

Shenley ACADEMY Spotlight

Issue 21

Autumn Term 2. 2023



Message from Dr Bartlett

As we come to the end of another term it has been wonderful to celebrate the successes of many of our students. We have seen students awarded their bronze, silver and gold Magna badges and earn their academy value badges.

We have welcomed guest speakers Matt Windle, poet laureate and film maker and writer Matt Dickenson. These were amazing opportunities for some of our students to take part in their workshops and learn about their exciting journeys. We have seen the launch of our new Student Parliament and they will work

together and with our staff to build on the successes of our academy.

Some of our students had the opportunity to go to Jamie's Farm on a residential. This is part of the work with the Jamie Oliver Foundation and you can read in the newsletter about their ventures.

We ended the term with our festive disco and students enjoyed celebrating together. All of our students had a visit from Santa and his helpers and received a present. We are proud of our students and this is an opportunity to thank them for being part of our school community.

Finally I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming students back to the academy on Tuesday 9th January 2024.

*Dr Bartlett
Regional Executive Headteacher*



*Merry Christmas from
Shenley Academy!*

Building Futures. Changing Lives.



Spotlight on **Anti-Bullying week**



This year, Anti-Bullying Week 2023 ran between **Monday 13th - Friday 17th November**. The theme was “Make A Noise About Bullying” and we celebrated Anti-bullying week as part of the Ant-Bullying Alliance and National awareness campaign.

Throughout the week, students were part of assemblies that addressed our ongoing commitment to zero tolerance to bullying. We promoted the Anti-Bullying Alliance guidance of “make a noise about bullying”. We also discussed the difference between “Banter” and bullying as well.

We kicked off the week on Monday with “**odd socks day**”, where staff and students alike were encouraged to wear odd socks to show their commitment to Anti-Bullying. Our safeguarding ambassadors took part in the Anti-Bullying Banter vs Bullying debate. We also had small groups of students who took part in West Midlands Police workshops called Round Midnight – Virtual Reality session with virtual decisions on knife crime.

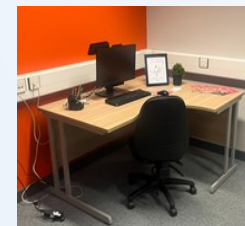
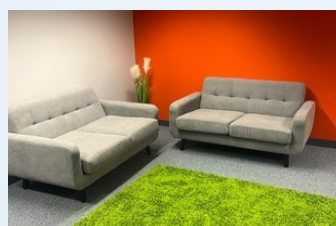
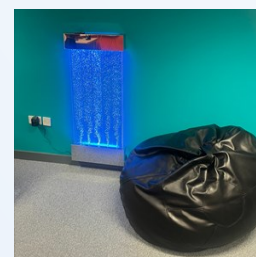
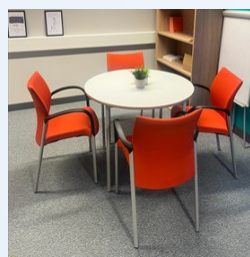


Student Wellbeing

We are extremely lucky to have our own wellbeing room which is located within the safeguarding and Inclusion area. The room is divided into four areas to help students regulate their emotions in a way that provides the right level of support for each individual.

We have:

- A bean bag and bubble machine to allow students who are highly emotional and struggling to regulate, to sit, breathe and take a moment to focus on their wellbeing.
- A table area where group interventions can happen, or therapeutic work in relation to not wanting to talk but talking through drawing and colour possible worksheets.
- A workstation so students can work if they have found being in a class to overwhelming but also a projector and computer so we can explore support and inspire.
- A comfortable seating, this allows students to relax and have 1:1 sessions in a manner they feel comfortable and is of a calm environment. Meeting the needs of all students is paramount within our academy and community.



Spotlight on **Mental Health**

Recently, we have launched our latest mental health campaign reminding everyone that *“it is okay not to be okay!”*

*That is not only for our students,
but also for adults, parents and carers too!*

We all have mental health, which can fluctuate on a daily basis. Sometimes, we can feel overwhelmed, under the weather, or that something just isn't right, and it is a sign that our wellbeing isn't as tip top as it could be.

We have previously sent information around Anxiety on a previous Safeguarding Announcement, and over the next few weeks we're going to send more information on this, but also Depression and Eating Disorders too. For now, please see below some really useful contacts and websites for more support and advice.



Pastoral Support Team

Assistant Headteachers—Progress Leaders / Pastoral Support Managers

Year 7	Mrs Rowell/Miss Broomhall
Year 8	Mr Copson/Miss Lewin
Year 9	Mr Copson/Mrs Martin
Year 10	Miss Stevenson/Miss Evans
Year 11	Mr Jacobs

Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mr Ward
Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Nikolaidis & Mrs Kent

Mental Health

Mental Health Lead	Mrs Nikolaidis
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A reminder that each week we send weekly Safeguarding information, support and signposting on a range of topics, from Online Safety, to Financial support, Mental Health and talking consent with your children. Please ensure you're logged into Classcharts to receive these weekly notifications, and look at previous announcements sent.

Timmy comes to Shenley!

This term we welcomed Timmy turtle to our academy to represent Mental health and to acknowledge it is ok not to be ok. This is a very important message we want embedded in our academy to help students to speak up when they are struggling and most importantly to recognise, they are not alone. Timmy has had a great response and will help us to end the stigma around mental health for our school and community.

We have introduced Timmy through assemblies, letters to parents, tutor time activities and being visible at all times. Timmy is located in the reception with his own little corner





Shenley's student Anti-Bullying Charter

*Created by Shenley Academy
Safeguarding Ambassadors*

1. Bullying is the intentional physical, verbal or psychological harm in person or online
2. Bullying can include a power imbalance
3. Bullying can be discrete—it can sometimes be hidden under “banter”
4. Know what STOP means
 - **Several**
 - **Times**
 - **On**
 - **Purpose**
5. Think before you speak
6. Think about the consequences
7. If you are experiencing or witnessing bullying, speak out. Come out of the shadows—don't stay silent
8. If you see it, report it
9. Bystanders are just as bad as bullies
10. Pay close attention—as someone if they are upset, notice all signs, are they acting differently?
11. You always have someone to talk to

Zero tolerance
to bullying

Sanctions/Support for those who are identified:

1. Detentions
2. Mediation
3. Non-Contact agreements
4. Parental meetings
5. Time in reflection
6. 4 week follow up
7. Well-being sessions
8. Booklets
9. Potential suspensions



You may not think it, but
you are not alone!



