



# THE LODGE

Issue 39 ... Feb 2020

## Message from the Head



Yet again we have had an incredibly busy half term, with students engaging in a wide variety of off site and on site learning experiences, sporting fixtures and for our older students mock exams.

The numbers of students in the schools has now topped 90 with an average over the financial year of 85. These are our highest levels to date.

This has inevitably put pressure on our resources and staffing. As a result we are looking to provide additional support in key areas of the school, as well as re-advertising vacancies as a matter of urgency where posts have not been filled to date. The school continues to work towards Academy conversion as consultation feedback raised no concerns.

Our target date to join The Manor Hall Academy Trust has, however, slipped as a result of circumstances beyond our control, and we are now looking at June 1st 2020 to convert.

Thank you to those of you who were able to complete the parent survey. As you will be able to see from the summary, the outcome was very positive overall, with more parents and carers feeling better informed about their child's progress than in previous years.

## 5 STAR RATING

The Brades



Lodge have again successfully achieved the highest hygiene level after environmental health visitors looked over the kitchen and food technology areas.

## OFSTED VISIT

Just as staff

started to relax and begin to think about the half term break, Shenstone Lodge School received 'THE' call, and Ofsted were in a few hours later to inspect the residential provision.

Over 3 days the inspector has looked at policies, procedures and the overall care which the school provides to its residential cohort.

We look forward to sharing the outcome with you when the final report is published.



## County Lines Awareness

On Wednesday 8th January a football team from The Brades Lodge joined 17 other schools in 7-a-side tournament at the 'Play Football Arena' in Hockley, Birmingham. The event was staged to raise awareness of the 'County Lines' phenomena, and

was punctuated with guest speakers who spoke to those attending to warn of the dangers of this criminal activity. The football element was hard and fast, with Brades Lodge holding their own through most of the games. Although they didn't make it to the finals, the students had a great day. Rio said " I was asked to referee which was brilliant... it was fantastic to see so many kids playing football and being proud to represent their schools."



## SPORTS NEWS

Shenstone Lodge FC have played a return game against local rivals Lichfield Cathedral School. The game was a dramatic end to end affair with both teams taking the lead at different points in the match. At 5-5 with two minutes to go it looked as though the result was going to be a draw and a fair reflection of the play. Sadly, the away team grabbed a winner with seconds to go stealing a 6-5 victory. Effort and team spirit was again visible in droves from our players, who took the result well. A particular well done needs to go to Mathew who was declared man of the match and Dwain and Ibby who were our student managers of the match.

**Parent Survey 2019/20** As you can see from the report below, there is strong support for the school and how we are seen across the parent and carer groups.

Questions	Whole School Don't Know	Whole School Strongly disagree	Whole School Disagree	Whole School Agree	Whole School Strongly agree
My child enjoys school	1	0	3	13	18
The school keeps my child safe	1	0	2	5	27
The school informs me about my child's progress	2	1	1	10	21
My child is making enough progress at this school	3	1	1	9	21
The teaching is good at this school	3	1	0	8	23
Staff help my child improve their reading	3	1	0	11	20
Staff help my child improve their writing	3	1	1	9	21
Staff help my child improve their maths	3	1	0	10	21
Staff help my child improve their computer skills	3	1	0	9	22
The school helps me to support my child's learning	1	1	1	9	23
The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle	1	0	2	11	21
The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future	1	1	1	12	20
The school meets my child's particular needs	2	1	2	8	22
The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	1	0	0	11	23
The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns	3	1	0	9	22
The school is led and managed effectively	1	0	0	10	24
Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school	2	0	1	7	25
	34	11	15	161	374
	5%	2%	3%	27%	63%

overall +ve	90%
overall -ve	5%
DK	5%

up 2%  
down 1%  
down 1%

Again we need to focus on ensuring all of you have access to relevant information so that you know how well your child's doing .

## RESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS



In addition to navigating the Residential Inspection the students continue to broaden their experiences and test themselves by undertaking new activities and visiting new places. Amongst the highlights of the half term was a visit to the Hawthornes (not to everybody's taste ! ) , a trip to the Chinese Supermarket to buy food to celebrate the Chinese Year of the Rat and the 'soft play' centre in Burton to face the right angle DEATH SLIDE 🤖 Dee Hart (HOC)



## POLICE WORKSHOPS

A new working relationship between students at Shenstone Lodge School and West Midlands police kicked off this term with a workshop based at The Brades Lodge. The content of this workshop was to build a better understanding in the students as to what the Police do on a daily basis. The students learned that not only do the police arrest criminals and prevent crimes but they also support members of the community by moving illegally parked vehicles and relocate swans who are causing a hazard on roads. The student got to try on hand-cuffs and passed around the 'wand'.



Malachi said "Although some of the content was dark, and about robberies and stuff, overall it was fun and I learned something new

## Quiz Corner



1. What is a 'Wolf Moon'?
2. Which region is known as 'The Potteries'?
3. Which football team are known as 'The Hatters'?
4. Does a 'parsec' measure distance or time?
5. How many different meanings can you find for the word 'cast'?
6. How many points is a 'Drop Goal' worth in rugby?

## TRANSPORT ALLOWANCE STILL AVAILABLE

As a follow up to our last newsletter, The Local Authority and school are still keen to encourage parents and carers to transport their child : If you

1. Have your own transport available
2. Are willing and able to transport your child to and from school
3. Have a child that is currently using a LA funded taxi.



