


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

Sakura Cherry Tree Project



Onwards and Upwards

Last summer, when our GCSE students left school without sitting an exam, I told them that no matter what their results would look like, their grades are only part of the overall story. Their character and personal qualities alongside the skills and the knowledge they have gained at school are their real qualifications. Almost a year later I am preparing to say the same thing to all of our students, no matter what year they're in.

According to recent news, today's students will, on average, lose £40,000 worth of earning power over the course of their careers because they are "falling behind" on their learning during lockdown.

I'm sure that any student who isn't already feeling anxious might well do so on hearing this message which, to me, is highly unfair and totally unnecessary.

Apart from disregarding the fantastic hard work and learning that most of our students have been doing during the recent lockdown, it also ignores some of the benefits that have come from remote learning. I believe this cohort are learning skills that will stand them in good stead in the future – we need to balance the negative impact with the many ways that lockdown has helped our young people to learn and grow.

They have learned self-discipline and about being a self-starter. They have borne witness to a unique period in our country's modern history and have probably done many activities they might not have otherwise have engaged in, like cooking or playing an instrument.

As our newsletter shows, whilst things are very different at the moment, learning and life of our school community continue to flourish.

Best wishes
Mark Cottingham
 Principal - Shirebrook Academy

On the 1st September 2017, UK Prime Minister Theresa May and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced in Tokyo that the years 2019-2020 would mark the Japan-UK Season of Culture. This season, with activity in both Japan and the UK, will celebrate the friendship of the two countries, and was designed to provide an opportunity for people in both countries to explore each other's cultures and technologies between the Rugby World Cup 2019 and Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The two leaders welcomed a proposal from the Japanese private sector to donate and plant thousands of Japanese Sakura cherry trees all across the UK as a symbol of our relationship, consequently, the Sakura Team was created,

The Sakura Cherry Tree Planting Project in the UK aims to plant over 1,000 trees in 2020/21.

Here at Shirebrook Academy we recently took delivery of our Cherry Trees and students took great pleasure in planting them in pride of place at the Pine Cone.

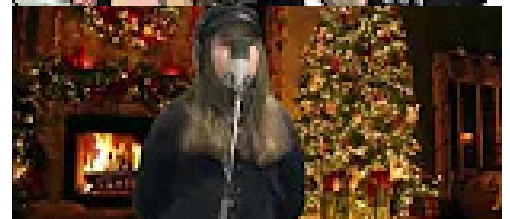
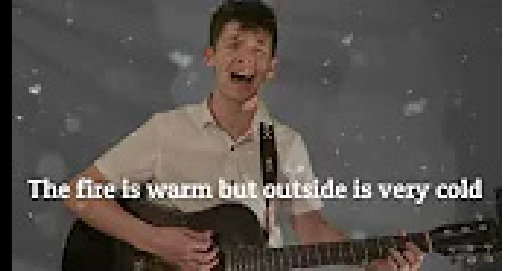
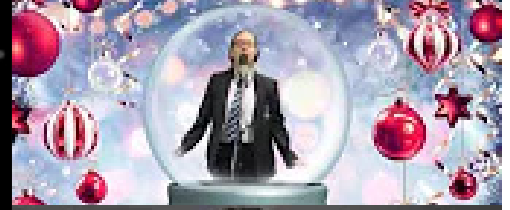
Students who helped to dig the hole for plantation were:

Josh Husselbee, Toby Kiss, Jamie Lea Mellors, Jake Robinson, Alex Skelding, Riley Cooper, Riley Copestake, Ben Brooks, Jayden Bamford and Dexter Morley.



Our Virtual Christmas Concert

As we unfortunately had to cancel our usual Christmas events, we took the opportunity to spread some festive joy across the Academy by streaming a Virtual Christmas Concert to all form rooms on the last day of term. Students from all year groups participated and performed a variety of festive favourites to end the the year on a high, providing vocal and instrumental performances alongside staff acts. Highlights included performances of Justin Bieber's Mistletoe, Santa Baby, Jingle Bell Rock, Fairytale of New York, a Sign Language version of The 12 Days of Christmas and ended with a staff performance of Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas. We were even treated to a cameo by our famous pantomime dames! The videos were then shared on-line to be enjoyed by the community and spread a little Christmas spirit far and wide



Shoebox

Working in conjunction with Keeley Howson, from Derbyshire County Council Children's Services, our annual shoe box appeal was yet again a success. Donations from staff and students alike enabled us to prepare a large assortment of shoe boxes for less fortunate children.

