

NEW TERM NEW START NEW RULES



*"A community of inspiration,
excellence and opportunities for all to grow"*

I'd like to start this half-term's newsletter with a huge message of thanks to the whole community – students, staff, parents, carers, family members – who have worked so well together to make the best of the difficult situation we are all facing.

We knew that we would be tested this year and the way that we have responded as a community is heart-warming. Students and staff alike have responded to the restrictions and adaptations with remarkable courage and resilience. They have shown compassion and kindness towards each other, been honest about how they are feeling, shared their highs and lows and had the integrity to celebrate achievements, work through problems and offer each other support.

I am immensely proud of the fact that we have been able to provide the best possible learning experience for our young people under the circumstances as well as making them feel comfortable and welcomed back into school after such a long gap.

We are not able to offer all of the experiences that normally bring such life and opportunity for our students during the school year but we are finding creative ways around some barriers to make sure 2020/21 will be fulfilling and memorable for more than Covid-19!

I hope you are all able to stay positive in these trying times and look forward to a day when we can meet again in person to share and celebrate the achievements of our fabulous young people.

Best wishes
Mark Cottingham
Principal - **Shirebrook Academy**

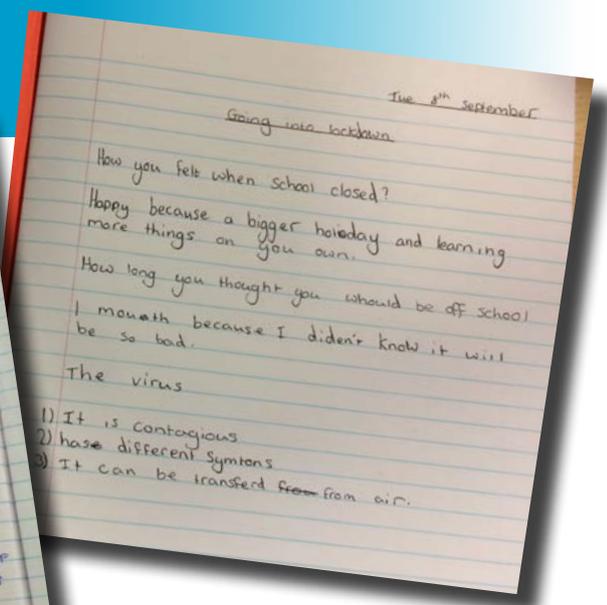
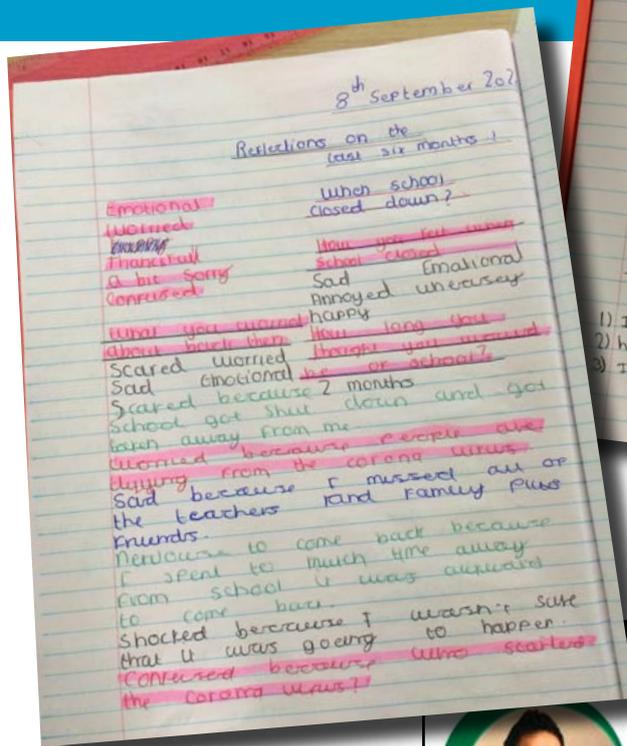


OCTOBER 2020

Welcome Back

Students were welcomed back to Shirebrook Academy for the new school year with a series of activities designed to rebuild relationships with staff and other students, get used to new routines, and reflect on the past 6 months.

