We don't become better because we acquire new information. We become better because we acquire better loves. We don t become what we know. Education is a process of love formation. When you go to a school, it should offer you new things to love.

> — David Brooks, The Road to Character

As I am writing this on Valentine's Day it seems appropriate to reflect on the importance of 'love' in education.

In a narrow sense education is about acquiring new information and then applying it in different situations; be that to pass an exam, solve a problem or use in the workplace and in life after school.

But as David Brooks says in the quote above, our character develops and grows when we develop a new love for something, not just when we learn some facts.

At Shirebrook Academy we aim to provide our young people with those opportunities to grow as people, not just learning new information but experiencing new things, opening their minds to new ideas and inspiring them to find their loves by enthusiastically sharing with them the things that we love.

As ever, this newsletter reflects the myriad ways in which we try to inspire and enthuse not only our students but also the local community, including our range of free cultural events of which I would urge everyone to take advantage.

We hope that during their five years with us, our students, and maybe their families too, can all find something to love for ever.

Best wishes Mark Cottingham Principal - Shirebrook Academy





# COMING SOON

triving for excellence

SHIREBROOK ACADEMY

Proudly Presents

Our next FREE Community Event

MINERS WELFARE BAND

Shirebrook Miners Welfare Band provides fantastic 'foot tapping', 'audience participation' entertainment for their spectators (many of whom are regular listeners) 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. SMWB's expertise is not only confined to 'putting on a good show' the band have had considerable success in major competitions in recent years, culminating in reaching the National Brass Band Finals of Great Britain in 2010 and 2012. The band are also 4 years consecutive champions (2013,2014, 2015 and 2016) of the North East Derbyshire Brass Band Festival Contest.

## Doors Open 7:30pm Concert Starts 8:00pm

empowering achievement



Join us for an evening of entertainment from the award winning Shirebrook Miners Welfare Brass Band.

## OOK YOUR PLACE NOW

Simply download a booking form from our website shirebrookacademy.org/community-events, or collect one from school reception.



**FEBRUARY 2020** 

# SHIREBROOK MOCK ELECTION

# Greens are in the pink as they leave the Reds feeling blue in Shirebrook Academy's mock election

The political landscape may have turned blue outside the school gates, but it was the Green party who were in the pink when they swept the board at a Shirebrook Academy's mock election.

It was the first time that a party other than Labour has emerged as the victor in Shirebrook Academy's mock election, which is always held to coincide with the real-life version taking place across the UK.

More than half of the school's students placed their votes into the school's ballot boxes after a week-long contest involving a group of their classmates, who were allocated parties at random and then had to seek support from their peers.

Following a tightly fought election, the winner was announced as Ben Madeley, whose eco-friendly campaign on behalf of the Green party earned him 175 votes, ahead of the Labour candidate on 111.

The Conservative Party received 58 votes with the Brexit Party close behind with 56.

Tracy Horton, the school's personal development co-ordinator who runs the mock election as part of its citizenship curriculum, said: "Ben is our head boy and was a very persuasive campaigner, so while this is the first time the Greens have ever beaten Labour, his win was unsurprising.

"We were very pleased with the turnout. There was a real buzz around the school and it was a great opportunity to get students thinking about the issues that matter to them."



The Arts department had a busy half-term in the run up to Christmas. On 5th and 6th December, forty Shirebrook Academy students took part in our annual London residential. After an early start we arrived at Harry Potter studios in Watford for a tour of the famous sets and props, including the Great Hall resplendent with its Christmas decorations, the Forbidden Forest and Gringot's Bank complete with fire breathing dragon. After checking into our hotel, we headed to Covent Garden for a meal at Pizza Express before walking through the West End to see the fabulous Lion King. On our second day we had a tour of the Tate Modern and explored its plethora of thought-provoking artworks before exploring the South Bank, sightseeing and shopping in Covent Garden. A fine time was had by all.

BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG CITY London Arts Residential

# Winter Festival

The penultimate week of term was our annual Arts Week in its new winter window. The Atrium was transformed by the Academy's art elves and was decked with an array of handmade decorations, trees and crafts including a flying sleigh, Saint Nick (Freer) and reindeer. During the week we magically created Narnia in a wardrobe, created pinecone creatures and had several musical performances, including our wind band, staff singers, a solo violinist and student/staff wind ensemble. A wonderfully wintery way to end the year.

# Carols in the Market



On Friday 13th December The Shirebrook Academy Wind Band, Singing Group and Y11 singers joined students from our feeder primaries for our annual Christmas Carols in The Market. Around 100 students in total braved the cold to spread some Christmas cheer to the good people of Shirebrook by singing an array of carols and songs including such classics as Jingle Bells, Frosty The Snowman and Mary Had a Baby. The festive singing was segmented by the now traditional reading of the Night Before Christmas.

art



Following our carol service, the wind band then travelled to Dobbies Garden Centre to perform more carols to the festive shoppers and raised £35 for the charity MIND.





