



THE LODGE

Issue 24 ... July 2017



Message from the Head

Yet again the school year has flown by and we are left reflecting on our successes and the things that didn't quite go to plan. For me, the outcomes of the two OFSTED inspections in residence and school were real high points and a great reflection of how well the staff and students are working across the schools.

There have been countless events and trips off-site over the year, which continuously help to enrich the experiences of students to develop their community involvement, self esteem and social capacity.

Parental involvement has also increased over the year with more opportunities for Parents and Carers to come to the school sites, join in with activities, meet staff and to see some of the things that we do.

We are also pleased to be working closely with the Local Authority as we increase places across the schools. In September The Brades Lodge will have an additional portacabin classroom for the delivery of Design Technology and at Shenstone Lodge we have secured the funds to build two new classrooms adjacent to the residential building. This is a really exciting development. Increasing our student numbers increases our income which allows us to extend our offer to those attending our schools.

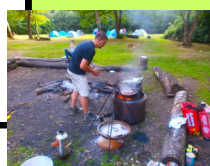
Have a happy, safe and relaxing break !



Adventure hungry students from Shenstone Lodge School went to Beaudebert Outdoor Activity Centre in Cannock to enjoy a night's camping and the opportunity to take part in a range of exciting activities.

The group arrived on Monday 17th July and were tasked with putting up their tents before hitting the low rope course at Go Ape on Cannock Chase.

At the end of the day the group had a hearty camp-fire cooked meal followed by a wonderful sunset walk. After a good night's sleep, day two started with a big breakfast in preparation for another day in the fresh air ... this time abseiling ! This was a brilliant activity and really tested the resilience and courage of all. Dominic said "These have been the best days of my life !



The Great Transition

On the 3rd of July, students in Years 7 and 8 from the Shenstone Lodge site officially moved across to The Brades Lodge. The space was created when the Year 11 students left school after completing their coursework and exams.

It is hoped that the early transition for students will provide them with a secure start at The Brades as staff are able to really focus on them to ensure they are settled before an additional small group of Year 6 students transfer into Year 7 at The Brades in September.





SPORTS NEWS



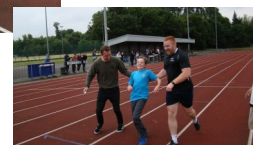
Quiz Corner

The Brades Lodge football team reached the SEN Cup Final played at the Wolves Academy Ground after finishing a close second in the local league. Brad Ma scored the first goal to get The Brades off to a flying start. Unfortunately pressure built from the opposition and Lindsworth scored the next 4 goals. As heads began to sink the team were recharged after a highly motivating half- time team talk from the coaching staff, Mr Worton and Mr Allen. From the restart, The Brades came out 'fighting' and dominated the second half, hitting the post, bar and forcing a string of excellent saves from the Lindsworth keeper. In a very well contested match, played in great spirit Lindsworth were the eventual winners 8-6.



Sports Day

The Brades Annual Sports Day was the biggest so far with Shenstone students attending and 5 sets of parents supporting the event. It was a record breaking day with Lemarr posting a new record 100m time of 12.28s; Brad Ma smashing his own 800m record with a new time of 2mins 38 and Freddie-Lee breaking a 7 year record in discus, throwing a massive 23.75m. The overall KS3 winner was Jaden and the KS4 winner was Brad Ma. The shield for most effort was given for excellent participation in PE lessons and on the day to a very deserving Rhys. Well done to all involved !



RESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Another exciting term has been had by all in residence. We had Fizz Pop Science deliver a programme for four weeks to 5 selected children, they made slime, sherbet and kazoos. They also secretively learnt lots about science...but shhhh don't tell them!



The children have also been attending the Malthouse Activity Centre in Tipton on a Wednesday and Thursday evening, getting to experience outdoor educational activities. They have climbed, abseiled, canoed, tried archery and mountain-biking. The children have shown incredible courage in their participation; the staff are very proud of them all !



We have also had the pleasure of welcoming new children into residence, through taster sessions to day pupils. This has been a fabulous opportunity for children to play with their peers and engage in the wonderful activities available in residence.



Have a fantastic summer and we look forward to welcoming you all back in September. Dee Hart (Head of Care)



On Friday 23rd June Shenstone Lodge School hosted it's third Soapbox Derby event at Warley Woods in West Bromwich.

Seven teams from across the country entered Soapboxes ranging from the 'weird' to the 'wonderful', large to the small and the

bizarre to the beautiful. All the teams threw themselves full force down the track aiming to be the fastest participants, and they all showed grit and determination doing their respective schools proud with each earning a category award.

In no particular order: Fastest average team time winners: The Brades Lodge ; Fastest individual time winners: Shenstone Lodge ; Concourse winners: The Peak Academy; Wacky Racer Award: Riverside; Team of the Day: Lindsworth; Runner Up Trophy: Sandwell Community School, Tipton Campus.

Next year will hopefully be even bigger and better and we look forward to seeing new and old faces attend in an attempt to take that coveted fastest average time trophy back to their school. Thank you to everyone involved for making the day such a success.



BETTER TOGETHER ... This term Athos and Unicorn classes have worked together to study nature and animal habitats. This unit of work was supported with a trip to Birmingham Museum where the children participated in a sensory art workshop, played with an interactive Lego art installation and studied the classic watercolours and oil paintings. In addition the children visited Twycross Zoo. This helped them to explore a range of habitats and learn about how living things are suited to their environments. Two fantastic days out !

Miss Gregory and Miss Foulkes



Well Done...