After a day for Y7 to get settled in, Y8-11 started back with a full Personal Development day with their tutors. Students discussed their thoughts and feelings about school closure, home learning, and returning to school. There was an opportunity to celebrate the 'Hidden Treasure' of lockdown learning – learning in its broadest sense. It was lovely to hear how many students have developed new skills, become more independent and looked after themselves and others during the lockdown period – from bike maintenance to learning about wildlife and cooking to caring for younger siblings.



Baasit Siddiqui

To conclude the first day the whole school tuned in to a live presentation on Google Meet by Baasit Siddiqui (known by many for his appearance on Channel 4's Gogglebox but also runs a business delivering education workshops). Baasit described his career journey with some key messages for students about taking advantage of opportunities, making use of support, and being prepared to 'pivot' to respond to unexpected changes. Pivoting is certainly something all students have been expected to do in the last few months and they have risen to the challenge really well. A great way to end the day and maybe the first of many virtual presentations that will keep our Personal Development programme relevant and engaging.



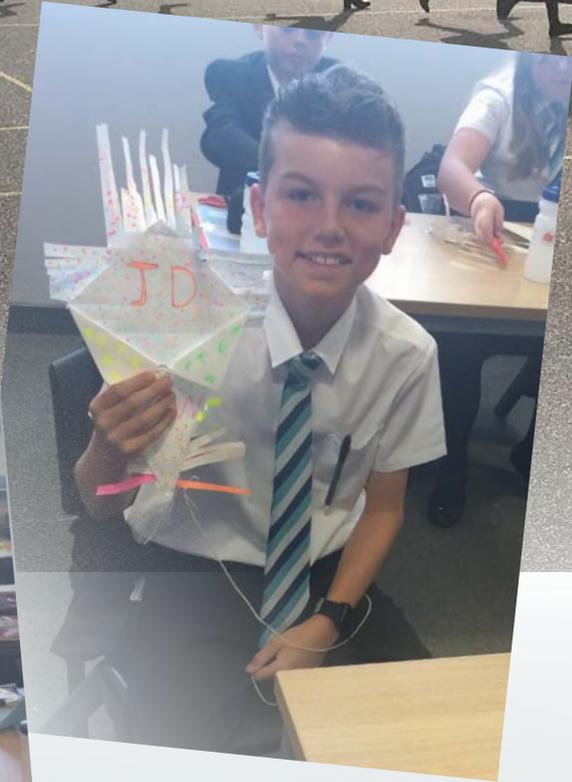
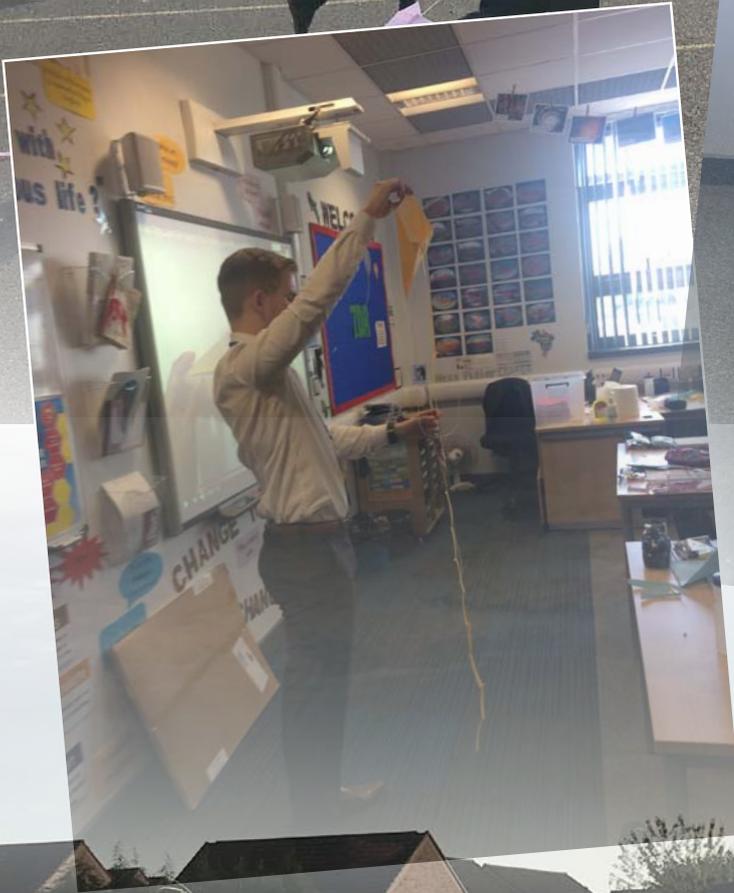
Baasit Siddiqui
(Siddiqui Education)