"Please can you pass on our thanks from BLAST for your support in making sure the children get something to open this Christmas"
Keeley Howson



DESIGN CHALLENGES

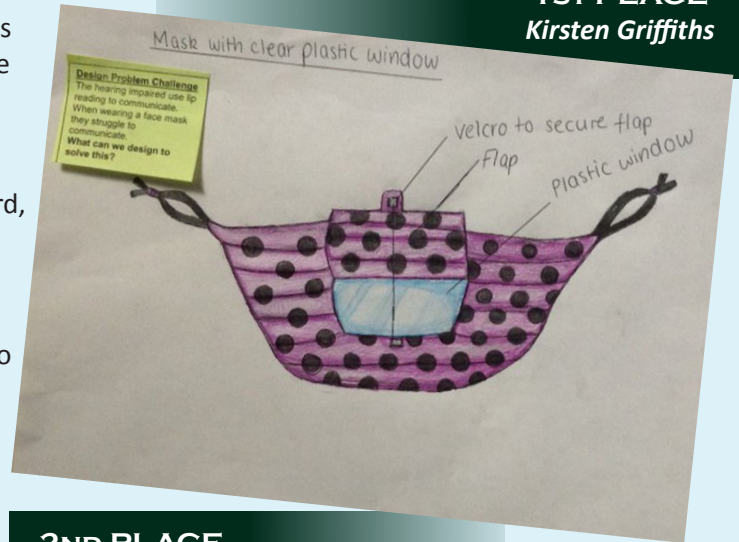
Coronavirus generates many problems and challenges for everyone. Our requirement to wear face coverings presents problems for those who rely on lip reading and often those wearing glasses have issues with steaming up. Things such as contactless payments, hand hygiene and touching surfaces has never been so important amid this pandemic and therefore contactless where possible is the way forward, although that does present problems with such as vending machines.

In Design and Technology, students were challenged to put on their thinking caps to come up with possible solutions to these problems.

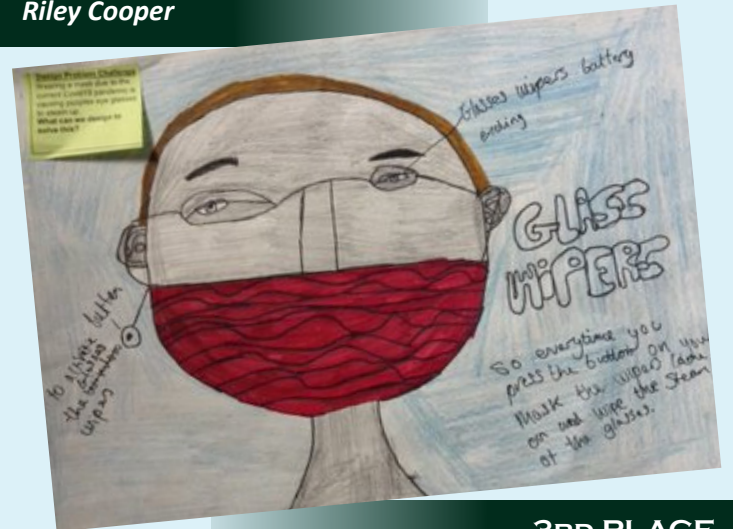
Some excellent creative work was submitted from 9NH in their design challenge lesson.

