

Best wishes

Mark Cottingham

Principal - Shirebrook Academy





CUP OF DREAMS SHATTERED as English curse strikes again!

A depleted Year7 team travelled to Edlington to face Sir Thomas Wharton College in the 2nd round of the ESFA cup in game that that was theirs for the taking.

Once the game was underway it was evident that there would be no quarter given as the young female left back who played like a cross between Norman 'Bite your legs' Hunter and a great white proceeded to wipe out Tom 'The Tank' McNally without breaking stride and her team mate at centre forward sprinted clear of a static Blues defence like she was running for the front of the Next Boxing Day Sale before rasping a shot wide of the post.

Inside 3 minutes the visitors were behind and Shirebrook were rocked back on their heels. On a pitch wider than the Mersey and more bobbly than a polyester jumper, keeping possession was proving impossible and for the rest of the half Lucas 'Can I beat him one more time' Thomas ploughed a lone furrow with little support as McNally diced with death and fractured ankles out wide.

Half-time came and went as the visitors grew increasingly frustrated with the Greek Philosopher refereeing who was certainly proving to be their Achilles Heel, but within a minute of the restart Shirebrook were level as Che 'The Revolutionary' Parkin raised the blue flag in celebration after lashing home following a spell of ping pong in the box.

As the half progressed chances were of a premium with both teams going close and both keepers making vital saves. At the midway point Shirebrook's resilience was finally broken like a breech in a Whaley Bridge Dam, a ball down the middle was inexplicably missed and the home team drove home like an arrow through the heart.

The minutes ticked away and the visitors threw caution to the wind, piling forward in search of that elusive equaliser with 'The Rock' Darrington launching ball after ball forward making the opposition feel like London during the Blitz as trajectories rained down. As minutes ticked down to seconds one final corner was won and a pin point delivery from 'The Tank' saw Thomas rise with

the grace of Nureyev in his hay day to glance home to ecstatic scenes on the touchline.

And so to extra time for the second round in succession. With chests puffed out like Logan Paul in a rage, the Blues poured forward straining for a winner but at risk of leaving the back door open for their opponents. No prisoners were taken and 'Messi' Mullin began to walk a disciplinary tightrope as he constantly questioned the Greek Philosopher's qualifications!

With extra time almost over a chance of glory beckoned, 'The Tank' broke free, rifled goal-wards, time stood still, the keeper parried and with the goal at his mercy Thomas shook the International Space Station as he ballooned the ball over when it was easier to score.

2-2 after extra time it remained and the dreaded penalties to follow.

Once again Oliver 'The Cat' Allen proved heroic, saving 2 and narrowly failing with 2 others but the old failings proved a Halloween nightmare as 3 misses in a row sent Shirebrook tumbling out of the cup for another year.

A big well done to all the boys on a valiant effort.





A group of teenagers who rescued a pensioner from his burning home and a student who made extraordinary progress in her studies were singled out for special praise when we held our annual awards evening.

The students were among 106 young people invited on to the stage to collect their prizes at the Academy.

The theme of the night, based on an address given by the invited guest, Derby entrepreneur Graham Mulholland, who built up his multi-million-pound engineering business from nothing, was the need for hard work and resilience, and the importance of defining what success means to you.

For friends Farren Walters, Archie Ashton, Josua Jope, Liam Gladwin and Brandon Butler, success was doing their bit to help others, a selfless act that won them the school's Community Services Award.

They risked their own safety to help two off-duty police officers lift a bedridden pensioner to safety when he became trapped in his home when fire broke out.

For Wiktoria Poparda, success was winning the Governor's Award for making the most progress out of any student in the school, while students Chloe Evans and Isabelle Corbett enjoyed success across a range subjects, with both picking up four awards each.

Other winners included Logan Procter, Sasha Barlow, Bethany Stubbs, Dylan Thomas and Joshua Browne, who picked up the Key Stage Three Team of the Year award for their involvement with Bolsover District Youth Council — better known as The Young Voice — and 16-year-old Georgia Brindle, who won the Principal's Award for recording the highest-ever GCSE results in the school's history this summer.

Andy Gilbert, vice-principal at the academy, said: "The celebration evening was a great success and our chance to reward students who have excelled over the past year, especially our top-achieving GCSE students who came back to see us."

