



# THE LODGE

Issue 33 ... Feb 2019

## Message from the Head



Yet again the students have been out and about on a wide variety of trips to support their learning and the Brades Lodge sports teams have travelled near and far representing the school, with varying amounts of success.

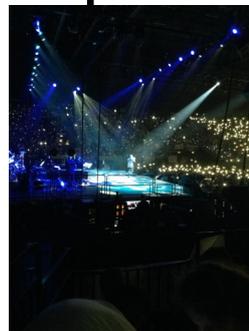
The school continues to need an additional parent Governor to support our strategic and financial management. If you are interested in school organisation and can commit to about 3 hours per half term to visit the schools and attend meetings please let us know. Training is provided free of charge to get you up to speed with how schools work and a mileage allowance is available. Please email [headteacher@shenstonelodge.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@shenstonelodge.co.uk) if you would like to know more about this worthwhile role.

As you are no doubt aware, schools up and down the country are suffering financially and sadly, Shenstone Lodge School is no exception. As part of local and national action to raise the profile of school funding within the Government, Headteachers around the country are asking parents, carers, friends and colleagues to log on to <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/232220> and register a vote. Once the number of responses reaches 100 000 the issues regarding school funding will be considered by Parliament. It is hoped that the number of votes will be reached in the next few weeks so that the 'conversation' is well placed to inform the Governments 2019 Spending Review which will be setting out its budget priorities for the next 3/5 years.

## Young Voices

On the 18th January, 6 children from Shenstone Lodge took part in Young Voices 2019, a national choir concert at the Genting Arena in Birmingham. Since September, once a week, the children took part in rehearsals in order to be ready for the big day! They, along with 6000 other children, sang an amazing variety of songs including medleys from the hit movies Moana and The Greatest Showman. They were lucky enough to watch and be part of performances by Beau Dermot from Britain's Got Talent and Spandau Ballet's Tony Hadley. The children had a fantastic day singing and dancing and more importantly making memories!

Ms Keyse



**RESIDENTIAL INSPECTION ....** On Tuesday 12th February OFSTED called to let us know that the residential provision was to be inspected. Two inspectors spent 3 days in the school looking at key areas of the provision and making sure we continue to meet the National Minimum Standards for Residential Special Schools. The inspectors also spoke to parents and carers of residential students, Governors, students in residence and a wide selection of staff. We are unable to share the outcome at this point however we can share that we are pleased with the result.



## SPORTS NEWS

Shenstone Lodge School took 5 students to the Lichfield Cathedral School to compete against several other local schools including Chase Grammar, The Elms, The Royal, Twycross House and Mayfield in the annual Cross Country Competition. All 5 students ran hard races and although we didn't finish in any medal places they all experienced the inherent joy of competing for the school in a beautiful setting.



"I enjoyed it loads but I was exhausted at the end!" said Ryan (first time representing the school) Mr Mitchell



The Brades Lodge basketball and football teams have had a number of fixtures this half term with a fair amount of success. The football team travelled to Coventry to play Woodfield School, securing an eye watering 15-5 victory. Not only was the score great, all of the players represented the school well, despite the 1 hour traffic delay. This win has moved the team to 3<sup>rd</sup> in the regional league table. The next fixture is at home against High Grange School from Derby.

The basketball team have played recently against Sandwell Community School. Although we played well throughout we were unable to shoot with the precision necessary to secure a win.

Scott Worton

## Edgmond Hall ... An Excellet Day Out !

A group of KS3 students from the Brades Lodge were selected to go to Edgmond Hall, a Sandwell Outdoor Education Centre, to take part in teambuilding activities. Once changed into outdoor gear, students were split into two teams and tasked with a simple game of getting themselves through a large hoop in the quickest time. This was lots of fun and a positive way to harness the collective spirit of the group whilst encouraging supportive communication.

During the afternoon the students were tasked with building a secure den and starting and maintaining a camp fire... the reward for success... cooking marshmallows ! The staff from Edgmond Hall were very enthusiastic and managed the day brilliantly. The students had a really positive experience working in collaboration whilst taking part in all the activities. This was an excellent day out ! Stephen Allen (WBSM)



## RESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The highlight of this half term was seeing the look on the faces of our pupils as they explored the aisles of a large Chinese Super Market. Pupils were in awe of the differences in food and language, finding particular enjoyment in wishing any customer or worker a Happy New Year...in Chinese. Spicy seaweed wasn't a favourite, nor was candied coconut, but Panda biscuits went down a treat...(not made from real Pandas). Dave Hare RCCO



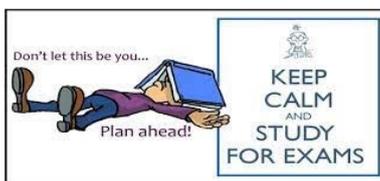
## EXAMS ... NO PRESSURE

As The Brades Lodge enters accreditation countdown over the next few months the levels of anxiety in affected students is set to increase. As a school we try to manage this by giving students the opportunity to talk to staff about how to sit exams and what to do if they are struggling to understand the work.