Student Ambassadors



We have been so lucky to have recruited an amazing 34 ambassadors for our new wellbeing programme. The ambassadors have shown outstanding commitment to their work already and are going to be the driving force to work alongside our student council to raise student voice. Have their say and be the driving force of the academy.

We have three umbrellas to our Wellbeing ambassadors, and these are **safeguarding**, **mental health** and **Anti bullying**. They all can chose an area that best suits their interests and start to grow awareness on these topics, share student voice and changes they would like to see and implement.

We are have a training day coming up for the Ambassadors to best support others and look at their wellbeing. Moving forward we would like to work alongside other academies to share ideas and best practise and embed a whole trust initiative

Stand Against Violence

As part of our ongoing continual education for students on the effects around bullying year 7, 8 and 9 took part in workshops lead by the charity Stand Against Violence on Tuesday 12th December. This was led by a Stand Against Violence mentor with years of experience as a Senior Leader in secondary schools and consultant to secondary schools. The session was:

Amber's Story

A powerful session that addresses the issue of bullying. Using the true story of Amber, a young girl who's experience was such that she took her own life. Within this they sensitively discussed:

1. What is bullying
2. The different types of bullying
3. Primary and secondary victims
4. The bystander effect
5. How to safely deal with bullying



Spotlight on **Competition Winners**

Celebrating Our 500-Word Narrative Competition!

In a world dominated by the digital era, the art of storytelling and writing has never been more essential. Words have the power to transport us to new worlds, evoke emotions, and ignite our imaginations. This is why we're thrilled to announce the winners of our recent 500-Word Narrative Competition, where participants showcased their literary prowess in a concise yet captivating manner.

Writing and reading have an intricate relationship. The act of writing, especially in the form of storytelling, plays a vital role in improving reading skills. It's a two-way street. When we write, we sharpen our understanding of language, vocabulary, and sentence structure. We learn to weave words together in a way that captivates readers' attention, thus honing our ability to recognize such elements when we encounter them as readers. Our competition attracted a wide array of talent, and after much deliberation, we are pleased to congratulate the two outstanding winners, whose narratives demonstrated exceptional skill and creativity.

Firstly, our heartfelt congratulations to **Sienna Hopkins**, whose narrative transported us to a realm where dreams and reality converged in a beautifully woven tapestry of words; the narrative was not only a pleasure to read, but it also showcased the magic that can be created in a mere 500 words. Equally deserving of praise is

Blessing Adesola, whose narrative skilfully delved into the complexities of human emotions and relationships.

Both winners were presented with a book prize!

Please see below for the winning entries:



Sienna Hopkins' Narrative:

The blazing burned the back of my neck and blocked my vision; I didn't know where I was, let alone how to get out. I'd been travelling for what felt like hours, but no matter how far I walked my surroundings stayed the same. I started to think I could see my busy street with my old house and my rusty bike outside.

Two days ago, I couldn't wait to leave, but now all I wanted to do is be back there. However, every time I got near, it vanished again. My throat was dry and sore from screaming for help but I soon realised that there was no one to help me. I was alone, scared, and hungry. Nowhere was safe. I walked and walked and walked some more, but there was no life anywhere in sight. Until I felt the air on the back of my neck get warmer, in puffs of air, almost like a breath. I turned around... it was a horrific beast that tore into my back and cackled right down my eat. As a warm liquid trickled down my back, I thought how this was it, my days were numbered. But for some reason, it left me alone. As I slowly pass away now,

my darling wish is that someone finds this book and makes my name known. Darcy Elizabeth.



Blessing Adesola's Narrative

The swirls were a majestic, elegant, and eloquent with its iridescent colours, with a mixture of pink, green and orange. The air seemed to hum with a radiation of beauty and whisper swift eloquent words to the eyes of the viewer. It had wrapped the its beauty around the cloud and made them into thin white wisps of swirl of clouds. It was unbelievably picturesque.

In the midst of this mesmerising site, a text message chimed on his cell phone. Still looking up, he dipped his hand in his pocket and brought out his phone and pulled it up to his face, to avoid looking away. He opened his phone to see a weird text message, more of a riddle. It said "go to the place that has eyes but never sleeps, legs but never walks, and turn around towards the direction of the shed".



He looks around frantically and surprised. His eyes met a river. This must be what it meant. He walked over hastily and does as the message instructed.

On the step leading to the shed, he sees a briefcase and picks it up. Trying to open it, he realised there was a code on the lock.

“What in the world is this?” he says.

“First a strange text message, and then this? Is this supposed to be a mystery?” he thinks hastily on what the code could be. Maybe “1995” he says, and as he tries it, it’s wrong. He looks back again- there’s a note which says: only three tries.

“Uh Uh, 1894” he put it in and the briefcase opens alongside a loud “surprise!”.

It had been a surprise party. He was scared he had forgotten he was looking at an artistic image earlier. In all, it turned out to be a lovely party.

Celebrating an outstanding commitment to reading!

At Shenley Academy, we take pride in fostering a love for reading, and recently, two exceptional students have stood out for their unwavering commitment to reading. **Jayden Kennedy** and **Kacey-May Kennard** have not only demonstrated impressive dedication to expanding their literary horizons but have also been rewarded with a special treat – a book advent calendar each – to say well done!

Reading is a fundamental skill that opens doors to knowledge, creativity, and personal growth. Recognising its pivotal role in shaping well-rounded individuals, Shenley Academy is committed to enhancing the reading skills of all students. The school firmly believes in the power of reading for pleasure, understanding that it goes beyond academic achievement and contributes to a fulfilling and enriched life.

