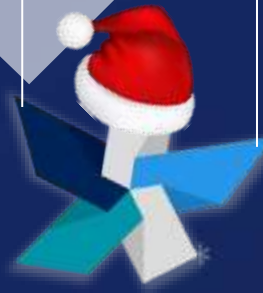




SHIREBROOK ACADEMY NEWS

December 2017

It's the
season



OPERATION *Christmas Child*

Sports direct employees and students from various local schools have dug deep as Operation Christmas child got into full swing. Students and staff have been busy gathering donations to fill shoe boxes in readiness to send overseas to orphan children of all ages in Liberia. For these children, the gift of a shoebox means so much. A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal.

Warehouse workers and head office staff at Sports Direct helped local schools send out hundreds of shoeboxes, filled with items such as toys, tooth brushes, soap, pencils and notebooks. A total of 459 boxes were sent in total.

A fantastic effort by all and massive thanks to Sports Direct for their time and generosity.



I hope you enjoy reading our final newsletter of 2017. As usual it reflects just some of the many opportunities we provide for our students beyond the basic curriculum. In this edition there are a number of stories about work-related learning and personal development which are vital in preparing our young people for life after Shirebrook, as well as a number of trips and charity and community work.

Of course, our students have also been working hard in lessons this term, especially Year 11 who had a series of mock exams in November and are busy reflecting on their strengths and areas for improvement ready for the final few months before the final exams in May & June.

Amidst all of this activity we haven't forgotten about Christmas! This year we held our Christmas Concert in the Holy Trinity Church in Shirebrook for the first time and it was a very atmospheric setting for some superb performances. This was followed by our annual 'Carols in Market Place' event where our wind band and Y7 students were joined by members of Shirebrook Brass Band, local primary schools, parents, shoppers and market traders for a good old Christmas sing song in the cold and frosty morning air.

Which leads me nicely on to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year, see you in 2018.

Best wishes
Mark Cottingham
Principal - Shirebrook Academy



Personal Development Day

October 2017

October's Personal Development Day saw year groups working on different tasks and activities to suit their current pathways.

Y7 had a day of teambuilding challenges designed to help students develop a growth mind-set – working together to achieve tasks and stretch themselves.

Y10 began practising their interview skills ready for some mock interviews with real employers on the approach to Christmas. Students also attended a Barclays Life Skills workshop on people skills in the workplace, delivered by Sue from the Transformation Trust. The aim was to help students gear up for their work experience placements next year. See <https://www.barclayslifeskills.com/> for lots of short films to help you get ready for work.

Y11 spent their day focusing on Careers and Post-16. Students chose further education tasters for the afternoon. Some students tried their hand at Hairdressing – not as easy as it looks!

For anyone who missed the careers evening in November, please contact Tracy Horton if you need any information about Post-16 opportunities, and follow us on Twitter [@shire_careers](https://twitter.com/shire_careers)



Personal Development Day

December 2017



As December arrived so did our next Personal Development Day.

Y7 students created textile squares illustrating their future hopes and dreams – the squares have been joined together into a huge colourful display, and Y7 forms were photographed with their work.



Y8 took part in the **Prison Me? No Way!** programme, learning about crime and its consequences. Sessions were delivered by staff from the Prison Service, Fire Service, and Red Cross. Pictured are students taking part in the 'Street' scene highlighting the effects of anti-social behaviour in the community.



Y9 took part in an **Enterprise Day** run by staff from West Notts College. The day consisted of a series of challenges which demonstrated the skills required for different aspects of working life – teamwork, creativity, problem-solving, presentation and time management.

Over 17 volunteers from different businesses and employers came along to support student teams, and prizes were awarded for individuals and teams at the end of the day. A great start to our careers programme for Y9 helping students to choose subjects for KS4 and start planning their future progressions.

Special thanks to all our outside providers that came in to school on our personal development day and provided what can only be described as a very educational and engaging day.

Volunteer it Yourself

ViY combines volunteering and DIY by challenging young people aged 14-24 to learn trade and building skills, on the job, by committing to fix youth club and community centre buildings in need of repair or improvement.

Participants are mentored by professional tradespeople, who also volunteer their time, and can gain vocational skills accreditations as well as access to further training, work placement and apprenticeship progression opportunities beyond ViY.