# FIND YOUR

#ChildrensMentalHealthWeek

**Children's Mental Health Week 2020 - Find your Brave** 

From 3-9 February 2020 schools, youth groups, organisations and individuals across the UK took part in Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme was Find your Brave. Bravery comes in all shapes and sizes and is different for everyone. Bravery can be about sharing worries and asking for help, trying something new or pushing yourself outside your comfort zone. Finding your Brave can build your confidence, self-esteem and make you feel good about yourself.

Life often throws challenges our way. Bravery isn't about coping alone or holding things in. It's about finding positive ways to deal with things that might be difficult, overcoming physical and mental challenges and looking after yourself. We all have times when we need to Find our Brave. Around three children in every primary school class has

a mental health problem, and many more struggle with challenges from bullying to bereavement.

**Place2Be** is a children's mental health charity that provides counselling and mental health support and training in UK schools, using tried and tested methods backed by research.

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, the academy had various activities for students to take part in.

Place2Be launched the first ever

2015 to shine a spotlight on the

people's mental health.

**Monday** students were asked 'set their goal' for the week to find their brave and push themselves out of their comfort zone with an opportunity to share their story by contributing to the 'find your brave' display in the atrium.

Tuesday lunchtime we were host to Kooth, the online counselling service for children. They had a stall in the atrium for students to visit and pick up useful information.

Wednesday lunchtime the marines paid us a visit and spent some time down in the PE department doing some resillience training in a bid to show how physical activity can improve mental health.

Thursday was quiz day. A mental health quiz was distributed with prizes for those taking part and the winners.

**Overall the week was a great success and the the academy** would like to say a huge thank you to all who got involved.





# ALL THE RIGHT NOTES ...

January saw the launch of our free cultural activities to bring the local community together. Our first event was hailed a success and we are now looking forward to our future events.

More than 80 people attended a performance by East Midlands' favourites the Tony Farrell Big Band at Shirebrook Academy.

The concert, which featured the music of artists including Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Ella Fitzgerald, was open to anybody to attend, regardless of whether they had children at the school or not.

Among the highlights during the night was the chance for students in the audience to see the school's music teacher, Adam Case, showing off his talents on the guitar.

Andy Gilbert, vice-principal, said: "Our cultural season is a very new venture for us and is unprecedented for any school in this area, so we were a little bit nervous about how it would be received and how many people would come along on the night. In the end, we had plenty of people in the audience and it was a really good event. <sub>≓</sub>Tony Farreii

Big Band

We had lots of lovely feedback from visitors and it's set us up nicely for the rest of the season."

# **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. Here's a look at what's in store.



#### 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### 9<sup>th</sup> JULY 2020 - 7pm

#### **Harlequins School of Dance**

Harlequin School of Dance was established in 1994, by Debra Thomas F.I.D.T.A, former pupil of Shirebrook Comprehensive (now The Academy).

Beginning with a modest 15 pupils, the school has grown in both numbers and reputation, providing dance tuition for hundreds of pupils, of all ages, over the years.

> Our biannual show provides a platform for the students to showcase their talents, inspiring some to continue on to successful careers in performing arts.

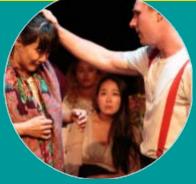
Now in our 26th year, we're proud to continue to support the community by providing an outlet for creative performance and physical expression. As always, it is a privilege to educate the next generation on the merits of dance and introduce them to the world of performing arts.

www.hsdance.co.uk

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



#### 30<sup>th</sup> 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?'

Come along and join us for an evening of entertainment.

AUMANI SHIREBROOK ACADEMY



# **POWER OF**



# BOOST YOUR GRADE

## Monday

#### LUNCH

Food, Textiles, Papers and Boards, Timbers drop in Art rooms open for students English revision/ catch up (EN3) Music practise rooms available on request from 1pm

## Tuesday

#### LUNCH

Food, Textiles, Papers and Boards, Timbers drop in Computing and Business Catch Up (C1/2) English revision/ catch up (EN3) Music practise rooms available on request from 1pm AFTER SCHOOL GCSE PE (SP2) GCSE Music revision (MU2) English revision (EN1 and English breakout) Food, Textiles, Papers and Boards, Timbers drop in Y11 Debating Society (EN5) English Literature Revision for 11Adv3LW in En2

# Wednesday

#### LUNCH

**GCSE History (H1)** 

**GCSE Spanish** 

Food, Textiles, Papers and Boards, Timbers drop in BTEC Health and Social Care and BTEC Sport catch up (SP2) English revision/ catch up (EN3) GCSE Computing and GCSE Business Catch Up (C1/2) GCSE Music Workshops Music practise rooms available on request from 1pm AFTER SCHOOL Food, Textiles, Papers and Boards, Timbers drop in GCSE Geography (H2)

# Who is attending their recommended THREE additional sessions per week?

Y11 BYG students are encouraged to attend as many BYG sessions as possible between now and the start of their GCSE exams.