As parents / carers you can help too ! It is important that you support your child to attend school at all possible times so they can revisit previous learning and pick up new information. In addition it is really helpful if you encourage them to take mock exams seriously, these help the teachers to identify areas that may need further development in preparation for the real thing .

If in doubt or you feel like you need more support please call

Simon Hobbs at the Brades Lodge on 0121 552 3125



## Quiz Corner



1. Which Japanese car manufacturer is based near Swindon ?
2. How many dominoes are there in a standard set ?
3. How many black squares are there on a chess board ?
4. What is a schnoodle ?
5. How many sides has a pentagon, a hexagon and an octagon ?

## A.O.B.

Unfortunately we are coming to that time of year when the weather is becoming increasingly cold and unpredictable. As a result, it may be the case that for safety reasons, the school has to make the difficult decision to close. It is our intention to let you know this information as soon as possible. We will post this on the school website first then text the message to all known parent/ carer numbers. We will then let Sandwell Council know and they will add it to their school closure list and Facebook page.

Well Done...



To McKenzie Le, Kieran, R'Mario, Jamie, Tyler and Luke for receiving the most positive report slips at The Brades Lodge this half term.

To Kai, McKenzie R, Kyle, Jamie and Thomas who have 100% attendance this half term at The Brades Lodge.

To Celest, Ethan C, Daniel, Jack and Luke O with the highest class Dojos this half term.

To Caiden, Jayden, Jake A, Matthew, Lucas, Ethan D, Malachi, Dwain, Romero, Celest, Kieron, Jordan, Leo, Xavier, Callum, Leona, Jake O, Cameron, Michael, Riley N, Ryan who have 100% attendance at Shenstone Lodge this half term.

## QUALITY CAREERS ADVICE FOR STUDENTS

Brades Lodge, has been awarded the National Quality in Careers Standards award to mark their work on apprenticeships, work experience, college placements and general career advice.

Our aim is to make the students who come through the school aspire to have a decent career and the skills to see them realise this aspiration.

As a school, we have produced an outstanding careers support service that starts as soon as students arrive at The Brades Lodge so students can make a successful transition into post-16 education or an apprenticeship route.

As a starter, students can gain employability skills at a local coffee shop managed by the school, qualifications in First Aid and build their confidence in speaking to the public.

Students get professional careers guidance from Sandwell Connexions advisor Debbie Jones, a careers psychometric assessment, visits to colleges and a comprehensive careers education programme.

Councillor Simon Hackett, cabinet member for children's services, visited the Brades Lodge to congratulate staff. He said: "This award is a very important confirmation that staff are working to make sure young people get the best possible advice on how they can get a worthwhile career after education."



### Diary Dates...

**Half Term 18th -22nd Feb**

**Staff INSET 22nd March**

**Easter Break 13th Apr 1.30pm**

**Students Return 29th April**

**Bank Holiday 6th May**

**Half Term 27th-31st May**

**Summer Holiday 19.7.19 1.30pm**

### School Data Box 2018/19

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

Whole School Attendance for Spring 1 :

83.5% (SLS 95% 72% TBL ) 83.5% Spr 1 2017/18

Sessions lost to Exclusion (1 day = 2 sessions)

Spr 1 2019 : 32 (SLS 0 TBL 32 ) Spr 1 21 2017/18



It's not just the responsibility of large companies to incorporate an effective email security systems it is equally critical for end users to follow some best practices to ensure emails are safe to open. People need to avoid clicking on vulnerable links, like the one you might see on the right, unknown attachments asking for invoice payments and be wary of exciting offers that are too good to believe. Above all.... If it doesn't look right don't click it! If it is a genuine message the sender is likely to contact you again.

Display message

Shenstone Lodge 09:08:45 01-February-2019.