Jayden and Kacey-May embody this spirit of enthusiasm for reading. Their commitment has not gone unnoticed and they serve as inspiring examples for their peers, demonstrating that the joy of reading is not just a task but a lifelong adventure.



In acknowledgment of their outstanding dedication, Jayden and Kacey-May have been presented with book advent calendars – a delightful way to count down the days until the festive season with a new literary surprise each day. This gesture not only celebrates their accomplishments but also encourages a continued love for reading.

Shenley Academy remains steadfast in its mission to create a culture where every student finds joy in reading. By recognizing and rewarding the efforts of students like Jayden and Kacey-May, the school aims to inspire others to embark on their own literary journeys. As we celebrate the achievements and efforts of Jayden and Kacey-May with reading, let their story serve as a reminder of the transformative power of reading. Shenley Academy looks forward to nurturing many more avid readers, fostering a community where the love for books continues to flourish, enriching lives one page at a time.

*Mr Richardson
Assistant Headteacher*



Spotlight on **Bringing the curriculum to life**



We are excited to share that on December 5th, just in time for Christmas, we had a theatre production and workshop of Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'; this special event was both educational and entertaining for our Key Stage 4 students.

The decision to bring this iconic tale to life for our students is rooted in the belief that experiencing literature in a dynamic and immersive way can significantly enhance students' understanding and appreciation for the written word. As students delved into the world of Ebenezer Scrooge and the ghosts of Christmas past, present, and future, they not only witnessed the narrative unfold before their eyes but also engaged in a unique form of dual coding.

Dual coding refers to the idea that combining visual and auditory stimuli can enhance learning and comprehension. By watching the characters and scenes come to life on stage, students are not only reinforcing their understanding of the plot but also developing a richer, more vivid mental representation of the story. This multi-sensory experience can have a profound impact on memory retention and, consequently, aid in their preparation for the English Literature GCSE.

Theatre provides a dynamic platform for students to connect with the characters, themes, and emotions embedded in the text. The live performance added a layer of immediacy that cannot be replicated through traditional classroom activities. Moreover, it encourages students to actively engage with the language, fostering an appreciation for the nuances and intricacies of Dickens' prose. Incorporating a theatrical production into the English Literature curriculum aligns with our commitment to providing diverse and enriching learning experiences. We hope that this immersive encounter with 'A Christmas Carol' will not only support our students in their GCSE preparation but also kindle a lifelong love for literature, and promotes reading for pleasure for all!

Poetry with Punch!

Renowned poet Matt Windle, aptly known as the "**Poet with Punch**," recently graced our school with his compelling presence, delivering an impactful assembly to our Year 9 students and engaging Year 7 and 8 students in inspiring poetry sessions.

Windle, a distinguished Commonwealth Title holder, brought a unique blend of energy and literary prowess to our campus. His assembly for Year 9 not only entertained but also emphasized the profound importance of reading and writing. As he shared his own poetic journey, he highlighted the transformative power of words and the doors they open in one's imagination. The poetry sessions with Year 7 and 8 students were a testament to Windle's ability to connect with young minds. Through interactive and dynamic sessions, he ignited a passion for words and self-expression. Students were encouraged to explore the beauty of language, unlocking their creativity through the art of poetry. Windle's visit underscored the significance of reading for pleasure. His engaging style and relatable anecdotes inspired students to view literature not merely as an academic pursuit but as a source of joy and personal growth. By promoting reading as a pleasurable activity, he encouraged students to develop a lifelong love for books.



The '**Poet with Punch**' did not just deliver words; he instilled a sense of confidence and empowerment in our students. Through his powerful poetry, Windle demonstrated that everyone has a unique voice worth sharing. His visit served as a catalyst for fostering a vibrant literary culture within our school. In a world often dominated by technology, Windle's emphasis on the written word reminded students of the timeless allure of literature. As they



delved into the world of poetry, students discovered the limitless possibilities of self-expression and found solace in the written word. Matt Windle's visit was more than a poetic performance; it was an invitation for students to embark on their own literary journeys. His influence continues to echo through the halls, inspiring a newfound appreciation for the written word and fuelling a passion for creative expression among our students.

Fostering Non-Fiction Writing and Enhancing Reading Skills



Film-maker and writer, Matt Dickinson, visited Shenley Academy on December 6th, leaving an indelible mark on students as he delved into the intricacies of non-fiction writing. Best known for his award-winning novels and captivating documentary work for National Geographic Television, Discovery Channel, and the BBC, Dickinson's expertise added a unique dimension to the students' learning experience.

A key highlight of Dickinson's illustrious career is his gripping documentation of the 1996 Mount Everest disaster, where he found himself among the climbers facing unprecedented challenges. This first hand experience undoubtedly provided a

rich backdrop for his discussion with the students, offering them valuable insights into the power of storytelling and the role of non-fiction in conveying real-life events.

The visit aimed not only to nurture the students' writing skills but also to underscore the relationship between writing and reading. Dickinson, with his wealth of experience, emphasised how honing one's writing abilities directly contributes to the enhancement of reading skills. Through engaging exercises and practical examples, he illustrated how a strong command of language, narrative structure, and descriptive elements in writing seamlessly translates into improved comprehension and analytical skills when reading diverse texts.



At the heart of Dickinson's message was the idea that writing is not merely a standalone skill but an essential tool for decoding and understanding the world through literature. By weaving his personal narrative into the broader context of non-fiction writing, he provided a real-world connection that resonated with students, making the learning experience both meaningful and memorable. Shenley Academy, known for its commitment to



holistic education, welcomed Dickinson's visit as a catalyst for encouraging students to explore the boundless possibilities of expression through the written word. As they continue to refine their non-fiction writing skills, the students are poised to reap the dual benefits of improved writing proficiency and heightened reading comprehension.

