



Message from the Head

At last ! We are thrilled to share that we now have a new building on the Brades Lodge site ! The furniture is beginning to arrive and is being unpacked and constructed as we speak. This will make two large, fit for purpose, and modern learning spaces ready for occupation after the half term break.



As a result we will be steadily increasing the student numbers on the site to 50.



On another note, you may have noticed that the school has been reviewing it's website to make it easier to find information you might be looking for, to remove old and irrelevant links and to make it more appealing to look at. As you can imagine, this is likely to take some time, so please bear with us if you are unable access a specific page for a while.

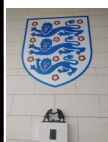
As ever, the students have had access to a wide range of on-site and off-site learning opportunities linked to our day to day curriculum and special focus weeks. In particular, you will no doubt be aware that we have again prioritised reading across the schools since September, introducing additional time for all students to read. As a result we have seen students' confidence levels and reading ability rapidly improve. Depending on the group, the reading session may take the form of additional 'phonics/decoding' lessons, or it may be reading for pleasure alongside a staff member using some of the new books and magazines that we have made available. If you would like to know more about what we are doing, or what you can do to support reading activities at home, please raise this with your child's class teacher or teaching assistant.



Mental Health and Well Being Week An Amazing Success !

Students at the Shenstone Lodge site have had a fantastic week looking at the theme of 'connection'. A wide range of exciting trips and activities have been taking place, focusing on well-being. Students have been off-site to visit 'Huggle Pets', a therapeutic centre that uses animals to support children to understand their emotions and develop strategies for self-regulation. We have also visited the alpaca farm, developing our confidence and self-awareness. Groups have had a big day out visiting Harry Potter World, catching the train in and out of London to inspire and motivate a range of learning activities that have started in the classroom. In addition to the off-site learning experiences the school has opened its doors to the school nurses and other guests that have led activities framed around the key themes of SAFE, HAPPY, and LEARNING.





SPORTS NEWS

The Brades Lodge football team have been out and about again playing against local schools. Unfortunately the results haven't gone our way despite our young team making excellent progress. Recent results : Elmwood 4-1, Longdon Hall 6-5, and Castlewood 6-3. On a brighter note, the Basketball Team won their first game of the season. An accomplished performance saw the boys 'slam dunk' 55 points passed Aspire School who could only manage 46. This was a really tight game against an experienced side where we managed to pull away in the last quarter to seal the victory. Adam Nunney (PE Teacher)

ANOTHER YEAR OF POSITIVE FEEDBACK

PARENT SURVEY OUTCOMES (3yr cycle)

Questions	Dec 2020 positivity	Dec 2021 positivity	Dec 2022/ Jan 2023 positivity
My child enjoys school	88%	88%	93%
The school keeps my child safe	92%	96%	100%
The school informs me about my child's progress	96%	92%	93%
My child is making enough progress at this school	92%	84%	96%
The teaching is good at this school	84%	92%	100%
Staff help my child improve their reading	92%	92%	100%
Staff help my child improve their writing	92%	92%	100%
Staff help my child improve their maths	92%	96%	100%
Staff help my child improve their computer skills	96%	84%	100%
The school helps me to support my child's learning	84%	84%	96%
The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle	88%	88%	100%
The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future	88%	92%	100%
The school meets my child's particular needs	92%	88%	100%
The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	88%	84%	100%
The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns	84%	84%	100%
The school is led and managed effectively	92%	92%	100%
Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school	92%	92%	100%
Average positive responses	90%	89%	99%

The recently shared Parent Survey has again generated some fantastic feedback. It is felt that increasing levels of personal contact and general communications with parents / carers, in response to previous survey outcomes has made you feel more positive about the school and potential issues are more effectively addressed.

Here are a few comments which reflect our survey outcome :

"My son has been at this school

since year 8 coming from Shenstone Lodge and I couldn't wish for a better school for him. I am worried when he leaves as I know he won't get this sort of care and love anywhere else."

"Absolutely love Shenstone Lodge so far and have had no problems with anything at this school.. my child loves it here and can't wait to go each day. Thank you so much for helping my child excel and progress."

"Could not be happier with the school or the progress my child has made since starting. Amazing staff, amazing facilities!"



A Great Career Start !

Startright is a practical, hands-on work placement that gives students the opportunity to work towards a Level 1 Introductory Diploma in Construction (RQF). Taught Skills include bricklaying, painting and decorating, tiling and carpentry.