Our Y9 students had the opportunity to learn DIY skills, work alongside skilled painters and decorators, and support their local community through Volunteer it Yourself. Shirebrook Cricket Club gained a new coat of paint in the changing rooms, clubhouse and front gates, with all materials supplied by the ViY sponsor Wickes. P.W Decorating provided the skills and training along with Imran from ViY.

Madison Proctor, one of the students involved, said "it was good fun - it's helped me learn something new, and I'd like to find out more about how I can volunteer for other things"

ViY was launched in 2011 and, to date, over 160 youth club buildings across England and Wales have been refurbished, involving more than 3,000 young people and more than 600 trade skills mentors.



P.W Decorating

Wickes



Thanks to all volunteers involved.

For more information see www.volunteerityourself.org

ROTARY YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION

Six KS3 students went head to head in the annual Rotary Club Young Chef competition in late November. The brief was to cook a healthy 2 course meal and all six students did a fabulous job. Congratulations must go to all students who took part in the event. The winner this year was Charley Quantrill who really stood out with his lamb kababs served on a bed of couscous with a stuffed pepper followed by a delicious Eton mess.

Charley is very proud and will be going on to compete in the district round early next year.



Well done to all the students who took part and a big thank you to the staff who helped and supported.

D2N2

Derby
Derbyshire
Nottingham
Nottinghamshire



Y11 and Post 16 students are getting an extra boost to their career planning, courtesy of the D2N2 Careers Local project. The project has funded support from Derbyshire Education Business Partnership and Chesterfield College to help students gain awareness of local opportunities and skills to ensure successful progression from Y11. So far students have visited local employer MSE Hiller and the National Skills Show at Birmingham NEC. This was a particularly successful day out giving the students the opportunity to get hands on experience in a range of job areas. It was beneficial for both Y11 and Post 16 students.



Made in CHESTERFIELD



The Made in Chesterfield Festival is a celebration of the manufacturing industry in the town. The festival looks to inspire the next generation to the industry, with businesses, schools and training providers coming together to showcase the sector.

The school events for Made in Chesterfield are sponsored by **MSE Hiller** and the Business Events by the **University of Derby**.



Some of our Y10 students paid a visit to the NLT engineering training centre at Brimington on November 10th for a taster session. Students were able to get some hands on experience of what it's like to do an apprenticeship.



Another group of students took a trip to local engineering factory, Penny Hydraulics. Here students were given a tour and an insight into the work they do.



DESTINATION
CHESTERFIELD



UNIVERSITY
of DERBY



SHIREBROOK ACADEMY

Hogwarts 2017

Forty-two Academy students and eight Stubbin Wood students joined forces and hopped on to their very own Hogwarts Express to explore London during a residential visit on 2nd and 3rd November.

We began our trip with a visit to Covent Garden where students had the opportunity for a little retail therapy and to explore the festive market.

In the evening we were treated to a two course meal at Pizza express and then made our way across town to the theatre to watch the award winning musical 'Matilda'. First impressions were very positive from the staff and students as the elaborate set covered in letters and books started to open up and reveal the stories of the Roald Dahl characters we know and love. The students were enthralled throughout the performance and were talking about all of their favourite parts at the interval. It was a truly magnificent performance!

On Thursday students made a spell-binding visit to Harry Potter World at the Warner Bros Studio in London. We toured the studio and saw many of the famous scenes from the movie, including The Forbidden Forest, The Great Hall, Diagon Alley and The Hogwarts Express. We were lucky enough to see 'Hogwarts at Halloween' where most of the iconic sets were decorated for the spooky scenes, including The Great Hall covered in floating pumpkins and come face to face with a 'Death Eater' in Diagon Alley!