In conclusion, Matt Dickinson's visit to Shenley Academy was a transformative experience, shedding light on the interconnectedness of writing and reading. By bringing his

unique blend of adventure, storytelling, and cinematic expertise to the classroom, Dickinson inspired students to embark on their own literary journeys, armed with the knowledge that writing is not just a skill to be mastered but a gateway to unlocking the vast treasures of the written world.

*Mr Richardson
Assistant Headteacher*



Spotlight on Christmas

We kicked off our Christmas celebrations on 28th November this year, with a very special, festive display, featuring Santa's sleigh, created by the talented Mr Turner. This has been very popular with our students, who have all been eager to sit inside and have their photos taken.

The celebrations did not stop there, we also have a our own Christmas playlist that plays every morning to welcome students into school. It has been lovely to see everyone smiling and singing along when they enter the school building every day.

In addition to this, on Wednesday 13th December, we hosted our whole school Christmas lunch. This is always popular amongst staff and students alike, and really helps to get everyone into the festive spirit. Our talented catering team prepared a lovely meal featuring roast turkey, crunchy roast potatoes, and of course everyone's favourite—pigs in blankets!

On Wednesday 20th December, we hosted our second annual Christmas disco, to help promote and celebrate all those students who have worked hard to maintain 97% attendance this term. This event is always a huge hit with all of our students, who all arrived dressed to impress in their Christmas finest. With a professional DJ on hand to kick start the evening, students danced the night away to a mix of popular hits and Christmas classics. Our talented team of progress leaders and pastoral support managers, turned our sports hall into a Christmas grotto that Santa himself would have been proud of.

Then finally, with a group of elves in tow, Santa and Mrs Claus paid a visit to Shenley, visiting each classroom and handing out gifts to every student who were all dressed up in their favourite Christmas jumpers. Christmas at Shenley is always such a special time of year, that even The Grinch would be hard pushed not join in the festivities.



*Miss Baker
Academy Administrator*



Spotlight on Jamie's Farm



On Monday 4th December to Friday 8th December 2023, Mr Dar and Miss Wallis took ten students from Shenley Academy (a mixture of Year 10 and Year 8) to Jamie's Farm in Hereford.



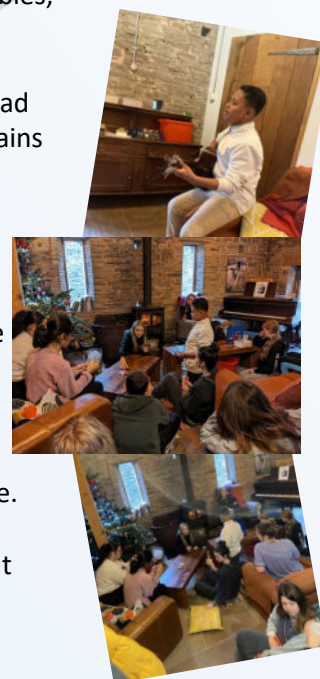
From the very outset, everyone was pushed out of their comfort zone (the very muddy walk on the first evening being something I don't think anyone will forget!). Although this was challenging for many, everyone showed tremendous resilience and at the end some even named it as their highlight of the week.

The students enjoyed meeting all of the animals, and spent the week feeding them, providing them with hay for bedding, collecting eggs, cleaning them out and even herding the sheep (who didn't make it easy in the slightest!). There was also some beautiful therapeutic work done with the farm's horses, as well as a tremendous amount of love shown (and received) from the dogs on the farm. Bonnie the dog even tried coming home with us on the minibus!



Alongside farm work, all students helped to cook the meals, which were truly spectacular! From quiches and brownies, to roasts and crumbles, every day's hard work was rewarded with sumptuous feasts. Combined with water and fruit, everyone ate and drank very healthily and heartily. A treat of hot chocolate and gingerbread biscuits was enjoyed on a stunning walk in the Welsh mountains (not far from the farm).

There was time for relaxation and entertainment, too. As well as some evening films, some very competitive games of *Connect Four*, *Uno* and *Dobble* were played! There were also some whole group games (*Empire*, *The Orange Game* and *Stop The Bus!*). We were also treated to piano and guitar by some of the more musical students, and quite a few now know how to play the tune to *Baby Shark* on the piano!



By the end, the students had demonstrably grown in confidence, responsibility and resilience. They articulated how they felt on a daily basis, and also gave 'shout-outs' to their fellow students for their help and their achievements. They were also able to use this to think about what kind of support they needed in school and in lessons and how they might apply their positivity, hard work and dedication at the farm to subjects at school.



The visit was an outstanding success, with the farm staff saying that it was one of the "best weeks" they could ever remember. Without a shadow of a doubt, all of the students demonstrated the Shenley values on a daily basis during the visit: *aspiration*, *resilience*, *respect*, *responsibility* and *tolerance*. We are extremely proud of them all!

Mr Dar

SEND Literacy and Reading Intervention Lead



Spotlight on **Extra-Curricular Activities**

At Shenley, it was pleasing to see that our dedicated staff provide additional educational opportunities outside of the regular curriculum. Our Extracurricular clubs have not only increased student engagement in the school but opened doors to wider skills development, improved motivation and mental health for our students. Our range of sports from Football, Netball and Athletics have always been popular, while non-athletic activities include dancing and play activities such as the War Craft Club seems to be the popular choice this term with growing numbers.

New clubs are will be introduced in the next academic term, so keep a look out on the web site for further development.

Weekly Dance technique classes with Linden Dance Company!

Mr Assee

Extra Curricular Lead

Year 7 and 8 have had the fantastic opportunity weekly to work with professional performing dancers from Linden Youth Dance Company.

Linden Dance Company, led by Midlands-based artists Christopher Radford and Sara Macqueen, is a performance company rooted in Contemporary and Afro-fusion movement styles with a focus on positive physical and psychological wellbeing.

If your child is interested in joining the class, please ask them to speak to Mrs Rowell. The class is every Wednesday after school 3-4:15pm.



Duke of Edinburgh award applications opening soon!

