

### Dear Families

Thank you for taking part in the surveys over the past few weeks. This started with the uniform survey that was circulated across all of our schools. This information is now being collated and used well to inform our next steps. In addition I am inserting a weekly link below, as a QR code and a live link to enable you to give your opinion. These are brief but will be ongoing, to ensure you can have your say.

We started off the year with a bang this week, with our Countdown to Success day for year 11. We had a number of guest speakers and activities to begin to prepare our year 11 for their forthcoming GCSE exams.

This year group have never sat external exams before, as their year 6 SAT exams were interrupted by the COVID lockdowns. We are giving them additional support in improving revision techniques, managing themselves and their stress levels, as well as solid advice around the benefits of exercise, sleep, and eating well.

Over the coming weeks there are many additional lessons and revision classes they can attend which will help them kickstart the revision season and prepare well for the summer exam series.

Last year saw record GCSE outcomes for our year 11's. We are excited as we think this years cohort can improve further on the heights reached in 2024!



*Jim Taylor*

**Headteacher**

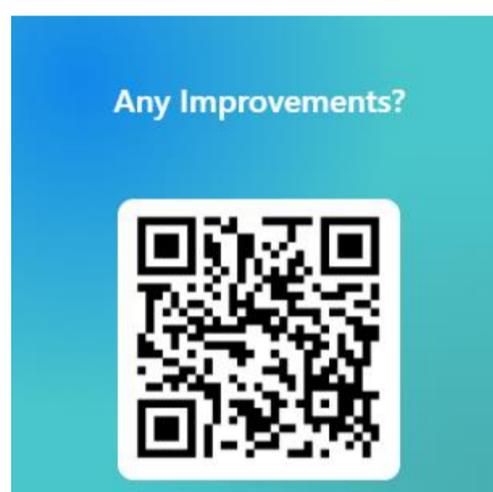
### Your Voice Matters

A very simple question this week, what can we do to improve school for you as a parent or for your child?

We are proud of the progress we have made as a school, which was recognised by Ofsted and we have firm plans in place to continue to make improvements for our students.

You have previously mentioned that communication needs to improve and we are working hard on this, to ensure prompt responses to emails and returns of phone calls are always there.

Please take a few minutes to give us your opinion, please try to be constructive in your criticism and we will try to respond to the points made.



<https://forms.office.com/e/PQd1QRbgDD>



**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January** – We're off – join STEAM Club's Whacky Races after designing & making an elastic band car. Will you be the winner?

*Love to race? Train as test driver, formula 1 mechanic or engineer your way to design cars of the future.*

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January** – Blow your top! Release your inner geologist & make your own volcano - composite, shield or dome – you decide.

*If you loved this, geology could be the career for you – why not travel the world as a volcanologist?*

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January** – Candlemas approaches – find out why candles rock! Then get fizzy and put out candles with some cool chemistry.

*Thousands of STEM careers await you fabulous physicists and cool chemists.*

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February** – Investigate grime to solve the crime! Fabulous forensics will tell you which naughty teacher is in trouble!

*Be a super sleuth! Study forensics or law. Consider a career in the police force or work as a solicitor or barrister.*

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** – Get ready for Valentines' Day: diamonds are a girl's best friend – make edible diamond models. Yum! *Cool carbon chemists can grow diamonds in a lab!*

### Chilli Challenge and Steam @SA

The gauntlet has been thrown - science teachers at Shrewsbury Academy have been set a challenge to grow the hottest, biggest (greatest mass) chilli in 2025. Our Director of Science is a bit of a secret chilli aficionado; he grows his own chillis every year in Lab 6 inspiring learners to study photosynthesis and the factors that affect it as they grow. The rest of the science team will attempt to knock him from his chilli champion perch this year.

Which teacher will top the league of fire?! With seeds called "armageddon", "demon red" and "basket of fire" we are all in with a fighting chance! #science is hot stuff # we love STEAM at Shrewsbury Academy



## Future Shrewsbury Academy Olympian?



Many congratulations to Oscar Adams for winning the Shropshire County Cross Country Championships. Oscar won the event with a significant margin to his nearest competitor of nearly 40 seconds.

