



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have certainly been making the most of the beautiful weather this week whilst learning outside, including on our trips to Chester Zoo and Wolseley Bridge. Thank you to all our families for ensuring our children come prepared for all weather types. Whilst it has been much warmer, we are also aware that it can still get chilly, particularly in the shade. As a result, it is important for children to bring in coats, particularly when on a trip in a different location.

Next week is our last week of term. A reminder that all clubs finish this week. New clubs will start again after the Easter break. All before/after school boosters and interventions will not take place either next week, as staff busily get ready to send home end of term reports to parents.

## Staffing Update

I am delighted to inform you that, after a recent successful interview process, Miss Parry has been appointed to the role of Assistant Headteacher at our school. Miss Parry is an outstanding practitioner and experienced Senior Leader, with a proven track record of driving teaching and learning in our school. Alongside her teaching commitment and other roles within school, she will also deputise responsibilities in my place. We wish her every success in this role, and I know that she will be fantastic.

Attendance	% this term so far (TARGET: 97% or above)
Whole School	96.4%
Nursery	100%
Reception	96.4%
Y1	95.8%
Y2	97.1%
Y3	97.0%
Y4	96.0%
Y5	95.9%
Y6	96.2%

## Attendance

Our whole school attendance continues to be slightly below our school target. We continue to strive for improvements as attendance in school is essential for all children to learn and thrive.

Next week, we will be celebrating all those pupils who have achieved excellent attendance so far this year in our end of term Celebrations Assembly.

48 pupils are currently reaching our school target of 97% or above. Well done children. This means you are making every minute count, and this will help you to be successful, both personally and academically.

15 pupils currently hold 100% attendance across the school. What an amazing achievement! 0 minutes of learning have been missed, meaning no gaps will have formed due to absence. Well done children.

Please do all you can to continue to support your child to attend school each day. We are here to help with any barriers you may face.

## RSPCA Workshops

As you are aware, last week we held a fundraiser for the RSPCA, organised by our school council. We raised just shy of £100 and received a range of donations for the centre in Stapley too including: food, bedding, toys etc. I would like to send a special thanks to one of our wonderful pupils, Arne, who went above and beyond to collect a range of donations from family, friends and neighbours. His passion for animals is always evident and he really embodies our school motto, 'Learning by Caring and Sharing'.

On Monday, it was wonderful to welcome a representative from the RSPCA Stapley, near Nantwich, in person to share the work that they do in their charity to protect animals. We had a whole school assembly, where we heard about how the RSPCA work to support pets and wildlife, to help them when they are hurt, to rescue them from danger and to rehome them as well. It was so interesting to hear the range of animals they support.

The RSPCA shared an example of a seal pup that had been caught in netting, which they nursed back to good health and later released into the wild.

Children across the school participated in different workshops to explore the work of this fantastic charity. Hawks learnt about animal welfare, Owls learnt about spring cleaning and how to look after animals in this season, Kingfishers enjoyed exploring how to look after animals during celebrations for example Bonfire Night and Foxes and Badgers enjoyed learning about hedgehogs.



### **Red 2 Blue Strategies to support Emotional Wellbeing**

At school, we have successfully implemented the Red 2 Blue approach to support children's wellbeing. One of our aims is to enable our children to be successful, both personally and academically.

Each day, we are all faced with challenges we must face that test our resilience. This can lead people to feel a range of emotions that can lead to us becoming dysregulated, preventing us from dealing with these challenges and continuing our normal lives. There are lots of different emotions children feel when they are dysregulated, which we refer to as being in their 'red head'. It could be that they are worried, anxious, stressed, angry or even overly excited. We help the children label their feelings and recognise the signs in their actions and the words that they say. We reinforce that whilst it is normal to feel these emotions, when we are in a red head this can divert our attention away from what we should be doing and can impact on our relationships and friendships too. We help them to recognise tools that they can use to help them to get back into their 'blue head' so that they feel cool, calm and collected. Some of the techniques we use with the children, that you might want to use at home too, can be found below:



***Rollercoaster breathing*** is an excellent technique that the children can use to regulate and reset.

To use it, it is simple: breathe in as the coaster rides up each finger. Breathe out as you ride down each finger.

This practice is an invitations to participate – children can hold up their fingers and move them when breathing in and out. It helps children to slow their breathing down and calm in the process.

## Hot Chocolate Breathing



**Hot chocolate breathing** is a great breathing and visualisation technique to help them calm.

To do it, it is easy! Imagine you are holding a hot chocolate. What toppings do you normally have? Marshmallows? Chocolate sprinkles? Whipped cream?