Students will receive raffle tickets for attendance and be entered into weekly prize draws as well as a half termly prize draw for a **FREE PROM TICKET** 

# Does your school attendance figure meet the criteria?

For every 5 sessions attended, students not currently meeting the 95% attendance figure for prom will earn themselves an extra percentage point to 'cash in' to help qualify for prom attendance.

## Thursday

LUNCH

Food, Textiles, Papers and Boards, Timbers drop in English revision/ catch up (EN3) Art rooms open for students Music practise rooms available on request from 1pm AFTER SCHOOL GCSE Maths (all rooms) KS4 generic catch -up session (Maths Breakout) GCSE Art catch-up

Food, Textiles, Papers and Boards, Timbers drop in Science revision/ catch-up Computing/ Business drop in (C1/2)

# Friday

PRE-SCHOOL Why do it at Home Club LUNCH English revision/ catch up (EN3) Food, Textiles, Papers and Boards, Timbers drop in Music practise rooms available on request from 1pm

# SCIENCE

Please speak to your Science teacher

# Medieval England

At the end of last half-term, students in Y7 handed in their amazing History projects. Six weeks before 'deadline day', students were asked to design and create a project based on the theme of 'Medieval England', which they had studied in their first term at the academy. As the school doors opened on 19th December the Humanities department was flooded with an amazing array of models, posters, booklets and food – all related to Medieval History.

> Students were given time to share their projects with their form, and the best projects from each were

taken forward into a prestigious awards assembly to receive their awards. The first awards were the 'form awards', which were given to the best project in each Y7 form. After these winners were announced, a handful of students were also given an award by Mr Kirkland and Mrs Smith from the pastoral team. Finally, Mr Cottingham handed out his 'Principal's Award' to three incredibly talented students whose projects stood out for their creativity, accuracy and quality.

As always our Y7 students showed an outstanding level of creativity, resilience and maturity from start to finish and should be incredibly proud of the work they produced.



On behalf of Mr Woolley, Mr Hardcastle and the rest of the Humanities team – Thank you!



## Left the Academy in 2018? Destination University in 2020?

The Shirebrook Academy Endowment may be able to help! Awards are available up to a maximum of £500 to help with the cost of course books and learning resources.

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



## **Rowing for Glory**

At the recent Indoor Rowing Event held at Sports Direct, Ben Brooks in Y8 was crowned Individual North Derbyshire Rowing Plus Champion. The gold medal winning team also included Shirebrook students; Luke Buckley, Seb Smith and TJ Ray.

## Congratulations and Well D one

## **MONDAY 9th - FRIDAY 13th MARCH**

**T'S GAME** 



Join us on the MUGA 20p per go (5 shots)

How many can you hit?

**PRIZE FOR WINNING BOY / GIRL** 

#### **TUESDAY LUNCHTIME**

Join us on the MUGA 50p for 1 throw or £1 for 3 throws



55BAR CHALLENG

#### WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME

#### Join us on the MUGA 20p per go (5 shots)

#### How many can you score?

**PRIZE FOR WINNING BOY / GIRL** 

### **THURSDAY LUNCHTIME**

Join us in the LOWER ATRIUM 20p per go (5 shots)

### How many points can you get?

**PRIZE FOR WINNING BOY / GIRL** 



### FRIDAY

#### **BREAK TIME** Come along to the UPPER ATRIUM

Various homemade (and supermarket made) BAKESALE cakes on sale. 50p to £1 each

### LUNCHTIME

Come along to the UPPER ATRIUM 20p per go ACKING RACE

BAKE

## How quick can you stack? gnp

PRIZE FOR WINNING **BOY / GIRL** 

### **AFTERNOON Sport Relief Mile**

or RELIEF MILE A one mile race on the school field

**Race competitively to** win a prize/ trophy or just run for fun in whatever style you like, (skip, 3-legged, wheelbarrow, fancy dress etc.).

99

Prizes for the top fund raisers.



All money raised will be split between Sports Relief and the JLT Sustainability Programme

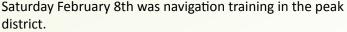
THIS EVENT IS ONLY OPEN TO THOSE WHO RAISE £10 OR MORE IN SPONSORSHIP



On Saturday 18th January, students participating in DofE attended a training event in school where they covered the basic skills needed to help them have a successful expedition. Sessions included 'How to pack a rucksack correctly', 'How to plan and cook an appropriate meal' and 'How to erect and pack away a tent'.

All students who took part commented that they felt they had learnt some 'valuable skills' which

would 'help them massively' on the practice and assessed expeditions. These are due to take place during June and July this year.