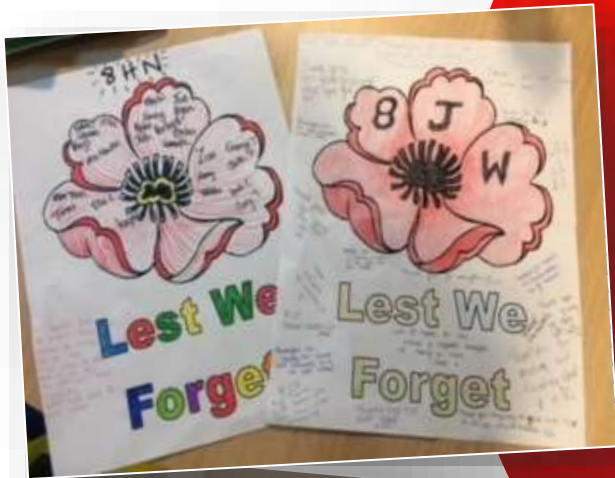
Students were able to have their picture taken on a 'floating' broom stick or become a wizard in a wanted sign. They enjoyed a butter beer before finishing the tour at the gift shop where they could pick up a magical souvenir to remember their visit. An action packed and amazing couple of days enjoyed by all.



HUMANITIES Week

6th – 9th November

The theme of the week was 'Lest We Forget' and included many activities from 'Meet the Vicar' to building 'earthquake proof buildings'. The students worked hard supporting the SSAFA on Camo day with a bake sale, raising £75 for the charity. The students really enjoyed the array of events throughout the week showing lots of interest and enthusiasm. The school bell was replaced with a themed sound linked to the daily topic. Day two was Tectonic Tuesday and the bell became a rather loud earthquake alarm which was both eerie and poignant.



WE RAISED **£75**

Lest We Forget.

On the 22nd of November 2017, 26 students and 3 members of staff embarked on a journey to the European Space Centre in the middle of the Ardennes forest, Belgium.

After arriving safely we had 3 days ahead of us full of interesting tasks and activities. The first task was the Multi-Axis chair. During this activity we were fastened to the apparatus by a harness and given a maze to complete. Everyone struggled but really enjoyed the experience despite the wobbly legs at the end.

As the first full day neared its end we took on the space mission simulator. This is a 2 hour sim which takes 8 people to launch a rocket from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida to the international space station, this was definitely a highlight of the trip. We ended the night by watching Gravity in the conference room.

Day two we moved onto the moon walking sim. This was a VR headset with a chair that allowed you to walk as you would on the moon.

We then moved on to a lecture on how to identify stars in the unique dome shaped planetarium. We were shown all the different constellations and how to recognise them which was very interesting. The final task of day two was very special. The European Space Agency had specifically asked to work with the centre's best group. ESA are the European equivalent of NASA. During their workshop we learned about the future for robotics and how they work. We were allowed to write our own programme for a mini robot. It was a real honour for our school to be chosen and we thank ESA for allowing us to programme their robots.

During the evening on the second day, a torch lit tour of the castle in Bouillon was a particular highlight.

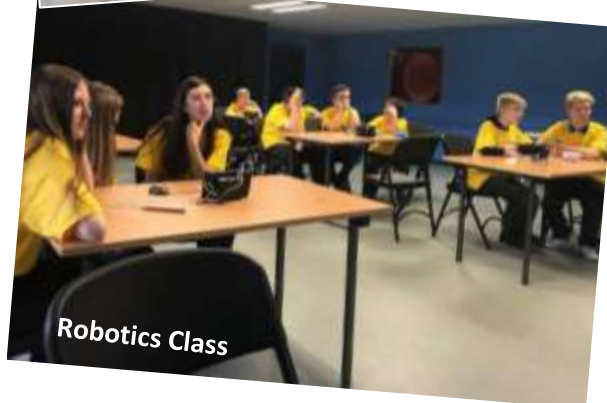
On the final day at ESC we started with the Anti-Gravity wall. The task was to fix a satellite in zero gravity conditions while hanging 10-15 metres in the air. Our last activity during our stay was the rocket workshop. We spent around 90 minutes building and personalising our rockets before heading out to the launch pad to launch all the rockets and the results were really impressive. Most of the rockets came back to earth safely and students got to keep them. However some rockets still decorate the Ardennes forest today.

As our final goodbye approached, we had an awards ceremony. Everyone was presented with a certificate and there were awards for the best dorm, best in the group and most likely to become an astronaut. Afterwards, with sweets and crisps to hand we enjoyed one of the most authentic space films ever made, Apollo 13.

EURO SPACE



Rocket class



Robotics Class



Walking ON THE MOON

All the staff would like to thank ESC, ESA and the students for a great time and we hope they enjoyed it too. The science department hope to run this trip in the future so if you would like to come please keep your ears open!

