



Autumn 2022

A Word from the Headteacher...

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL TERM

It seems a long time ago now, but I would just like to take this opportunity to congratulate our incredible Year 11 students on their GCSEs in the summer. We had many success stories with students achieving exceptional grades despite challenges they may have had on the way. This is testament to their hard work and the commitment of the incredible TMBSS staff who supported them through the first sit down exams for three years. As a change this year, we invited students to come in and collect their results. This was a very special day and privilege to see the relief and pride in carers and students as they opened their results.

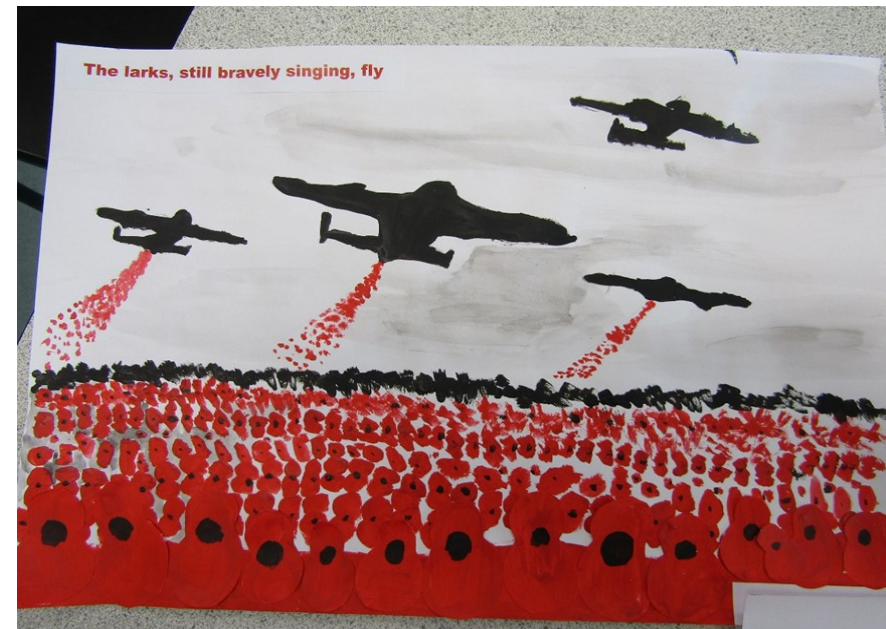
This term has seen, as usual, numerous fantastic activities going on across the service.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for their ongoing support with our young people and to wish you all a very happy Christmas.



KEY EVENTS THIS TERM

- HOOKAGATE CHRISTMAS FAIR
- REMEMBRANCE DAY
- MUSIC WORKSHOPS
- ARTIST OF THE YEAR



REMEMBRANCE DAY

As part of Remembrance Day this year, pupils from Hook a Gate, Bridgnorth and Oswestry created artwork based on the poem 'In Flanders fields'. They incorporated the symbol of the poppy, and words from the poem. This earned all those involved an Entry Level AQA unit Award, and created thoughtful displays for centres. Year 10 students also studied the poem for English. All students observed an exemplary two minute silence.

Oswestry students have been getting practical in the science lab!

