



Summer 2024

## Outreach 'Shout Outs'

### A Word from the Executive Headteacher...

This year seems to have flown by very quickly and yet again we are delighted with all the wonderful things happening across the service.

Well done to all the year 11s who have completed their GCSE examinations this year. The students approached the exam season with maturity and have conducted themselves well over this challenging period. We are very proud of their hard work and we look forward to seeing them on results day in August. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have supported our young people over the last few weeks.

We have had some interesting and informative visits from our local councillors this term. Daniel Kawczynski and Julia Buckley were both impressed with the work we are doing to support Shropshire's young people and agreed to support our interests should they be elected in July. Julia has since been elected the Member of Parliament, so we hope she will be an advocate for TMBSS. Students spoke to the MPs and I was impressed with the way they questioned them respectfully and intelligently, whilst still challenging their policies and expressing their thoughts with passion. More about this later in the newsletter.

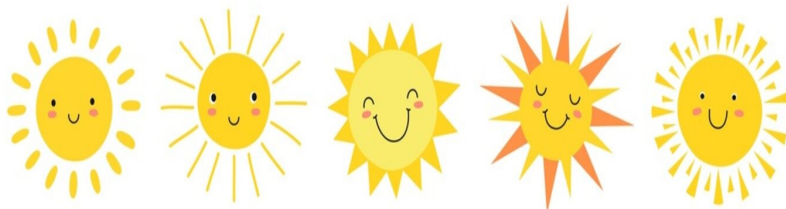
I would like to wish you all a wonderful summer with, hopefully, plenty of sunshine.

*Greg Portman*

- ◇ Five students sat their GCSE examinations, including a student who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- ◇ One student completed a nail technician course and now has a regular client list
- ◇ One student has successfully transitioned into their new school.
- ◇ Two students have been able to go and eat at a restaurant with their families.

Good luck to all our students who are moving onto new placements in September.

We are very proud of all these achievements which are huge for students who have missed education, suffer with social anxiety or are undergoing treatment.



# VISIT FROM OUR NEW MP FOR SHROPSHIRE



During her campaign, Julia Buckley paid us a visit at Hookagate Centre. She spoke to students and staff and took a genuine interest in what we are doing to support the young people of Shropshire. Here's what she said on her socials after her visit:



*'I was very impressed by pupils Sophie and Lucas, when I visited the Hook A Gate Education Centre in Sundorne today. Managed by the Tuition, Medical & Behaviour Support Service (TMBSS), the centre supports young people through mental health crisis, medical illness and behavioural problems to stabilise their wellbeing and support their educational progress.*

*It's such a calming and nurturing environment with a repeatedly "GOOD" OFSTED inspection, producing excellent outcomes for our young people. Including these two who were articulate, engaging and full of aspirations for their future. A credit to the school, and themselves.'*

*'articulate, engaging and full of aspirations of for their future'*

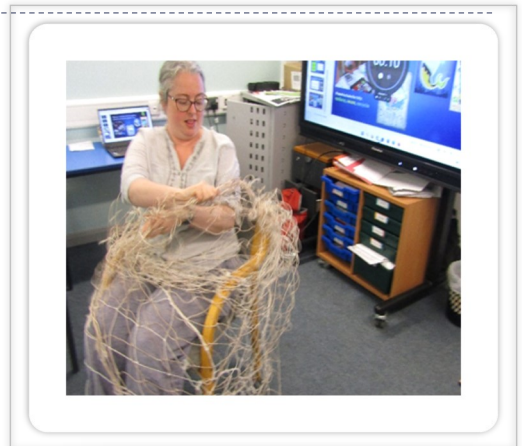


## World Ocean Day

World Ocean Day on 8th June 2024 saw students across the service taking part in activities to raise awareness.

Groups completed activities towards their AQA Unit Award by creating a recycled sea life installation highlighting the issue of plastic pollution.

They also rescued a 'sea creature' from its trappings and escaped from ropes under timed conditions in order to imagine the challenges experienced by inhabitants of our oceans as a result of human behaviours.



