffordshire University to view the Degree Show, tour the specialist facilities and speak with staff about future education and career pathways in fashion and design.



All Product Design pupils have started their NEA coursework and have been assigned investigation tasks to complete over the Summer. We are super excited to see what they accomplish in September and the following months when they are in Year 11.

• Food

What an amazing year we have had in Food in 2025-2026! In KS3, Year 7 have been learning about nutrition and basic cooking skills, Year 8 about food miles, sustainability and food waste and Year 9 have been developing advanced cooking skills and learning about dietary needs of different individuals and groups, and how diet changes over a life stages. KS4 students have refined the skills they have learnt in KS3 and produced many restaurant quality dishes; we are very proud of them all!



• PE

Football

U13 Girls Sisters n Sport National Football Finals

An incredible last-minute opportunity gave the U13 Girls’ team the chance to play in the Sisters n Sport National Finals at Lilleshall National Sports Centre.



Semi-final:

Madeley lost 2-0 v Orleans Park School Twickenham. The team found possession difficult to come by and had to defend for long periods. An outstanding performance in goal from Jess kept the girls in the game right to the end.

3rd/4th play off:

Madeley lost 2-1 v Oxford High School. In an end-to-end game the girls often threatened the Oxford goal but never quite got the bounce of the ball for a clear-cut opportunity. At the other end of the pitch, Jess in goal was again performing wonders with numerous saves but couldn’t prevent Oxford taking a 2 goal lead. Not to be deterred the girls continued to battle and with 5 minutes remaining were rewarded for their endeavors, a brilliant finish from Kylie took the game to 2-1. Despite a final push the girls couldn’t quite find one more chance to take the game to penalties. The Coaches’ player of the finals was Jess S.

Cricket

U15 Knight/Stokes National Cup

The U15s had a great run to the semi-final stage of this year’s competition with victories against Thomas Alleyne’s Uttoxeter, Wombourne High School and Blythe Bridge. Their chance for a place in the final was ended by competition favorites, Painsley, a team that contained a number of players who have already experienced 1stXI Men’s cricket in the North Staffs and South Cheshire Cricket League.



U15 Newcastle Schools Cricket Festival



Congratulations to the U15 Cricket team who were crowned district

champions following fine displays to beat NULS ‘B’ and STB in the group games and then NULS ‘A’ in the final.

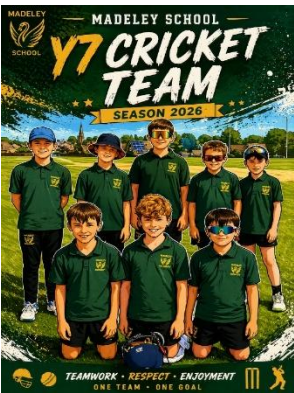


U13 Newcastle Schools Cricket Festival

Despite impressive victories in their 1st 2 group games against Orme ‘B’ and Clayton ‘A’ they lost the winners takes all final group game to eventual winners SJF.

U12 NULS Cricket Festival

Congratulations to the U12 Cricket team who beat NULS Prep School by 5wks, NULS U12 ‘A’ by 6wks and NULS ‘B’ by 43 runs in the NULS Quad Team Round Robin tournament.





Athletics

U13 & U14 Newcastle Schools Athletics Championships
The U13 and U14 Athletics teams smashed the Newcastle Schools Championships, returning with 34 medals!! (x8 Gold, x11 Silver, x15 Bronze). There were numerous stand out individual performances but bigger than the individual was the team...

- ✓ Y7 Boys District Champions
- ✓ Y7 Girls District Champions
- ✓ Y8 Girls District Champions
- ✓ Y8 Boys District Runners-up



Collectively this was the greatest junior athletics performance by a Madeley team! Massive congratulations to all athletes who competed and made this result possible!!

