



# THE LODGE

## Issue 20 ... December 2016



### Message from the Head

Yet again we have had a successful and busy half term. Students from both schools have been out on a range of off-site activities and trips promoting our sporting pedigree and raising our profile Locally and Nationally. Our newly formed basketball teams are opening up links with schools against whom we have not competed before and our short film producers are getting some fantastic recognition.

In addition, key staff members have represented Shenstone Lodge delivering workshops and keynote speeches at conferences as well as lectures for the University of Birmingham.

Strategically, the school is beginning to explore how we can expand to accommodate the increasing number of Sandwell students requiring our support.

This is a significant and important piece of work which will run well into the New Year.

The next Parent/Carer questionnaire will be sent out in the new year and we will be trialling an online form, hopefully making it easier to complete. Please look out for this as your views and thoughts count.



### FIZZ POPS SCIENCE SHOW

In the last week of October Key Stage 2 students at Shenstone Lodge, enjoyed a 'Science Friction' morning with Sharon from Fizz Pop Science. Through a number of amazing experiments, the children found out how air causes friction and how friction creates heat. The children took part in a range of 'hands on' I investigations to explore their ideas and develop their knowledge and understanding of friction.

As a result the school is looking to set up its own science club for all the Young Einstein's amongst us !

Mrs  
Pearcey



### Basic Skills Quality Mark

Shenstone Lodge School successfully renewed its Basic Skills Quality Mark on 10th November 2016.

Mrs Perry pulled together a range of documents and policies for audit purposes and co-ordinated an interview timetable for the assessor. Staff and students took part in the audit which lasted all morning and took into account progress data, work produced by students in books and the quality of teaching and learning. The assessors report, which accompanied the award, was extremely complimentary about our recent achievements. Well done to all those involved and a special thanks to Calum and Heather who showed the assessor around the school.





## SPORTS NEWS

The Shenstone site Basketball Team headed up the A5 on 23rd November, to play mainstream secondary school Brownhills near Walsall. Not only was their conduct on the bus and at the fixture impeccable but they also performed brilliantly to win 12-8. Congratulations to Luke, Calum, Cain, Baileigh, McKenzie, Lemarr and Andre. Mr Mitchell said "It was great to have all seven boys engaging so positively in school life"

Brades Lodge football team suffered a rare 6-3 defeat in a feisty, friendly game against Derby based High Grange School. This was a high tempo game where those involved did well to maintain their discipline and sportsmanship. Brades beat local rivals Elmwood 1-0 in the league. Well Done



## Quiz Corner

1. Can you name a make of lawn mower?
2. In which County will you find Stonehenge?
3. What is the name given to a baby ferret?
4. How many teams play in the German Bundesliga?
5. Which animal is considered to be the fastest on two legs?
6. Where would I find a flange?
7. In ten seconds name 10 characters from Eastenders.



## BONFIRE NIGHT

As part of an accredited work programme Freddie-Lee and Bradley M at The Brades Lodge organised and promoted a fantastic firework night on the school site. Arrangements were co-ordinated by the boys which included planning, advertising, drawing up costings, preparing the ground and evaluating the event. Approximately 70 people attended the night; students and staff together with families, local neighbours and others. All those who braved the cold and drizzle spoke highly of the event.

As part of the evening, a Hog Roast was organised, which provided enough meat for pork rolls the day after!

## RESIDENTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Our resident students have been having a great time this half term. We have been enjoying a drama club supported by a member of the Lichfield Garrick Theatre team, who gets the children to role-play exciting scenarios.

KS3 residents have been enjoying building their basketball skills to be able to play in the school team. All their hard work paid off as they contributed to a great win against Brownhills Secondary School. This was a great morale boost for the boys and school.

We have a number of trips planned for the end of term which children are very much looking forward to. It's hoped that all will be able to participate in these special activities.

Next term we are planning regular visits to the 'Malthouse Outdoor Activity Centre' who offer a wide range of outdoor activities for both KS2 and 3. Dee Hart (Head of Care)



## NSENDF Conference Guests

As a school we are often invited to attend conferences as paying delegates.

It was a pleasant surprise therefore to be contacted by the National Special Educational Needs Forum to see if we would like to present at their conference at the NEC Birmingham on 17.11.16.

The Forum had heard about The Brades Lodge through our SEMH schools network and were impressed by the way in which we address difficult topics such as knife crime and gang culture.

Staff and students this term had produced a short film looking at mental health and well being issues which formed the perfect theme for a presentation to delegates who had travelled from across the country to attend the conference.

The Brades Team arrived in time for a hot buffet lunch then prepared the stage for their piece. At the end of the 30 minute session some delegates were moved to tears and the boys and staff

got a standing ovation. As the Executive Head Teacher I was extremely proud of the staff and students who overcame their fears to perform to such a large, high profile audience. Overall they had produced a quality film and a moving dialogue, demonstrating that we can achieve anything in our very special schools with our very special students and staff. Well Done !



## FLAVOURZ FEAST

KS3 students from Shenstone Lodge visited one of Sandwell's finest restaurants, Flavourz, to sample a range of cuisine and to get a 'flavour' of how a commercial kitchen and restaurant operates. Students sampled a selection of spices and foods from different cultures, and enjoyed watching a professional chef prepare bespoke meals from chosen ingredients. Calum said that he "had a great time, but was disappointed when the chef asked me to stop eating so much of the food !"



Well Done...



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

To Kacey, Thomas, Freddie-Lee, Bradley, and Dillan who have 100% attendance this half term at The Brades Lodge.

To Chanel, Lola, Ethan W, Kyle and Heather with the highest class Dojos this half term.

To Baileigh, Rehquarne, James, Callum B, Cain, Heather, Curtis, Zeke, Leona, Chanel, Rhys, R'Mario, Ethan W and Elena who have 100% attendance at Shenstone Lodge this half term.



## SHENSTONE LODGE SEMH CONFERENCE

Shenstone Lodge is proud to be the lead organisation in the Midlands SEMH Schools Network. As part of our commitment to partnership working and school support we have managed and co-ordinated the regional conference for the last three years.

This years event was held on 11.11.16 at The Forest Arts Centre in Walsall, and was by far the biggest to date with nearly 200 delegates from all over the country. Guest speakers included specialist Psychologists, Behaviour Management gurus and staff from the network of schools who were able to share best practice amongst colleagues in planned workshop sessions.

This was a fantastic event that all child-facing staff attended to develop their knowledge, understanding and network links.



### A.O.B.

Maggie Perry retires at the end of the term after 34 years as a Teacher. She has worked at Shenstone Lodge for 10 years. Gill Simms is also retiring after 6 years at Shenstone Lodge. Both will be missed by all.

The Shenstone Lodge School Christmas Play is on the 13th December from 10.30 am - 12 pm. Parents and Carers are more than welcome to attend. If you haven't let the school know that you are coming please let us know as soon as possible.

### Diary Dates...

End of Term 16th Dec 1.30pm

Students Return to School Tues  
3rd Jan 2017

Half Term 20th—24th Feb

End of Term 7th Apr 1.30pm

Students Return to School Tues  
25th Apr

May Bank Holiday 1st May

### School Data Box

Below is a short summary of some of the key bits of information that as a school we report on to Governors and the Local Authority.

School Year 2016/17: Attendance SLS 89% (down 3% against same period last year) TBL 70% (up 1%)

School Year 2016/17: Sessions lost to Exclusion  
(1 day = 2 sessions) SLS 30 (up 76%) TBL 5 (down 71%)

