



Autumn 2024

A Word from the Executive Headteacher...

As we come to the end of another great term at TMBSS, I would like to celebrate some of the fantastic things going on around our centres. Students have been accessing a wide range of enrichment activities, proving themselves to be artistic, creative, adventurous, brave, resilient and successful. Whilst in the classroom, students continue to strive towards academic success and achieving their full potential. We are proud of every achievement, no matter how small, and I commend every young person who has made a good choice, taken a step towards success, or done something positive this term. I know this is not always easy for our students but we are here to guide and support them on their TMBSS journey.

I hope you will enjoy reading about what has been going on across the service this term.

I wish each and everyone of you a peaceful, festive holiday and thank all parents and carers for their continued support.

Greg Portman



Outreach Shoutouts!

- One student has completed his treatment and got the all clear from his most recent scan.
- 3 year 11 outreach students sat their GCSEs in English and Maths in the summer.
- 1 Outreach student has returned to their mainstream school.
- 2 students have successfully transitioned to their new schools.

We wish them all luck for the future!

'Snow' Stopping TMBSS

So, the snow did stop us for one day, but for the most part, TMBSS are happy to brave any conditions.





REMEMBRANCE DAY

In a cross curricular event to remember those that have fallen in conflict, students in Bridgnorth studied the poem, 'In Flanders Fields'. They then used the lines from the poem as inspiration for their art work.

Students made mixed media WW1 soldiers, incorporating words from the poem and the poppy symbol. The final piece incorporated bottle tops, poly-block printing, textiles, acrylic paints and tissue paper.

Across the service, students showed their respect by holding a two minute silence at 11am on 11th November. Staff were impressed with the respect and maturity shown by students on this important day. Students also took the opportunity to talk about their knowledge of historic conflicts and remember their relatives who had taken part in them.

We will remember them.

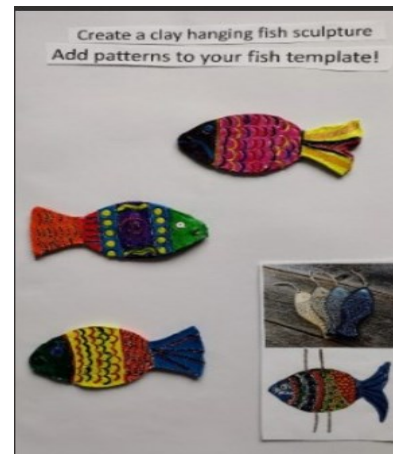
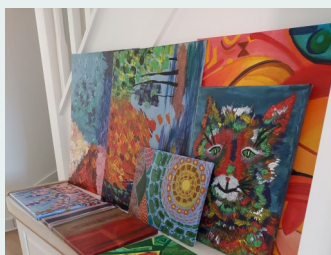


A Bright Future for this Young Artist

We are always impressed with the quality of artwork produced by our students, but this Key stage three went above and beyond to prepare for GCSE Art.

Not all students are able to attend centre on a regular basis and they are supported by our outreach team. One student worked so hard on her art at home that she even put on an exhibition for friends and family.

Although she has yet to start her GCSE course, this young person is a very talented artist and requested some TMBSS KS3 projects for over the summer. She completed the project 'Mad as a Fish' by looking at artist Vincent Scarpace and creating 2d and 3d work based on his style and completed 'Alien Planet', which was based on digital artist Evgeny Kisilev. She has also begun annotating her work so that it can be submitted for her examination coursework in Year 11. Well done!



Let's Get Cooking

Cooking is an essential skill and here at TMBSS we are lucky enough to have the facilities to support our young people in developing life skills to help make them more confident adults. Understanding a budget, being able to follow a recipe and knowing how to make healthy choices, are all vital to our students' 'world readiness', so all centres give opportunities to develop these skills.

This term, Ludlow students have made a variety of dishes, including cooking a roast dinner. Students in our Oswestry centre spent time developing a menu that matched what they might buy at a takeaway. They then rustled up their own healthier, cheaper, fakeaways. Meanwhile, students in Hookagate created their own menu based on food donated from the Foodhub.

Staff and students alike have enjoyed the fruits of their labours!