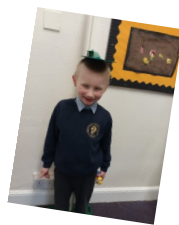
We have a number of students well on the way to gaining their qualifications. They should be very proud of themselves. Well done boys. Scott Worton

School Nurses visit Shenstone

We are one of the few schools in the area that continue to have a strong working relationship with our school nursing team. This was particularly apparent on Friday 3rd February when 5 nursing colleagues attended the Shenstone Lodge school site to deliver a range of educational sessions which covered, healthy lifestyle choices, oral hygiene, emotional well being and other elements of the RSE curriculum.

The sessions were well targeted to the meet the age ranges and knowledge bases of the students and they were all received extremely well.

With any luck all the children will have super shiny teeth when they come back in after the half term break !



Quiz Corner

1. Which football teams have the following nick names .. The Gunners, The Rams and The Blades ?
2. Can you name 8 sports played that use an object to hit a ball ?
3. What is the longest word you can think of that has no letter 'S' ?
4. What do the letters in NSPCC stand for ?
5. What is a 'Jump Lead' ?

Sandwell Future Youth Summit

On 7th February Rio, Riley and Shay attended the Sandwell Youth Summit. The school has worked closely with the LA and the community police team to organise this event with the aim of providing more activities for young people to do outside of school, as well as improving the relationships between young people and the Police. During the day the boys got to sample activities provided by Boxclever, the Local Authority and music production groups. The boys attending participated fully and enjoyed the day ... Well done lads, we are really proud of you and your positive attitudes ! Chris Husband (Asst Head)



We all know it can be hard to understand children's behaviour and find the best ways to support them as they grow up. If you need support, are looking for advice, or have a parenting question, you'll find some useful information, tips, tutorials and podcasts at [MyFamilyCoach.com](https://www.MyFamilyCoach.com)



My Family Coach is a free website produced by experts in child behaviour, parenting, and education. It is provided by 'Team Teach' who provide the accredited positive behaviour management training to the staff in our schools.

The website is full of **free** resources on popular parenting topics, such as screen time, bullying, and mental wellbeing. They have a wide range of blog posts, podcast episodes, and videos available, along with bookable (paid for) 1:1 coaching, courses, and classes.

My Family Coach provides support when you need it most. It's simple to sign up and **completely free to register**.



Can you Help ?

As part of Horticulture Week (13th -17th Feb) Shenstone Lodge site students are planning to develop an outdoor area behind Cyclops, Unicorns and Dragons classrooms. If you have any metal pots, pans, plastic barrels, drumsticks or utensils that you no longer need or use, we would really like to use them to create a music wall and other outside music spaces. Please

send items in with your child's taxi where possible. If you are able to donate something that can't be easily transported, please call the school and we can arrange to pick it up if we can use it. We would be happy to receive items up to March 4th. Thank you Ms Sam Black .

A.O.B.

- The Brades Lodge would like to offer a big THANK YOU to Laura who has been preparing the breakfast meals for students each morning. It's been a huge help and we are extremely grateful !
- We would like to welcome Michelle Davies who has recently been appointed to a Teaching Assistant post at The Brades Lodge
- Finally, we've received confirmation that funding is in place for Retail Supermarket vouchers for Free School Meal eligible students for the half term holiday. These will be issued via text/email as usual on Monday 20th February. If you have not yet registered for Free School Meals and are eligible to do so, please liaise with the Receptionist at either TBL or SLS who can support you in organising this.

Diary Dates...

Half Term 20th -24th Feb

Easter Holidays.. Fri 31st March @

1pm return Mon 17th April

Bank Holiday 1st May

Additional Bank Holiday 8th May

Half Term 29th May-2nd Jun

School Data Box 2022/23

Whole School Attendance for 2021 /22 school year : **82.7%**

Attendance for 2022/23 Yr To Date 85.4%

(National Av. Attendance to date 83.2% (fig. prov. by Arbor)

Days lost to Suspension

2021/22 Yr To Date : **53**

2022/23 Yr To Date : **33.5**

STAY SAFE ONLINE

Grandparents guide to online safety

A recent study found that 4 in 10 grandparents help out with childcare in what has been dubbed 'granannyng'.

To help grandparents get to grips with life online, 'internetmatters.org' have created a new grandparents guide to online safety with practical advice to keep kids safe.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/grandparents-guide-to-online-safety/>