SHIREBROOK ACADEMY
your learning, your future

• We are all leaders, we are all learners and we are all valued members of this "community of inspiration, excellence, and opportunities for all to grow"

SHIREBROOK ACADEMY
your learning, your future

Thank you so much @shireacademy for having me (virtually) speak to all the students on their 1st day back at school. It is a genuine privilege to help kick start the academic year of a school with such an inspiring mission statement. #thankyou #firstdayofschool #EducationForAll



To help rebuild confidence for learning, all students built their own kites in school and the test flights were really successful!



PD DAY

Visitors go viral!

We recently held our first Personal Development day of the new academic year, albeit with a difference. Thirteen different organisations delivered input to our students virtually instead of face to face as they normally would.

Y7 had a day of teambuilding activities, including orienteering, problem solving, and working in technology rooms and the library for the first time this year.

Y8 focused on relationships with virtual presentations from Kooth, Young Carers and Action for Children.

Y9 had an enterprise day, building skills for work through a business challenge. In the afternoon they had a virtual presentation from Dhiraj Mukherjee, co-founder of Shazam and successful Tech entrepreneur. <https://dhirajmukherjee.com/>

Y10 had a day focusing on the local community, discussing lots of ideas about how Shirebrook could be improved and looking at local projects that are already running – for example the Plastic Free Shirebrook campaign, and the Market Place Enlivenment project.

Y11 started to explore careers and Post-16 options with virtual presentations from colleges, employers and local apprenticeship providers.




Christmas Market Event

This year we will be hosting our Christmas Market on 21st November in the Old Bolsover Yard.

Come along and give us your support. See our beautiful and unique handmade gifts. Some of them shown in the pictures below:



We will be standing from 10.30am in Old Bolsover Yard, 2 Castle Street.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school **190 days per year**. The government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least **95%**

Are you doing your bit?

**DAYS OFF
COST
GOOD
GRADES**

**ATTEND
TODAY
ACHIEVE
TOMORROW**

Every day counts!

Library Week

5th -10th October

Library week gave us an opportunity to celebrate the joy of reading and as part of the celebrations we re-launched Bookbuzz.

Bookbuzz is a reading programme from BookTrust that aims to help schools inspire a love of reading. During the week we distributed free books for all year 7's.

We also launched our brand new eLibrary Service. Reading Cloud allows you to access to the library catalogue. It gives the opportunity to request an actual book if you can't access the eBook or just prefer a hard copy book. A request can be submitted and we will offer a "Click and Collect Library Service" the library will come to you. The book requested will be delivered to your tutor group before your arrival in the morning.

Students can now borrow and read books online by downloading ePlatform to access eBooks on any device anywhere at any time, no more excuses for not having a book to read.



Thank You

A big thank you to everyone who took part in the library activities. Throughout the week we enjoyed activities such as; storytime - share a book and write a book review to recommend a book to others. We also had competition opportunities in the form of Vocabulary Challenge; "Say What You See" and Reading Challenge; "Read a Book and Take a Quiz". There was a chance to win a £10 gift voucher, collect 5 achievement points and other amazing prizes.





