



Message from the Head



Manor Hall
Academy Trust

Unsurprisingly, Covid didn't suddenly disappear when students returned to schools in September. As a result, we have continued to rely on your amazing support and flexibility if we have needed to make difficult decisions when staffing has been significantly affected, or your child has displayed symptoms. Unfortunately, the disruption is likely to continue through the school year so please bare with us as we navigate the 'new normal'.

On a more positive note, this half term has been fantastic with regard to getting students off site and taking part in a wide range of extended and enriching learning opportunities.

Its been great to see sporting fixtures back in the calendar, and our Brades Lodge football team playing out of their skins in recent tournaments against schools from around the country. Furthermore, our regular portfolio of museum and other educational visits are all back in place, and school visitors are again delivering great productions and workshops. As a result students from both schools have had some incredible days, in and out !

On an entirely different note, both schools will be hosting visits from other SEMH and Special schools in the Academy Trust as part of a 'peer review' programme. On the 19th and 20th October, each of the schools will be attended by head teachers and school improvement partners sharing best practice in key areas of curriculum, interventions and effective teaching. This is a great opportunity for us to celebrate some of the great things we are doing in school and also to have a some areas for development as we continue to our never ending journey of improvement.

Incredible Sea Voyage

On the 13th-17th September four of our most adventurous students were given the opportunity to spend an amazing seven days at sea on board the 42 foot sailing boat The Pegasus. Supported by Mr Maull and Mr Albutt the students were fully operational to make sure the decks were scrubbed, the galley was ship shape and the rigging was rigged ! The young crew members sailed around the Cornish coast from Plymouth dropping into several beauty hot spots, for fish, chips and ice cream on their way.

Sajj said "It was brilliant .. I loved it ! Its helped me to decide that I'm going to join the Royal Marines when I leave school .. I cant wait !"



For full coverage of this amazing voyage please go to the **BLOG** on the school website (bottom of the homepage).



Kooth is a free online service offering emotional and mental health support for children and young people.

On the 25th October & 26th November they are running PARENT & CARER INFORMATION SESSIONS. These are for parents and carers living in the West Midlands, providing information around the Kooth service and how parents/carers can support their young people to access Kooth. The group offers Community and Professional support as well as an online magazine with easy to read articles. In addition young people are able to set personal goals, link safely with others and create a journal. Please login to www.kooth.com



Pirates Ahoy ! Students at Shenstone Lodge 'shivered their timbers' during a wild performance from school theatre company M and M productions. They brought Treasure Island to life with actors in full pirate costume, on screen actors, and a Cinematic Theatre In Education production which gave the children a fully immersive and interactive learning experience. WOW ! Mrs Sizer

RESIDENTIAL

After a crazy 18 months, it's been an amazing start to the new school year. The children have been so glad to finally get back out, in to the parks and go exploring again.

In residence, we've been thinking and talking a lot about what's happening in the world around us. Trying to make sense of the Covid pandemic, celebrating black history month, Roald Dahl and international talk like a pirate day. This half term has been great fun and we can't wait for the next one to start. Mr Smith



Your school needs



YOU!

Parent/ Carer Governor Vacancy

The school is again looking for Parents/ Carers to join our Governing Body (Local Advisory Board now we are part of the Manor Hall Academy Trust). For the most part, the Board meets once a term and we discuss all aspects of how the school is running and performing.

As a board member you will have the opportunity to contribute to decisions made about school organisation, budgets ,resources,

staffing and the curriculum.

If you are enthusiastic and passionate about our students school experience then this could be an ideal opportunity make a significant difference. All new board members will be well supported into the role with free training and induction.

If you are interested in discussing this role further please contact me at headteacher@shenstonelodge.co.uk by 5.11.21 as the next meeting is on the 16.11.21.

Cheer Us Up Mr D !

Mr Daniel at the Brades Lodge is well known in school for telling the odd joke or two to raise a smile in the staff room before a hard day at the 'chalk face' ... Given the current state of the nation he has kindly offered to share a few witty words to keep us all going.. Thanks sir !

How do you make an artichoke? You strangle it.

Why did the tomato blush? Because it saw the salad dressing.

Why did the banana go to the hospital? He was peeling really bad.