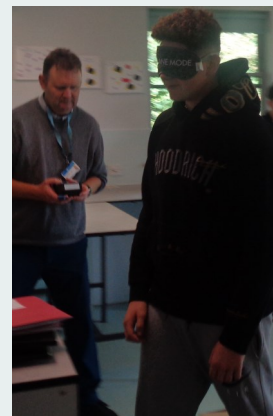


 **GREGGS**



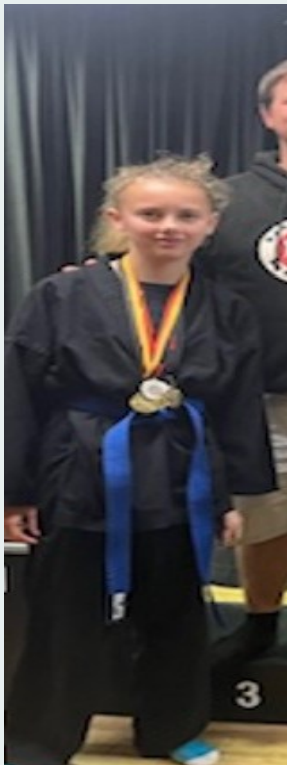
Bridgnorth Team Building

Enrichment at Bridgnorth this term has been focused on Team Building. Sessions have taken place in the Science lab on Fridays, where challenging tasks included Blindfold Minefield, creating and trialling a Blow Football pitch and the conception and building of a battery-powered car.



More Than a Fighting Chance for Maisie

Hookagate staff are very proud (and a little bit scared) of year 8 student, Maisie, who recently competed in a Mixed Martial Arts competition. Maisie managed to come away with an impressive three golds and one silver medal! Well done, Maisie. What a brilliant achievement.



GOLD - Kata,
Grappling and
Stick-Sparring
SILVER—Demo



TEAM WORK AND THE WORLD OF WORK

Students have benefitted from a visit from Birmingham based business Free2Dream. Owners Dan and Mark gave up their time to hold workshops for students in Hookagate and Bridgnorth. Teams of students had to design and create a Hoodie that best represents them as a group.



The workshop required sharing their creative visions and being prepared to compromise to ensure all group member's ideas were heard and considered. The designs will then be produced by Free2Dream and each student will be able to have their own hoodie to take home. Bridgnorth's design was so well received by staff at the company that they wanted to have one for themselves.



F2D-ITC (In the community) was established to help support children and young people in the community through workshops based on entrepreneurship, creativity and mentoring. Having worked in the fashion industry for over a decade; working with the likes of Miley Cyrus, Zendaya, Dizzee Rascal, Ed Sheeran to name a few, and also with mega companies such as X-Factor and ASOS, they are in a unique position to offer insight and education to young people who they work with. The photograph shows Bridgnorth students modelling their finished design.

PARK RUN TO REMEMBER DEBBIE



Well-loved colleague and friend remembered by staff

Many of you will know that during the summer, Debbie Tipton, our deputy business manager who was based at Hookagate Centre, passed away. This was a huge shock to staff and students and we have felt her loss keenly. Debbie was a hugely popular colleague who was brilliant at her job, had a great sense of humour and was a much loved and valued member of the TMBSS family. She was the front desk of Hookagate and will have been a familiar face or voice to all of our families.



Staff were keen to do something in memory of Debbie and in mid November, they gathered in Shrewsbury to complete the Park Run in her honour. Debbie was a keen runner and a big fan of 80s music, so with that in mind, staff donned their leg warmers and dayglo tutus and completed the 5km for Debbie. We think Deb would have been particularly impressed with Mr Pearson and Mr Lacey, who made a special effort to embrace the theme.

Hookagate Centre are also holding a Christmas Fayre on the 18th December to raise money for the Lingen Davies Trust and there is to be Debbie's Bench put at the centre with a plaque as a tribute to her service and friendship.

Shrewsbury Town Fan makes the News

Salop supporter and TMBSS student, Noah, recently set up his own business titled NG Weaves.

Noah enjoys making bracelets and keyrings. His business helps him gain confidence and valuable life skills.

Ahead of Shrewsbury's League One clash with Leyton Orient, the youngster met Paul Hurst and gave one of his bracelets to the head coach.



Salop then won the game 3-0 thanks to a Tom Bloxham brace and Leo Castledine strike.

Noah has made several bracelets and keyrings that will soon be on sale in the club shop.

Noah's success even made it onto the club's website and his bracelets are being dubbed a lucky charm!

Steer Clear

Knife crime is a growing concern with the number of incidents increasing across the country. Young people can feel pressured into carrying weapons and this in turn can end in tragic events.

Centres had a visit from representatives from the Steer Clear Programme which is part of the work of The Children's Society. Their aim is to educate and support young people and their families, to avoid becoming a part of knife crime in order to change things for the better and help keep communities safe.

Students were attentive and engaged with the workshop and we hope it will support them in making good choices in the future as they will have an improved understanding of knife crime and now have some alternative solutions.

CAREGIVERS WANTED FOR RESEARCH STUDY

Are you supporting a child (aged 11–18) struggling to attend school due to anxiety or emotional difficulties (EBSA)?



We want to hear from you!



WHAT'S INVOLVED?

- THE STUDY**
This research explores how caregivers' stress and resilience shape their experiences of EBSA.
- SHORT QUESTIONNAIRE**
Approx. 20 minutes
- INTERVIEW (OPTIONAL)**
Approx. 60 minutes

LINK TO THE STUDY:

<https://tinyurl.com/2n48x3ut>

QUESTIONS? SEND ME AN EMAIL:
OLIVIA.M.DAWSON@DURHAM.AC.UK



This study has been reviewed and approved by the Durham University Ethics Committee.