Next term, students in year 8 will be given the chance to apply to sign up for the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to discover more about themselves, volunteer within the community and learn new skills. This will culminate in a 4 night residential visit in the Summer which is always a highlight for those students taking part.

More information will be sent out next term.

Celebrating student success outside of the academy!

Lexy'Dee Edwards (Year 9) was recently awarded one of the prestigious 'Unsung hero' awards through Scouting UK. Out of 420,000 scouts only 20 children are selected to be recognised. We are very proud that Lexy'Dee was one of the few. On Friday 8th December 2023, the recipients of this prestigious award gathered at the Bear Grylls Adventure at Birmingham NEC, where they were all personally congratulated by chief scout—Bear Grylls. As well as meeting Bear Grylls, Lexi'Dee was also awarded her 'Never give up' badge, a certificate, £500 personally funded by Bear Grylls, a neckerchief and a copy of Bear Gryll's latest book '**Do you best: How to be a Scout.**'



We are very proud of Lexy'Dee, please join us in congratulating her on this special achievement.

We love to hear about our students succeeding outside of the academy. If your child has a success story, and you would like them featured in the newsletter, please email shenley.enquiry@e-act.org.uk



Spotlight on Athletic Success



The evening started with the Year 7 and Year 8 boys 1 lap track event, held in the sports hall of Kings Norton Boys. The squads have trained hard and been incredibly focused throughout. With keen anticipation each athlete stepped up for their event and the proceedings began. Race after race Shenley dominated and came first or second in both the A runner and the B runner events. There were some outstanding performances coming from Marshall Guy, Ojore Thompson, Rayon Hyde and Jake Fair and Sam Heath winning their individual events on the track. Many beating their personal bests and school records!

Field event outstanding successes were from Lucas Allushi putting a lead shot putt distance of 9.50m, in a new weight category. Keziah Mitchell-Lewis and Sam Heath with impressive standing triple success distances of over 6.00M coming overall top two places of the evening in this event. Jack Welch won the Year 7 Triple Jump. Ojore Thompson cleared 50cm in the vertical jump giving him maximum points for the teams in this event. Charlie Draper achieved the top speed bounce score of the whole event with 65 in 30s.

Finally the relays took place with all eyes on the track. The four by two lap relay and the shared eight lap paarlauf. With superb change overs and fantastic display of composure, determination and outright speed, more points for the overall totals with 2nd places year 7 team and first year 8 teams in all relays!

Thank you to Mr Thurston for all your support in training for this event and the sports leaders who have also given up their time and attended training to make all this possible. They demonstrated respect and etiquette throughout to be positive role models for the athletes.

Sports Leaders:

Meesha Vernon		Harrison Sanders	Taomi Mayard
Erin Humphries		Jessica Ramsey	Ellie O'Neal
Emily Young			

Overall results are as follows.

Shenley Year 7 Boys team – FIRST Shenley Year 8 Boys team – FIRST

Year 7 Team	Year 8 Team
Marshall Guy	Luca Allushi
Abdul- Salam Akinrinade	Jake Fair
Musa Jawneh	Sam Heath
Charlie Draper	Keziah Mitchell-Lewis
Jack Welch	Charlie Wall
Reece Doyle	Jordan Dodd
	Ojore Thompson
	Rayon Hyde

After intense training over the last 8 weeks the hard work paid off and both teams won their areas with the year 8 team actually winning overall in their category. The teams who win, qualify for the City Finals to be held at Birmingham University Sports Centre.

Please wish huge congratulations to the above teams for successfully

progressing to the all Birmingham finals on February 20th 2024! (Training continues every Wednesday 3pm-4pm) A superb achievement! Well done all and thank you to those at home who continually support with encouragement for training and the event too.

*Miss Wczasek and Mr Thurston
PE Department*



Spotlight on Careers



University insights

This half term Mr Gurney and Mr Markey welcomed lecturer Dr Rebollo-Neira from Aston university who spoke to some of our year 11 students about how maths is learned at university by working with the students on a maths topic. Dr Rebollo-Neira showed a bit of the research she does in applied mathematics and spoke about the many job opportunities for graduates in maths.



KING EDWARD VI COLLEGE
STOURBRIDGE

Sixth Form Opportunities

On 27th November, Shenley welcomed David Handy from King Edward VI Stourbridge who spoke to year 11 students about sixth form opportunities and A-level courses. Students found out more about the school and had the opportunity to ask questions and many students came away with information and literature on the opportunities at the sixth form.



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

New partnership announced

We are excited to be working with the University of Birmingham on the 'forward thinking' programme. This will involve some students working closely with the university over the next few years to gain experience of higher education at the University of Birmingham. They will visit the university and receive mentoring and support going forwards. We are delighted to be working closely the University to give our students more information about higher education.

We are pleased to invite year 10 and 11 students and parents to our careers fair for **years 10 and 11 on Monday 15th January from 4pm to 6pm**. During the event you will have the opportunity to talk to a variety of employers, explore post-16 options such as apprenticeships, A-levels, T-levels and other courses by talking to local colleges and sixth forms and find out more about higher education providers. Our independent careers advisor will also be available if you would like further careers advice for your child.

Careers Fair Coming soon!

Post 16 Open Events

College	Date	Times
Birmingham Metropolitan College	Wednesday 21st February 2024	4:00pm-7:00pm
	Saturday 15th June 2024	10:00am-2:00pm
Halesowen College	Saturday 20th January 2024	10:00am-2:00pm
	Wednesday 24th April 2024	6:00pm-8:00pm
South and City College	Tuesday 6th February 2024	4:00pm-7:00pm
	Saturday 15th June 2024	10:00am-3:00pm



Spotlight on Shenley Parliament



This half term has seen the launch of the Shenley Student Parliament. They have had several workshops on leadership and welcomed guest speakers. Going forward they will be a driving force in our mission statement to be

“building futures, changing lives.”

This group actively promote British values through good works in the academy and wider community. For example; They are currently organising a Saturday coffee morning for local OAP's.