Why aren't ants getting covid? They have anty bodies.

What shape always does its best ? A Try angle .

Quiz Corner

1. How many football teams in League 1 have been in the Premiership ?

2. Caracus is the capitol of which country ?

3. How many new words can you make using the letters in VACCINATION ?

4. Can you name the currency used in Norway ?

5. Name 3 companies that make cricket bats ?



Brades Lodge Team Takes Football Tournament By Storm !

On the 29th of September The Brades Hosted the Midlands SEMH Schools football tournament at GOALS in Dudley. Teams from across the region played against each other in hard fought contests. The Brades battled well throughout the day and chalked up numerous victories, only being beaten by the eventual winners . At the end of the competition the boys came second and were through to the finals which took place on the 14th October at St. Georges Park (the home of England's Football Team).



12 schools representing the North, South and Midlands arrived at 10.30 for 4 hours of highly competitive and challenging football . The teams went head to head through the day with the top team taking the Trophy. Brades Lodge came a very proud and well earned 4th place in what was a very tight competition, and were only a few points away from the champions, Castlewood from Solihull.

"The team were tremendous throughout the two tournaments and we are extremely proud of how they played and conducted themselves throughout. Well Done Lads !

Year 5 On Tour !



Year 5 Cyclops class, spent the morning at Meriden Adventure Playground.

They were able to explore this amazing creative space and let their imaginations go wild! The swings, the zip line and the climbing frames were our favorites. The boys definitely want to go back (and so do the staff!)



As part of their history topic on The Ancient Maya Civilisation, Cyclops visited Cadbury World to find out more about the Ancient Mayan discovery of chocolate. We toured the factory and discovered more about the history of chocolate and how it's made. Both trips went really well and the children did us proud ! Ms Black

A.O.B.

- Congratulations to Ian Mitchell who has been appointed as Head of School at Shenstone Lodge. Ian will be taking on the substantive role from December. There will be a few weeks of transition, after which Simon Hobbs will be permanently moving back to The Brades as Head of School.
- Our best wishes go out to Katie Albutt who left The Brades Lodge this half term to further her professional career, taking an exams officer post at Aston University.
- The residential team will be welcoming Vicky Hadley to the team next half term.
- Our appeal to secure DfE funding for The Brades Lodge building works has unfortunately been unsuccessful. We are now working with the Trust and the LA to secure alternative funds, based on the tenders received.

Diary Dates...

Half Term 25th Oct-29th Oct

School INSET 12th November

Xmas Break 20th Dec-3rd Jan

2022 students return 4.1.22

Spring 1 Jan 4th -Feb 18th

Spring 2 Feb 28th -8th April

Sum 1 25th April- 27th May

School Data Box 2021/22

Whole School Attendance for 2020/21 year 85.7%

Persistent Absence 45.5% (below 90%)

Whole School Attendance 2021/22 86.1% Autumn 1 2021

Persistent Absence 30.8% (below 90%)

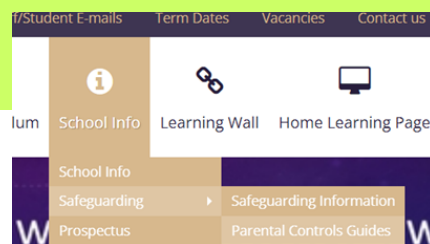
Days Lost to exclusion 2020/21 132 days

Days Lost to Exclusion 2021/22 23 days

National Science Week

Shenstone Lodge School had the Wonderdome to visit as part of their science week. A mobile planetarium that provides amazing shows. An impressively large dome is filled with air from a strong fan. Inside the dome, there is specialised

visual and audio equipment which projects onto the inside of the planetarium giving a 360-degree experience which is totally immersive. The environment created by the dome is completely dark and immerses the children in a wonderful experience of the universe! The children were awed by the experience and had lots of questions! Mrs Sizer



ONLINE SAFETY

The school has updated its website with the following web link page which provides a really useful one stop shop to help parents and carers set up safe access and controls on a wide variety of search engines and social media apps. If you are keen to manage what your child is able to online then we would strongly recommend a look at this page

<https://www.shenstonelodge.co.uk/safeguarding/parental-control-guides>