To Kieran, Rhys, Kacey, Joshua and Bradley H for receiving the most positive report slips at The Brades Lodge this half term.

To Tom who has the highest attendance this half term at The Brades Lodge.

To Sam, Lola, Ethan W, Logan and Jake with the highest class Dojos this half term.

To Caleb, Cain, Xavier, Heather, Sam, Curtis, Riley, Chanel, Dominic, Ethan W and Elena who have 100% attendance at Shenstone Lodge this half term.

A.O.B.

Mrs Gregory is leaving Shenstone Lodge school to work closer to home in Solihull. We wish her luck in her new post.

Two new teachers, Mrs Sizer and Mrs Black will be starting at Shenstone Lodge in September, and Mrs Yates will be starting as Head of English at The Brades Lodge. They have all already been to school to meet the students and are really looking forward to starting their new roles. The planned iPad project has been a continued source of frustration for the school as trials have raised issues around potential safeguarding risks, the ongoing financial commitment to staff training and upgrading the technologies. As a result we have reluctantly halted the whole school roll-out of iPads. Students however will still benefit from their use in school where we are able to monitor them closely.

Mrs Pickering successfully secured the permanent Safeguarding Manager post at The Brades last month after 'acting' in the post for a number of months. Well done !

FOOD HYGIENE RATING



KITCHEN INSPECTION SUCCESS

On 18th July Shenstone Lodge kitchen had an unannounced visit from the Lichfield Environmental Health Office. I am very happy to report that we have retained our 5 star Hygiene Rating. The inspector praised the high standards of cleanliness, record keeping, and overall kitchen practices.

A new certificate will be sent out and displayed in reception for all visitors to see. Well done to our brilliant kitchen team !

Diary Dates...

End of Term (Summer Holidays)

TUESDAY 25th JULY 1.30pm

Students Return Wed 6th Sep

Half Term 23rd-27th Oct

Staff INSET DAY (schools closed to students) 10.11.17

End of Term (Xmas Holidays)

Wed 20th December 1.30pm

School Data Box

Below is a short summary of some of the key bits of information that we report on to Governors and the Local Authority.

School Year 2016/17 (To Sum 1) : Attendance SLS 93%
TBL 68%

School Year 2016/17 (To Sum 1) : Sessions lost to Exclusion
(1 day = 2 sessions) SLS 63 sessions TBL 55 sessions

ONLINE ADVICE

As a Parent or Carer you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online, and you don't need to be an expert on the internet to help.

The following link provides very helpful information on how to protect children using online social media sites and other resources.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>



SCHOOL'S OUT

A MESSAGE FOR THE KIDS

It's that time of year again folks! We all look forward to the long Summer holidays, yes, even Teachers do too. No Maths, English or Science, no uniform, no nagging and best of all those lazy mornings.....ahhhh such bliss.



So, what are your plans this Summer? Whatever they are be sure to keep yourself safe. Not only on the roads, by water and railway lines, but online too.

During the Summer holidays, you'll have even more time to spend online, either alone or with friends. When using apps on your phone or when online, be sure you know who you are chatting with.

Unfortunately, this is also a time when some people will want to take advantage of the fact that young people are out and about with friends in parks, shopping centres and restaurants. These are the very places you think you may be safe and not at risk, but these are the very places unsavoury people will seek you out. You may not always be aware if someone is trying to hurt you, so be aware of the warning signs and take steps to keep yourself safe.



What can you do to keep yourself safe?

REMEMBER!

Stick with people and friends you know and trust, don't be pressured into sharing your contact details or be encouraged to do things you are not comfortable with.

If you're out at a gathering or party and you don't feel comfortable, tell someone you trust and leave.

Make sure you always let your Parents or Carers know where you're going and where you plan to stay.

Don't send images or videos to people you've met through apps.

Once sent, you can never get them back and you can't stop them from being shared with others.



Wishing you all a happy and fun filled holiday. STAY SAFE!!

MEGAPIXL

Download from megapixl.com/52812281

2017/18 School Year Overview

| 2017/2018 | First Day of Term | Last Day of Term |
|---------------|---|---|
| Autumn Term | Monday 4th September 2017 | Friday 20th October 2017 |
| Autumn Term | Monday 30th October 2017 | Wednesday 20th December 2017 |
| Spring Term | Tuesday 2nd January 2018 | Friday 16th February 2018 |
| Spring Term | Monday 26th February 2018 | Thursday 29th March 2018 |
| Summer Term | Monday 16th April 2018 | Friday 25th May 2018 |
| Summer Term | Monday 4th June 2018 | Friday 20th July 2018 |
| Training Days | Monday 4th September 2017 Tuesday 5th September 2017 Friday 10th November 2017 Tuesday 2nd January 2018 Friday 4th May 2018 | School Closed to Pupils School Closed to Pupils School Closed to Pupils School Closed to Pupils School Closed to Pupils |
| May Day | Monday 7th May 2018 | School Closed to Pupils & Staff |

INTO THE DRAGONS DEN

The Dragons class have covered lots of exciting topics over the summer term. They have enjoyed learning about Noah and the Ark, Outer Space, Oliver's Milkshake and The Little Red Riding Hood, to name just a few. We have based our work around this and had the chance to do lots of practical activities and at times got quite messy. We have as always been enjoying the outdoor learning and the strawberries and beans that we have planted, are getting bigger every day!



Riley said "I liked the dinosaurs, because they're big and have sharp teeth."



"I liked under the sea and learning about submarines."
Said Jake

Xavier said "I liked George and the dragon because we made a dragon, ROARRR."