The Shenley Student Parliament has met several times this term working hard to manifest our mission statement to be building futures changing lives. All Students had to be democratically elected by their peers and approved by their form tutor. Students have all started a leadership program and have been completed bespoke workshops on leadership and been issued with reading to help equip them with the knowledge and skills to thrive in their new roles. The parliament has also welcomed a guest speaker who inspired them with a lecture on the characteristic needed in leadership learned by his successful summit of mount Everest.


Several students leading working parties with focused aims. Including our sub committees on ,
Women in leadership , Community , Charity , Rewards and mental health

Committee Leads:



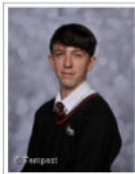
Mairaj Amir
Committee Lead for:
Charity

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility • Tolerance




Mason Wilson
Committee Lead for:
Mental Health

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility • Tolerance



Ross Wilson
Committee Lead for:
Rewards

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility • Tolerance



Antonia Olaley
Committee Lead for:
Women in Leadership

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility • Tolerance



Brendan Durose-Ryan
Committee Lead for:
Community

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility • Tolerance

In a drive to support our nominated charity, our Student Parliament voted to hold an 'own clothes day' on Friday 22nd December 2023, and asked each student for a voluntary donation of £1.00. All money raised from this event will be donated to Acorns Children's Hospice.

acorns
Your local children's hospice



Spotlight on SEND

SEND drop-ins

It was fantastic to meet with so many parents and carers during the Autumn Term for the SEND drop in's which are aimed at building school, home and student relationships. These events are a vital link between school and home and it is a time for you to raise any concerns you may have regarding your child's progress. Feedback for the sessions has been positive – we therefore aim to continue to offer these sessions so please do keep a lookout for future dates via your emails.

SEND Local Offer

I am delighted to share the brand new SEND Local Offer website video which has been created to promote the site and its resources. The SEND Local Offer website includes information, advice, support and resources for SEND families, professionals, children, young people and schools in Birmingham....and we want more people to know that.

Birmingham Council have produced a [2 minute video](#) as part of the work to promote the website more widely; it shows what is on offer in Birmingham for the families of student with SEND, so please share and spread the word.



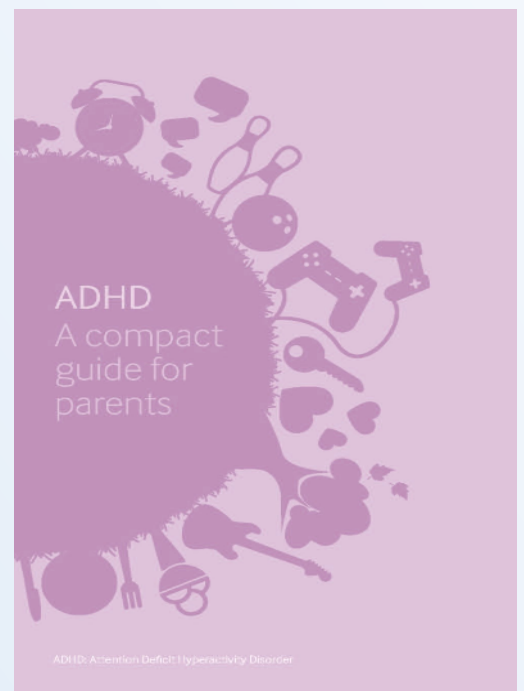
Early start/ Homework Club

This is available to students on the SEND register who need extra support with homework or who need help with starting the day. 8am start Monday - Friday and is run by the Inclusion team. Please ask if this is something you would like to arrange for your child.

Learner Passports are reviewed regularly. It is vital that parents and carers have a role in this. Please let us know of any changes or information which would help us to support your child further.

ADHD-Tips for Parents/Carers

Please click on the document opposite to read up on some useful tips and support available for students with ADHD. To improve the management of ADHD, a group of UK specialists (child psychiatrists and psychologists) have produced a set of guidelines.¹ These guidelines were written for the specialists who diagnose and manage ADHD and have been adapted to provide straightforward and user-friendly advice and information for parents and carers in the UK.



Spotlight on Attendance

Attendance Matters

Well done, and thank you to all those students who have 100% attendance at the academy so far this year.

Attendance is one of the biggest factors deciding student success in school. Year on year, students who are in school with over 95% attendance achieve better grades and prepare themselves better for their future. We want every student at Shenley Academy to fall into this category and we don't want anyone to be left behind. We will be monitoring attendance closely again this term, and will be sending fortnightly updates in regards to your child's absence.

The Importance of Punctuality

Punctuality is crucial to ensuring that your child's day at school starts smoothly and that they are in the right mindset to start learning and working hard.

The academy gates open at 8:15am and form time starts at 8:35am.

Late arrival is between 8:40 and 9:00am.

Arrival after 9:00am is recorded as unauthorised and will adversely affect your child's attendance record and achievement levels. Please support your child to develop lifelong habits of good attendance and punctuality in order to allow them to achieve their full potential.

