



Message from the Head

As usual it has been a busy half term with regard to off-site visits and on-site activity. Of note we have facilitated residential outdoor educational trips for Shenstone students, hosted football games at The Brades, undertaken focus weeks and have supported opportunities for parents and carers to attend workshops across both sites.

As we move into 'exam season' we have been especially proud of how well our students have conducted themselves when they have been under pressure to complete end of year accreditations, exams and National Tests. For our older, KS4 students this will be ongoing for the next six weeks! As you can imagine this can be quite a stressful time for some students. As a result, we have set up 'exam stress' workshops to help manage any anxieties which will hopefully support better outcomes on 'E days'. It is worth mentioning however, that it will also help if students dedicate some time for revision!

For information, the school has 'finally' refreshed the website so that it is more coherent, easier to navigate and information is up to date. As you can imagine there are hundreds of pages to review and moderate so I have no doubt that there will be a small corner of our platform that will need attention. If you get a moment ... we would welcome your feedback either positive or negative and if you do find something that is out of date, spelt wrong or just doesn't make sense please let us know!

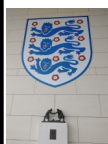
Whilst we are on the subject of communications and IT, following on from our successful Twitter launch we are now in a position to launch our INSTAGRAM account. Please see the article on page 2 for further details.

Have an amazing break and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 5th June.



The Brades Lodge Parent / Carer Coffee Morning

On Friday 12th May over 20 parents and carers attended our first 'open door' face to face event since the Pandemic. The day was an opportunity for the school to showcase the ways in which students are supported by providing a curriculum and pastoral overview. Furthermore, the school arranged input from the Local Community Policing Team who focussed their presentation on the use of social media, and advising how to make it safer for young people. Representatives from the Strengthening Families team were also present to talk about their role in supporting families as they encounter a wide range of challenges. Members of the Birmingham Vernon Sea Cadets and Royal Marines Cadets also attended the meeting to share some of the inclusive work they do and to encourage anyone who is interested in joining ... for further information about the Cadets please contact richardkeyte.vernon@gmail.com



SPORTS NEWS

The Brades Lodge hosted another well attended football tournament at GOALS in Rowley Regis. The event saw local teams from Birmingham, Lichfield, Sandwell and Solihull compete for a place in the National SEMH Schools' finals, taking place at St. George's Park nr Burton (The training ground of England's National Team).



Over the day the boys representing The Brades Lodge played 8 games and came 3rd overall. This was enough to secure a place to represent the Midlands against teams from the Northern and Southern regions on 5th July 2023.

The boys played with great determination and spirit throughout the day. It was particularly pleasing to see the team running hard from the beginning to the end despite some really tough opposition.

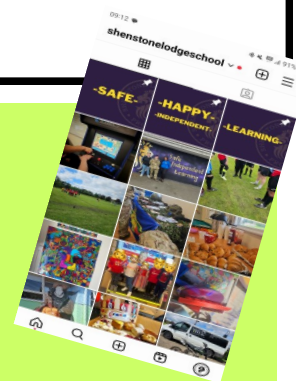
On Friday 12th May The Brades football team were in action again, hosting Solihull Academy. Despite this being a home fixture the physical size and experience of the opposing team gave them the advantage early on. Despite losing 5-2 in the end, Brades were able to provide some new players an opportunity to experience a competitive match.

It was particularly good to see some parents and carers offer some home support as the fixture coincided with the end of the parent coffee morning. Scott Worton

@shenstonelodgeschool

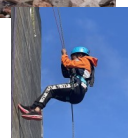
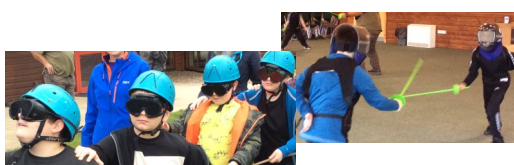


Despite the time it has taken, we are at last thrilled to share that we are now sharing school news, updates and images of activities on Instagram. For those of you familiar with this social media platform please follow us on **@shenstonelodgeschool**



Our aim is to provide an additional level of communication for you and other stakeholders about what we are doing on a weekly and daily basis in school. Like all of these things though, it is only as good as what we add and if the numbers of followers make it worthwhile. Please have a look and feel free to send content requests directly to us on **@shenstonelodgeschool**

Whitemoor Lakes Residential Over half of the students from Shenstone Lodge school have enjoyed the chance to take part in a wide range of outdoor and adventurous activities at Whitemoor Lakes near Burton. Students stayed overnight and were encouraged to join in with canoeing, high rope courses, climbing and at the end of the long days, sitting round the campfire eating marshmallows! Despite this being the first time most of the children had been away from home their behaviour was impeccable and were a real asset to the school!



