



Summer 2023

Outreach 'Shout Outs'

Some of our young people have challenges that mean they are not able to attend a centre. These students are supported by our fabulous team of Outreach Teachers and Learning Mentors.

Here are some of their successes this term:

- ◇ One student passed his construction exam at level 2, and his score was one of the highest in his school. He will achieve a level 2 construction merit by the end of the school year.
- ◇ Two students completed their medical treatment and went back into school.
- ◇ One student is integrating into Ludlow centre, and one more is starting to visit with the view to start integration too.
- ◇ 6 students were able to sit their GCSE examinations either in school, centre or at home.
- ◇ One student created a vegetable garden at home independently and achieved a level 1 unit award for sustainable gardening.
- ◇ One year 11 student completed 33 unit awards this year in Maths and English.

A Word from the Headteacher...

Greg Portman

Firstly, congratulations to all our wonderful year 11s who completed their GCSE exams this term. We recognise this is a challenging time for our young people and we were impressed by their maturity and hard work in the run up to the exams and how they managed themselves during the exam period. Many are off to start college courses and apprenticeships in a range of subjects in September, and we wish them all the very best for the future. Thank you to you, the parents and carers, for supporting the students this term.

As usual, lots of great things have been happening across the service, both inside and outside the classroom, with lots of centres taking advantage of the good weather to provide some additional enrichment opportunities for young people.

I wish you all a wonderful summer and remind all our students to stay safe over the holiday.

Interesting Artifacts



As an opportunity to explore local attractions and in search of inspiration for their Art work, Ludlow students took a trip to Ludlow Museum. The museum contains an interactive environment rich in history, while encapsulating the architecture and social history through its town centre location.



Martha was particularly intrigued by the butterflies and taxidermy dog!



WORLD OCEAN DAY



One Ocean, one climate, one future - together!



World Ocean Day on 8th June 2023 saw students across the service taking part in activities to raise awareness.

Groups spent the morning completing activities towards their AQA Unit Award for 'Taking Part in a Plastic Pollution Day at School'. They picked up litter from around the local area, watched a video on plastic pollution, made posters on the topic, rescued a 'sea creature' from its trappings and escaped from ropes.

In the afternoon they completed a second AQA Award in 'Creating a Recycled Art Installation'. These were based on the ocean and used recycled plastic.



Arthog Outreach

TMBSS Take Arthog by D.Ryan

On Wednesday 28th June, TMBSS Oswestry Centre went to Arthog Outreach.

Arthog Outreach Centre is based in Wellington and operates locally to bring the adventures to you - or with the minimum of travel takes you to the adventure.

ARTHOG OUTREACH HAS THE SAME ETHOS AND FOCUS ON HIGH QUALITY OUTDOOR EDUCATION AS THE RESIDENTIAL CENTRE IN NORTH WALES.

When we arrived, we had a tour around the site and saw some of the facilities: there was a climbing wall for wheelchairs; a climbing frame; canoes and all sorts of other stuff.

After the tour, we all went back outside and did some orienteering. Orienteering is a great activity which can be used to develop a range of skills including: an understanding of maps and navigation in a practical and fun way. Our task was to use a map to find some numbers scattered around the building and grounds. Every number we found had a letter with it and we had to write the letters down onto a piece of paper that we had been given. Once all the teams had finished it was time for a break before our next activity. It was one of the teacher's birthdays so we had millionaire shortbread and chocolate brownies and chocolate hobnobs as well as squash.

The second activity was my personal favourite, this was the climbing walls. We all had a go at it, even the teachers tried it. One of the teachers was "belaying" (holding the rope to stop the climber from falling) and three other people pulling on the rope to keep tension on it. The scariest part was after completing the climb, having to lean back and abseiling back down the wall. All in all, it was a great day and I can't wait to go again.



Sundorne students
have also accessed this
brilliant facility.

SHOE SCULPTURES

Students at Ludlow made these fantastic animal shoe sculptures.

They had to plan and research their animals, finding images to inform their design. They then chose their colour palette and materials needed to create their sculptures. We love the final pieces.