When you have hot chocolate, sometimes you have to breathe on it to cool it down. Let's try that now. Breath in for 4 seconds, and then breath out for 4 seconds. Repeat.

## Good Thoughts

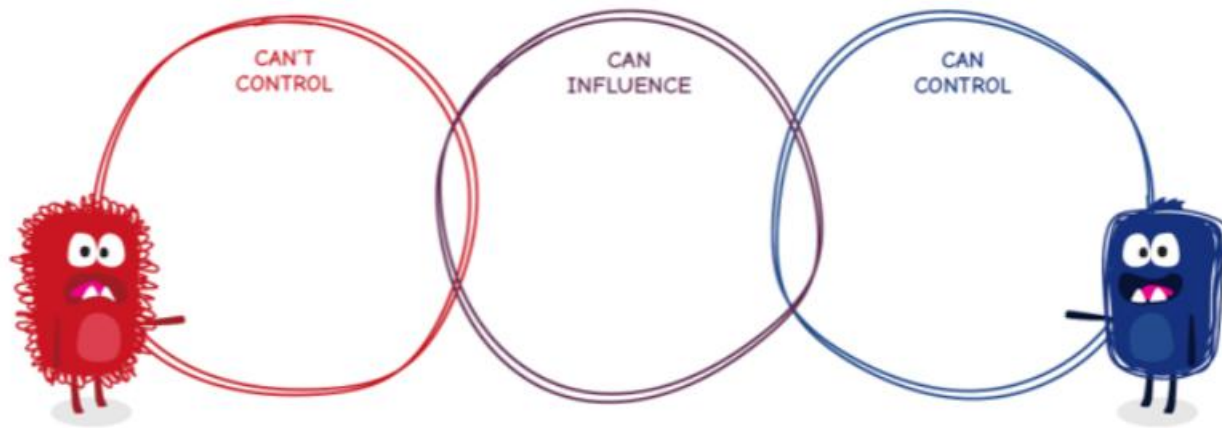
When a child is in their red head, particularly if they are feeling worried and anxious, help them to focus on the positives. Lots of research suggests that when you focus on the positives, it releases chemicals in the brain that make us happy.

Ask your child to try to tell you 3 things that they are grateful for or 3 things that went well today.

By focusing on the positive, it can change their mindset.



Another tool we use successfully, both with children and with staff, are the control circles. Sometime, when we are in a 'red head', it is because we are worrying or getting anxious about things we can't control.



We ask the children to recognise the things causing them to be in a 'red head', which are often things they can not control such as the weather, the actions of others, money etc. We then divert their attention away from these things, because they are out of their control, and they cannot do anything about them. Instead, we ask them to accept the things they can influence and choose the things they can control.

For example, if a child is getting frustrated because they have a runny nose but are fine to be in school, we help them to recognise that they can't control having a cold, so focusing their attention on this is not going to help them. They can control the way they manage the cold, for example using tissues to wipe their nose and drinking lots of fluids. They can also make sure they wrap up warm in future and practice good hygiene, washing their hands regularly to reduce the spread of colds.





### **March in March**

On Monday, KS2 continued our 'March in March' and went for a walk to visit Madeley School, which is also part of The Shaw Education Trust family of schools. It was wonderful for them to see where our nursery is too, as this setting was opened after they had started their school journey with us in Reception.

They also had a lovely time learning in the community, applying their knowledge of their workshops on animal welfare with the RSPCA and exploring how our community currently helps to promote the welfare of animals. We will go out in the community again next term to help make a positive contribution by litter picking, something we try to do a few times each year. We really value the importance being responsible and caring citizens of our local community.



### **Chester Zoo Trip**

On Wednesday, Foxes, Badgers and the Kingfishers had a fantastic time visiting Chester Zoo. The weather was brilliant and the children (and staff) thoroughly enjoyed seeing the range of animals they have there. Whilst it was quite a tiring day for the children, involving lots of walking, they did thoroughly enjoy the experience and got the chance to see the new safari enclosure, where the giraffes and zebras are now mixing. The Kingfishers particularly enjoyed seeing the lions and tigers. They were able to apply their knowledge from their Science lessons about the types of animals they are and their diets. The EYFS children really loved seeing the orangutans and the chimpanzees too.