(IT manager Narinder Singh)

**Good To Know  
Working with Families News**

<b>News:</b>	<b>For more info:</b>
The Parent Support Team are asking practitioners wishing to train in the revised <b>Changes programme</b> to register their interest on the Bookwhen system. Training dates will be available in the Spring and will be offered first to those who have expressed an interest.	To register: <a href="http://www.bookwhen.com/parentsupport">www.bookwhen.com/parentsupport</a>
<b>The Tipton Education Fund</b> aims to support schools and community projects in Tipton. Grants of up to £2,000 are available to support projects which meet one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Overcome barriers to learning e.g. using art, drama, sport or music as an engagement tool,</li> <li>•Raising aspirations of children and young people,</li> <li>•Supporting family learning and encouraging healthy living,</li> <li>•Encouraging and supporting children to read outside of the school day.</li> </ul>	Closing date is 1 <sup>st</sup> March. More info is on <a href="http://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/tipton-education-fund/">http://www.heartofenglandcf.co.uk/tipton-education-fund/</a>
The <b>National Crime Agency</b> have published their fourth annual assessment on <b>county lines</b> . Through the county lines model children can be exploited to run drugs to buyers, cut/bag drugs, collect debts, cuckoo premises and conduct crimes such as shoplifting to boost the perpetrators' drug funds. PACE are offering Advanced Child Exploitation Training, which gives an insight into county lines and other threats.	<a href="http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/county-lines">http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/county-lines</a>  Or to access training: <a href="https://paceuk.info/production/advanced-child-exploitation-training-ace/">https://paceuk.info/production/advanced-child-exploitation-training-ace/</a>
The <b>National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day on March 18<sup>th</sup></b> aims to highlight the issues surrounding CSE; encouraging everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse and adopt a zero tolerance to adults developing inappropriate relationships with children or children developing inappropriate relationships with other children.	Download posters on <a href="http://www.stop-cse.org/national-child-exploitation-awareness-day/raise-awareness/">http://www.stop-cse.org/national-child-exploitation-awareness-day/raise-awareness/</a>
<b>The BBC 500 Words</b> competition is back for children between 5 and 13 years old. Taking part is simple: all you have to do is write a story – about absolutely ANYTHING– using no more than 500 words. The competition is open and will close at 7pm 8th March.	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/28zgDX98FnDYbN9j1jbk4HS/500-words-2019">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/28zgDX98FnDYbN9j1jbk4HS/500-words-2019</a>
Public Health England has launched its <b>Start4Life</b> campaign offering parents support and advice on introducing solid foods to their baby. A brand-new weaning hub has been launched on the Start4Life website to help parents during their weaning journey.	<a href="https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning">https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/weaning</a>  To order resources: <a href="https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns/2-start4life/resources">https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns/2-start4life/resources</a>
Vodafone Global and Parent Zone have launched <b>Story Time</b> - a fun way for Key Stage 1 and 2 children to learn about the essentials of internet safety. Story Time takes the shape of children's books and blends the important message of staying safe in the digital world with colourful illustrations. Join Tommy, a fun-loving, happy tablet, Sally, a clever smartphone, and their owners Angus and Annie in two stories downloadable for free.	<a href="https://parentzone.org.uk/article/vodafone-%E2%80%94-story-time">https://parentzone.org.uk/article/vodafone-%E2%80%94-story-time</a>
The UK's <b>four chief medical officers</b> recommend that mobile phones should be banned from the dinner table and bedtimes as part of a healthy approach to using devices. Children should also take a break from screen-based activities every two hours, and they added industry must do more to keep children safe.	<a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/777026/UK_CMO_commentary_on_screen-time_and_social_media_map_of_reviews.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/777026/UK_CMO_commentary_on_screen-time_and_social_media_map_of_reviews.pdf</a>
Community groups have the chance to bid for £5,000 <b>to help increase the number of people cycling in Sandwell</b> . Sandwell Council is inviting community voluntary organisations to apply for the cash, which is particularly aimed at helping people develop the skills to cycle safely on the road and getting families cycling together for leisure.	<a href="http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/news/article/5091/5000_funding_available_to_boost_cycling">http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/news/article/5091/5000_funding_available_to_boost_cycling</a>
Love is in the air at <b>Sandwell Register Office</b> where loved up couples have the chance to win a free ceremony. In the spirit of the most romantic time of the year, one lucky couple who make a booking between Valentine's Day and 28 February 2019 will be entered into a prize draw to get the <b>ceremony for free</b> .	<a href="http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/news/article/5093/win_a_free_ceremony_at_sandwell_register_office">http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/news/article/5093/win_a_free_ceremony_at_sandwell_register_office</a>
<b>The Fast Forward programme</b> at Sandwell Council offers young people help to gain the skills and confidence to apply for an apprenticeship; or an opportunity with a local employer. During a week of outdoor activities, they will work with an advisor; pushing boundaries and helping them get ahead with their career. The programme is free - transport and meals are included.	If you are aged between 16 & 24, email enquiries_recruitment@sandwell.gov.uk to book a place on an information session. The next Fast Forward programme runs from 4 March - 8 March.