Well Done Everyone

1ST PLACE
Kirsten Griffiths



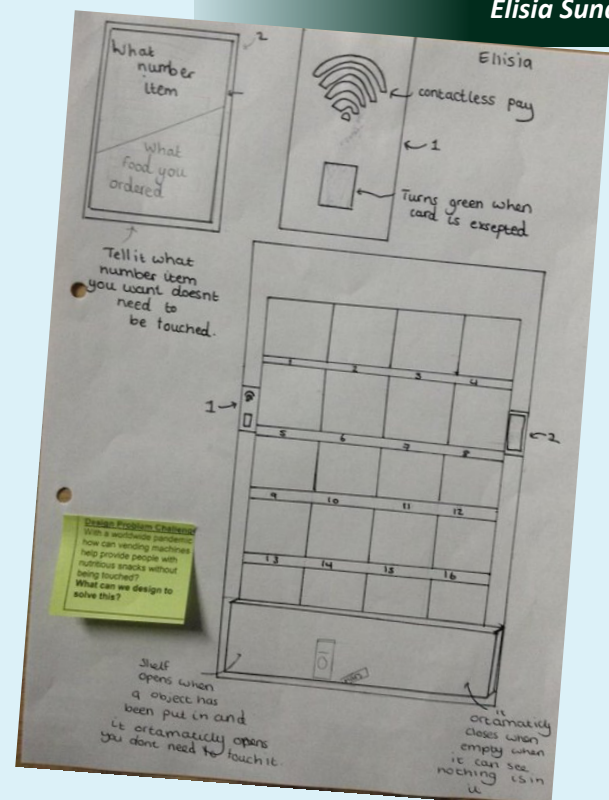
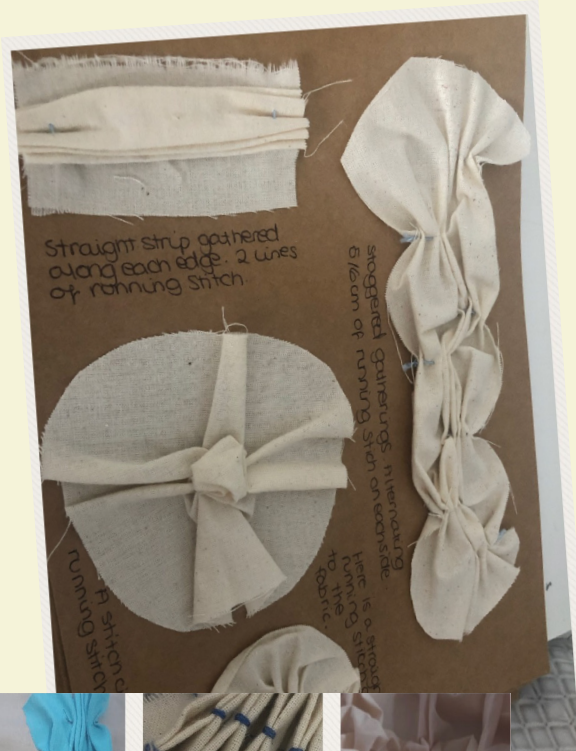
2ND PLACE
Riley Cooper



3RD PLACE
Elisia Sunderland

Fabulous Fabric

Learning in lockdown continued as students continued to engage in their GCSE coursework. Well done to Emily Harland and Beth Warren in Y11 who submitted some very measured and precise fabric manipulation tasks for their Textiles GCSE.



Be Inspired



Ricky Munday is a qualified mountaineer who delivers free inspirational talks to schools in the most deprived areas. His aim is to raise young people's aspirations and help close the attainment gap. Ricky has spoken at more than 150 schools across the UK to inspire 23,000 young people to be more ambitious and to follow their dreams. He describes his own journey from a council estate to the summit of Everest. Ricky inspired students from our academy to take on the Everest Challenge.

VIRTUAL PD DAY

Our first ever Virtual Personal Development day took place on 13 January, and it was great to see the vast majority of students joining the day on Google Classroom. We had the usual mix of Careers, Health and Citizenship topics, including visiting speakers from Derby University, Derbyshire Sexual Health promotion service, DCC Road Safety team, and CGL (drug support service). A second day in March offered even more visiting speakers, including Serin Kasif from the Really Useful Group (Andrew Lloyd Webber's company) who spoke about career opportunities in the performing arts, and a motivational talk for Y11 from Jared Patel, former international table tennis player. Y9 students took part in a Talk the Talk workshop and had the courage to unmute their microphones to give some great presentations. We hope these days continue to support students in developing key knowledge, skills and understanding to be successful in school and into adult life.



gracias

A pleasant cultural surprise was awaiting these Y10 students attending an after school Spanish session prior to lockdown. A supply of delicious Spanish goodies were available to sample and enjoy all courtesy of Vicky Foods, an innovative food company founded in 1952 and currently present in more than 50 countries.



VICKY
FOODS

The C Card

your
**sexual
health**
matters



The C Card Scheme is run by Derbyshire Sexual Health Promotion service, and offers access to condoms for 13-24 year olds. The scheme helps to promote safe sex and encourages longer term sexual health awareness in young people, providing advice and information alongside access to condoms. Our school nurse already offers a C Card service in school but we have now registered additional members of our pastoral team to offer the service, making it more accessible to students who need it. We recognise that students become ready for this kind of service at different stages, and will ensure that the service is offered appropriately as part of our wider pastoral support.

For further information about the scheme,

www.yoursexualhealthmatters.org.uk/contraception/c-card

DRUG Education

THE
CORIELL
AWARD

This year we are working towards the 'Coriell Award' which recognises quality in Drug and Alcohol education.

Our drug education programme needs to be constantly reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of students – by responding to trends and events in the local community. Student views are a key part of this review process – recently a group of Y10 students took part in a 'virtual' consultation activity with Ali Hill, DCC Drug Education Adviser. Students played a board game which encourages discussion about risky behaviours, and suggested situations that would be relevant to their peer group or younger students.

Pictured are students taking part in the consultation activity virtually with Ali Hill, they enjoyed it so much they have volunteered to lead the activity with younger students later this year.