### **Hawk's Geography Field Study at Wolseley Bridge**

On Thursday, the Hawks ventured out as Geographers to complete a field study at Wolseley Bridge. They had perfect weather for the occasion. They were learning about what would happen if the area of their land was changed into a playground for toddlers. They had to survey the area and explore how the playground would impact the environment, including the wildlife there. This enrichment opportunity helped them to apply their knowledge of human and physical geography, as well as to think about possible careers for the future linked to Geography and Environmental Science.





**Coming Soon – Dates to Remember**

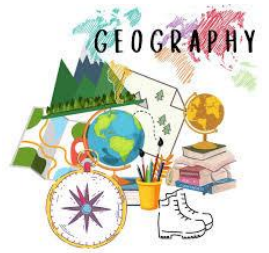
There are lots of enrichment opportunities still to come this term, including the following:

**Film Night (Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> until 5pm)**



Next Tuesday, we will be having a film night to raise funds for our digital strategy. All money raised will go towards new styluses to be used with our Ipad.

We will be watching the recently released ‘**Moana 2**’. Children will have drinks, pop corn and sweets. The cost of film night is **£3.50**. Please complete **the payment on Parentmail**, which will act also as permission.



**Easter Service, All Saints Church, Madeley (Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2-3pm)**

Our Easter service will be an opportunity for our whole school family to come together, reflect on the term we have had and celebrate the season of Spring and Easter. **The service begins at 2pm. Parents will be able to enter the church no earlier than 1:55pm**, as we will be arriving with the pupils in stages and will need to get them into the church safely.



**All children should come to school in their school uniform as there will be no PE in the afternoon.** Children do not require their school bags on this day. However, they should bring to school a water bottle. Children will be having an early lunch. Disposable lunch boxes please. Coats should be worn as many of the children will be walking to the church.

A form has been sent out, via Parentmail, for you to indicate who will be collecting your child from the church. Wrap Around club with Miss Bill will take place as per usual. However, all other extra-curricular clubs will not occur on this day.

Forthcoming Dates	
Date	Event
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Film Night Y1-6 Main site until 5pm
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service, All Saints, Madeley, 2-3pm
Monday 14th April – Friday 25th April	Easter Holiday
Monday 28th April	INSET
Tuesday 29th April	Summer term starts
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Group Photos (Please ensure your child(ren) come in to school dressed smartly in the correct uniform.)

Mon 5th May	May Day Bank holiday
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> - Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs week
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Hawks (Y5/6) have been invited to take part in a fire safety event at Newcastle Fire Station, 11:45am-2:50pm
Tue 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Owls (Y3/4) Trip to Wolseley Bridge for a Geography field study
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Owls (Y3/4) Trip to the Birmingham Symphony Hall to take part in a musical spectacular
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception (Badgers) and Years 1 and 2 (Kingfishers) trip to Liverpool to see 'A Bear Hunt' by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Foxes and Badgers (Nursery and Reception) Sports Day, 1-3pm at Leycett Cricket Club
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Kingfishers, Owls, Hawks (Y1-Y6) Sports Day, 1-3pm at Leycett Cricket Club
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Hawks (Y5/6) visit to Stockport Air Raid Shelter
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Foxes and Badgers (EYFS) and Kingfishers (Y1/2) trip to Bewildewood
TBD	Summer Fayre
TBD	Leaver's Performance
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> July MADELEY VILLAGE COMMUNITY EVENT	Madeley Carnival (more information to be released closer to the date)
TBD	Seeing is Believing sessions
TBD	'Celebrations Assembly' at the Madeley Centre, 2-3pm
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Hawks Leaver's Performance, Madeley School, 6-8pm
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	INSET
Tues 22 July – Fri 29 August	Summer Holiday

Please note INSET days are in service training days for staff. The school will be closed to pupils on these days.

### **Safeguarding Update**

If you are concerned about the safety of a child in **immediate danger**, please dial 999. If you need Early Help support or have a concern about a child, please call Staffordshire Children's Advice and Support Service on 03001118007 or out of hours 03456042886.

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a great weekend.

All the best,

Mrs Kuffour

### **Personal Possessions**

I would like to remind all our school community of the following:

*The storage of any personal property or possessions or, where pupils bring in personal property or possessions onto the school premises it is at the pupil's and parent's own risk and the school will not be liable for any loss or damage to personal property or possessions.*

Shaw Education Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under company registration number 09067175 at registered address Kidsgrove Secondary School, Gloucester Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. ST7 4DL. The details of our academies registered as business names can be found at [www.shaw-education.org.uk](http://www.shaw-education.org.uk).