"Graham's message was very inspirational because of the way he spoke about setting your own goals on your path to success rather than using other people's."

"In our school, success means different things to different people and our awards recognise that range of achievement."

"He also spoke about the need for resilience, which is a key message for us. It became very clear while we were choosing the winners quite how much they have worked hard and overcome setbacks in order to achieve their own success."

Well done to everyone.









CHESTERFIELD SCHOOLS Art Exhibition

The annual Chesterfield Schools Art Exhibition was held at St Andrews Church Newbold, on the 12th and 13th October 2019. It was organised by the Rotary Club of Chesterfield and Shirebrook Academy students once again showed their talents, with 10 outstanding portfolios of work on display. The exhibition opened with the presentation of certificates by the Mayor of Chesterfield and opening thanks given by Toby Perkins, Labour MP. Parents and visitors where then free to look at the work of 6 schools, ranging from Year 7 through to A level. Those in attendance were amazed at the quality of work on show and the amount of

hours taken to produce such mesmerising pieces. Shirebrook students work included large scale canvasses, ceramic heads and photographs from visits to Chatsworth and Cromford.

Pictured is an amazing piece of ink and watercolour work by Ilona Esanu.





Charlotte

Hammond

STAFF NEWS

My name is Charlotte Hammond and I would like to introduce myself as the new Safeguarding Officer at Shirebrook Academy.

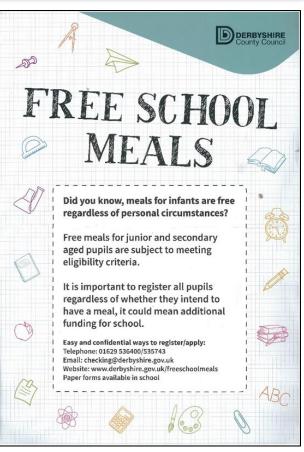
I have been involved in child protection for five years in various roles, including swim teaching, whilst completing my Masters in

Advanced Child Protection with the University of Kent in August.

I started just after October half-term, so I have already had the chance to work with students and parents/carers. I am looking forward to continuing the amazing work that the pastoral team have achieved, creating new relationships within the school and furthering the positive ethos of opening up opportunities to ensure our children are happy, healthy and safe.







In Computing we launched an ethical hacking competition run by the Cyber Security government department. We had a representative from the Cyber Discovery competition deliver sessions to our Y10 and Y11 GCSE Computer Science classes. These students, along with all of Y9 have been coming in every lunch time to hack their way through 13 complex challenges that saw them scouring the internet and code behind the web pages for clues and answers. We are very excited that over 50% of our students who entered have now made it through to round 2 of the competition; with many having their sights set on the final round which would take them to a 1 week all expenses paid residential 'hacking camp' where they will gain an industry recognised qualification.

In the world of Computing

We also ran the PixBlocks international coding competition which was run by the University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznan. Students across KS3 worked on various block coding challenges aimed at developing their computer science and IT skills including logical thinking. Although this has now ended, students are still happy to come along at lunch time and have a go at some of the challenges. In the new year some Y8 girls will be running this club and encouraging the year 7's to participate.

In November we took 46 KS3 students to The National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park Milton Keynes. https://www.tnmoc.org/

Students were able to take part in either a rocket or snake programming challenge on the BBC basic machines from the 1980s.

We took a trip back in time to WW2 and discovered how the German Enigma code machine was cracked by Alan Turing and his team at Bletchley Park. We viewed a replica of the Bombe in action and noted how the rotors had to be changed to continuously keep up with the Germans and their encrypted messages. Students had a go at conversing with a chat bot and trying to figure out if they were talking to a real human or a machine. Some of the results were very surprising and machines are intelligent enough to appear as humans

Frankie Hillsley Y8 – It's very educational and we got our names punched out in ASCII code. I would like to go again next year.

Lennon Morley Y9 – It was very welcoming at the museum and we learnt about how technology has progressed through time and how computers have come from the size of a room to fitting in your hand.