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2024



On October 10th, staff and students at Bridgnorth marked World Mental Health Day by dedicating time to focusing on mental health and well-being in centre.

There were several activities during the day, including a Sleep Workshop with the School Nursing Service, a Name that Fruit tasting session, a woodland walk and an Art practical.

At the end of a fun and informative day, each student took home a well-being pack which contained a whole range of goodies to support their minds and bodies, including; shower gel, stress toy, water, journalling notebook, chewing gum, fidget keyring, to name but a few. It also contained leaflets on managing stress and where to go for support. They also grabbed any fruit they particularly liked from the tasting to take home and enjoy.



Artist Inspired



Artist, Rob Leckey, ran workshops in Bridgnorth centre, Sundorne and Oswestry. Rob taught the students how to paint in his style using only wooden blocks and rollers to apply acrylic paint. Each centre created a brilliant large-scale piece for their corridors, based on their local area. Students really enjoyed the workshop and Rob kindly answered their questions about how he became an artist and how he found his style. He even left us with a selection of wooden blocks so that we could create our own work in his style in the future.

Outdoor Education

Enthusiastic 'Outdoor Edder' and budding journalist, Lily, has written a short piece about her experience of Outdoor Ed.



To me, Outdoor Ed has been a game changer. From activities like exploring old historical ruins, to climbing and trekking up hills, I've always enjoyed it. In terms of benefits, I've learnt a lot about survival skills, and I've been able to explore what aspects of Outdoor Ed are most beneficial to me. Recently, we went to Attingham Park- one of my favourite places- and walked through the Mansion House to look at Christmas trees. A more leisurely activity.

One student said they liked Outdoor Ed because, "I like being around the people, getting to know them, as well as our surrounding areas." They also said learning new skills is a vital aspect of Outdoor Ed, saying they've learnt to climb, getting over their fear of heights with the help of Mr Mac. Their favourite activity so far has been jumping off the climbing wall with a blindfold on, which they say was 'scary' but also fun.

Outdoor Ed can help students to work together, understand each other and make friends. It also helps children to use maths and sciences in practical ways- once we measured the height a building!

In conclusion, Outdoor Ed is amazing- it's helped me and so many others to get excited about school, help me become friends with my peers and discover new places and skills!

On Your Bike



Students from Hookagate had a fantastic time learning about the 'Wheels for All' charity.

Wheels for All is a national accessible cycling charity which promotes inclusive cycling through a range of successful community engagement programmes that give people the opportunity to cycle on a regular basis; through help, support and guidance. The programme embraces disabled people and people who would otherwise not be able to cycle, through providing fun and friendly activity in 28 locations across the country. Each centre provides a range of specially adapted cycles, which means that anyone can experience the feeling of freedom, the breeze on their face, and the sense of achievement that comes with inclusive cycling.

We are lucky enough to have a centre right next door at the Leisure Centre, so some of our students went to find out just how much fun it can be to ride the all ability bikes.



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.

West Mercia Police delivered a parent session on Online Safety this term. This was very useful and covered subjects such as blocking sites and reporting malicious communication. **The course is still being delivered online and if anyone would like to attend, then they can contact Emma Spelman for the details.**



The Shropshire Larder is a site that signposts people who are struggling financially. They have a range of support organisations listed and can be found at www.shropshirelarder.org.uk

Emma Spelman is TMBSS's Safeguarding Manager and can be contacted on spelman.e@tmbss-shropshire.org.uk and Jodie Prophet is our Family Support Co-ordinator and is available to provide support. She can be contacted at prophet.j@tmbss-shropshire.org.uk or you can contact your centre manager.

Useful 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

ARTHOG EXPERIENCES



Christmas at Attingham and TMBS

Inspired by the wonderful trees on a trip to Attingham Park Mansion, Hookagate students decorated their own tree.



Numbers to call in an emergency?

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

TMBS now has a
central phone line:

01743 368189

+1 Bridgnorth

+2 Hookagate

+3 Ludlow

+4 Oswestry

+5 Sundorne



TMBS is lucky enough to have an excellent relationship with the Telford based Arthog Outreach Team and this term has seen students from all centres venturing out in all weathers to experience the benefits of being outdoors. From tracking deer to watch the rucking season to climbing the high ropes, our students have enjoyed the thrill of an expedition and developed the team work and collaborative skills needed to succeed on these adventures.



IMPORTANT DATES

End of term:

Friday 20th December 2024



Start of term: Monday 6th
January 2025 (No PD Day)

End of term:

Friday 14th February 2025

Half-term:

*Monday 17th February -
Friday 21st February*

Start of term:

Monday 24th February 2025