Inspirational Art

A year 11 Oswestry pupil created a stained glass window painting from masking tape and watercolour. When all the other classes came into the Art room and saw it they all wanted to have a go themselves. They adapted her original design and experimented with acrylic paint and using tints to create pastel tones.

It was so fantastic to see the power of one piece of work, and how it inspired the whole centre!



GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK YEAR 11



Events across the service have taken place over recent weeks to celebrate our fabulous Year 11 students. They have coped brilliantly with the pressures of the exam season and we are all super proud of them. Hookagate Centre hosted a Garden Party, displaying the students' GCSE Art work (and work from other students). Parents and carers were invited in to come and enjoy some tea and cake, whilst enjoying the work of our talented young people. We also took a trip to the Exotic Zoo in Telford and had a celebratory barbeque.





THE GREAT ESCAPE

It's always a sad time when we have to wave off our Year 11 cohort, even though we know they have done themselves proud in their GCSEs and that amazing new adventures await.

This year's Bridgnorth Bunch bravely placed their fate in Ms McGrory's capable hands, as she led them through the trials and tribulations of a Magic-Themed Escape Room Experience. Despite some initial head scratching and a real fear that we would not emerge

within the allocated time, team work and logical thinking prevailed and the group managed to solve the mystery of The Book of Magic.

After photos and thanks to the team at *Xscape Now* in Telford, there was a celebration and farewell meal at Pizza Hut to round off the year. We wish our amazing Year 11s all the best as they move into the next exciting stage of their lives.

Mountain Adventure Success

You may remember Luke from previous newsletters, where he has featured for his involvement in Outdoor Education activities. Most recently he was seen completing his First Aid award by bandaging up an 'injured' Bev. Staff at Hookagate are delighted that Luke's interest in the outdoors has been rewarded as he has been accepted on the prestigious Martin Moran Foundation Mountain Adventure programme for 2023.

Martin Moran is a charitable foundation with a mission to elevate the lives of young people through purpose, passion and powerful experiences in the mountains. The Foundation provides fully funded mountain adventure programmes to young people who want to explore the beauty, freedom and value of our natural world and this year Luke has been offered one of these places.

Luke was nominated by Hookagate staff and then had to complete a detailed application process. Luke is one of just 10 young people across the country who have been selected for this opportunity and we are all thrilled for him. We look forward to hearing about his adventures.

LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION



'Their designs are fantastic!'

PRIMARY PUPILS COME FOR AN 'EXPERIMENTAL' VISIT

Harlescott primary centre students made a visit to Hookagate and had the chance to conduct some scientific investigations in the laboratory.

The pupils used gas jars, pipettes and different liquids to make a *Liquid Density Tower*. They were really skilled measuring out the different liquids to form different coloured towers. Effervescent tablets were added to the tower causing a fizzing reaction in the water layer.

Our second experiment used

skittles sweets to show the dissolving of the food colourings used.

Some amazing patterns were created.

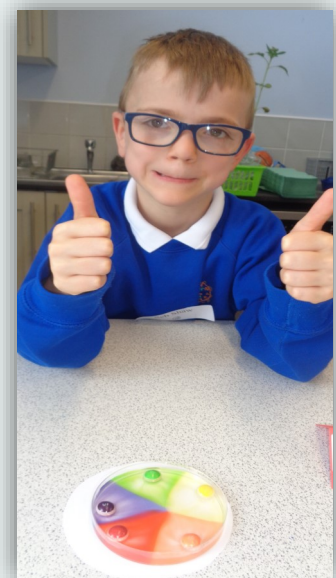
We really loved having them and hope they can come again.



The Telford Autism Hub are holding a competition to redesign their logo.

Students discussed what makes a good logo, evaluated the one they currently have and researched symbols that are traditionally used to represent Autism. Students then designed a new logo informed by their research.

Closing date is the end of July so we wish them all the very best of luck. Their designs are fantastic!



Oswestry Coronation Party

Students (and staff) at Oswestry are always happy and willing to eat cake at the drop of the hat and the recent impending coronation of King Charles III on 6th May gave them the perfect opportunity.