Medal winners



Y7 Boys	Y7 Girls	Y8 Boys	Y8 Girls
Gold Leo B - 100m & 800m Oliver C - Long Jump Silver Oliver C - 800m Joseph F - Long Jump Bronze Matthew H - 100m Matthew F - Javelin	Gold Lily B - 100m Summer T - 200m Charlotte D - 800m 4x100m Relay (Summer T, Valentina W, Bella R, Lily B) Silver Bella R - 100m Annabel C - 800m & High Jump Bronze Valentina W - 200m Lily B - High Jump Evie P - Javelin	Gold Charlie P - Javelin Silver Joe G - 300m Jacob T – 800m Charlie P – Long Jump Bronze Antonio A - 200m Archer C - 800m Barnaby C - 1500m Archie G - High Jump Alfie G - Javelin 4x100m Relay	Silver Eva C - 100m Nancy N - 200m & Long Jump Bronze Amelia B - 200m Delyla Rae P - High Jump & Shot 4x100m Relay (Eva C, Nancy N, Delyla Rae P)



Hockey

The U14 Girls’ Hockey team had their final game of the season against Trentham Academy. The team finished with a victory of 8-0 to round off both a busy and successful Hockey programme. Well Done to all!



- DoE

It has been another fantastic year for our Duke of Edinburgh programme. Despite the heat, our Presentation Evening on Friday 10th July was a great success and a fitting celebration of our students’ achievements.



Congratulations to all students who completed their Bronze and Silver Awards as part of the 2025-26 cohort. We were also delighted to launch Bronze DofE to our 2026-27 Year 9 cohort, with many students already excited to begin their journey.

Looking ahead, there are exciting times ahead for DofE at Madeley, with the possibility of welcoming our first **Gold Award cohort** in the near future.

We wish all our DofE participants and their families a wonderful summer break!

- Year 7 - HOY Mrs Stokoe

On Tuesday, Year 7 took part in an exciting Enrichment Day led by the external company, Commando Joe's. Throughout the day, students worked together in teams, developing their communication, problem-solving, and teamwork skills through a range of engaging activities.

In true Harry Potter style, the highlight of the day was an exciting game of Quidditch, with every team proudly representing one of the Hogwarts houses. Students embraced the challenge with enthusiasm, showing excellent sportsmanship, confidence, and resilience as they competed and supported one another.

To round off the day, everyone came together to celebrate their achievements and reflect on a fantastic experience. It was wonderful to see Year 7 enjoying the sunshine, working collaboratively, and demonstrating such positive attitudes throughout the day. Well done, Year 7, on making the most of a brilliant Enrichment Day!





• **Year 8 - HOY Miss Walker**

Year 8 has been such an exciting year- full of energy, growth and transition. We have been incredibly impressed by the students’ enthusiasm, resilience and sense of community. Whether it's in the classroom, on trips or during activities, they've continued to represent Madeley School with pride. An example of this is Lewis who has created a prototype for a bell ringing device.



On Thursday, we celebrated individual's achievements in our achievement assembly, rewarding those who have attended school regularly, achieved a high level of positive points and won core values awards in each tutor group, not forgetting the Principal’s award. Looking ahead as Year 9 students next year, they have much to look forward to: choosing their options, for many undertaking The Duke of Edinburgh Award and engaging in lots of enrichment activities. As well as continuing to make exceptional academic progress. Thank you for your continued support and the Year 8 team wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable summer break!

• **Year 9 - HOY Miss Bentley**

Year 9 should be very proud of what they have achieved as they approach the end of KS3, what a lovely year group they have been to support. On Wednesday, we had our achievement assembly where we celebrated students sporting achievements, attendance and for many their effort to improve it, positive points and rewards gained over the year, Bronze Duke of Edinburgh and of course our tutor group core values winners and Principals Award. The hard work, care and guidance from all the staff in school, along with all the support from parents and carers of the young people over the past 3 years, has seen the pupils grow and develop in all areas.

Next year brings new challenges for this year group, ones which we know they will embrace with determination, resilience and maturity. KS4 will pass very quickly, and we encourage them to make the most of every opportunity given to them to thrive and shine. The Year 9 team would like to take the opportunity to wish all our students and their families a safe, restful and fun packed summer break, and we look forward to welcoming them all back in Year 10.

