



## Dear Families,

It's been a fantastic week in school, with the momentum of learning continuing to grow.

One of the highlights was our Year 11 Parents' Evening, which saw an excellent turnout. Thank you to all the families who came along. These evenings are such an important opportunity to strengthen the partnership between home and school, and the conversations were incredibly productive.

Our focus this week has been on making the most of the recent mock exams. Rather than seeing them as just another set of tests, we've used them as a powerful learning tool. The detailed feedback from these assessments allows us to pinpoint exactly what each student needs to do to improve. This clarity is invaluable, especially with GCSE exams now only a few weeks away.

Students are responding brilliantly to this approach, taking ownership of their progress and using the feedback to guide their revision. It's all about turning challenges into opportunities, and Year 11 are doing just that. Further structured support will commence in January with our Countdown to Success day – more details will follow!

A huge well done to everyone for their hard work and commitment. As this will be the final bulletin on the year may I also take this opportunity to wish all of our families a wonderful Christmas.

*Jim Taylor*  
Headteacher



## Diary Dates:

**Term Ends: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December**



## Forensics in Action.

This week in science, Students were presented with a mock crime scene where an unknown substance was safely collected as evidence. Acting as forensic scientists, they then obtained samples from two suspects, labelled A and B to avoid bias.

Using a series of chemical tests, students compared the crime scene sample with those from the suspects. After analysing and sharing their results, they presented their findings to eliminate suspect A and identify suspect B as the culprit!

A fantastic way to combine science skills with real-world problem-solving, well done, Year 8. Once again, it truly is a privilege to see students engaged in high quality learning.



## Cooking up a storm in Japanese Club!

Students from Mr Poole's Japanese club made Mochi this week with the support of Mrs Higgins. These are Japanese chewy rice cakes. Students have been learning Japanese throughout the term and it was great to see them try this too and show appreciation of other cultures. We encourage any student with an interest in learning new languages and cultures to check out all the clubs the school has to offer!



## Girls in STEM

The event featured a hands-on competition where the girls showcased their creativity and problem-solving skills by designing and modelling safe conveyor belts. They also explored the exciting world of engineering and manufacturing, learning about the wide range of careers and apprenticeships available in these fields.

With a growing drive to encourage more students, especially girls into Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Our students truly shone. Their innovative solutions and teamwork was inspirational.

**Well done to all involved, you were amazing!**



## Morning Fitness Club

There's no better way to kick-start the day than with 'Morning Fitness Club'. 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   
Part of the Marches Academy Trust

SF6 with JAL  
Tuesdays  
3.10-4.10



Autumn Term Programme  
Part 2 November/December

4<sup>th</sup> Nov – Cutting edge science. Make 2 DNA models. Prove that STEAM Club is sweet(s) & smash Mr. Phillips DNA puzzle challenge!  
11<sup>th</sup> Nov – Remember, remember the 5<sup>th</sup> November – fire tricks & lava lamps.  
18<sup>th</sup> Nov – Cool chemistry. Only 39 days until Christmas. Investigate and make bath bomb presents.  
25<sup>th</sup> Nov – Don't let the Grinch steal Christmas: slime time!  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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!  
9<sup>th</sup> Dec – Exciting electronics – design circuits to light up the festive season.  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 Shropshire.pdf](#)

**Kids** Disabled children say we can

We can grow

### 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

- 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

## Shrewsbury Academy in Our Community



**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.



### 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** [equiry@severnvale.co.uk](mailto:equiry@severnvale.co.uk) 01743 232905  
[www.severnvale.co.uk](http://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!**

**Wednesday 17th 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!**

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