During the morning some of the centre students made paper chains, blew up balloons and decorated the kitchen, while others cooked and prepared party food: sausage rolls, pizza, crisps, but strangely, not cucumber sandwiches.

Once lunchtime arrived, everybody congregated to celebrate the accession to the throne of our new monarch which was to take place on the following day in a ceremony at Westminster Abbey in London, in front of an audience of dignitaries, Heads of State and specially invited members of the public. The last coronation, of Queen Elizabeth II, had taken place seventy years before on 2nd June 1953, so for everybody in the centre this was to be the first coronation they would witness. Even Mr P. hadn't been around for that one!



Hookagate Students 'Flying High' at RAF Cosford



Hookagate students took a trip out to RAF Cosford this term. For some staff and students it was their first time visiting the museum; Mr Davies had the time of his life and couldn't wait to organise a second visit. For others, this was not their first visit and they were eager to go back. Mrs Pearson really liked the new exhibits that revealed information about the human side of the RAF, whilst Lucas and Luke were interested in the planes.



SOPHIE AND HUNTER BEING PILOTS

Comer Woods was Picture Perfect

KS3 had a great trip out to Comer Woods as part of their photography project.



'We have been looking at the photographer Ansel Adams and his work in nature, so we took our cameras out for a walk and focussed on the different detail the great outdoors has to offer.'



New Look

Student Council

The school council took a new approach this term with the introduction of a debate style meeting involving students from across the service. Each centre was given the same topic to discuss and then representatives came together at The Lantern to feedback and debate their views. This term we discussed 'gender neutral toilets'. We had a lively debate with lots of thoughts and opinions. All the students were respectful and mature in their discussion, in spite of the initial nerves around meeting people from other centres. Well done to all who came.



Safeguarding at TMBSS

CONTACT NUMBERS

**Children's Services
First Point of Contact**
0345 678 9021

**We Are With You –
Young people's sub-
stance misuse team**
01743 294700

**NSPCC – 0808 800
5000**

**Bee U – 0 – 25 Mental
Health Support - 0300
124 0093**

Childline – 0800 1111



*If brought into centre,
mobile phones must be
handed in at
reception.*

Bridgnorth Centre: 01746
764733

Hook A Gate Centre: 01743
367369

Ludlow Centre: 01584 876129

Oswestry Centre: 01691 653134

Sundorne Centre: 01743
368190



At TMBSS we believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind and recognise that safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people is everyone's responsibility

The Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead for TMBSS is James Pearson and he can be contacted by telephone on 01743 368189 or via e-mail pearson.j@tmbss-shropshire.org.uk. All other provisions have designated safeguarding leads and as parents/carers you will be given a leaflet on who they are and how to contact them on the initial home visit.

The TMBSS CP Policy is available for all parents/carers to view on the website. It is updated annually. You will also find links to all other service policies, including E-Safety, Child on Child Abuse, and Preventing Extremism

The Local Authority have been very focussed this term on substance misuse and water safety. There is an increase in ketamine use within the Quarry area of Shrewsbury and resources have been sent to all parents. Whilst many children will enjoy their summer having fun, we have attached a link for a video, which highlights the potential dangers <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/safety-on-our-waterways/summer-water-safety>

The Shropshire Summer HAF (holiday activity and food) programme has been sent to all parents/carers. This is a list of activities that you are able to access over the summer break and it covers all areas of Shropshire. If you need this resending, please can you contact your centre administrator.

Just a reminder that Jodie Prophet is our Family Support Worker and is available to provide support. She can be contacted on, prophet.j@tmbss-shropshire.org.uk or you can contact your centre manager.

This term, we have sent a number of useful resources to parents. This has covered information on substances, exploitation and domestic violence. Should you need anything re-sending, please can you email spelman.e@tmbss-shropshire.org.uk

If you require information on additional financial support, please can you contact Spelman.e@tmbss-shropshire.org.uk.

End of term:

Friday 21st July 2023



PD Day: Monday 4th September 2023

Return to school: Tuesday 5th September 2023

End of term:

Friday 27th October 2023

Half term: Monday 30th October—Friday 3rd November 2023

Return to school:

Monday 6th November 2023