Hugo Carlisle Y9 – It was very educational and it let us learn about the technology in the war

In early November, all our KS3 classes took part in the National Bebras Challenge run by the University of Oxford. http://www.bebras.uk/

The Bebras Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to students. It is organised in over 40 countries and designed to get students all over the world excited about computing. There are 3 different categories: Juniors –Y7, Intermediate – Y8 & 9 and Seniors – Y10 & 11.

Some students managed to beat their score from the previous year and are already looking forward to the challenge again next year.

Winners Junior round 1:

- 1. Ben Bradbury
- 2. Emily Rowland
- 3. Jakub Dzideczek
- 4. Frankie Charles
- 5. Oliver Waterhouse

Winners Intermediate round 1:

- 1. Evie Searson-Wain
- 2. Kira Proctor
- 3. Alex Sherwood
- 4. Daniel Spence
- 5. Ben Thompson-Golder

Winners Senior round 1:

- 1. Ethan Stubbings
- 2. Levi Footit
- 3. Finn O'Callaghan
- 4. Brandon Morrell
- 5. Robbie Layton





MOCK INTERVIEWS

After filling in application forms for various roles, all of our Y10 students received a mock interview from one of our business partners.

Local employers and providers gave up their time to come into the academy and conduct the mock interviews which are an invaluable experience for all of them as they begin to think about their post 16 and career options.

An enormous thank you to everyone who has given up their time to support.

LEEDS ARMOURIES

On the 21st of November, I went to Leeds Armouries; a place that recreates Medieval England. Firstly, our group toured around multiple displays based on the events of the Battle of Hastings and the defences and strengths of castles. I stuck my hand in a murder hole and experienced a battle in virtual reality. It was so cool. After this amazing experience we watched a real battle between two knights. Then we went into a secret room to try on ancient warrior armour. I loved the spiked shoes the most. Soon after, we split into two groups; the Peasants and the King's Knights. We had to plan a battle strategy to destroy the other team. Our team used a sabotage weapon which made us win the battle. Overall, this trip was the best day ever!

by Emily Rowland 7RW



COMMUNITY EVENTS

The academy will be hosting a series of evening events for the community to enjoy. The events are FREE to attend, however, a donation box will be available on the evening should you feel you'd like to make a contribution. Refreshments will be available 30 minutes prior to all start times. Seats are limited for all performances. Contact will be made if your booked performance is full.

THE BOOKING FORM CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE OR COLLECTED FROM THE ACADEMY RECEPTION



24th JAN 2020 -7.30pm

The Tony Farrell Big Band

ACET SHIREBROOK

The Big Band has been performing live music in Nottingham and across the East Midlands since 1991. Full of vibrant energy, our singers and musicians perform music from many well-known artists: Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tony Bennett, Peggy Lee, Ella Fitzgerald, Glenn Miller, Robbie Williams, Michael Buble, and many more. The line-up of 4 Trumpets, 4 Trombones, 5 Saxes, Piano, Bass, Drums, Guitar and Singers is in keeping with the traditional bands from the swing era.



Live Poetry - Kevin Fegan

Playwright and Poet Kevin Fegan was born on Warren Terrace in Shirebrook and used to help his mum run "Johnny's Shop" in the market square. As a playwright he has written over fifty stage plays for a wide variety of theatre, including several award-winning plays, as well as plays and drama serials for BBC Radio 4 and has worked as a Storyline Writer for Granada TV's "Coronation St". He has also published eleven collections of poetry and edited dozens of anthologies. He was a featured poet on ITV's international poetry series "Word of Mouth" and BBC 3's "Whine Gums".

"Britain's most innovative playwright" (Plays International)
"a true poet of the people" (the late Adrian Mitchell)



www.kevinfegan.co.uk

26th MARCH 2020 - 7.30pm

Shirebrook Miners Welfare Band

Shirebrook Miners Welfare Band is a 1st Section band since gaining promotion in 2012. The band provides fantastic 'foot tapping', 'audience participation' entertainment for their spectators through playing traditional and modern popular music such as; Marches, easy Listening Overtures, West End and Broadway Musical Classics, Past and present Chart Hits, Old and New Movie Theme Tunes as well as soloist and duet items which feature different sections of the band.

30th APRIL 2020 – 5pm or 7pm

Hamlet for Schools

The performance explores the human nature through the lenses of Shakespeare's rough black humour, a clown stunt without lifeline and an incredible fight with responsibility, guilt and moral that will lead us – audience members following Hamlet as Horatio on his lurid journey – to the final question; how can we fight our own personality? How could we become someone else? A clown? A murder? Actually; 'who's there?'