Music Lessons

Does your child have an interest in learning to play a musical instrument?

Here at the Academy we have an excellent team of specialist musicians who visit us weekly to provide lessons in brass (trumpet, cornet, horn, trombone, euphonium and tuba), woodwind (flute, clarinet and saxophone), strings (violin and viola), guitar (electric, acoustic and bass) and drum kit.

Learning an instrument is an excellent way to develop self-esteem, resilience, organisation, coordination, thinking skills and problem solving as well presenting the opportunity to make new friends and gain confidence. Once your child has made progress on their instrument they will be invited to join one of the Academy's musical ensembles such as Wind Band, Funky Jazz Band, String Orchestra or Choir. They may also have the opportunity to take part in concerts and showcases throughout the year.

All lessons take place during the school day on a rotating timetable to avoid disruption to students' learning.

Lessons are offered at an introductory price for the first six weeks, following this time prices may vary but subsidies are available subject to circumstances.

If your child is interested, have them collect a letter from Mr Case in the music department.



A Song for the moment

Y11 Academy student River Hopkins has used his musical talent to write a song about coronavirus to appeal to people in the area.

The talented 16-year-old hit the headlines earlier this year when he wrote 'Welcome to Mansfield' about his 'grey hometown' during lockdown, which quickly went viral.

Still unable to perform due to gigs being cancelled, River has decided to get his creative juices flowing once more, penning a message to the people of his hometown about coronavirus. He writes lines such as 'put down your phone and have a COVID game plan' alongside appeals to protect the elderly.

River explains: "The council wanted a view from a teenager rather than a politician.

"They listened to 'Welcome to Mansfield' and said I was really talented and that they wanted me to do something positive."

To see more of his songs, checkout his [YouTube channel](#) and his facebook page [River Hopkins Young Musician](#).



Parents, welcome to:
Schoolgateway

Keeping you informed of what's going on at school.



Download the app
 Android and iPhone

or visit the website:
www.schoolgateway.com

Activate your account today!

Keep up to date with all the latest information connected to your child and news from the Academy

DOWNLOAD THE APP NOW...

We are very excited to be introducing School Gateway to Shirebrook Academy – this is a parent engagement app that will allow you to look at your child's attendance, behaviour and achievement information, at anytime from anywhere. In addition, the app has some handy links, such as your child's timetable, SAM Learning, the Academy website and the Academy Twitter page to name just a few.

School Gateway is available right now and is the simplest way to stay up to date with what's going on at school, so make sure you download the App for free. Just search School Gateway in your App store and download.

In order to log on you will need to use the email address and mobile phone number that we already have on file for you at Shirebrook Academy. If you have changed your details, or have never provided us with them, or you encounter an issue logging on, please contact Student Reception at your earliest convenience, so that we can update our systems.

If you have any questions or would like some more information, please see the School Gateway website www.schoolgateway.co.uk

You can also login to the online version of School Gateway via the website above if you do not have a smart phone, although we do recommend using the app if possible as it makes it far easier to get hold of parents when we need to.



Keep up to date with the latest news and events as they happen by following us on twitter
@shireacademy

How to activate your account

1. Download the Android or iPhone app.
2. Press 'New User' then enter the email and mobile number your school has on record. If you're not sure if they have the right details, it's best to check and update first.
3. Press 'Send PIN'. You will receive a text message with your unique PIN.
4. You're now ready to log in and start using School Gateway.
5. If you don't have a smartphone or prefer to use a computer, you can set up your account using [the web version](#) of School Gateway.

How to log in

1. Once you have your PIN, go ahead and launch the School Gateway app on your smartphone or tablet.
2. Enter the email you have registered with your school and the PIN you received. If you didn't get a PIN, it is likely because your school doesn't have the right contact info. Get in touch with them to check.
3. If both the email and PIN are entered correctly, hit 'Login' and you're ready to start engaging with your school.
4. You can also access School Gateway [on the web](#).