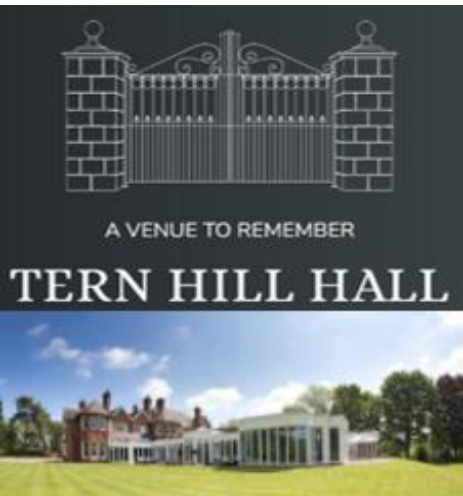
• **Year 10 - HOY Mrs Bates**

This year has been filled with a wealth of academic and enrichment opportunities. Students have broadened their knowledge and experiences through a variety of subject-based trips, including Art, Fashion and Textiles, while those looking for a little more adventure enjoyed unforgettable trips to Spain and Disneyland Paris. Another significant milestone this year was students undertaking a week of work experience. This provided them with a valuable opportunity to experience the workplace firsthand, develop essential life and employability skills, and gain a greater understanding of the career opportunities available to them as they prepare for their future. Alongside these memorable experiences, students have worked incredibly hard in preparation for their mock examinations. I have been consistently impressed by their commitment and determination, whether in lessons or through their attendance at after-school masterclasses. Their willingness to challenge themselves and strive for success has been evident every day. As we look ahead to our final year together, we do so with optimism, confidence and a shared determination to achieve the very best. Our students will continue to be supported every step of the way by our fantastic form tutors and the wider staff team. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank every member of staff for their dedication, encouragement and unwavering support throughout the year.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our parents and carers. Your continued partnership, encouragement and support make an enormous difference, and we simply could not do this without you.

My biggest thank you, however, goes to our Year 10 students. Since taking over the year group in September 2025, I have had the privilege of watching them grow-not only academically, but also personally. I have seen them become more confident, more resilient and more mature, supporting one another and rising to every challenge that has come their way. It has been an absolute pleasure to be part of their journey, and they have never disappointed me. Every single student has given me a reason to be proud, and I have no doubt that they will continue to achieve great things as they enter their final year at Madeley. Well done, Year 10. Enjoy a well-deserved summer break, and I look forward to seeing everything you accomplish in Year 11.

• **Year 11 - Mr Walker**



The Year 11s signed off in style at the Prom on Friday 26th July. The event was held at Tern Hill, our traditional venue for this amazing celebration. They arrived in style, in everything from modern supercars and vintage classics to high horse-power gleaming tractors and even (one horse-power) horse back! Looking impeccable in their glamorous dresses and smart tuxedos and evening suits, they walked the red-carpet as the Paparazzi (Mrs Lee) clicked away to capture their arrival and entrance! They enjoyed an amazing evening of celebration and partying in a fitting end to their time here at Madeley. They have been an amazing year group and we're all very proud of them. We look forward to celebrating their exam results in August!

• **Behaviour and Attitude to Learning**

The whole school continues to show strong positive behaviour, and a huge number of certificates have been given out to reflect the positive attitude to learning points the students have gained. 2 years into our new behaviour policy aligned with Arbor, we continue to make a few tweaks so that there is more consistency and to incorporate our school values of pride and respect, confidence, resilience, aspiration, positivity, enjoyment and politeness.

All parents are encouraged to login to Arbor regularly to check on their child's progress and behaviour.

• **Uniform**

Can we please remind parents and carers about buying the correct uniform over the summer ready for the start of the new academic year in September.

The policy link is here:
<https://madeleyschool.org/about-us/policies>

- We would like to emphasise specific parts of the school policy which are:
- All footwear needs to be plain black leather or faux leather and **NOT** boots. We are permitting the black Air Force One style shoe providing they have black soles and black insignias. Pupils must bring different training shoes for PE lessons.
 - Jewellery is one stud for each ear only. **No other jewellery.**
 - No other piercings including nose, eyebrows or lips are allowed.
 - **No nail extensions or nail varnish except clear varnish.**
- We will be raising the profile of uniform in general and will be putting in more sanctions for those who persist in flaunting the policy particularly rolled up skirts and shirts which are constantly untucked. More to follow in September.

• **Equipment**

To help with pupils if they need equipment, we will continue to offer equipment for sale from the Student Services/Pastoral office that will sell basic stationary. e.g. pens, pencils, rulers, sharpeners and erasers.



• **Mobile Phone Policy**

In September, all pupils will be issued with a mobile phone pouch. If they bring a phone to school, they will need to show the phone being placed in the pouch and locked. They will remain locked in bags until the end of the day. This is in line with the new DFE guidelines to which all schools have been directed. Further details have been sent out to parents in a separate communication.