# Eggstreme Parachuting

A Key Stage 3 student from the Oswestry Centre took on the challenge to design, create, and test a parachute that protects an egg from breaking when dropped from a height. Both Science and Design Technology thinking skills would need to be utilised when trying to solve a number of different problems.

First of which was the parachute. The science behind a parachute is it utilises the principle of air resistance. By increasing aerodynamic drag, parachutes reduce the rate of descent of an object. The parachute needed to be big enough so it would successfully inflate as it fell, arresting the speed of the drop, but not so big that it would not have enough time to unfurl to create sufficient air resistance. Different sizes were tried and different materials were considered, before settling on a 50cm square made out of a bin liner made from low-density polyethylene. This allowed the parachute to be both light and flexible, yet strong enough to withstand the rigours of the drop. Other material options were stronger, but were considered to be too heavy for the job and unlikely to inflate properly.

The second part of the process involved problem solving how to suspend the egg from the parachute. Again, several possibilities were considered. Initially the top contender was to cut one of the egg sized cups from the original egg box for the egg to be suspended in. However, this would not allow any room for additional padding to be added around the egg to act as a cushion when it hit the ground. Other options that were considered were the cardboard tube from a roll of toilet paper and a paper cake case. The chosen solution was to use a small plastic food container, as this was ideally sized, robust enough to withstand the fall, with plenty of room left around the egg for additional padding. The padding used was cotton wool, bubble wrap and Styrofoam packing sheet.

The final problem to be solved before testing could take place was how to attach the container to the actual parachute. Different types of suspension chord were considered, from sewing thread, strips cut from the bin liner, to string. String was the top contender, as it was easy to cut to length, tie up, and change the length once in place should adjustments be required.

The first stage of testing occurred in the kitchen of the Centre, with the parachute being dropped from the table without the egg. The height was limited but these initial tests showed the parachute was able to unfurl just before the container reached the ground, the parachute was deemed a success.

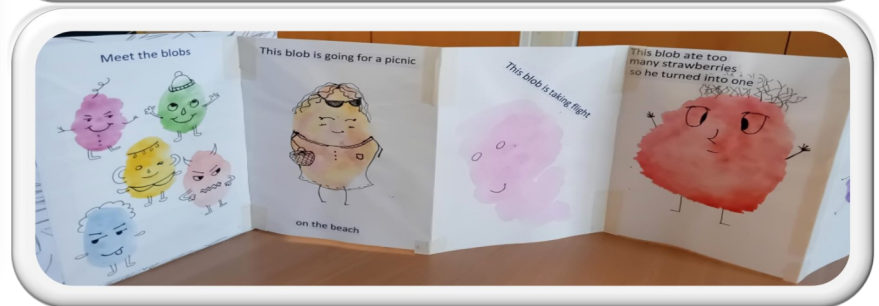
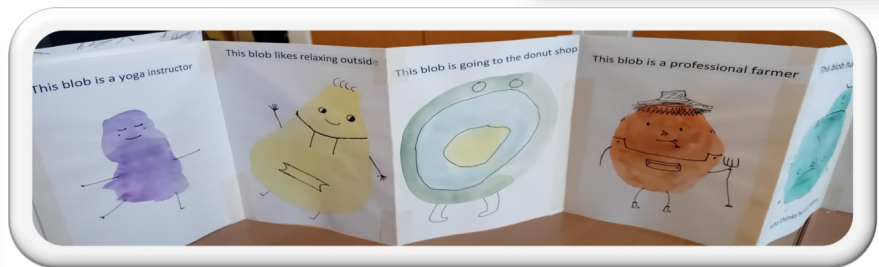
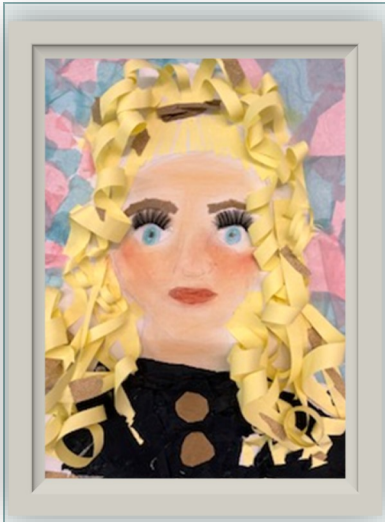


