

Dear Parents and Carers

**“When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts”
By Dalai Lama**

I am really proud to announce that we have been awarded the Bronze Award for our work with young carers. This award represents the commitment from staff, to support all young carers across all age groups. Thank you to Mrs Powell and Mrs Howells for their contribution to this award. Their hard work and unwavering commitment are invaluable.

Thank you to parents/carers of Year 8 who attended parents evening on Thursday. It was nice to see the hall full of visitors on this important night.



Miss Julie Johnson
Headteacher



REMINDERS & NOTICES

National Pizza Day

Our year 7 students have been using their creativity to produce some pizzas for National Pizza Day on 7th Feb.



Exam Top Tips

Please feel free to access some useful tips for exam times. Tips 1 and 2 can be viewed by clicking the below link.

[Parent Top Tip 3 - Encouraging Productive Learning](#)

[Parent Top Tip 4 - Helping your child get into good habits](#)

Autism Awareness Events

How autistic people process information – Friday 17th February

<https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/events/how-autistic-people-process-information-webinar-west-midlands-17feb/>

Young Carers in School Award

To achieve their Bronze Award Shrewsbury Academy has demonstrated that it supports young carers in many ways, including homework clubs and drop-in sessions with a member of staff who is responsible for this vulnerable group of students. Vital information about how to identify young carers is made available to all school staff, and noticeboards and the school webpage let students and their families know where to go for help.



Please be reminded that school is closed to all students on 17th February due to staff collaboration day.



Props for Aladdin Jr.

Students have been busy creating props for the upcoming Big Show!



Operations – Mr Parkin

Free School Meals eligibility update

The free school meal (FSM) protections policy was introduced in 2018 to protect those eligible for benefits-related free school meals from becoming ineligible while Universal Credit (UC) is being rolled out. This was originally set to last until March 2022 and was subsequently extended to March 2023. The end date for protections has now been extended further until March 2025. This means that a pupil who was FSM eligible on 1 April 2018, or who has become eligible under the benefits/low-earnings criteria since then, will continue to receive free meals, even if their household income exceeds the eligibility threshold, up until March 2025 and then until the end of their phase of education (ie primary or secondary).

Mr Parkin is happy to answer any questions relating to this matter.

FSM vouchers at February Half term

To confirm, the local authority will be funding FSM vouchers again at the February half-term for benefits-related FSM pupils. These vouchers will be generated alongside two additional days, the strike date on the 1st February 2023 and the Trust collaboration day on the 17th February 2023. This makes a total of 7 days worth of funding.

These vouchers will be generated and forwarded to parents and carers on Friday 17th February 2023.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Click [here](#) to view our upcoming events.

- Aladdin Performances – 8th & 9th Feb
- Mock Exams – 10th Feb
- Mock Exams – 13th – 16th Feb
- Purple Leaf Parent Session – 16th Feb in the hall

Click [here](#) to view our term dates

NEWS



Click [here](#) to view our latest news articles.

Why not also follow us on Facebook @[ShrewsburyAcademy](#) for a wealth of content, from student, staff and school celebrations, to competitions. We encourage you to get interactive with our posts!

To hear about news from across the Trust, why not also follow @[MarchesAcademyTrust](#).