Mr Grainger, Mrs McBroom and Mr Howard



ARTiculation

On the 20th October, Shirebrook Academy invited six year 10 students to attend a unique creative opportunity at Chatsworth House. Students began the day by touring the magnificent stately home and researching pieces of art from the Duke of Devonshire's collection. They then used archives and source materials to present their findings to a team of art experts from Leeds University, the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire!

Students attended from 5 other schools and worked together brilliantly throughout the day, showcasing their talents and surprising the panel with their thoughts and opinions about the collection. The visit was made even more special through the current Christmas decorations at Chatsworth, based on a Christmas Carol and a Dickensian Christmas.



KS1 SPORTS FESTIVAL



BOLSOVER DISTRICT
School Sport Partnership

Five local primary schools took part in the annual Key Stage 1 Sports Festival on Tuesday 21st November at Shirebrook Academy. The event was organised by the Shirebrook cluster's School Sport Coordinator, Clare Hayes, and 14 sports leaders in year nine. Nearly 100 pupils from Anthony Bek, Langwith Bassett, Model Village, Park Infants and Whaley Thorns took part in the afternoon. Activities included; relay races, tag games, target throwing, skittle games, mini indoor athletics, team games and rugby skills. This was a fantastic opportunity for the children to visit the Academy and be involved in a variety of activities with other local schools. The sports leaders from the Academy did a brilliant job in planning and organising their activity, and it was a chance for them to develop the leadership skills they have been working on this term. Niamh and Emmie, two of the sports leaders said; 'we enjoyed taking part in today's festival and loved teaching the children new things and seeing them interact with different schools'.





STEM

science • technology • engineering • math

TEXTILES STEM CLUB

Y7 after school STEM club recently finished a 4 week project, where the students have designed themselves an item of jewellery using 2D computer software. The designs were then laser cut onto wood and acrylic, which the students then hand embroidered with glow in the dark threads. They have worked really hard each week and the enthusiasm throughout the project has been incredible.

The students who attended are:

Kira Proctor – 7KW
Scarlet Madeley – 7KW
Abigail Lewin – 7KW
Abi Kirby – 7BT
Justyna Kazus – 7YAR
Kayli Simpson – 7VN

Pictured is the group with their certificates and finished pieces.

Well done everyone.



GO-KART STEM CLUB

STEM go kart club runs every Thursday after school. Y9 students Nathan James, Ross Collier, Reanna Davies and David Frost have been building and servicing a go kart over the last few weeks and in the recent snowfall they finally got to road test their hard work. It was great fun for all involved.

*Well done
go-karters!*



STEM

LIBRARY COMPETITION Winners!

Congratulations to:

September

Roald Dahl character quiz

Elexis Steel 7VN

October

Book quiz

"Say what you see"

James Mowbray 8JW

November

Speech writing competition

Isabelle Corbett 7JS

POST 16

Helping the Homeless

Our Post 16 students have been busy of late gathering donations for shoe boxes in a bid to help the homeless. Pleas for any unwanted hats, scarves and gloves amongst other items were top of the list as the cold weather starts to take hold. The students have now managed to make up 11 shoe boxes which will be delivered to the homeless in time for Christmas.

Fantastic!



YEAR BOOKS!

Our Leavers' Yearbooks are about to go into production.

Don't leave school without one!

You only have one chance to order yours. Only one print run will be done.

To make sure that you get one, please speak to:



Mrs Alcock



**PLACE
YOUR ORDER
NOW!**

FIZZ
YEARBOOKS

Sorry - after this date

TBC

it's just too late!

COMPUTATIONAL Thinking

We have been doing a Computational Thinking Unit in computing and have been completing some 'unplugged' activities (without a computer) to help identify and encourage the use of computational thinking skills. Students often don't realise what skills they are using to solve a problem from how to arrange furniture in a bedroom to solving a maths problem.



Design & Technology - Pat Lyons

Currently working with;
Year 7 – Action Figure
Year 8 – Shaky Hand Game
Year 9 – CAD / CAM



EMPOWERING ACHIEVEMENT
SHIREBROOK
ACADEMY
STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE



Working Together

This is the second year I have taught within Shirebrook Academy D&T department.

This year my teaching commitment has increased, both in the number of lessons I teach and the year group range.

I can't explain how much I enjoy and appreciate the opportunity to teach in this brilliant department. Staff yet again have been exceptionally supportive, providing help with planning & assessment.