**The final round of testing was carried out at a local park with a tall climbing frame. The parachute was an absolute success, with every attempt successfully leaving the egg unbroken. The parachute unfurled, inflated and gently carried the egg to the ground. The padding around the egg helped leave the egg unscathed once it struck the ground.**



## SELF PORTRAITS

Experimenting with a range of techniques and media, some students have created fabulous self portraits that explore texture, shading and colour.



## The Book of Blobs

Students at Ludlow centre have been learning about the work of artist Jon Burgerman. They were inspired to create their own blob characters with different personalities. We then collated their creations into a fold-out Book of Blobs!



## GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK YEAR 11



garden pARTy

Events across the service have taken place over recent weeks to celebrate our fantastic 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.



EXOTIC ZOO

*It was great day out with everyone liking different animals.*

## Students Have a Voice



Students at Hookagate also had their chance to 'vote' in the General Election. They spent some time looking at the Shrewsbury candidates and their policies then held a 'vote' to see who they would choose if they were allowed to . Hookagate students created a hung parliament between Labour and the Green Party.



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## SHOULD 16 YEAR OLDS BE ALLOWED TO VOTE?

This was the topic for this term's school debate. Students representing the TMBSS centres gathered at The Lantern in Shrewsbury to discuss the topical question.

Just days before the general election we posed a number of questions around the voting system. Students discussed the pro and cons of having a mandatory voting system and whether or not the age for voting should be reduced to 16. Whilst many thought they should be allowed to vote on the future of the country at 16, they also recognised the responsibility of this

and questioned whether a 16 year old would be mature enough to make informed decisions. Ultimately, we took our own vote and almost unanimously voted in favour of keeping the age at 18.

We also discussed the introduction of National Service and whilst some could see the benefits, on the whole students did not fancy being made to do 12 months in the forces.

All the representatives were polite and respectful of other's views, making mature and insightful comments on the topics discussed.

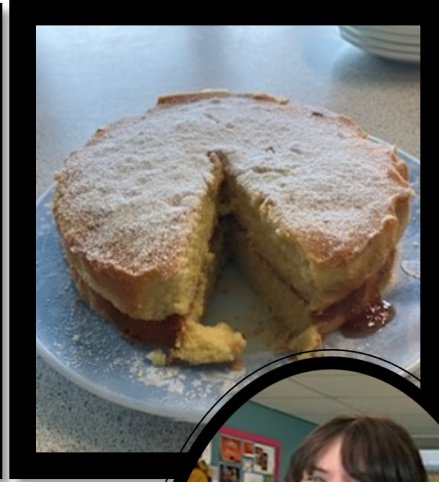
## The Value of Reading

TMBSS holds great value in reading as research has shown that older children who enjoy reading consistently perform better at school across the board, helping them go on to lead happier, healthier lives . Therefore, we often allow time for private reading and in some centres there is dedicated reading time where students can read a book of their choice, with these good habits modelled by staff. We are lucky enough to have an excellent library of fiction and non-fiction texts for students to access.

On one of the rare dry and sunny days we have experienced this term, Hookagate students spent their reading time out in the fresh air.



## BIRTHDAY SURPRISE!



*Her face says it all!*

## SUNDORNE STUDENTS 'TACKLE' NEW SKILL



- catching a trout to take home for dinner! They did discover that fish are not the easiest to keep hold off and had some fun trying not to drop the slippery little fellas.

Sundorne students had a great day out learning to fish at Ellerdine Lakes. They were taught how to use the equipment safely and even had some success



One of the key differences between TMBSS and mainstream school is the increased opportunity to build positive relationships between staff and students – particularly when things have been more difficult at previous settings.

It is always good to have an excuse to celebrate the little things, and in May Bridgnorth Bakers seized the chance to make Mrs Lacey's birthday a special one by secretly making her a cake. It was all done very quietly, and everyone had a hand in keeping her distracted until The 'Big Reveal'. I think her face says it all!