The Local Authority are willing to pay you 45p per mile (school and back twice a day) as long as your child is dropped off and picked up on time. Monies paid will not affect any benefit income. If you are interested in knowing more about the scheme or want to sign up, please contact the school and ask to talk to Simon Hobbs.

Well Done...



To Theo, Charlie, Omar, Callum and Thomas for receiving the most positive report slips at The Brades Lodge this half term.

To Luke, Andre, Rio E, Callum, Thomas, Findlay, Aadam, Omar and Ethan who have 100% attendance this half term at The Brades Lodge.

To Ethan D, Matthew, Brayden, Billy, Xavi, Dwain and Jayden B with the highest Dojos in each class this half term.

To Evan, Billy, Jayden B, Lucas S, Lexie, Caiden, Ricardo, Ibby, Ethan C, Lucas G, Malachi, Riley T, Kieron, Luke O, Celest, Brayden, Caleb, Joshua, Curtis, Xavier, Jake O, Shay, Michael and Riley N who have 100% attendance at Shenstone Lodge this half term.



## Good To Know, Working with Families News

Sandwell Council has launched a new online form to help people **report anti-social behaviour**. The form provides a single point of entry for all anti-social behaviour reports to the council. It will make sure reports are sent to the right team to deal with the matter [www.sandwell.gov.uk/asb](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/asb)

**The Family Information Services Hub (FISH)** provides information about the services available in Sandwell for all families, children, young people and professionals. You can do tailored searches for childcare, activities and other available services to meet a family's needs. <https://fis.sandwell.gov.uk>

### A.O.B.

- Following our last appeal for new Governing Body members we are pleased to welcome Samantha Rock, Adam Harris and Lorraine Warmington to the board. The new members have a broad range of experiences and skills which will help to support the school develop further in the future. We do still have one Parent Governor vacancy. If you would like to express an interest in the position please email or call [headteacher@shenstonelodge.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@shenstonelodge.co.uk)
- Shenstone Lodge has appointed two fantastic Learning Support Practitioners. Dominique Tuitt is now a permanent member of the staff team after a number of months employed on a temporary contract, and Stephanie Fletcher will be joining the school in the next few weeks.
- Karen Pickering, Safeguarding Manager at The Brades Lodge, will be leaving at the end of half term to pursue a new career. We wish her well and thank her for her support for the students over her many years in the school.
- Congratulation to Romero and Josh from SLS who have been selected to play for the West Brom Academy U13s team. They are looking forward to being the premiership stars of the future. Well Done boys !

### Diary Dates...

**Half Term 17th -21st Feb**

**Easter Break 6th Apr-17th Apr**

**1.30pm finish**

**May Day FRIDAY 8th May**

**STAFF INSET 7th May**

**Half Term 25th May-29th May**

### School Data Box 2018/19

Below is a short summary of some of the key bits of information that we report on to Governors and the Local Authority.

Whole School Attendance for 2018/2019 : **84.1%**

2019 /20 school year to date : **83.9%**  
(TBL 75.7% SLS 92%)

Whole School Sessions lost to Exclusion (1 day = 2 sessions)

2018/19 : **127** 2019/20 school year to date : **83**

### ONLINE SAFETY MESSAGE



rates movies, TV shows, books, and more so parents can feel good about the entertainment choices they make for their kids. They offer the largest, most

trusted library of independent age-based ratings and reviews.

<https://www.common sense media.org>

## HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Tipton Leisure Centre have kindly agreed to trial an Autism Family Swim Session, on Friday 21st February from 1pm till 2pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your child to meet other children on the autism spectrum and their families in a fun, friendly environment. For more information, please visit: <https://www.slt-leisure.co.uk/our-centres/tipton-leisure-centre/>

### **Autism Family Swim:**

- This session is aimed at children 0 – 16 years with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Condition and their families
  - 1 Carer free Admission (proof of Disability living allowance and or proof of carers allowance required). All other family members charges apply – under 16 free swim, click here to register: <https://www.slt-leisure.co.uk/free-swimming-in-sandwell/>
  - 1 hour exclusive use of the learner pool and main pool
  - No music
  - Whistles only used in an emergency – swim rules apply
  - Fun floats and arm bands provided
  - Life guards on duty to complete Autism West Midlands - Autism Awareness Training
- Pool temperature approx. 82°F (28°C) - 84°F (29°C)

**Important: Please alert staff of any medical conditions before entering the pool.**

## SANDWELL AUTISM GROUP SAG

We're a group for anyone in Sandwell involved with autism.

We aim to improve outcomes for autistic children and young people.

We do this by sharing information and engaging with each other.

Come along to one of our meet ups to find out more.

Wednesbury Library, Walsall St, Wednesbury WS10 9EH	
Date	Time
Monday 9th March	9.45-11.15
Monday 11th May	9.45-11.15
Monday 8th June	9.45-11.15
Monday 13th July	9.45-11.15

You don't need to book, join us when you can.

**Are you part of a support group for parents of autistic children?** We can come along to one of your meetings to talk about our group aims and our current priorities.

For more information:

Email: [sandwellautismgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:sandwellautismgroup@hotmail.com)

Facebook: Sandwell Autism Group

Mobile: 07949 726 738 (Leave us a message)

Website: <https://sandwellautismgroup.000webhostapp.com/>