



THE LODGE

Issue 36 ... July 2019

Message from the Head



Some of you will have seen a recent article in the Express and Star which shared with readers that a number of schools in Sandwell, including Shenstone Lodge have significant deficit budgets projected.

What the article failed to mention, was that the school has been working hard to address this situation over the last year.

Although the current financial year will continue to be challenging, the actions we have taken to date will ensure that the school is financially stable for years to come.

As part of our 'recovery plan' the school intends to convert to an Academy in the new school year. In the Autumn term we will be consulting with parents, carers, staff and others who are involved in the school, to ensure that all views are taken into consideration before Governors make the final decision to convert.

Despite the issues we have faced I am pleased to say that it has been another successful year for the school with whole school attendance at an all time high and the number of sessions lost to exclusion across the sites at an all time low.

We are also looking forward to receiving the exam results over the next few weeks.

Have a fantastic and restful Summer break !

PARENT GOVERNOR ALERT !

The school, again, has a vacancy for a Parent Governor as our long serving post holder leaves the board as a result of his child moving through to

higher education. This is a rewarding role and you will be in a position to help to support the schools senior leadership and influence the strategic direction of our future. Free training is provided and a mileage allowance is offered to those in post. Meetings are usually once a term and last about 2 hours. If you would like more information then please email headteacher@shenstonelodge.co.uk



KIA ORA !



As you may be aware, Shenstone Lodge is part of the 'Engage in Their Future' national and international network of SEMH schools. On 10.7.19 we were privileged to welcome three people from New Zealand for a tour of our schools and facilities. They spent a few hours with us and had the opportunity to speak to staff and students alike. They were very impressed with the facilities and how motivated the staff were. However, they were even more impressed with the knowledge and attitude of the students they met who not only knew where New Zealand was, but also what it is famous for. Paul France taught some students about the Duke of Wellington and his significance while Jo Reynolds talked, with passion, about humanities. John

thought he was going to meet a real Kiwi, unfortunately it was only a toy ! **MIHI**

SPORTS NEWS



The Brades Lodge School held their annual Sports Day at the Dell stadium on 28th June. It was a well participated affair attended by some parents and carers. Students were given dedicated teaching and coaching points for the 7 different events over the first part of the day to make sure their throwing, jumping and running technique provided maximum impact. The event 'proper' was very competitive from the start and throughout, with students trying their hardest to do well. The Key stage 3 event was won by Andre who was closely followed by McKenzie Le. The Key stage 4 competition was won by Jaden on his final day of school. The award for most effort was won by Doulton!

We are delighted to announce that Shenstone Lodge has been awarded the School Games Silver Mark Award for the 2018/2019. The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competitions across their school and into the community. We are delighted to have been recognised for our success. Well done all.



With a large number of our students competing in local inter-school competitions throughout the year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including our Sports Leaders, school staff, volunteers and officials who made our competitions possible.

ZOO VISIT

As part of our current Science topic, Living Things, Unicorn, Dragon and Athos classes all went to visit Twycross Zoo.

While we were there, we took a closer look at a range of different habitats and the animals that live there.

We also looked at different animal species and the way that animals have adapted to survive in their environment.



RESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS



From mini explorers (trampling through rain forest-like fern in Cannock Chase), to mini scientists (making lava lamps), to mini wizards (Harry Potter theme night), to mini sports stars (badminton training), this term has been an eclectic mix of activities to push the pupil's development and experiences in the right direction. An evening trip to Drayton Manor will round the year off nicely. We wish you well for the summer, and see you in the new school year!

Dave Hare RCCO

NATIONAL AWARDS SUCCESS

SEMH Schools group, 'Engage in Their Future' hold annual achievement awards prior to their National Conference. This year, Brades Lodge entered McKenzie Le for a poem he wrote about Mental Health issues during World Book Day. The poem was entered into the category 'Innovation and Creativity' where it achieved the bronze award. McKenzies work was the only piece read out to the audience and it managed to raise a tear or two from those attending. We look forward to him achieving the gold award next year.



Quiz Corner

1. Which women's football team won the 2019 World Cup ?



2. What is the highest Mountain in the UK ?

3. What are the indigenous people of New Zealand called ?

4. Where can you find a motherboard ?

5. How many different meanings can you find for the word 'set' ?

Gardening Success !

Students at the Shenstone Lodge site have been working hard to renovate and develop the old walled gardens on the edges of our fantastic grounds over the year, and are at last beginning to reap what they have sown !

During their regular 'Horticulture' sessions, students have helped to prepare 3 large raised beds by digging, raking, sowing seeds, watering and weeding, whatever the weather.

We have achieved so much this year. We have been awarded a Level 3 RHS School Gardening Award and have been selling the produce to school visitors and a local villagers.



Well Done...



To Joshua, Kieran, McKenzie Lu, Jack, Jamie and Rhys for receiving the most positive report slips at The Brades Lodge this half term.

To Kyle CH, Sam and Andre who have 100% attendance this half term at The Brades Lodge.

To Michael, Kieron, Junior, Riley T and Daniel with the highest class Dojos this half term.

To Chris, Caiden, Lexi, Jayden B, Mia-Louise, Jake A, Ethan C, Junior, Kyle, Romero, Charlotte, Celest, Kieron, Riley T, Xavier, Callum, Curtis, Jake O, Riley N and Ryan who have 100% attendance at Shenstone Lodge this half term.

SOAP BOX DERBY THRILLS AGAIN !

On the 25th June, The Brades Lodge hosted its fifth national soap box derby. Nine schools entered this year's event with a total of eleven teams.

The theme for the day was 'underwater', which meant we had some of the best designed soap boxes so far.

Each team worked well to get the most out of their soap boxes to set some blistering times down the Warley hill side. 'Springfield Barracudas' took the top spot for the main course with The Brades Lodge in a close second.

In a separate event, known as 'the speed trap' each team attempted the fastest speed in a straight line, this too was closely contested and was only settled by a head to head to race where Lindsworth took the top spot. The award for the best design was the Titanic Flat Earthers from Woodfield school, who had clearly put a lot of effort into all aspects with costumes to match their titanic themed soap box. I would like to thank Conway Packaging, CCVI Ltd and Bargain bikes, Abbey Joinery for the parts, donations and assistance and all the teams, supporters and staff for making this year our best yet. See you on the track next year.



A.O.B.

Since our last newsletter the following staff have either left the school already, or will be leaving at the end of the term. Stephen Allen, Luke Cato and Rose Warner from the Brades, Mel Keating, Tracy Harris, Helen Pearcey and Narinder Singh at Shenstone. We wish them well in the future and thank them all for their commitment and hard work over the years.

Diary Dates...

Summer Holiday 19.7.19 1.30pm

INSET 2nd and 3rd September

Students Return 4th September

Half Term 28th Oct-1st Nov

INSET 8th November

Xmas Break 23rd Dec-3rd Jan

Half Term 17th -21st Feb

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%
(2017/18 82%)

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

2018/19 : 127 2017/18 : 137



The flyer on the left provides any easy way to help your child keep safe and think SMART when they are using the internet, especially if they access social media sites. The website www.kidsmart.org.uk has loads of useful tips and quizzes to promote children's understanding of safe use. Give it a go !

(IT manager Narinder Singh)