



## Message from the Head

It's hard to believe that another year is drawing to a close. As I look back over the last 12 months it feels that the momentum of change is gathering pace as opposed to slowing down. Alongside further changes to the Ofsted frameworks, there have been significant adjustments to the staff teams which has given the schools a renewed focus on our core business of education.

There have been radical overhauls to our assessment and monitoring processes which means that we will be able to identify those students who are finding things difficult more quickly and to ensure that support is more appropriate.

In addition the school continues to develop its range of partners to improve our curriculum and enrichment offer across all year groups.

On 8-10 December we had an 'Ofsted, Social Care Inspection' which looks specifically at the residential provision, covering leadership and management, quality of care, child protection, overall experience and outcomes. I am able to pass on that we are extremely pleased with the outcome and that the official report will be made available in the next few weeks on the school and Ofsted websites.

Have a great Christmas !

## Film Hits The Big Screen

The students and staff at The Brades Lodge have written and produced a hard hitting drama which received positive acclaim at its premier showing at Cineworld in Wolverhampton. The film entitled 'Red Gang 2' was seen by around 170 visiting dignitaries, members of the Governing Body, local school students and anti knife campaigner Alison Cope. The 45 minute production outlined how knife crime impacts across individuals, families and communities, whilst Alison delivered a moving presentation of how her son was killed as a result of a knife attack in 2013.



It was amazing to see so many people gathered to support the work that students had undertaken and how well they conducted themselves at the viewing. DJ said "It was a great day and occasion. I'm amazed how many people came to watch. I hope we made a difference to them."

Martin said "I was glad to be part of this fantastic day!"

## JUDO

Tuesday nights have become a fantastic focal point for the students at Shenstone Lodge School who are engaging in the newly established Judo Club, delivered by our 'in house' instructor Mr Smith.

The popular club is helping the children develop self control, resilience and discipline. It is open to all and provides a great release of energy. Darren said " I really like it because I get to learn how to protect myself. I also like the throws and trying to throw the bigger boys !"





## SPORTS NEWS

Shenstone Lodge School registered their first win of the season over local rivals Longdon Hall. The 7-1 victory was a credit to the team and it was particularly good to see the established players supporting those who were new to the team.

The Brades Lodge had a hard fought match at the Options School. The team faced an aggressive side which made it difficult to play our usual passing game. At the end Brades suffered a 8-0 defeat. The return match on home soil is an eagerly awaited fixture. Home support will be more than welcome !



## Christmas Quiz Corner

1. In what town was Jesus born ?
2. What country did Christmas Trees originate from ?
3. Who brings presents to children in Holland on the 5th/6th December ?
4. How many Wise Men brought gifts to Jesus ?
5. How many letters are in the angelic alphabet ?
6. What was Joseph's job ?
7. What Angel visited Mary ?



## Staff Conference 2015

The Midlands SEMH School Conference, organised by Shenstone Lodge School and supported by Engage in Their Future, held on November 20th in Walsall was a resounding success. Nearly 200 delegates from across the Midlands and beyond enjoyed high quality key note speakers and workshop opportunities delivered by Nationally acclaimed professionals and Local Network practitioners.

The conference prides itself on offering something for every level of 'child facing' staff member and it was fantastic to see that a number of schools used the day as INSET and attended with their whole team.

The conference was themed around educating and supporting the students in our schools who are presenting an increasingly complex range of mental health needs.

Of the 8 available workshops some looked at practical ways of engaging students using resources and strategies that are not typically found in schools, whilst others focussed on developing leadership, peer partnerships, and approaches to working with children at risk of sexual exploitation.

The conference was well supported by local education focussed companies who generously donated a range of gifts for an end of conference prize draw.



## RESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Our residential kids have really loved taking part in 'Forest School' activities during the evenings here at Shenstone Lodge. They have got 'wellied up' to get stuck into lots of fun games like hide-and-seek-tag, capture-the-flag and even had torch-lit treasure hunts in our schools woodland areas. It's a great opportunity to develop team building skills and have a chance to successfully complete small achievable tasks.

We have also been cooking in the evenings, with opportunities to make cakes, cake-pops, biscuits, muffin-pizzas, toasties and cupcakes. Most have been successful and all were well received !

After making cards and decorations in our Christmascraft sessions we're all looking forward to our Residential end of term trip out to a local adventure farm to take on their "death slide" (its very steep!). Mr Hart (DHOC)



## Jack and The Christmas Beanstalk

Students at Shenstone Lodge enjoyed a fantastic Jack and the Beanstalk performance at the Garrick Theatre Lichfield. (Oh no they didn't !). The matinee extravaganza was fronted by Ian Adams (of Tailgaters and Words With Strangers fame) and was supported by a plethora of local talent (Oh yes he was !). The children had a brilliant time as active audience participants, booing and hissing with the other schools present at the show. For most of the group this was the first time they had been to a theatre or seen a pantomime and they are already looking forward to a chance to go next year "It was good.. I would like to see it again" said Lemarr (Oh yes he did !)