Expectations in PE



With the exception of Y11 Core PE group, ALL year groups should bring full PE kit to school and get changed accordingly.

Year 11 Core PE group, to arrive into school on PE days in their Kit and get changed back into Uniform.

All students are expected to wear face masks in the changing rooms.



As the colder weather approaches students may want to bring extra layers / base layers to wear under their PE kit, however additional outer layers must be navy or black.

PE Extra Curricular



MONDAY
 Y8 Badminton
 After school in the sports hall with PHO.

TUESDAY
 Y10 Badminton
 After school in the sports hall with JDA / AD

WEDNESDAY
 Y9 Badminton
 After school in the sports hall with JDA / AD

WEDNESDAY
 Y11 BTEC Catch up (all subjects)
 Lunch time in SP2 with VN.

THURSDAY
 Y7 Badminton
 After school in the sports hall with RG / BE.

FRIDAY
 Y11 BTEC Catch up (all subjects)
 Lunch time in SP2 with RG.

CAREERS

We know that parents are a key influence and support for students when they are deciding what to do after Y11, and we want to ensure you have all the information you need. Normally we would run a Careers Evening in school for Y10/ Y11 and their parents to learn about all the options and meet local colleges, 6th forms and training providers. This year we will need to work a little differently.....

- You will see regular bulletins on this newsletter about Post-16 and Careers topics
- Mrs Horton will be emailing students a regular bulletin with specific information and links, for example reminders about open days
- All Y11 students will be bringing home a guide to Post-16 options called 'Its Your Choice'. The guide contains a really helpful section for parents so please ask to see it!
- Please contact me at Shirebrook Academy by phone or email thorton@shirebrookacademy.org if you have any specific queries or would like to discuss careers/Post-16 ideas for your son/daughter
- A separate letter will be sent to Y10 parents about our plans for work experience this year

So, what can you do to support your Y11 son/ daughter?

Look at local college and 6th form websites to find out what courses they offer and when to apply. Students can apply any time from now onwards. We recommend students apply to more than one option, then decide which they prefer later in the year.

Colleges and 6th forms will be running virtual open days/ open evenings (*see their websites for details*). For example – West Notts College and Chesterfield College. These open events offer a good opportunity to speak to staff and students directly, and there will be talks on applications, different subjects and issues such as finance.

**Don't forget
we are here to help –
please get in touch if
you need any support**

Interested in Apprenticeships? –

www.amazingapprenticeships.com

which has a section for parents and lots of useful links

Interested in University for the future? –

www.hepp.ac.uk and follow the 'who are you?' tab for information for parents and students – includes video clips, booklets to download to help you decide whether Higher Education is for you, and the qualifications you may need.



COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS
VISION West Nottinghamshire College

COLLEGE OPEN DAYS/EVENINGS
Saturday 10 October 2020 | 10.00am – 1.00pm | Online information event | Please check website for details
Wednesday 4 November 2020 | 5.30 – 7.30pm | Derby Road
Saturday 6 February 2021 | 10.00am – 1.00pm | Derby Road
Saturday 24 April 2021 | 10.00am – 1.00pm | Derby Road
Saturday 26 June 2021 | 10.00am – 1.00pm | Derby Road

APPRENTICESHIP OPEN EVENING
Wednesday 3 February | 5.30 – 7.30pm | Derby Road

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION OPEN EVENING
Thursday 21 January 2021 | 5.30 – 7.30pm | Engineering Innovation Centre

A LEVEL OPEN EVENING
Thursday 24 September 2020 | 5.30 – 7.30pm | Online information event | Please check website for details
Tuesday 12 January 2021 | 5.30 – 7.30pm | Chesterfield Rd

ADULT EDUCATION OPEN EVENING
Wednesday 21 October 2020 | 5.30 – 7.30pm | Derby Road
Thursday 18 March 2021 | 5.30 – 7.30pm | Derby Road
Thursday 6 May 2021 | 5.30 – 7.30pm | Derby Road

Register your attendance
www.wnc.ac.uk
Dates and times are correct at the time of print. Please check website for details.