LUNG DISSECTION



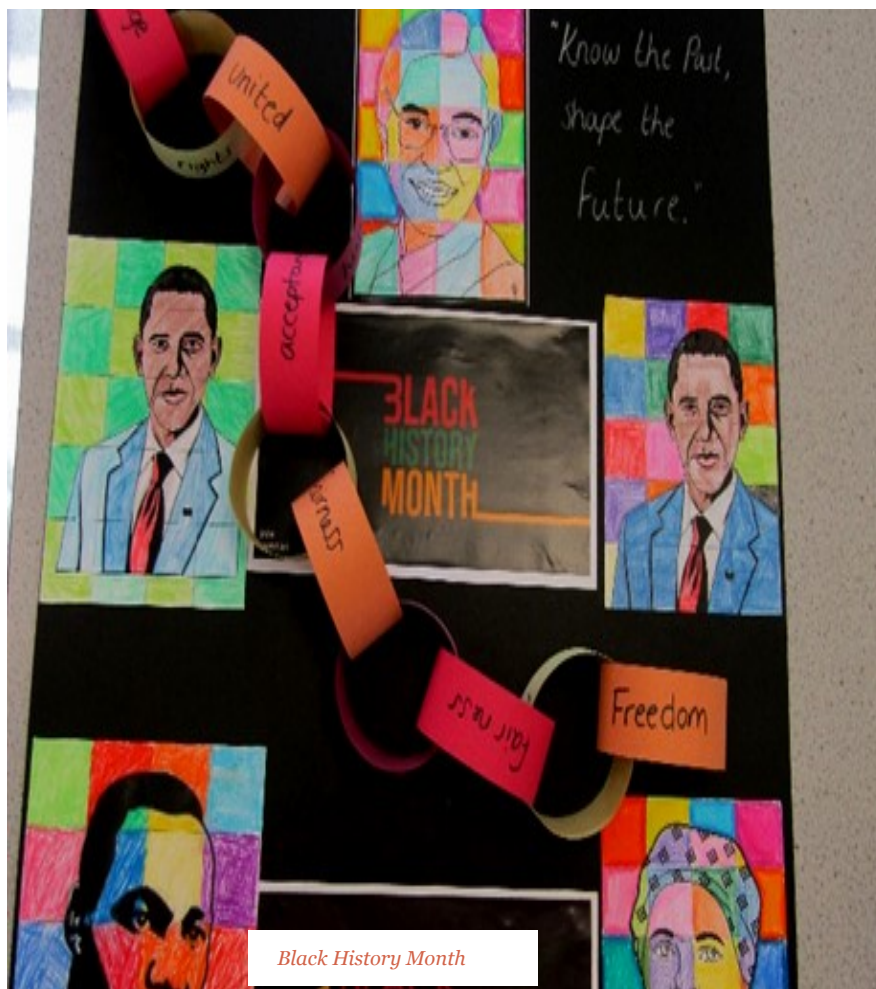
Students at the Oswestry centre have been studying Gas Exchange and the function of the lungs. They took part in an experiment where they dissected the lungs to see inside them. They then took turns inflating the lungs, whilst discussing how Gas Exchange occurs.

AN EGGCELLENT SCIENCE LESSON!

Students in KS4 at the Oswestry Centre were studying the process of Osmosis in science. They placed an egg in vinegar to dissolve the egg shell. Students then measured the egg before putting it into water. The egg will then stay in the water for seven days. Students will measure the egg again to see if Osmosis has occurred. Eggciting!



Daniel (Year 10)



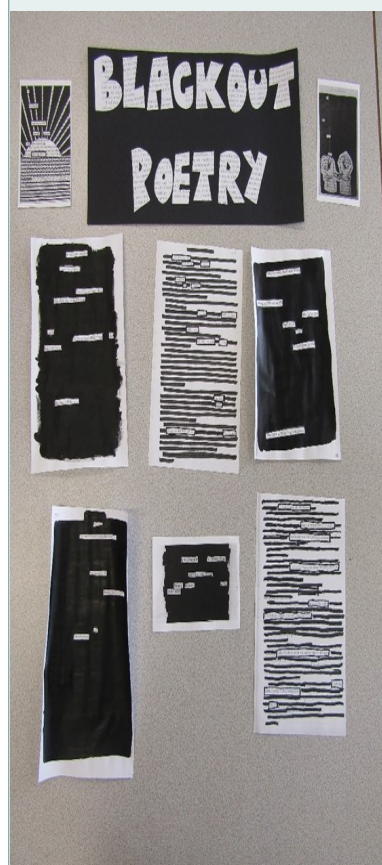
Black History Month

This half term, as part of Black History month, pupils from Hookagate, Oswestry and Bridgnorth centres watched a dramatization of the story of Rosa Parks as a stimulus for their art. They discussed segregation and created portraits of key figures from Black history. They then created displays for their centres to celebrate black history month.