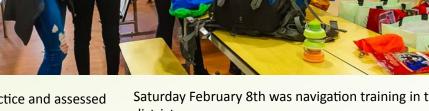


Participating students were schooled in the art of

pre amble of storm Ciara did nothing to dampen the spirits of these students, which saw a near 100% turn out. Students were given training on skills such as orienteering the map, using key features, how to take a bearing and using timing to plan a navigational leg. They were treated to pleasant views from the top of Higgar Tor and were keen to get back to the bus after some of them lost boots in the

All in all, two successful training days!

Saturday February 8th was navigation training in the peak



THE DUKE OF



# Through My Eyes

# Photography Competition

THE

ROTARY

**CLUB** 

More than 50 entries have been submitted for the Warsop and district annual Photography competition.

This year's theme – 'Through My Eyes' gave students the chance to interpret

the brief in any way they wished. Entries ranged from vast landscapes to more intimate portraits of family members. Judging will now commence and winners will be chosen in March.

We are extremely proud to once again be part of this wonderful competition and students displayed great skill in capturing the world around them. Well done to all who have entered.

Mr Freer – Leader of Art



Image by Alea Fowler in Y10

On 13th February the Year 10 Access Project cohort visited Oxford University. Joined by 5 other Access Project schools, pupils enjoyed campus tours of Keble and Magdalen College during which they were able to ask student ambassadors about the realities of studying at Oxford. After lunch in the great dining hall, pupils attended 3 mini lectures on a range of topics including India's caste system, robotics and the causes of Brexit. Pupils engaged exceptionally well, asking thoughtful questions and leaving with a better understanding of selective universities.



On 20th February the Year 11 Access Project cohort visited York University. Pupils enjoyed a tour of York's campus and were able to see science laboratories, library archives and other amazing facilities the university has to offer. The day drew to a close with an engaging archaeology workshop during which pupils had to use problem solving skills to identify which skull belonged to Anne Boleyn. A fun, busy and informative day, pupils gained an insight into the range of university courses available, student finance and even how to budget as a student.

### SHIREBROOK ACADEMY



# **Darren Simpson**

is coming to visit..., with Usbourne Books at Home

Wednesday 4th March 2020 at Shirebrook Acdemy







I-Venture

Following a successful venture to South Afica back in October, the trip will be running again in October 2021with seven Shirebrook Academy students. The students will be attending a selection day on Saturday 29th February after which the sucessful students will then need to raise in excess of £2000 each through fundraising events – watch this space! The main purpose of the venture is to learn about conservation and environmental





TUESDAYS 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Shirebrook Leisure Gentre NG20 3JQ

Term Time Only

STARTS 25.02.2020

School Year 6,7,8 In Association with:



MANÉ

Pick a number between 1 d

E

# IT'S MATHS, BUT NOT AS YOU KNOW IT!

Friday 14th February was NSPCC Number Day, a nationwide event to raise money and awareness for the NSPCC whilst promoting the importance of Maths. The day was filled with various fun activities all with a mathematical theme.

It was a non uniform day and students came into school wearing clothing with numbers on them. An inter-form competition took place to see who had the highest total.

Number Day themed Maths lessons throughout the day saw students competing in relay races and making some 'Very Hungry Mathpillars'.

The day was a great success. We raised plenty of awareness for the great work being done by the NSPCC and £728.16

Thank you to everyone who got involved.

Time

# NSPCC

RONALDINHO



Numbei

2020



l-Venture

October

202

All funds raised will go towards getting 7 students to South Africa in october 2021. The aim of the trip is to take part in a volunteering project – learning about conservation and environmental education.

\*Under 18's must be accompanied by an adult.

#### PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE KEY DATES THROUGHOUT THE ACADEMIC YEAR

# **DIARY DATES**

#### **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	
13	Sports Relief	
14	Duke of Edinburgh	
24-30	Toulon Exchange	
28	Duke of Edinburgh	
30/31	Art & Photography Exam	
APRIL 2020		
1-2	Art & Photography Exam	
2	Y7 Easter Church visit	
3-6	Y9/10 Berlin	
3-5	Brecon Beacons	
3	Finish for Easter	
18-21	Barcelona	
20	Return to school	
	Y7/8 Exams	
23	Y10 Student Progress Parents Meeting	
27	Languages Week	
28	Immunisations	
	Textiles Exam (continues until 1st May)	
MAY 2020		
4-6	Y11 French & Spanish Speaking Exams	
7	ACET Awards Evening	
8	BANK HOLIDAY	
11	GCSE Exams begin	
12-18	Toulon Exchange	
12	Y9 Student Progress Parents Meeting	
13	Y10 Arts visit to Peak District	
15-22	Mental Health Awareness Week	
22	Finish for Half Term	

# 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

Tel: 01623 742722