



THE LODGE

Issue 18 ... July 2016

Message from the Head

As I reflect over the past school year I feel extremely proud of how hard the staff teams have worked to provide the students with what has been by far the most exciting, active and motivating year to date.

In spite of some significant changes to staff and the management teams, the schools have continued to offer an improving education and range of enrichment opportunities. This year students have been to France to visit the WW1 cemeteries in the North and to ski in the South. More locally, they have been to Wales, Warwickshire, Somerset, Hull, London and Coventry to experience some unrivalled pastoral and academic learning opportunities.

In addition, our new website is rapidly evolving to be an online reflection of the school, showcasing up to date activities and capturing our aspirational ethos.

Academically, most students are making great progress in English and Maths which can be demonstrated by our new assessment tracker SOLAR.

As we look into the new year we are extremely excited about bringing the schools even closer together. From September the KS3 students from Shenstone will be having the opportunity to have lessons delivered at The Brades Lodge by specialists in Science, Food Technology, PE and Art and Work Based Learning. This will be a closely monitored process to ensure that the disruption and anxiety are kept to a minimum.

In addition we are looking at a range of options to increase our student capacity to meet the increase in demand for places across Sandwell and other West Midlands Boroughs.



Plas Gwynant

Students from Shenstone Lodge School had a fantastic week at the Plas Gwynant Outdoor Education Centre in Wales. The Year 6 and 7 students climbed, canoed, splashed, crawled and hiked their way around some of the most stunning local attractions over the week. When not out and about the group undertook domestic chores to ensure that the Centre remained clean, tidy and bedrooms were well organised. Plas offered a fantastic all round experience which allowed the students to take part in some 'once in a lifetime' experiences and push themselves to their physical and mental limits. Team spirit and group support was a major feature of the whole week and those who took part were fully engaged. Josh said "It was a great week and lots of fun .. I would love to work there".





SPORTS NEWS

The Brades Lodge sports day saw a whopping 6 school records broken. DJ claimed the high jump, long jump and 100m titles whilst Brad M smashed the 800m record and Kamarlee set a new standard in the shot.

The students displayed some great spirit and encouragement over the day, pushing each other to better their scores or times.

Alongside the sporting accolades an award was given to the student demonstrating most effort over the day. All did extremely well but the staff team felt that Jack had shown real passion and sportsmanship throughout the event.

Finally, can I just say a massive thank you for all the help from staff and students. Well Done! Scott Worton



Quiz Corner

1. Can you name an Italian car company ?
2. In which European city can you find the Louvre ?
3. What is the name of the longest road in America ?
4. How many bones are there in the human body ?
5. Which European country has the largest population ?
6. Which football team plays at Turf Moor ?
7. In ten seconds name 10 premiership football teams.

SOAP BOX BEAT THE RAIN

After an horrendous week of gales and storms which saw one school withdraw from the event, The Brades Lodge managed to host its second SOAP BOX DERBY event at Warley Woods on Friday June 17th . Teams from Skilts School, Shenstone Lodge School and Chilworth House School competed for the coveted Champions Trophy for the fastest descent of the day. There was a great sense of support and team work amongst the represented schools, with advice, up hill pushes and parts being shared across the groups. In the end the Skilts School had the fastest vehicle and set new time records which are there to be beaten next year! Doulton said " It was a brilliant day ... my best run was at the end when the wheel fell off !"



RESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

What an exciting term we have all had ! The residential children took part in their first judo competition on the 26th of June in Coventry. They all participated really well and came up against some tough competitors. It was a long hard day which ended with team Shenstone Lodge receiving, gold, silver and bronze medals.



A HUGE well done to all that joined in, it was a fabulous opportunity for you to put into practice the skills you have learnt.

On another note the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed the end of term trip to Jump Nation. Everyone had great fun ! Rhys said "It was EPIC !"

D Hart (Head of Care).

Where There's Muck There's Learning !