ADHD Workshop

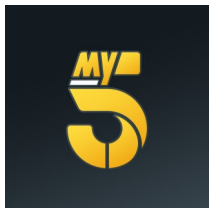
On 17th May parents and carers who have children at Shenstone and Brades attended a hugely informative and successful



ADHD workshop. The event which took place on the Shenstone Lodge site was hosted by Arron Hutchinson from the ADHD Foundation who explained to those attending what ADHD was, what it looks like and how to support students' that have this neurodiverse condition. The work completed adds to the schools' portfolio of evidence as we look to complete the ADHD Friendly Status award. The slides used in the presentation will be shared on our website in the 'WELL BEING HUB' drop down. If you are interested in finding out more about ADHD please contact the school and ask for Dee Hart or visit www.adhdfoundation.org.uk

Quiz Corner

1. Which Rugby League teams have the following nick names... Warriors, Rhinos and Giants ?
2. Can you describe 4 meanings for the word SET
3. What is the longest word you can think of that has no letter 'M' ?
4. What do the letters in RSPB stand for ?
5. What is a ' Piccolo' ?



For those of you that regularly follow our newsletters and the themes we share, you will recall that in ISSUE 55 we referred to the SEMH Schools Conference that Shenstone School coordinates to support best practice SEMH provision across the West Midlands region. At the event Channel 5 filmed one of our conference workshop hosts, Natalie Davidson who was the focus of a documentary 'The Teacher with Tourette's'.

The programme was aired on Sunday 14th May and is now available on 'My5' 'catchup' for anyone who may be interested in viewing it. Please be aware that parental guidance is advised as it contains the use of some strong language associated with the condition.



Rewards at TBL ... Playing the Game !



The Brades Lodge Student Council is always looking at ways to improve the school and what it has on offer. Recently they reviewed how students can be motivated to work hard and engage in lessons. As a result of some 'blue sky thinking' the school is now the proud owner of a retro arcade game machine. Students can earn a 'game token' to use in the machine by improving attendance, engaging in lessons and being a positive member of the school community. This has been hugely motivating for the students and clearly demonstrates the impact of the School Council, raising the profile of our student voice.

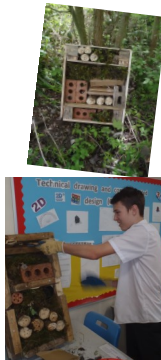
Coronation Celebrated Across the two sites Coronation fever took hold as staff and students dressed for our celebration held on the Friday before King Charles III was crowned. The schools hung Union Jack flags and students at Shenstone had the opportunity to sip tea at the outdoor garden party... God Save the King !





Room for a Little One ?

As part of a project set by the 'Midland Metro Alliance' Brades students have been designing and constructing Bug Hotels. They hotels will be assessed by the MMA and awards will be given out to the students who have taken part with a special award for the pupil who put the most effort into their creations. The judge will be attending on May 24th to look at the amazing works completed by Rio, Bailey, Luke and Jordan. Jack Benson (Work Based Learning Tutor)



A.O.B.

- The Brades Lodge welcomes Helena Delgado and Chiara Wahed who were recently appointed to Maths Teaching positions. We look forward to them joining the team.
- Shenstone Lodge School welcomes George Bartlett and Daiane Hill who have been appointed to Teaching Assistant positions. We are also hoping to announce the appointment of a new teacher at Shenstone following interviews to be held on 25th May.
- Supermarket vouchers for those eligible for Free School Meals will be available for the Half Term Break. These will be issued via text/email as usual. If you have not yet registered for Free School Meals and think you may be 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 29th May-2nd Jun

Summer Holiday Tues 25th July

@1pm

Start date for students Wed 6th

September

INSET Mon 16th October (school
closed to students)

School Data Box 2022/23

Whole School Attendance

2022/23 Yr To Date **85.4%** (National Av. Attendance to date 83% (fig. prov. by Arbor)

2021 /22 : 82.9%

Days lost to Suspension

2022/23 Yr To Date : **40**

2021/22 Yr To Date : **78.5**

STAY SAFE ONLINE

Keeping track of your child when they leave the house is a challenge at the best of times. The 'Life 360' App offers a way for you to locate where your child is, and has been, over the course of the day and more. The App is free to use but has advanced features which can be paid for. Once downloaded on to yours' and your child's phone you can get live feedback and information about where they are.... Hopefully putting your mind at ease. You can add a number of family members for free, and all of you will have access to the location features. During the police talk at the coffee morning this was a recommended App.