Along with this teaching commitment, I am able to bring Stubbin Wood students into the workshops where available – Tuesday AM. Without the excellent relationship built up over the years I feel that this arrangement would not be as effective as it is.

I would like to continue this link as I find it particularly valuable to my professional development.

Physical Education

Since September, three of the Shirebrook Academy PE Department have been supporting and leading Stubbin Wood PE lessons.

Below are their experiences of the joint timetable so far -



Steve Hancock, PE Technician:

I believe Stubbin Wood has been a positive experience for both us as staff and more importantly the Stubbin Wood students.

I personally have learnt a great deal from the experience of working with students with SEN. It has been a pleasure to watch some of the Stubbin Wood Sports Leaders deliver sessions, the students have developed excellent leadership skills and confidence when leading the groups.



Ross Goodwin, PE Teacher:

Supporting Stubbin Wood has been a lovely experience. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with a wide variety of diverse learners when leading their PE time on a Friday morning. The incredibly confident sports leaders at Stubbin Wood are extremely impressive and are fantastic at delivering a warm up or cool down to their peers. It is a really positive learning environment which poses a number of barriers that never seems to affect staff or students; Stubbin Wood PE has been a pleasure to be involved in.



Andy Dalby, PE Teacher:

We have been supporting a variety of SEN students during their PE lessons. I haven't supported as much as Ross and Steve, but when present the staff there do make me feel welcome and try to instil confidence in us, even though it is out of our comfort zone. The students are kind, friendly and easy to manage.

Since September we have continued to benefit from joint staffing and shared provisions for the good of both sets of students.

As well as one-off joint projects and invites to special events such as the Stubbin Wood Christmas Fair and Shirebrook Academy's staff panto, both schools are now benefiting from the incredible Pine Cone site working in tandem to deliver Forest Skills and Horticulture. In addition Tracy Horton has coordinated many activities on behalf of the Academy in conjunction with Stubbin Wood, all of which have provided valuable learning experiences for all involved as well as allowing opportunities for relationships between the two sets of students to flourish.

Exciting discussions are taking place between Shirebrook Academy SENCo Jeremy Beecham and Stubbin Wood Head Teacher Sarah Baker regarding a range of joined up KS4 and KS5 provisions from next year- provisions which will undoubtedly improve the curriculum and life chances of many young people in the community.

Creative timetabling means that we benefit from Pat Lyons delivering some Design and Technology whereas we too are able to offer some specialist teaching in Music through Adam Case and PE through Ross Goodwin, Andy Dalby and Steve Hancock.

This brief newsletter aims to capture some of the success stories that have taken place between the two schools this term and shares the encounters of some of the staff working across the two schools.

Andy Gilbert
Vice Principal

I took a group of Y7 and Y8 students to Stubbin Wood to watch the Anti-bullying play 'Hope'. Students enjoyed the performance and participated well in the workshop afterwards.

Stubbin Wood students joined our Y8 Prison Day last Friday – this has been happening for the last few years.



Alternative work experience – Tracy Horton

For two weeks in the summer term, 4 Shirebrook students joined 12 Stubbin Wood students for a work experience programme. Designed to provide workplace skills and experiences with additional support, the programme included visits to local employers and colleges, First Aid training, and 'mini placements' with local organisations such as Limestone Trust, Willow Tree Farm and Markham Vale environment project.



PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE
KEY DATES THROUGHOUT
THE ACADEMIC YEAR

DIARY DATES

JANUARY 2018

- 3 Return to school
- 22 Languages week
- 30 Y11 Parents evening

FEBRUARY 2018

- 6 Y9 male immunisations
- 13 Y10 Parents evening
- 16 Finish for Half Term
- 26 Return to school
- Y11 Mock exams begin
- Literacy week

MARCH 2018

- 5 Careers week
- 6 Personal development day
- Y9 Options evening
- 12-16 STEM week
- 22 Y11 Parents evening
- 23 Finish for Easter break

APRIL 2018

- 8-11 Barcelona Residential
- 9 Return to school
- Healthy week
- 24-27 Y9/Y8 Female immunisations

Shirebrook Academy UNIFORM



Limited uniform is available to purchase from student reception, 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 as they happen by following us on twitter

@shireacademy