

Monday 24th November 2025

Dear Families,

It's been an inspiring week across our school! Whilst Year 11 students have been completing their mock exams and gaining valuable experience for the future, the rest of the school has continued to thrive in their learning.

Despite the colder mornings, it's wonderful to see the energy and commitment from our students. As I walk onto the school site each day, the gym is already buzzing with students taking part in fitness sessions before lessons begin, a fantastic example of our growing culture of ambition and wellbeing. Please support us in ensuring all students leave home in the morning with a coat, the colder weather has arrived rapidly with us having our first sprinkling on snow the ground on Wednesday morning.

In classrooms, I've had the privilege of witnessing a rich variety of learning: from tackling percentages in Year 9 maths, to exploring atomic structure in science. These moments truly highlight the dedication of our students and staff in making every day count.

#Relentless **SA**mbition

Jim Taylor

Headteacher



Diary Dates: Year 11 Progress Evening: Thursday 11th December

Term Ends: Friday 19th December 🎄



Science in Action

Our Year 8 students have been busy creating models of the breathing system, bringing biology to life in a hands-on way. Each group labelled the organs using a clear key and then presented their work verbally to their peers, an excellent opportunity to develop oracy and communication skills.

Using their models, students explained the mechanisms behind inhalation and exhalation, linking back to physics concepts such as particle movement and gas pressure studied earlier this term. This activity was a fantastic example of retrieval practice, helping to strengthen memory.




STEM



Year 10 Spanish

Our Year 10 GCSE Spanish students recently enjoyed an inspiring enrichment experience at Shrewsbury School. The visit included a delicious lunch on campus and four engaging sessions led by Shrewsbury School A Level students.

The aim of this opportunity was to foster aspiration and motivation, encouraging our learners to broaden their horizons and explore the exciting possibilities that language learning offers for future academic and career pathways.

Experiences like these help our students see how languages can open doors to global opportunities, and we're proud to support them on this journey!



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Year 7 Gymnastics

This week, our Year 7 girls stepped into the exciting world of paired balances and counterbalances in gymnastics. This session wasn't just about physical movement, it was about building trust, communication, and confidence.

Working in pairs, they explored a variety of positions, challenged their balance, and learned how to support each other safely and effectively. It was inspiring to see so much teamwork, creativity, and determination on display as they pushed themselves to try something new.

Well done to everyone for embracing the challenge and developing such important skills together!



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Creative Talents

On Tuesday, Jasmine Ball, Max Chadwick, and Ana Coicheci attended the annual Drapers Textiles Competition Awards Evening, a prestigious event graced by the Mayor of Shrewsbury and local councillors.

A special congratulations to Ana Coicheci, who achieved outstanding success by earning a *Highly Commended* recognition and a Silver Award for her creative felted food pieces. Ana proudly took home two certificates and a £30 voucher!

Well done to everyone who entered and showcased their incredible talent.



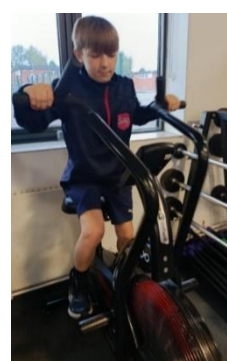
This work, and other creative pieces created by our students will be displayed in our Art Exhibition this December. See details below!



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Morning Fitness Club

There's no better way to kick-start the day than with Morning Fitness. Take a look at the brilliant photos below! Even though it's still dark when students arrive at 7:20am, they bring nothing but bright energy and a fantastic attitude. Their commitment is inspiring, with some students showing up to train every single morning. It's a great way to build strength, focus, and resilience before the school day begins. And don't forget, our fitness facilities are completely free to use! Unlike other gyms in Shrewsbury, there's no cost involved. We're open both before and after school, so there's plenty of opportunity to get involved. Just check the PE Extra-Curricular Timetable above to see what's on and when.



Shrewsbury Academy
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SF6 with JAL
Tuesdays
3.10-4.10



Autumn Term Programme
Part 2 November/December

4th Nov – Cutting edge science. Make 2 DNA models. Prove that STEAM Club is sweet(s) & smash Mr. Phillips DNA puzzle challenge!
11th Nov – Remember, remember the 5th November – fire tricks & lava lamps.
18th Nov – Cool chemistry. Only 39 days until Christmas. Investigate and make bath bomb presents.
25th Nov – Don't let the Grinch steal Christmas: slime time!
2nd Dec – make saturated solutions, glistening snowflake decorations and a "chemistree" for Christmas. STEAM Club takes the lead in a whole school interhouse Chemistry and Christmas competition!
9th Dec – Exciting electronics – design circuits to light up the festive season.
Tuesday 16th Dec – Hot chocolate science. Design, build and test a gingerbread house! Yum and of course Merry Christmas!