Oscar's raw talent is supported by a determination both in and out of school, that ensures he works hard and trains hard. This is the mindset of success, that has resulted in Oscar producing an outstanding performance earning him this amazing accolade. Well Done Oscar.

### Shropshire County Cross Country Championships Junior Results

Pos.	Bib	Name	Gender	Club	Time	Age Cat	Age Cat Rank
<b>U13 BOYS</b>							
1	209	Oscar Adams	M	Shrewsbury AC	12:05	Male Under 13	1st

## Shrewsbury Academy Spotlight – Relentless Ambition

High standards of behaviour in schools are crucial for achieving good GCSE outcomes. Firstly, a well-disciplined environment minimises disruptions, allowing teachers to focus on delivering quality instruction and students to concentrate on learning. This leads to better understanding and retention of material, which is essential for exam success.

Secondly, high behavioural standards grow a more positive school culture. When students are respectful and responsible, it creates a supportive atmosphere where everyone feels safe and valued. This encourages students to engage more actively in their studies and participate in class discussions, enhancing their learning experience.

A consistent enforcement of behavioural expectations teaches students important life skills such as self-discipline, time management, and perseverance. These skills are not only vital for academic success but also for personal development and future career prospects, all workplaces demand similar expectations.

Finally schools with high standards of behaviour often have strong relationships between staff and students. This rapport can lead to better communication and support, helping students to overcome academic and personal challenges more effectively.



Shrewsbury Academy  
Part of the Marches Academy Trust

## Student Support Queries

If you have concerns regarding a student's learning needs, would like to request additional support/advice please complete the internal SEND referral form and send it to the following email address: [sendadmin@shr.mmat.co.uk](mailto:sendadmin@shr.mmat.co.uk). Our Student Support Department are now based in the Hub area of the Haughmond Building, taking advantage of their new amazing facilities, life skills cooking area, and outdoor learning spaces. The entrance is off **East Crescent** on the South side of the campus.

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE

## Information

[shrewsburyacademy.co.uk](http://shrewsburyacademy.co.uk)



Some of our students have **severe allergies**. Please respect our drive to be a 'nut free school.' Always leave snacks and foods containing nuts at home.

**ROYAL AIR FORCE**  
REGULAR & RESERVE

**NO ORDINARY JOB**

### FIND YOUR APPRENTICESHIP

The RAF is honoured and delighted to share the news that the Department of Education has officially recognised and ranked the RAF as number 4 in the top 100 Apprenticeship Employers 2024.

We offer Apprenticeships in the following roles:

<b>ENGINEERING</b> Aircraft Technician (Avionics) Aircraft Technician (Mechanical) Weapon Technician Electrician Survival Equipment Specialist Vehicle & Mechanical Equipment Technician General Technician Workshop	<b>CYBERSPACE</b> Communications Infrastructure Technician Cyberspace Communication Specialist	<b>LOGISTICS</b> Driver Mover Supplier Chef Air & Ground Steward
<b>MEDICAL SERVICES</b> RAF Medic	<b>AIR &amp; SPACE OPERATIONS</b> Air Traffic and Weapons Controller Firefighter	<b>SECURITY &amp; RESILIENCE</b> RAF Police RAF Regiment Gunner

To find out more about how we can help your students into an apprenticeship please contact our team on:  
**Email:** [CRN-CareersEngageMids@mod.gov.uk](mailto:CRN-CareersEngageMids@mod.gov.uk)

Apprenticeships  
Top 100 Employers 2024

Download our App to find out more about a career in the Royal Air Force



Little Stars supports local families with the essential items they need for their children, aged 0 - 13 years.

### Can you help?

We're in need of casual clothing for children aged 11 upwards, such as trousers, leggings, long sleeve tops, jumpers, cardigans and coats.

If you have clean, gently worn clothing for this age range that you'd like to donate, please contact us: [Donate@littlestarscharity.org](mailto:Donate@littlestarscharity.org)



[www.littlestarscharity.org.uk](http://www.littlestarscharity.org.uk)  
Registered Charity 1191130

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Why not also follow us on Facebook @[ShrewsburyAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/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](https://www.facebook.com/MarchesAcademyTrust).

Want to work for the Marches Multi Academy trust? Follow the link below:  
<https://www.marchesacademytrust.co.uk/joining-us/how-to-join>



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