Harlequins School of Dance

The doors to Harlequin School of Dance opened on Saturday 6th March 1998 with a total of 14 students, and we have steadily built up pupil numbers through reputation. In 2001, the entire school produced and presented its first show at the Solihull Library Theatre. Harlequin School of Dance now has over 100 students, many of which are students from Shirebrook Academy and the surrounding primaries.



South African

Adventurem







On Monday 21 October 2019, 19 students aged 14 to 18, from four Derbyshire schools within Bolsover district - Shirebrook Academy, Frederick Gent, Stubbin Wood and Tibshelf Community School- set off to South Africa on an adventure of a lifetime!

The students have all been involved in I-Venture, a unique programme offering opportunities for young people, who might not otherwise have a chance to participate in this kind of life changing experience. I-Venture is a true partnership effort between Bolsover Partnership, Bolsover District Council, DEBP Raising Aspirations Project, Africa Wild Trails, Woodhead Group and the schools.

The team spent ten days under canvas and travelled to a variety of locations to undertake an international citizenship programme that included delivering first aid training to local communities, working with a local school, studying the wildlife population, conducting an environmental impact study and learning about other cultures.

The expedition phase was expertly overseen and delivered by Africa Wild Trails, whose knowledge and commitment to South Africa ensured an immersive and real experience was had by all. After a 30 hour journey, the team arrived in Durban and began their first phase at Tugela River Camp, in Kwazulu-Natal province.

After travelling out into the local communities, first aid training (including CPR, bandaging techniques, helping someone choking and the importance of hand hygiene) was delivered by the young people to benefit both staff and students at Lethu Colenso Orphanage and Gannahoek Combined School. The planting of fruit trees at the Orphanage ensured a legacy of the I-Venture initiative.

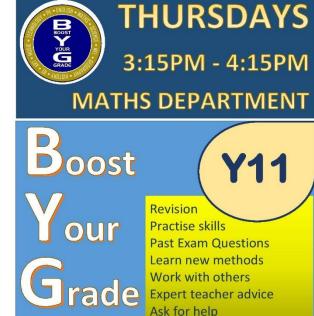
The group also undertook a wildlife research expedition where they spent hours out in the bush observing the behaviour of giraffes and collating data. Giraffes have recently been added to the endangered species list and after seeing them up close the Shirebrook students are saddened to think how future generations may not get to see the beautiful creatures.



For the second half, students travelled to a remote game reserve in the east of the country. They worked with the field guides of South Africa to track, observe and develop their understanding of what South Africa wildlife has to offer including hippos, buffalo, lions, rhinos to name but a few! The group were able to experience some incredible close ups with some of the most fascinating animals on the planet. Including stroking a giraffe as it approached the jeep as we headed out of the reserve.











Build confidence

ATTENTION

Y11

GCSE Maths revision guides and GCSE Maths workbooks are available to purchase from the maths department.

£5 FOR

ACADEMY ENDOWMENT

As a former Shirebrook
Academy student,
currently completing my final year of A
Levels at a local Sixth Form, the Endowment
Trust provided me with the means to
accessing an opportunity that could better
my future education immensely.

Studying at The University of Oxford has, for a number of years, been a dream of mine and although the chances of securing a place are small I did not let this deter me from applying. Part of the application process requires all applicants to sit the Thinking Skills Assessment however when I logged online to book my place I found out that the date of the exam was set for the end of October. This left me with a major problem in so much that I would be overseas on the day of the exam and therefore unable to sit it at school. There was also a fee of \$140.

It wasn't long after that I was made aware of the Endowment Trust and its purpose of helping students, both past and present, access opportunities that would advance their education. After visiting the Shirebrook Academy website and reading through the Endowment Fund page, I wasted no time in submitting an application.

My application for support was successful and I sat the entrance exam, along with fellow students from across the east coast of America on my eighteenth birthday in New York. Time will tell if my application to study at Oxford is successful but I cannot thank my old school enough for helping me the way they did. I would encourage any former students who require financial assistance with their studies to visit the Academy website and click on the

Endowment link. It's a great feeling to know that the support I got with my education whilst a student at Shirebrook Academy did not end the day I left.