STUDENT SUPPORT

If you have any concerns regarding a student's learning needs or would like to request additional support or advice, our **Student Support Team** is here to help.

For any SEN related queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the SEN Team: SENDadmin@shr.mmat.co.uk

Our **Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), Laura Richmond**, works closely with the SEND team to ensure that every student receives the appropriate support. Laura is available to provide guidance, coordinate interventions, and respond to any SEND-related enquiries.

The **Student Support Department** is currently based in the **Bridge area of the Caradoc Building**, before moving to a refurbished purpose designed area of the school in September offering a central and accessible space for students.

We are also proud to have opened **The Lighthouse**, a purpose-built internal assessment and alternative provision area designed to meet a wide range of student needs in a calm and supportive environment.

Autism Support

Kids Disabled children say we can

We can grow

- The 'Riding the Rapids' programme to support parent carers' understanding of behaviour and implement support strategies
- Coffee mornings and drop-in sessions
- One-to-one support
- Child/young person 'Understanding me' group sessions
- Child/young person Lego therapy sessions

Bespoke workshops that cover:

- ASD vs ADHD (3 hours)
- Neurodiversity (specifically autism, ADHD and demand avoidance)
- Girls and the autistic spectrum
- Demand avoidance
- EBSA
- Sleep

Kids

[KIDS Shropshire.pdf](#)

Kids Shropshire Autism support service.

Who is the service for?

Parent carers and families of children and young people under the age of 19 years with autism/ADHD, at any stage of diagnosis.

If you are working with families and think they would benefit from Kids Shropshire's support, please signpost families to:

[Shropshire Universal Autism Support Service - Kids](#)

Kids have been commissioned to deliver the Universal Autism Support Service across Shropshire.

What support will I receive?

Kids Shropshire offers support for both parents/carers and children and young people, this may include a combination of both group work and individual support tailored around their assessed need by the Practitioner.

For parents, this could mean a range of things from regular phone calls to Expert Parent experience training and online courses. We're all about nurturing peer-to-peer support, allowing parents who've been through similar experiences to lend a helping hand. Our aim is to build resilience and confidence, empowering parents to support their young ones in seeking appropriate help in the future.

For children and young people our support includes things like Lego Therapy sessions or our understanding me group sessions. All things that can help boost children and young people's resilience, help with transitioning, or support self-esteem.

We work closely with parents and young people to set clear goals and outcomes for the family. We're here to understand, support, and help everyone thrive.

Kids will be offering the following support to families:

- The 'Healthy Parent Carer' programme, designed to reinforce parent carers' resilience

Shrewsbury Academy in Our Community



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EXHIBITION
Art Textiles Photography Media Food Tech Design Tech

Wednesday
3rd December **5-7PM**

Location - Shrewsbury Academy School, New Building - LRC, Corridors, Food, DT & ICT room



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.

SA NUT FREE

Become a Junior Ambassador



Are you?

- ✓ Aged between 13-17
- ✓ Confident and Outgoing
- ✓ Interested in meeting people from around the world

Why Join?

- FREE Trips to Liverpool, Manchester, Alton Towers and many more....
- Join our discos and sports days at Shrewsbury School.
- Gain new skills and great life experiences.



JOIN NOW

equity@severnvale.co.uk 01743 232505

www.severnvale.co.uk

To Become an Ambassador please register through our website, email or by clicking **JOIN NOW**
Please note that all excursions and on site activities are subject to availability and that on some excursions places may be limited.

CHARITY NETBALL MATCH

TEACHERS · FAMILIES · STUDENTS
All coming together for a **great cause!**

Thursday 18th December
3:10pm - 4:20pm
£5 PER STUDENT · £8 PER ADULT
Includes a slice of cake + hot chocolate!

+ FORM YOUR DREAM TEAM! +
Teams of 5 players
Must include one family member (16+)

SIGN UP AT THE PE OFFICE TODAY!

♥ SUPPORTING S4T CHARITY

Every penny raised goes straight to helping those in need.

Get involved, have fun, and support a great cause!



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](#).

Want to work for the Marches Multi Academy trust? Follow the link below:

<https://www.marchesacademytrust.co.uk/joining-us/how-to-join>

SA
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