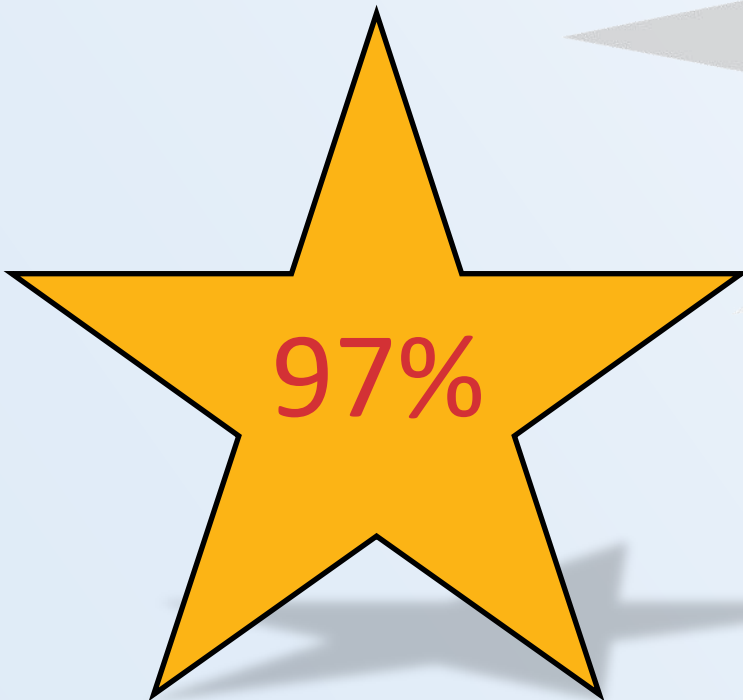


Medical Appointments

We request that, where possible, routine medical and dental appointments are arranged outside of academy hours as these appointments will affect your child's percentage attendance. We do understand that some appointments, such as hospital consultations are not always possible to arrange outside of academy hours. However, if your appointment time allows your child to come into the Academy for registration and then leave later this will have a positive impact on their attendance figure. Likewise, if they are able to be back at the academy for afternoon registration—12:20pm this will also have a positive impact.

Important Reminders

If your child is too ill to attend the academy please contact the school attendance office before 9:00am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms. If we do not hear from you, we will call you to find out why your child is not at the academy. If your child is absent from the academy for any reason they should not be outside of the academy at the end of the day meeting friends. Thank you for your support in helping to raise the academy's attendance. If you would like any support or advice on attendance of punctuality, please contact your child's pastoral support manager.



Spotlight on School Meals

Aspens



We believe that the food children eat plays an important role in their wellbeing and eating a well-balanced diet will not only maintain and improve their health, but will also set them on the right track for later life. We understand this and that's why we are passionate about ensuring our students are served fresh, high quality and locally sourced food that is cooked in our kitchen.

The menus offered are on a 3 week rolling cycle which is updated every term. We provide food for students with any

intolerance, allergies or alternative choices due to religious beliefs. The new menu for the next term can be found below.

Great value for money: we have a range of meal deals on offer every day to help save money. Whether they want a hot meal or something to just grab and go, there will be an offer available.

Free school meals: did you know that your child might be entitled to free school meals? For more information and details on how to claim click [here](#).

STREATERIES		Aspens				
		CARIBBEAN Fusion	Plant POWER	Home STYLE	PRN ASIAN	Chips & more
WEEK 1	STREET	Curried Coconut Chili Chicken Wholegrain Rice n Peas	Homemade Spicy Falafel Flatbread	Glazed Gammon Roast Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Low Salt & Chili Chicken Firecracker Rice	Choose from: Battered Fish Sausage Battered or plain Margherita Pizza Chicken Nuggets Chips & Gravy or Curry Sauce
	VEGGIE	Macaroni Pie	Butternut Squash Chili and Mozzarella Gnocchi	Root Vegetable & Bean Stew Roast Spuds	Japanese Yakisoba (Japanese Stir Fried Noodles)	Choose from: Margherita Pizza Veggie Sausage Battered or plain Chips, Cray or Curry Sauce
	SIDES	Lime Dressed Slaw Flatbread Wedge	Mixed Salad Hummus Pot	Roast Carrots & Parsnip Cauliflower Cheese	Sweet Chili Sticky Greens Prawn Crackers	Minty Peas or Baked Beans Onion Rings

STREATERIES		Aspens				
		INCREDIBLE INDIA	AMERICAN Diner	Home STYLE	MEZZE	Chips & more
WEEK 2	STREET	Spicy Chicken Chaamak	Tex Mex Burrito Bar Chipotle Chicken or Spicy Beef	Sticky Red Onion Sausages Chesny Chive Mash & Gravy	Sweet Paprika Chicken Kebabs in warm pitta bread	Choose from: Battered Fish Sausage Battered or plain Margherita Pizza Chicken Nuggets Chips & Gravy or Curry Sauce
	VEGGIE	Indian Street Food Vada Pav Bhaji	Crispy Topped Mac n Cheese BBQ Drizzle & Crispy Onion	Veggie Bangers Chesny Chive Mash	Chermoula Roasted Vegetable Khebab	Choose from: Margherita Pizza Veggie Sausage plain or battered Chips & Gravy or Curry Sauce
	SIDES	Wholegrain Rice & Kachumber Salad Naan Bread	Chunky Tomato Salsa Mexican Slaw	Carrots & Peas Cauliflower Cheese	Morish Cous Cous & Green Salad Garlic Flatbread	Minty Peas or Baked Beans Fricles

STREATERIES		Aspens				
		AMERICAN Diner	PRN ASIAN	Home STYLE	INCREDIBLE INDIA	Chips & more
WEEK 3	STREET	Chicken Jambalaya With Rice Slaw	Teriyaki Chicken Stir Fry	Creamy Chicken & Leek Pie Roasties & Gravy	Chicken Ruby Curry Yellow Rice	Choose from: Battered Fish Sausage Battered or plain Margherita Pizza Chicken Nuggets Chips & Gravy or Curry Sauce
	VEGGIE	Tex Mex Chipotle Sweet Potato & Lime Taco	Veggie Thai Style Noodles	Creamy Cauliflower Cheese	Chana Masala Yellow Rice	Choose from: Margherita Pizza Veggie Sausage plain or battered Chips & Gravy or Curry Sauce
	SIDES	Hand Cut Wedges & Red Slaw Cajun Onion Rings	Wok Fried Oriental Veggies	Seasonal Mixed Vegetables Cauliflower Cheese	Kachumber Salad Naan Bread	Minty Peas or Baked Beans Garlic Mayo Dip Pot

MEAL DEAL

Cold Deli OR
Streateries Main Meal OR
Jacket Potato (with up to 2 Fillings) OR
Pasta (with up to 2 Toppings)

+ MEAL DEAL DESSERT:
Piece of Fruit OR
Flapjack/Shorbread OR
5oz Yoghurt Pot OR
5oz Fresh Fruit Pot OR
Hot Dessert with Custard*
(*only with Streateries Main Meal)