Unicorns class have enjoyed the Cornerstones topic 'Mess Muck and Mixtures'. Over the half term they have experienced a variety of wonderful mixtures that they could feel with their hands and feet.

In art they have mixed food colouring and milk together to create a marbling effect, whilst in science they were asked to investigate soluble and insoluble materials, with chalk, sand, coffee granules, salt, sugar and lots of other items.

When concentrating on heating and cooling they found out that water evaporates to make steam when heat is applied and that ice is formed when it cools. They also found that jelly cubes dissolve when heat is applied and when it cools you can eat it ! Mmmmm !

At the end of the topic the group visited Conkers Activity Park to spend a fantastic day exploring 120 acres of maturing woodland, lakes, ponds and play areas. Best of all was the 18 stage activity trail and the barefoot walk which inevitably involved lots of muck and mess ! Miss Gregory

A Dramatic Day Out !

On the 4th July students at The Brades Lodge took part in an exciting day of drama and learning as part of a Shakespearian 'Mash Up' with the Blue Sky Theatre Company at the Coneygre Arts Centre, Tipton. The group learned various parts to deliver a thrilling theatrical summary of the works of Shakespeare at the end of the day to an audience of staff and others in the Centre. The students performed well in all areas and took responsibility for operating the lighting effects and coordinating the show.

Martin said "The day provided a great opportunity for me to test my skills and use equipment that I hadn't used before".

Well Done...

To Thomas, Kamarlee, Jaden, Bradley M, Jordn P and Rhys for receiving the most positive report slips at The Brades Lodge this half term.

To Josh, Rhys, Thomas, Jaden Jordan M and Robert who have 100% attendance this half term at The Brades Lodge.

To Heather, Lola, Zeke, Curtis, Chanel and Elena with the highest class Dojos this half term.

To Bailiegh, Cain, Heather, Calum G, Jack H, Lola, Luke, Chanel, Ethan W and Elena who have 100% attendance at Shenstone Lodge this half term.





Students and staff enjoyed an eye opening spectacular of songs, turns and interesting jokes. The format wasn't quite as brutal as the TV version of our event as all the participants were able to finish their pieces and were

encouraged continually by a supportive and appreciative audience.

The star of the show ? Well They all were ... WELL DONE !



A.O.B.

SATs results : As you are no doubt aware the SATs have proved to be source of great controversy across the country. Shenstone Lodge had one student who met the required National standard. This does not however reflect how well all the students as a whole have progressed this year. Nationally, only 53% of students achieved the new expected standard.

The school wishes its four year 11 school leavers well as they move on from The Brades Lodge to pastures new. In addition we would also like to congratulate a young man from Shenstone Lodge who has successfully reintegrated back into a mainstream primary school ... a brilliant effort !

Shenstone Lodge School have now received their Well Being Charter Mark Award. It is hanging proudly in the Reception area.

We are saying goodbye to Dave Brown, Gill Heather, Emma Powell and Danny Mondesir at the end of term. We thank them all for their contributions to the school and wish them well in the future.

Mark Smith has been appointed to the Well Being Support Manager post at Shenstone and will be joined by Ross Fellows as the Support Officer. Kane Caballero has been appointed as an LSP at The Brades and Martin Smith will be joining the team as The Brades Site Manager.

Diary Dates...

End of Term 22nd July 1.30pm

SUMMER VACATION

Students return on Wednesday
7th September

Half Term 24-28th October

INSET DAY Friday 11th Nov

End of Term 16th Dec 1.30pm

School Data Box

After some consideration we have decided to include a short summary of some of the key bits of information that as a school we report on to Governors and the Local Authority.

This information is also useful for Parents and Carers to know, as it should provide a measure of whole school performance and progress over time.

Summer 2 : Attendance SLS 96% TBL 71%

Summer 2 : Sessions lost to Exclusion

(1 day = 2 sessions) SLS 19 TBL 4