• **Rewards**

It has been amazing to see the number of certificates given out this term following on from all the positive behaviours that the pupils have contributed to within school.



• **Attendance**

The latest Department of Education attendance figures have been released (June 2026) to show Madeley is still way above the national average with a gap of 2.4%.

Nationally attendance is **91.5% attendance.**

Madeley School is **93.9% attendance.**

We still wish to aim towards our target of 96%.

Attendance is key to ensure consistency with routines and behaviour and to ensure there are no gaps in pupils' learning. Please look at our new attendance pages on our school website.

Thank you to parents, carers, pupils and staff for their continued efforts.

• **Mental Health over the Summer break**

Although the Summer season can be a very happy one for most of us most of the time, it can be a time that may impact on our mental health.

There are lots of support services you can access, if needed, via our Safeguarding pages on our website.

Younger Minds have advice, if you need it at this time. Please see the link below.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/?scrlybrkr=4c09f6b8>



• **Online safety advice and mental health**

Below is a link for online safety and mental health when it comes to using mobiles and devices.

[Online and mobile safety | Childline](#)



Google Family Link

Do you track your child's phone and usage? Have you heard of Google Family link?

With Family Link, you can locate your children on one map, as long as they're carrying their device. Get notifications and alerts – Family Link delivers critical notifications, including when your child arrives at or leaves a certain location. You can also ring devices and view the device's remaining battery life.

<https://families.google/familylink/>

[Family Link from Google - Family Safety & Parental Control Tools \(families.google\)](#)



• **Anti bullying**

What is bullying?

The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face-to-face or online'.

Bullying can be:

- Physical - pushing, poking, kicking, hitting, biting, pinching etc.
- Verbal - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, threats, teasing, belittling.
- Emotional - isolating others, tormenting, hiding books, threatening gestures, ridicule, humiliation, intimidating, excluding, manipulation and coercion.
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact, inappropriate touching, abusive comments, homophobic abuse, exposure to inappropriate films etc.
- Online /cyber - posting on social media, sharing photos, sending nasty text messages, social exclusion
- Indirect - Can include the exploitation of individuals

Below is a link for more information about anti- bullying and bullying of specific groups, including, Race, LGBTQ+, faith, disability, gender, SEN.

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/advice-for-parents-and-carers/what-is-bullying/autistic-children-and-bullying/> 

Please refer to our Safeguarding Newsletter for further support locally when accessing safeguarding advice for your child.

• **Parking & Dropping Students off**



As we prepare for the new school term, we would like to kindly remind everyone to park considerately when dropping off or collecting children from school.

We understand that these times can be busy; however, we ask that

parents and carers avoid blocking residents' driveways, parking across dropped kerbs, or stopping in locations that may cause inconvenience or safety concerns for our neighbours and other road users.

Parents and carers can use the Madeley Centre car park for drop off and pick up.

By being courteous and mindful when parking, we can help maintain positive relationships with our local community and ensure the safety of all children, families, and residents.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

• **Term Dates for 2026-2027**

Autumn Term 2026

Staff: Tuesday 1st September - **STAFF INSET DAY** (School Closed to Students)
Staff: Wednesday 2nd September - **STAFF INSET DAY** (School Closed to Students)
Staff & All Students: Thursday 3rd September - Thursday 22nd October
Staff: Friday 23rd October - **STAFF INSET DAY** (School Closed to Students)
Holiday: Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October
Staff & Students: Monday 2nd November - Thursday 17th December
Staff: Friday 18th December - **STAFF INSET DAY** (School Closed to Students)
Holiday: Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January

Spring Term 2027

Staff & Students: Monday 4th January - Friday 12th February
Holiday: Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February
Staff & Students: Monday 22nd February - Wednesday 24th March
Staff: Thursday 25th March - **STAFF INSET DAY** (School Closed to Students)
Holiday: Friday 26th March - Friday 9th April
Easter Sunday: Sunday 28th March

Summer Term 2027

Staff & Students: Monday 12th April - Friday 28th May
May Day: Monday 3rd May
Holiday: Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June
Staff & Students: Monday 7th June - Tuesday 20th July
Staff: Wednesday 21st July - **STAFF INSET DAY** (School Closed to Students)

• Madeley School Memories of 2025-2026



Have a lovely summer break from everyone at Madeley School!