+ MEAL DEAL DRINK:
500 ml Plain Water OR
250ml Tetra Plain Water OR
85ml Cuplet

£2.30

Aspens

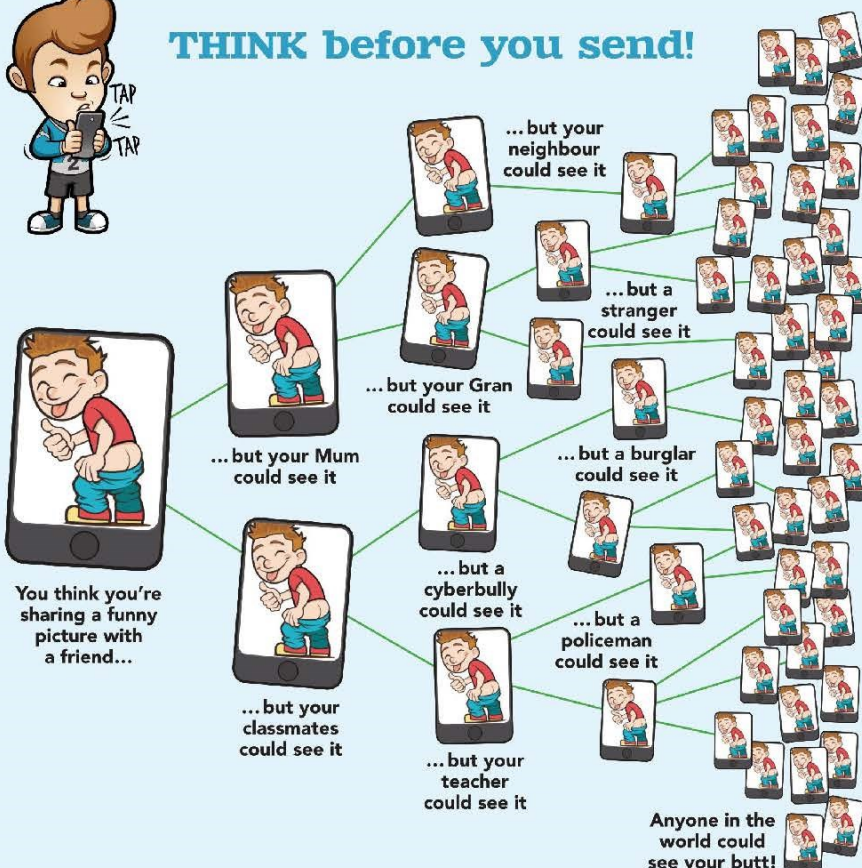
With important learning to be done, we make sure that we are feeding healthy minds as well as bodies!



Parent Guides to Online Safety



THINK before you send!



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



If you share it, you are involved

If you have, or forward an indecent image of someone under 18, it is a criminal offence. It can affect your future.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with



Anti-Bullying Week 2023

What is bullying?

The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological.

It can happen face-to-face or online.

It doesn't have to be this way!

"What hurts the victim most is not the cruelty of the oppressor, but the silence of the bystander"

Let's make a noise about bullying!

Too often, we are silent when we see bullying take place, silent about the hurt bullying causes and silent when we hear bullying dismissed as "just banter". *Together, we can make a difference and take a stand against bullying.*

From the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, let's make a noise about bullying!

"we won't like everyone, and we don't always agree, but we can choose respect and unity."

MAKE A
NOISE
ABOUT
BULLYING

Who can you make a noise to?

- Any member of staff
- Your form tutor
- Your PSM
- Your Head of Year
- Your SLT Link
- Use of our Anti-bullying post boxes
- SHARP system

Speak up

Be supportive

Tell a trusted adult



ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2023

WHAT IS BANTER?

Banter is the harmless exchange of social interaction between friends which involves **teasing** or **mocking** one another, either on a **one-to-one** basis or more commonly on a **friendship group** basis.

Zero tolerance to bullying

"What hurts the victim most is not the cruelty of the oppressor, but the silence of the bystander"

"Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological"

"It can happen face-to-face or online"

Let's make a noise about bullying!

Odd Socks Day



MAKE A

NOISE

ABOUT BULLYING

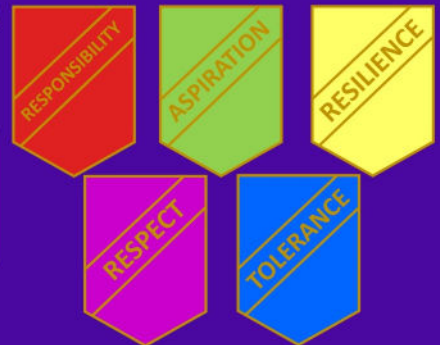
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- Use of our Anti-bullying post boxes
- SHARP system

Speak up

Be supportive

Tell a trusted adult



ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE
#antibullyingweek

The Shenley Safeguarding Team

Safeguarding Team

'If you need to talk, we are always here!'

Shenley Academy is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care.



Safeguarding Leads



Dr J Bartlett
Headteacher
DSL Trained



Mr A Ward
Assistant Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs E Nikolaidis
Deputy DSL



Mrs K Kent
Deputy DSL

Safeguarding Officers



Mrs E Housden
Deputy Headteacher



Mr D Thacker-Smith
Deputy Headteacher



Mr R Pearce
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs L Jarvis
Assistant Headteacher



Miss M Hands
Associate Assistant
Headteacher



Mrs R Banks
SENDCO



Miss E Stevenson
Assistant Headteacher
Progress



Ms L Rowell
Assistant Headteacher
Progress



Ms R Evans
Pastoral Lead



Mr R Jacobs
Pastoral Lead



Mr B Monaghan
Welfare Liaison
Officer



Mrs M Tuckley
Headteacher's PA

The academy supports all children by:

- Establishing a caring, safe and positive environment within the academy
- Responding to concerns for a child in a timely and effective manner
- Effectively tackling child-on-child abuse
- Supporting mental health and wellbeing
- Promoting British Values across the academy