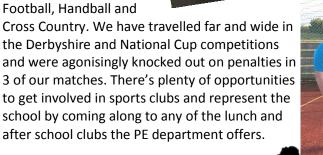
Olivia Oorbett





A busy first term for the department with fixtures and leadership opportunities and over 40 fixtures attended in a range of sports including Netball, Football, Handball and

Cross Country. We have travelled far and wide in the Derbyshire and National Cup competitions and were agonisingly knocked out on penalties in 3 of our matches. There's plenty of opportunities to get involved in sports clubs and represent the school by coming along to any of the lunch and



Y7 NETBALL





Forty-Six students from years 7-10 descended on Sherwood Pines for the annual District Cross-Country competition. There were some fantastic individual and team performances with 18 students qualifying to represent Bolsover District in the County Championships in January. With a few students absent, it was great to see a number of students stepping in at the last moment to replace them. Individual medal winners were Cole Jarvis (3rd) and Kya Cantrell (3rd) with the Intermediate Boys (Y10) winning the team event. The organisers were also aided by some excellent Y10 leaders.





Y9 NETBALI

Recently Shirebrook Academy Girls Y8 football team were invited to attend a football competition organised by Derby County Community Trust, the event involved twelve schools from Derby City and Derbyshire. Shirebrook arrived at the event with a sense of hope and excitement but some early results didn't go their way. Entering the fourth game of 11 a first win and first goal still eluded the hard working girls but that first goal came from the smallest and most unexpected player Maimee Oates who reacted first to a clearance from a Maizy Allsop shot at goal. Once the first goal went in, it gave the girls a second boost of confidence and soon the goals flowed, with Maizy Allsop scoring five and Charlie Oscroft scoring one. The girls came ninth overall with two wins, three draws and six losses. Special mention to Brooke Morrell for her amazing defence and saving the team several times.

Y8 NETBALL









YEAR 9 ENTERPRISE DAY

Year 9 worked well with employers and alumni to build their employability skills for the Y9 Enterprise Day. Woodhead Construction mentored the winning group after a series of challenges throughout the day.

WOODHEAD

CONSTRUCTION





Well Done Year 9



END OF AN ERA

For over fifty years a group of local ladies have met at Shirebrook School once a week for coffee, a game of bingo and a gossip. Since our move to the new Academy building in 2013 they have continued to be made very welcome every Wednesday morning and we are very sad that, due to dwindling numbers, they have decided that today, December 11th 2019, is the last day of this tradition. We have loved having you as part of our school community ladies and wish you all the best for the future - don't be strangers!

PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE KEY DATES THROUGHOUT THE ACADEMIC YEAR

DIARY DATES

JANUARY 2020

- 6 Return to school
- 13 Y9 Exams
- 18 **Duke of Edinburgh**
- 20 Y11 Mock Exams (all week)
- 21 **Y8 Student Progress Parents Meeting**
- 27 Y11 Mock Exams (all week)
- 30 Y7 Derby Open Centre

FEBRUARY 2020

- 4 **Dance Festival**
- 6 Y7 Derby Open Centre
 - **Barcelona Trip Parents Meeting**
- 7 Y11 Arts Trip to Sheffield Museum
- 10 **Immunisations**
- 11 Safer Internet Day
 - **Y9 Options Evening**
 - **Rowing Event**
- 12 Y10 GCSE Science Live
- Finish for Half Term 14
- 15 **Duke of Edinburgh**
- 24 Return to school

MARCH 2020

- 2-6 **Careers Week**
- 3 Personal Development Day
 - **Y11 Student Progress Parents Meeting**
- 4 Y7/8 Girls Rugby
- 5 Y7/8 Sports Hall Athletics
- World Book Day
- 9-13 Science & Engineering Week
- **Sports Relief** 13
- 14 **Duke of Edinburgh**
- 24-30 **Toulon Exchange**
- 28 **Duke of Edinburgh**
- Art & Photography Exam

The Art & Photography Exam continues until 2nd April

ACADEMY UNIFORM











Tracksuit bottoms and Skorts. 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

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

twitter3

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

@shireacademy

