



THE LODGE

Issue 40 ... April 2020

Message from the Head



The impact of the Coronavirus COVID-19 has been unprecedented to say the least. On a personal and professional level, this time has been one of the most difficult in my career as we actively ask students to stay away from school for their own safety, with no return date to hang on to. This isn't like the Summer holidays !

I am sure you are all watching the news on an almost daily basis trying to second guess how and when all this will end. Unfortunately, the school is in the same position.

On April 19th the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson stated that "five tests must be met before schools could reopen, including a fall in infections and the daily death rate."

(for more information <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52332903>)

Since then there have been numerous media reports identifying potential dates for schools to reopen.

What we do know, is that schools will not be open before the May half term. It is less clear what may happen after then, other than any unlocking of the doors it is likely to be in phases, to continue to minimise the potential infection risks of social contact.

On a positive note, the school has been operating exclusively from the Brades Lodge site, and has maintained a limited number of places to support students with keyworker parents and carers, and those who have the highest levels of vulnerability. Regular calls to parents and carers have been well received and the vast majority of families are managing really well. For those whose home circumstances have become unmanageable, we are looking at ways to offer some potential respite for all concerned. As a result we will be relocating our 'offer' to the Shenstone Lodge site where the room spaces are bigger and it easier to reduce the number of students in a particular area.

Take Care !

COMMUNITY HEROES

Well meaning staff from the Brades Lodge have been using their expertise, ingenuity, determination and school resources to support front line workers in hospitals and care homes. After raising an incredible £1500 through the 'Go Fund Me' website they were able to buy materials and chemicals to produce 'shield style' face masks and hand sanitizers.

Contact has also been made with local Volunteer groups and staff are offering their time to deliver food parcels and prescriptions to those who are unable to leave home during the lockdown period.

Interest in our efforts has reached the Express and Star so please look out for our article.

Well done Guys!





SPORTS NEWS

On the 11th March The Brades Lodge played host to the Midlands SEMH Schools regional 7 a side tournament at the 'Goals' football centre. The tournament attracted 11 schools from as far away as Solihull, Staffordshire, Birmingham and Leicester. The teams played a number of games within small leagues and the winners went through to playoffs to secure a place in the finals. This was an amazing football spectacular with some real talent on show. The Brades Lodge team performed brilliantly to come 3rd overall with some exceptional displays from Kyle and Rio. The overall winners were Northern House School from Solihull. The top teams (including The Brades) will now go through to the National Finals which were due to be held at the home of Englands training facility, St. Georges park in Burton Upon Trent in April. Due to current events this has been postponed with a view to teams gathering from across the country in the Autumn term . Well done boys !



RESIDENTIAL OFSTED VISIT

As you are aware from our previous newsletter the Residential Provision had its annual 3 day inspection from the 11th -13th February 2020. I am extremely proud to share with you that the we retained our OUTSTANDING grading !



Of note, there were numerous supportive and positive comments as the inspector evaluated 3 key areas as follows :

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, how well children and young people are helped and protected, and the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

It was recognised that "Children flourish and make progress beyond expectations. Their confidence significantly improves as does their ability to communicate and to make friends".

"Safeguarding practice is excellent Behaviour management strategies are highly effective".

"The leadership team is totally child-focused and passionate about the service that they and their staff provide to children. The leadership team is progressive and reflective and ensures that the service is constantly developing and responding to children's changing needs".

GO FUND ME LINK

If you would like to donate to the Schools PPE fund then please follow the following link. Any money that is left over at the end of the project will be donated to one of the many local NHS charities.

https://www.gofundme.com/f/shenstone-lodgebrades-lodge-school-ppe-mask-fund?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=chat&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1

Cheer Us Up Mr D !

Mr Daniel at the Brades Lodge is well known in school for telling the odd joke or two to raise a smile in the staff room before a hard day at the 'chalk face' ... Given the current state of the nation he has kindly offered to share a few witty words to keep us all going.. Thanks sir !

What do bees do if they need a ride? Wait at the buzz stop!

What do you call birds who stick together? Vel-crows.

*What did Batman say to Robin before they got in the car?
"Robin, get in the car."*

What's green and has wheels? Grass. I lied about the wheels.

I spotted a marmite van on the motorway, it was heading yeast bound.

"Money can't buy you happiness? Well, check this out, when isolation is over I'm going to buy a Happy Meal".

Quiz Corner



1. What is a 'penny farthing' ?
2. Name 5 cities in the North West of England ?
3. Which football team are known as 'The Magpies' ?
4. Which is heavier, 1 litre of water or 1kg bag of sugar ?
5. How many different meanings can you find for the word 'part' ?
6. How many outfield players in a cricket team ?

WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 5th March was World Book Day. Staff and students at The Brades Lodge celebrated by dressing up as characters from books. We were joined for the day by London hip-hop artist, poet and writer Karl Nova, who entertained us with stories, performed rap songs and poetry for the students and got them involved with creating ideas for rap lyrics. Mrs Yates



LPPA

improving
parental
engagement

Leading Parent Partnership Award

As a school team we are continuing to work through the Leading Parent Partnership Award and it's excellent to be sharing with the Governing Body and Accreditation Auditors how we are communicating with parent/carers in this difficult time. Our partnership with you all is so important and is what helps our school to grow and develop. We are hoping to get the award finalised in June/July. I will keep you all updated on its progress. D Hart

*******PLEASE USE THE WEBSITE *******

Please check our website regularly as work for the students is being updated continually and we are providing increasing numbers of website links to support you with well being information, educational feeds, activity videos and information from local groups. You can also contact us through the home.learning@shenstonelodge.co.uk email address. This can also be used to share pictures of your child completing work or requesting more work from a specific teacher if necessary. If you do not have internet access then please let our team know when you receive your weekly welfare call and we will send you all the relevant work and documents through the post.

CORE PE
KS3 AND KS4
HOME TASKS
One the following a try to keep yourselves healthy and active during this time in lockdown. Good luck!



A.O.B.

- We still have one Parent Governor vacancy. If you would like to express an interest in the position please email headteacher@shenstonelodge.co.uk or call the school.
- Allison Morling has been successfully appointed as the new Safeguarding Manager at The Brades Lodge. She will be starting on 4th of May and will no doubt be calling all our Brades families and carers to say hello and to catch up on any potential issues you may have.
- We have had a small number of enquiries asking what criteria is being used to allocate the available places in school.

As an organisation we are following Central Government, DfE and LA advice. The overarching principle is that we should, as far as possible, keep students and staff at home. It is the by far the least likely place to catch COVID-19 and protects us all from the potential impact and spread of the disease.

However, if a place is required, then it is assessed against the following risk factors: 1. Students of keyworkers where there is no alternative safe care available 2. Children with a social worker and have a Child Protection Plan or Child In Need Plan 3. Children who are classed as 'looked after', if the placement is at risk of breaking down. 4. Any other children where circumstances at home have become unsafe and raise the safeguarding risks above those of the first 3 groups.

Diary Dates...

May Day FRIDAY 8th May

Half Term 25th May-29th May

Summer Break Friday 17th July

1pm finish

Pupils Return September 3rd Sep

School Data Box 2018/19

Whole School Attendance for 2018/2019 : **84.1%**
2019 /20 school year to date (pre 'lockdown') : **83.7%**
(TBL 75.1% SLS 92.3%)

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

2018/19 : **127** 2019/20 school year to date : **114**