**PLEASE REMEMBER
TO WEAR YOUR FACE COVERING IN THE ACADEMY**



Wearing a face covering makes a difference, be the difference.

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!

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.



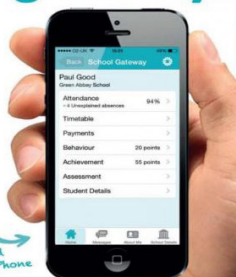
Parents, welcome to:
Schoolgateway

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...

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, 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.

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](#).

twitter

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

@shireacademy

Brilliant Pancakes



Pancake day was an opportunity for staff and students to get creative with food as we launched a pancake competition. Kitchens all around the community transformed into workshops as delicious pancake creations came to life.

**STUDENT
WINNER**

Ethan Dawson 7MI
"The Pig"

**STAFF
WINNER**

Gary Henley Powell
"The Fried
Breakfast"



Congratulations and well done to everyone who entered.

A thing of beauty...



As part of practical foundation studies in Design and Technology, some students worked on building a new noticeboard for the local parish church. Students were assisted through the process of building, sanding and staining by Mr Dosanjh and Mr Langrick. The finished piece was described by the vicar as "a thing of beauty".

The noticeboard replaced the old one that had certainly seen better days and has now been installed in pride of place for all to see. The church, like many others is not open for worship and the noticeboard has enabled them to keep the community in the know.

**GREAT
JOB**



CAREERS

Information for Year 11

My Son/Daughter has applied for College or 6th Form, what happens next?

If your child has applied for a place at College or 6th Form they should check their emails and online College accounts regularly. They should be invited to attend a virtual interview and will be sent details and links via email. Further additional information such as open days, taster sessions or requests for references will also be communicated in this way, so it is important you encourage your child to check their emails weekly.

Once they have been offered a conditional place, your child will receive more information over the Summer with details of how to apply for any bursaries the College/School may offer and also dates for enrolment on to the course. These dates for enrolment will be after GCSE results day. Your Son/Daughter will then be offered a place on the level of course they applied for if they achieve their predicted grades. Do not panic if your child gets below the grades needed for the level they have applied for. They should be offered a place on the level below if available or the next most suitable course which will help them to achieve their career goals. This will all be discussed at the time of enrolment.

My Son/Daughter has still not decided what they would like to do Post 16, what should they do?

Each student is being contacted to make sure they have applied for a course/apprenticeship. If they have yet to apply, they will be getting a careers appointment with Jenna Kennedy our Careers Advisor to go through their options and will be offered support with their applications. You or your child can also request a careers appointment through their form tutor.

What if my Son/Daughter changes their mind about what they want to study?

If your child changes their mind whilst they are still attending Shirebrook Academy they will be able to access the Careers Advisor to go through other options. Please get in touch with their form tutor to book an appointment. If they change their mind once they have finished Year 11, each College has their own Careers Team which they will be able to discuss alternative options with. These Career Teams are impartial so will help your child to look at all options at all providers. There will also be a Careers Advisor available on GCSE results day at school.

My Son/Daughter really wants an apprenticeship, where do they start looking for one?

Firstly, it is really important that your child applies for a College course in the area they are interested in as a back up option. Apprenticeships are competitive so there is no guarantee they will find one ready for September.

Searching and Applying for Apprenticeships

Step 1

They need to identify what type of apprenticeship they are interested in, for example, Business Administration, Mechanical Engineering, IT or Childcare. If they are unsure they can arrange a careers appointment with the Careers Advisor. The National Careers Service website nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/ can also be used for careers research.

Step 2

Go to www.apprenticeships.org.uk and register an account. This is a National Apprenticeship website so most training providers will upload their vacancies on to this website. Click on Find an Apprenticeship and complete the relevant details. This will search for all relevant apprenticeships within a 5-10 mile radius of their postcode.

Step 3

Register with your local College's Apprenticeship teams as they can help to find placements.

For West Notts College go to www.wnc.ac.uk/naw and click on 'Register Your Interest'.

For Chesterfield College go to www.learningunlimiteduk.com/startanapprenticeship/ and register details.

The apprenticeship teams will get back in touch around Easter time to start the full registration process and to start supporting your child in finding an apprenticeship.

Keep an eye out on the College websites for virtual Apprenticeship Advice Evenings:

Next one at Chesterfield College is 22nd April.

Register here: www.chesterfield.ac.uk/event/virtual-apprenticeship-advice-evening-2/2021-04-22/

Step 4

For support with completing an application, they can arrange a careers appointment with the Careers Advisor or attend one of the lunchtime Drop In's on a Monday and Wednesday lunchtime.