BLACKOUT POETRY

Hook a Gate pupils created 'Blackout Poems' in Art to mark poetry day this year. They selected a photocopy of a book page from their centre library and then blacked out the words except for the ones they wanted to construct their poem from. It was amazing to see how different the poems were, using the same selection of texts as a starting point.



ATTINGHAM PARK

Students from Sundorne Centre visited Attingham Park, a National Trust property and park in Shrewsbury.



We are very lucky to have such a fantastic NT visitor site so near to our Shrewsbury centres. Students visited the mansion and used the centre camera to take photographs of the grounds and the different rooms, such as the kitchen and the butler's room. They experimented with angles, lighting and landscape settings.



National Trust

HAPPY RETIREMENT, MR RUDGE

The end of term sees the retirement of one of TMBSS's longest serving staff. Mr Rudge is retiring at Christmas after 26 years at TMBSS. Mr Rudge started with the service back in October 1996, working at the old Hookagate centre. He has been managing the 'New' Hookagate since 2013. As well as teaching science. Mr Rudge is infamous with students past and present for his ability to create bangs, explosions and smells strong enough to clear the centre. Perhaps Mr Rudge's greatest achievement in his time at TMBSS is his incredible contribution to Outdoor Education. Many students have benefitted from Mr Rudge's expertise in all things 'outdoors', including canoeing,

orienteering, hill walking, to name but a few.

Students have gained 'Outdoor Discovery Awards', 'British Canoeing Paddle Awards' and 'National Navigational Awards'. The silver of this particular award is the same qualification that Rescue Team Leaders have to acquire, so a huge achievement for our students.

Mr Rudge has given his career to supporting our students and we all wish him a very happy and well-earned retirement.

Retiring with Mr Rudge, is Mrs Rudge, who has most recently been working with the students at Hookagate. They will miss her commitment to enriching their curriculum with wonderful cooking, crafts and gardening.



ARTISTS OF THE YEAR

Each week the Art teachers award a pupil with 'Artist of the Week' in each centre for the person who has shown the most effort in class, who has challenged themselves and taken creative risks. Mrs Lacey then keeps a tally of all the winners and presents the person who has achieved the most certificates with an 'Artist of the Year' award and a prize.



STUDENTS SHARE THEIR VIEWS

This term saw the return of School Council. Each centre nominated two students to represent them at the School Council meeting. This is the opportunity to share any concerns, hopes, ideas the students have regarding all aspects of their schooling at TMBSS. It is also a chance for students meet their peers from other centres.

It is a huge responsibility—taking on the role of Councillor for your centre—as you are there to represent the view of all the pupils, not just your own. In centres, the councillors were given the time to talk to their peers about the issues they wanted raising in the meeting and they were able to discuss these with Mr Savchenko, who will then address them with the rest of the Senior Leadership Team.

FORT AT THE FARM

Lower Bush Farm near Ludlow offers a warm, fun and friendly option for KS3 pupils who are interested in practical activities away from Centre. This term students have been involved in building a fort made from wood which was designed collaboratively to ‘keep enemies out’.

DH from Bridgnorth Centre played a key role in the construction project. He explained that the hardest part was having to knock in the extra posts, while the best bit was the fact that everyone mixed in and worked together. DH goes to Lower Bush Farm every Friday and has learned new skills while also using his knowledge of The Outdoors to help others. This term he has also made spears out of wood, metal spear heads and used a bench drill to craft candle holders for Christmas presents.



“a fort...designed collaboratively to keep enemies out!”

MOVING ON, MOVING UP

Coming to TMBSS can be a really daunting experience. At Bridgnorth Centre, one Y10 pupil has excelled during his time in the Service and he agreed to sharing his thoughts about the last few months as he prepares to say goodbye.

“Centre has been different to what I was expecting. I thought it was going to be bad because it doesn’t have a very good reputation around Bridgnorth. The first couple of days were difficult because I didn’t know anyone and it wasn’t anything like mainstream. I soon got to know everyone though and that has been really positive”.