Derbyshire School Nurses— continuing to support your Public Health

We thought the following information and contact details maybe useful to refer to over the coming weeks.

School Nurses have a Facebook Page and website:
www.derbyshireschoolnurses.org.uk
 Search Facebook for: Derbyshireschoolnurses

MANAGING CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19) ANXIETY

For You

- Avoid excessive exposure to media coverage
- Connect through social media/text/Internet
- Take extra time for daily stress relief
- Practice self-care
- Focus on your own mental health

For Kids

- Reassure them that their safe
- Let them talk about their worries
- Share your own coping skills
- Limit their news exposure
- Create a routine & structure

For Adolescents/Teenagers

- Keep in contact with your loved ones via text or phone, text, and share meals
- Create a daily self-care routine
- Join yourself busy games, books, movies
- Focus on new academic techniques

The following websites have some good info pages about how to manage worries and anxieties around Coronavirus:

www.youmatters.org.uk
www.childline.org.uk



Hand-washing technique with soap and water

CONNECT BE ACTIVE NOTICE KEEP LEARNING GIVE

Search the following for up to date information around Coronavirus:

www.gov.uk 111.nhs.uk/covid-19
www.nhs.uk www.dch.nhs.uk

School Nurses can be contacted via:
 SPA: 01246 515100 or
DCHST.derbyshireschoolnurses@nhs.net

LANGWITH BASSETT

30 hours Childcare

September 2017

Foundations @ Langwith Bassett

Free 30 hour childcare for children aged between 2 and 4

Take a look at our stunning state of the art provision with both indoor and outdoor learning facilities.

We provide a safe and stimulating environment for children ages 2-4 years old with a creative curriculum designed to engage, excite and inspire.

We offer a flexible approach to nursery hours - please phone to discuss and arrange a visit.

To arrange a visit, please call us, on 01623 742236

Langwith Bassett, Junior Academy
 Bassett Hill, N820 9RD

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Did you know, meals for infants are free regardless of personal circumstances?

Free meals for junior and secondary aged pupils are subject to meeting eligibility criteria.

It is important to register all pupils regardless of whether they intend to have a meal, it could mean additional funding for school.

Easy and confidential ways to register/apply:
 Telephone: 01629 536400/535743
 Email: checking@derbyshire.gov.uk
 Website: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals
 Paper forms available in school

SHIREBROOK ACADEMY

Endowment Fund

The Shirebrook Academy Endowment may be able to help with the cost of course books and learning resources. Awards are available up to a maximum of £500. Local groups and charities are also eligible to apply.

Please find the award criteria and application form at:
www.shirebrookacademy.org/endowment-trust/
 For further information please contact Paula Corbett at pcorbett@shirebrookacademy.org

SHIREBROOK ACADEMY

Alumni

If you are a former student or know of any who'd like to stay in touch and give back to their old school, ask them to sign up at:
<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/shirebrook>

Character Education & Development



COMPASSION

Are you compassionate to others needs?

Compassion motivates people to go out of their way to help the physical, mental, or emotional pains of another.

HONESTY

Are you honest, even if you make a mistake?

Honesty means being truthful and straightforward, trustworthy, loyal, fair and sincere.

INTEGRITY

Do you show integrity when making decisions?

Integrity means doing the right thing because it is the right thing to do - making the right decisions based on strong moral values and principles.

COURAGE

Do you show courage when things get tough?

Courage is making the right choice even when it is difficult, painful, dangerous or uncertain.

KINDNESS

Are you kind to other people?

Kindness is showing generosity and concern for others, even when there is no personal reward.

Do you demonstrate these character traits?