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



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
- Make extra time for daily stress relief
- Practice self-care
- Focus on your own mental health

For Kids

- Reassure them that their safety is their parents' top priority
- Share your own coping skills
- Limit their news exposure
- Create a routine & structure

For Medication/Isolation

- Keep in contact with your loved ones via text/phone/texts, and phone calls
- Creating a daily self-care routine
- Make yourself busy: games, books, movies
- Focus on new cognitive 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 LISTEN 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, NG20 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>



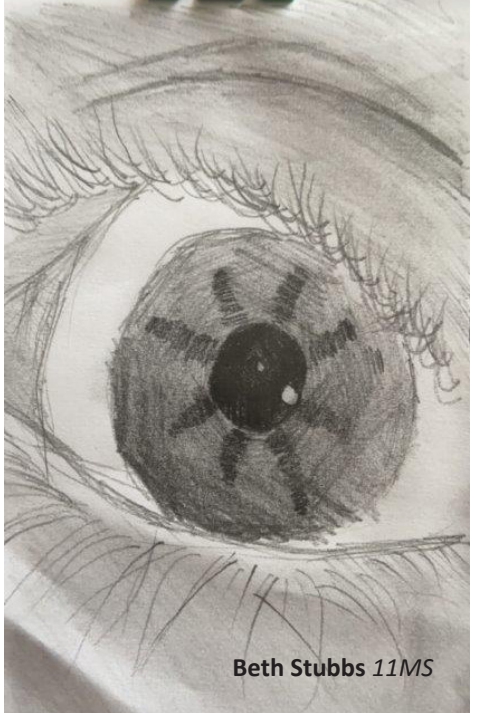
Lennon Morley 10VN



Kirsten Griffiths 9NH



Kiera Durrant 10TM



Beth Stubbs 11MS



Chelsea Holland 11MS

Fantastic LOCKDOWN ART



Tamara Walters 9LWO



Kelsey Hind 11JW



Frankie Hillsley 9AE

All aboard for **AMSTERDAM**



Galleries and Museums have unfortunately been closed for such a long time. As part of the Art curriculum, local and national visits are key to inspiring students in the production of their own art work. We decided that if we couldn't go local this year, we'd go international and take our students 'virtually' on a trip to Amsterdam and in particular - The Van Gogh Museum!

Staff and students 'virtually' flew across to Amsterdam's Schiphol airport, before meeting in the foyer of the museum. Staff then took students on a guided tour of some of Van Gogh's key works, before allowing students to explore on their own or with classmates.

Kian Derry in Y7 said –

"Art is fascinating because you learn about the artist and you make art at the same time - so we do some English and Art mixed together!"

The trip was attended by all year groups and was a great success, with students seeing masterpieces like 'The Bedroom', 'Almond Blossom' and 'Sunflowers'. We even found time to nip and collect a few souvenirs from the gallery shop!

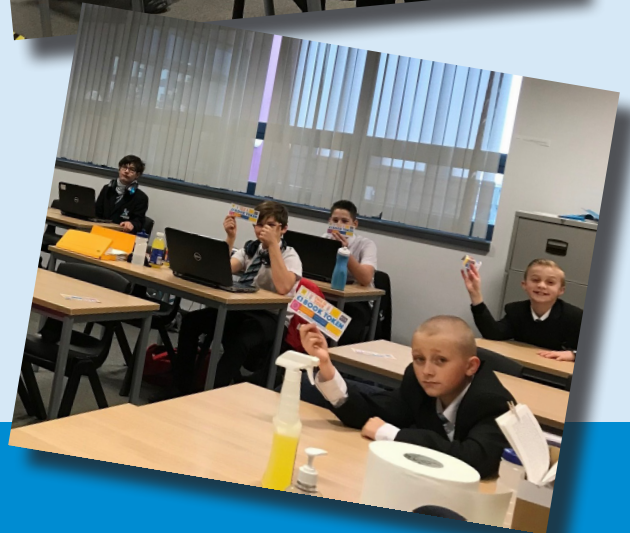


Now...
where shall we head to next?

WORLD **BOOK** DAY

4 MARCH 2021

Most activities this year were online with "*Share A Story*" events performed by authors to promote reading. We also created our own interactive activities on google drive with a quiz and competition as well as book recommendations by staff and students on Jamboard and Bookflix. World Book Day tokens were distributed to students that were in school and promoted access to eBook and audio book reading for everyone.



PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE KEY DATES
THROUGHOUT THE ACADEMIC YEAR

TERM DATES

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

AUGUST 2021

- 12 Year 11 Results Day

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