## Ludlow Music Day



Ludlow students experienced playing a range of instruments from drums to guitars. They shared some of their favourite music and discovered an eclectic mix of tastes, from K-Pop to hard rock.

## SHROPSHIRE COUNTRY CHALLENGE

.As the end of term approached, Bridgnorth students took advantage of the lovely summer sunshine to go on a competitive Country Scavenger Hunt. The challenge was to find five interesting items, photograph them and identify them within a given time limit. The two teams

set off and were quick to find a whole array of both natural and man-made treasure.

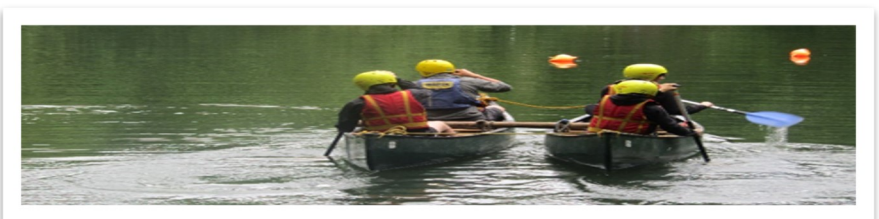


## PUSHING THE LIMITS AT ARTHOG

This term students from Bridgnorth Centre have continued their weekly visits to Arthog Outreach. There has been a step up in both their ambition and their bravery, with activities this term including Mountain Biking, Kayaking and High Ropes.

What has been most positive has been the way in which our students have supported each other, ensuring that they have achieved jumps, leaps and climbs which they hadn't thought possible at the start of the day.

Our thanks go to all the young people who overcame their fears and to the staff who supported them in teaching new heights this term.



# Oswestry Hill Fort

Students from the Oswestry Centre took the opportunity to enjoy the warm, clear weather to walk to and around the Hill Fort site close to the town. On such a clear day the views were stunning and the students were able to spot local landmarks and enjoy the scenery. The local farm livestock were curious about our presence and they were not afraid of us being there.



As we walked around the historical site, the students were able to spot features of the ancient structure and could see why the fort was created in the position it sits. Although difficult to imagine actually living there now, the students could picture where the people would have built their homes within the walls of the site.



## End of term:

Wednesday 17th July 2024

**PD Days:** 18th and 19th July 2024



**PD Day:** Monday 2nd September 2024

**Return to school:** Tuesday 3rd September 2024

## End of term:

Tuesday 22nd October 2024

**PD Days:** 23rd, 24th, 25th October 2024

**Half term:** Monday 28th October—Friday 1st November 2024

**Return to school:** Monday 4th November 2024

## Safeguarding at TMBSS

### USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

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



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

If you need to contact any of  
the centres, please now use  
the new central phone  
number:

**01743 368189**

Followed by:

- 1 for Bridgnorth
- 2 for Hookagate
- 3 for Ludlow
- 4 for Oswestry
- 5 for Sundorne



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](mailto: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.

Anti-Social Behaviour and Exploitation continue to be on the rise within the county. With the support of the West Mercia Police, Crime Commissioner and the Children's Society, the Steer Clear Project is a service that works with children to protect them from knife crime. We have been lucky enough to have speakers present in three of our centres and hope to roll this out to all centres. Below is a link to their website.

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/information/professionals/child-exploitation/steer-clear>

The QR code and telephone number below are from the Fire Safety Team. They will help you to complete a fire safety check within your home.

Scan this QR code to complete an easy-to-follow Home Fire Safety Check.

Or for fire safety advice, call us on 01743 260200

 Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service



[safelincs.co.uk/hfsc](https://safelincs.co.uk/hfsc)

Leaflet for vulnerable people.indd 2

Cranstoun are a service based in Telford and Wrekin. They have just started to support families in the Shropshire Area around domestic abuse. They offer support to victims and survivors, both adult and children and also offer support to perpetrators. The following link will take you to your information page. <https://cranstoun.org/help-and-advice/domestic-abuse/telford-das>