

Message from the Head

The new school term is well and truly underway with students across both sites already enjoying a wide range of activities and events above and beyond a traditional curriculum offer. Pupil numbers are already higher than previous years and early figures suggest that attendance and academic progress continue to improve.

Over the Summer term staff on both sites received 'Team Teach' training, a well established nationally accredited behaviour management and de-escalation programme. As a result it is felt that we are able to keep both students and staff in school safer. Notably, if an incident requires a physical intervention the techniques used will be slightly different to those used previously. Our policies regarding behaviour management and physical intervention have also changed and draft documents are on the website. If you would like to comment on the policies please forward your thoughts by 20.10.14 to headteacher@shenstonelodge.sandwell.sch.uk and they will be considered by school Governors before approval.

On a completely different note I would like to provide a quick update with regards to the IPad learning project covered in Newsletter 5 (May 2014). Unfortunately, the Shenstone Lodge site is awaiting a Broadband upgrade from BT. Until this is complete the computing systems across the sites will not be able to manage the increased number of users.

In the meantime the staff are getting used to using their iPads and learning how to integrate different Apps into lessons. This is a very exciting project which is expected to improve engagement and accelerate the students learning across the sites.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 26th of September students and staff at The Brades Lodge hosted another successful coffee morning in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Trust. Cakes, hot drinks and cheer were the order of the day raising a respectable £163 for the charity. Dillan, who helped to organise the event said "It was hard work but I enjoyed helping out." The school would like to say a big THANK YOU to those Parents and Carers who were able to attend the morning to support this worthwhile cause and the school.



Brilliant Brynty !

Ten Year 6 Pupils at Shenstone Lodge School had the time of their lives at the fantastic Bryntysilio Outdoor Education Centre. Over three adventure packed days, the children experienced Gorge Walking, Cliff Face Scrambling, Night Rope Courses, Canoeing, Raft Building and much more. The aim of the visit was to develop the children's team working ethic and improve their self esteem by supporting them to face a number of extreme challenges. In addition, the group took some responsibility for the domestic running of the centre, maintaining their bedrooms, clearing and setting up the dining areas and keeping their equipment correctly.

After an icy cold dip in a canal and a great deal of 'mickey taking' Lemarr still said " That was great ... can I do it again !"

We look forward to next time !





FOOTBALL FOCUS

The Shenstone boys played Longdon Hall on October 1st with a firm desire to retain the Shenstone/Longdon Challenge Cup. Team captain, Cain led from the front scoring his first ever goals as part of an emphatic 12-0 victory. Both Dakarai and Rio scored hat-tricks running rings around the away team defence. Our newest player Andrejus nearly scored with his first touch but for a fine save from their keeper. A great start to the season! Greysbrook followed on Tuesday 7th October and were beaten 6-1. Dakarai said "It's getting too easy! We need some better teams to play!"

Brades Lodge students took part in a thrilling 13-13 away draw against Jane Lane School, Walsall. From the outset Romario, Josh, Nathon, Johnathon, Jack, Brandon and Jaden worked hard and the team raced into an early 3-0 lead. By half time however they had been pegged back but held on to a narrow 5-4 lead. The second half was a topsy turvy affair with end to end goals. "This was a great performance from a newly formed team." said team coach Mr Worton. They are now looking forward to a tough away game against Lindsworth.

Quiz Corner

1. Who won the 1970 Football World Cup?
2. To the nearest mile, how long is the M1 motorway?
3. What is ethanoic acid more commonly known as?
4. What is the square root of 2500?
5. Can you name 15 types of car made by Ford?
6. Which English football team plays at Pride Park?
7. In which country would you find the Empire State Building?



RESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Hello everyone, the children who stay with us at Shenstone Lodge had a fantastic surprise when they returned to school after the Summer holiday.....the old pool room in our flat had been stylishly converted into a fabulous kitchen diner. It is used for breakfast, supper and evening cookery sessions. The staff and children work hard together, planning for, shopping for, preparing and serving meals. In addition they learn how to clear away properly!

The children are also learning about healthy eating, food hygiene, budgeting, sharing and compromise, turn-taking, team work and effective communication.

Most importantly, they are enjoying the food and drinks they have produced!

Mrs Hollis (Head of Care)

"COME ON ALL... ONLY 10p A POUND YOUR JUICY TOMATOES!"

Pupils in Mrs Foster's class had a brilliant afternoon quite literally, reaping the rewards of their labour. Over the Spring and Summer terms the class planted and tended a range of fruits and vegetables. At the beginning of September the beans, sweetcorn, beetroot, tomatoes and more were harvested and sold on a market style stall by the children to raise money for next years crop.

The class also used the experience to develop their knowledge and understanding of financial systems and money. Well done to all who took part!



Well Done...

To Dillan, Jack and Kamarlee for receiving the most positive report slips at The Brades Lodge this half term



To Callum G, Joshua and Doulton at Shenstone Lodge for achieving the highest number of positive report slips this half term

To Dillan, Jordan P, Jaden and Romario who have 100% attendance this term at The Brades Lodge

To Cain, Lemarr, R'Mario, Ellie, Calum G, Dakarai, Heather, Luke and Chanel who have 100% attendance this term at Shenstone Lodge School

AOB

Parents Questionnaire ... As a direct result of the evaluation we will be providing parents and carers a termly summary about their child's academic and behavioural progress. The first reports will be out in December 2014.

Student illness ... The Health Protection Agency advises schools that there needs to be at least 48 hours from the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea before a return to school is considered. Please support us in adhering to this advice to prevent the spread of infections.



Staff Inset ... The schools will be closed to pupils on Friday 14th November.

Diary Dates...

Half Term 27-31.10.14

Staff inset school closed
to pupils 14.11.14

Term ends 1.30pm
19.12.14

Pupils return to school
5.1.15

Half Term 16-20.2.15

Term Ends 1.30pm
27.3.14

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