"A community of inspiration, excellence and opportunities for all to grow"

Character Education

We are excited to be working with The Centre for Student and Community Engagement (CenSCE) at Nottingham Trent University (NTU) on a project to develop Character Education at Shirebrook Academy

Our Mission Statement states that one of our goals is to foster the values and character traits that make us fully rounded adults who make a positive contribution to our community – compassion, honesty, integrity, courage, kindness.

Ofsted recognises the link between character and successful outcomes for young people. Ofsted define character as:

“A set of positive personality traits, dispositions and virtues that informs pupils motivations and guides their conduct so that they reflect wisely, learn eagerly, behave with integrity and cooperate consistently well with others. This gives pupils the qualities they need to flourish in our society”.

At Shirebrook Academy we already have an established character education programme that includes, but is not limited to, the provision of a personal development curriculum across all year groups within the Academy delivered weekly with additional drop-down days, external speakers and visits throughout the year. Students are provided with opportunities within the co-curriculum to develop their character through participation in activities such as:

- **CRESST – empowering students to manage their own conflict resolution**
- **Ambassadors**
- **Junior Leadership Team**
- **Fundraising**
- **Leading Events**
- **Youth council**
- **Sports Leadership**
- **Duke of Edinburgh**

This project will build on those existing activities and embed character education into the language of the school, the curriculum and our behaviour and rewards systems.

Parents and carers can help by praising children when they exhibit those positive character traits – **‘well done for having the courage to try to learn new skills’** or **‘thank you for being kind to your sister’**. You can also use the traits to point out when they get things wrong. For example, **‘are you showing kindness?’** can be more powerful than **‘stop being mean!’** whilst **‘thank you for your honesty’** is a good way of saying well done for owning up to doing something wrong!

Dream Catching

Y9 textile students have been working really hard recently getting to grips with weaving on a CD. The aim was to make dream catchers and the theme for the project was ‘under the sea’. Students were free to choose colours to suit their theme.



A special mention must go to 9NH for working so well and looking after equipment and resources!

Well Done Everyone!



PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE KEY DATES
THROUGHOUT THE ACADEMIC YEAR

TERM DATES

OCTOBER 2020

23 Finish for Half Term

NOVEMBER 2020

2 Return to school

DECEMBER 2020

17 Finish for Christmas Holidays

JANUARY 2021

5 Return to school

FEBRUARY 2021

12 Finish for Half Term

22 Return to school

APRIL 2021

1 Finish for Half Term

19 Return to school

MAY 2021

3 Bank Holiday

29 Finish for Half Term

JUNE 2021

7 Return to school

JULY 2021

22 Finish for Summer Holidays

Due to the situation with the Coronavirus epidemic and in line with the continuous movement of government guidelines it is not possible to list dates of events and trips at present. We will update you on any scheduled events in due course.

ACADEMY UNIFORM



Also available are tracksuit bottoms and skorts in various sizes

Uniform can be ordered and paid for via Parentpay, at student reception, or alternatively please visit our supply shop based in Mansfield.

SUPPLY SHOP

The Schoolwear Centre
69A West Gate, Mansfield, Notts. NG18 1RU
Tel: 01623 650782



POLITE NOTICE TO PARENTS

If you need to speak to a particular member of staff and they are unavailable on the telephone, be assured your details will be forwarded on and they will call you as soon as possible. Whilst we appreciate there may be times when you need to see a member of staff regarding a specific issue, we ask that you please be aware that staff at the academy work to a timetable and are often not available. Please do not arrive at the academy without an appointment expecting to see someone.

If you require a face to face meeting, please call our reception on 742722 and we will endeavour to arrange an appointment for you at the earliest convenience to suit both parties.

Thank You

OPENING HOURS

Monday	09:00 - 17:00
Tuesday	09:00 - 17:00
Wednesday	09:00 - 17:00
Friday	09:00 - 17:00
Saturday	09:00 - 17:00

twitter

Keep up to date with the latest news and events by following us on twitter
[@shireacademy](https://twitter.com/shireacademy)

Tel: 01623 742722



@shireacademy

www.shirebrookacademy.org