## Come Dine With Me Hits Shenstone

Students in Phoenix class enjoyed a fun-filled, food-fuelled afternoon themed around the popular TV programme 'Come Dine With Me'. Students baked, boiled and mixed an exciting array of dinners which were sampled by a very hungry staff team.

The meals got marked out of 10 for taste and looks and competition amongst the group was fierce. In the end it was decided that everyone was a winner ! Well done all !



The Brades Lodge Students are in the process of raising £190 to sponsor two orphaned children in Africa to attend school and be supported with medical care. We are only £60 short so we are asking for any donations to be forwarded as soon as possible to the school THANK YOU. We might not be able to change the world, but we can make a difference !

PROJECT  
AFRICA



## Parent Questionnaire

Parent's views are extremely important to us and help us to shape school development. By completing and returning the questionnaire attached we can continue to measure how we are performing as a school with regard to meeting your needs and those of your child.

If you managed to fill it in whilst attending the Shenstone Lodge School Christmas performance... Thank you, you will be pleased to know you don't need to do it again !

Questionnaires should be returned by Friday 18th December so that the information and feedback can be collated for the next newsletter. THANK YOU !!!

## Well Done...



To Kacey, Thomas, Freddie-Lee, Bradley M, Rhys and Derren for receiving the most positive report slips at The Brades Lodge this half term

To Kieran, Thomas, Jack and Jordan M who have 100% attendance this half term at The Brades Lodge.

To Baileigh, Joshua, Leona, R'Mario and Sam with the highest class Dojos this half term

To Caleb, Riley, Curtis, Leona, Darren, Chanel, Rhys, Ethan S, Kyle Ethan W, Ethan BG, Heather, Elena, Dakarai, Luke, Baileigh, Calum Bradley, Lemarr and Shannon who have 100% attendance at Shenstone Lodge

## Space Centre Review by Griffin Class member Josh

"We went to the National Space Centre and learnt about the planets Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Jupiter is the fourth planet from the sun and it's the biggest. Uranus is the coldest planet. We found out about gravity. Isaac Newton was sitting under a tree and an apple fell on his head. We made our own paper machè planets using a variety of different size balls. We looked at a number of different pictures of Earth taken from the International Space Station (ISS). We chose a picture we liked of the Earth from space and made our own. We then went outside and used toilet paper to show the distance of the planets from the Sun. We made our own rockets and had a competition to see whose was the most aerodynamic." By Josh



## A.O.B.

After being reliably informed that BT had planned to install High Speed Fibre Optic Broadband to Shenstone Lodge school between 16th and 21st November, we seem to be back to square one after a blockage was found in the 'trunking' somewhere between Lichfield and the school. We now have another waiting game while this is sorted!

Mr Bogle (RCCO) has joined Shenstone Lodge School this half term.

## Parent Governor

The school continues to have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. If you would like to be considered for this position please forward your expression of interest to:

[headteacher@shenstonelodge.sandwell.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@shenstonelodge.sandwell.sch.uk)

with a short resume of how you would like to support the school and how you would be able to contribute. Meetings are now from 4pm and to take place every 6 weeks or so. They are held at both sites.

Closing date for applications January 8th 2016.

THANK YOU !!!

## Diary Dates...

End of Term 1.30pm Fri  
18th Dec

Students return Mon 4th  
Jan 2016

15th-19th Feb Half Term

End of Term Wed 23rd  
March 2016 1.30pm

Students return Mon 11th  
April 2016



*Have a Very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!*

*From all the staff and  
students at the Shenstone  
Lodge Schools*





# Parent/ Carer Questionnaire Dec 2015.

For each of the statements below, please tick the box which best reflects your views:

1 = strongly agree 2= agree 3= disagree 4 = strongly disagree  
5 = don't know

Student Yr Gp.
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	1	2	3	4	5
My child feels safe at school					
My child is making good progress at school					
The school meets my child's particular needs					
The school ensures my child is well looked after					
My child is taught well at school					
The school helps my child to :					
Behave better					
Read					
Write					
Use maths					
Use computers					
Understand what they need to get a job					
The school encourages students to behave well					
The school deals effectively with any case of bullying					
My child's lessons are not disrupted by bad behaviour					
I am able to approach the school with any concerns knowing that it will respond appropriately					
The school keeps me well informed about all matters concerning my child					

If you want to explain any of your answers, or if there is anything else you want to tell us (maybe about the website), please write on the reverse:

**Please Return to school by Fri 18th Dec**



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is closed this  
winter...**

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