TL has worked hard to refocus since his arrival at BEC and staff were able to provide a really positive report to support his move back to mainstream school.

“I am nervous about getting back to mainstream, but hope that my next school will be one where I know a couple of people already”.

Although the vast majority of pupils don’t want to come to TMBSS and have often had a difficult journey to get to us, many find that when the moment comes, they are really sad to leave. Bridgnorth Centre is proud of its former pupils, many of whom keep in touch and drop in to share their news from time to time. Last year one pupil who left us in 2015 was awarded her Masters Degree in Criminology while others have set up their own businesses or are simply settled and happy with families and everyday lives.

Whatever he decides to do, we wish TL all the best for the future.



“We are always delighted to hear how our leavers are progressing in the world.”

HOW DO WE SUPPORT READING AT TMBSS?



Assess



Baseline assessments help us to work out the 'reading age' of all of our students. This gives us a clear starting point and helps us to identify who needs support and who needs extra challenge

Personalised Strategies



Every student has a reading profile that contains helpful strategies that can be used by all subject teachers to support reading across the curriculum

Attitudes Survey

We explore how our students feel about reading and what their views about themselves as readers

Challenge



Students are encouraged and frequently given the opportunity to read complex academic texts in all subjects

Targeted Support



Interventions are used to help students 'close the gap'. These might be delivered in class, in a small group, or sometimes on a one to one basis

Guided Reading



Teachers use methods of guided reading to explore a wide range of texts

Vocabulary



Students are explicitly taught vocabulary in all subjects to build confidence and aid comprehension

Measure



Reading is monitored and re-assessed to measure progress over time. This allows us to adapt and amend interventions appropriately

Model positivity



Staff model positive reading habits and encourage reading for pleasure

SUPPORTING READING TOGETHER



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS



Hookagate students have invited parents and carers to attend their annual Christmas Fair on Wednesday 16th December. Students have made cakes and biscuits to serve with tea and coffee, as well as making an array of Christmas crafts to sell.

This event is also an opportunity for carers to meet staff and look at the work their children have been doing in centre. There is also an exhibition of students' art.

Over in Ludlow, staff and students had an end of term trip to the bowling alley. Mr People wasn't able to make it so sent a giant Elf instead! The Elf was also the victor at the bowling!



Giant Elf gets a strike!

MUSIC WORKSHOPS

Musician, Ben Sayah came to TMBSS to lead a day of music workshops as part of the Arts Show.

Ben is a Manchester based musician who first worked with us six years ago. He came to work with us as a response to pupil voice because this year's cohort were keen to learn some guitar, play *Running up that Hill* and compose a piece of music together.

Ben brought a range of instruments with him from around the world for pupils to explore. (The



favourite was definitely the steel tong drum!) He also taught them to play their song choice and introduced them to genres they hadn't heard before. It was a great day and enabled pupils to achieve two AQA unit awards in music!

'We had such a great time. I loved trying the different instruments, especially the steel drum.'

CONTACT NUMBERS

Compass/FPOC –

Children's Services First Point of Contact 0345 678 9021

We Are With You – Young people's substance misuse team 01743 294700

NSPCC – 0808 800 5000

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

Childline – 0800 1111

SAFEGUARDING AT TMBSS



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 Child Protection 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

This term we have focussed on support for families navigating the current financial situation. We have provided families with information on foodbanks and we are able to signpost for other financial support services. If you feel that you would benefit from some additional support then please contact Emma Spelman on spelman.e@tmbss-shropshire.org.uk, or Ruth Hatton on hatton.r@tmbss-shropshire.org.uk

Numbers to call in an emergency?

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



IMPORTANT DATES

End of term:
Friday 16th December 2022

PD Day: Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Start of term: Wednesday 4th January 2023

End of term:
Friday 17th February 2023

Half-term:

Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February

Start of term:
Monday 27th February 2023