

Part of the **Marches** Academy Trust

Talking Heads 



WOODLANDS
SCHOOL

Friday 19th January 2024

Headteachers report of the week.

This week we have enjoyed the opening of the Woodlands café and seen the hard work and commitment students have put in. A real whole school community, celebrating and enjoying the skills and abilities of our older students.

We have some exciting house events coming up over the next few months, where students can come together in the Woodlands community as a team. Within these events they can learn life skills of building strong relationships, solving conflicts and taking on different roles to improve the end result for their teams. I am looking forward to seeing the whole school come together on these days.

“Moments Matter” “Attendance Counts” We know that parents and carers worry about their children’s mental and physical wellbeing. Rather than keeping your child away from school, let us know about your concerns. We can then work together on supporting your child.

Best Wishes

Jules





Saplings made bread dough this week and turned the dough into pizza bases. Students learned new skills of resting, stretching and kneading dough.

Following all this activity with the dough, students then learnt about proving the dough and the fermentation process. This was all before shaping the dough ready for the toppings!!



A circular logo with a green background and a brown tree silhouette with orange and red leaves. The logo is centered over a background image of a forest with sunlight filtering through the trees.

Woodlands Cafe

Now OPEN

**Wednesday
Break
Times**



Welcome to the Woodlands Café, opening day. Caleb and Luke have been very busy using their previously learnt skills to prepare pizza dough bases. They have proved, shaped and added toppings to their bases and even made vegetarian options!! All in time to serve at opening time from their Woodlands Café!!





Students went ice-skating at Telford Ice Rink for activities afternoon on Friday





Career of the week

Firefighter

Firefighters help to protect people from fire and other dangers, and give on fire prevention

Average salary (a year): £24,191 (starter) to £32,244 (experienced)

Typical hours (a week): 41 to 43 a week

You could work evenings/weekends/bank holidays (on shifts)

You can get into this job through:

College

You could take a Level 2 or 3 Diploma in Public Services before applying to the fire service, although this is not essential.

Entry requirements

You may need:

2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course

4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths for a T Level

Apprenticeship

You may be able to start training on an operational firefighter advanced apprenticeship.

You'll need to be employed by a fire service to do this.

You could train to be a firefighter in the Royal Air Force (RAF). You can find more information at:

[Royal Air Force | Home \(mod.uk\)](https://www.mod.uk/royal-air-force)

Entry requirements

You'll usually need:

- 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship
- **Volunteering**
- Volunteering or working in a support role, for example emergency call handling or fire safety, will give you an idea of what the job is like, as well as access to internal vacancies.
- **Direct Application**
- You can apply directly to join the fire service. Each one sets its own entry requirements.
- Many ask for GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) in English and maths, or equivalent qualifications.

You'll need to pass:

- an online test to assess your judgement ability in a realistic work setting
- number and reading tests

If you're successful, you'll:

- do practical selection tests to find out whether you can do the physical tasks needed for the job
- be interviewed

Career tips

Most fire services take on new recruits once every 12 months, so you'll need to find out when they are recruiting next.

Further information

You can ask your local fire and rescue service for a firefighter careers and recruitment pack.

Skills and knowledge

You'll need:

- knowledge of public safety and security
- customer service skills
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- sensitivity and understanding
- knowledge of training and how to present information
- the ability to work well with others
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

Restrictions and Requirements

You'll need to:

- pass a fitness test
- pass a medical check
- pass enhanced background checks
- have a full driving licence
- be over 18 years of age

Some fire services may only accept applications from people living in the local and surrounding areas.

Day-to-day tasks

Every day will be different, but you could:

- inspect and maintain equipment
- carry out practice drills and take part in training
- respond to emergency call-outs
- rescue people and animals from burning buildings and accident sites
- control and put out fires
- deal with bomb alerts and floods
- manage chemical or hazardous substance spills
- give presentations to schools and community groups
- inspect buildings to make sure they meet fire safety regulations

Working environment

You could work at a fire station, at a client's home or at a client's business.

Your working environment may be at height, physically and emotionally demanding and cramped.

You may need to wear safety clothing and use safety equipment and a uniform.

Career progression

All fire services have a programme that lets you plan and track your career development.

You could work your way up to crew manager, watch manager or station manager. If you're prepared to move between services, you could become an area manager, a brigade manager or a chief fire officer.

You could also get a Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) licence for driving fire engines.

- *Would you like to know more about why sleep is important for our health and emotional well-being?*
 - *Does your child struggle with their sleep?*
- *Would you like to access support to help improve sleep and bedtime routines?*
 - *Would you like to meet other parents/carers to share and discuss experiences?*

SLEEP TIGHT WORKSHOP

Our workshops run for 5 weeks from the start date excluding the School Holidays.

Starts on Thursday 22nd February 2024
From 10.00am to 12.00pm
At Woodside Primary School
Gittin Street, Oswestry
SY11 1DT

To book a place on the workshops or for further information on the workshops we run please contact the Parenting Team by:

Emailing Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk

Or call us on 01743 250950

- *Would you like to know more about why sleep is important for our health and emotional well-being?*
 - *Does your child struggle with their sleep?*
- *Would you like to access support to help improve sleep and bedtime routines?*
 - *Would you like to meet other parents/carers to share and discuss experiences?*

SLEEP TIGHT WORKSHOP

The workshops are delivered virtually via MS Teams or face to face at a venue in [Shrewsbury](#). All you need for the virtual groups is an email address and an electronic device, and we will talk [you](#) through the rest.

Our workshops run for 5 weeks from the start date excluding the School Holidays.

**Starts on Friday 23rd February 2024 from 9.30am to 11.30am
in Shrewsbury, Sunflower House, Kendal Road, SY1 4ES.**

**Starts Friday 23rd February 2024 from 12.30pm to 2.30pm
Virtually via MS Teams**

To book a place on one of our workshops or for further information on the workshops we run please contact the Parenting Team by:

Emailing Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk

Or call us on 01743 [250950](tel:01743250950)



REGULAR ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL IS NOT JUST ABOUT ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE BUT HAS A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON A CHILD'S OVERALL DEVELOPMENT AND LIFELONG WELL-BEING.

Access to resources and early intervention for special needs

Positive physical health and health education

Social and emotional development

Sense of community and responsibility

Positive mental health and support services

Prevents risky and dangerous behaviours

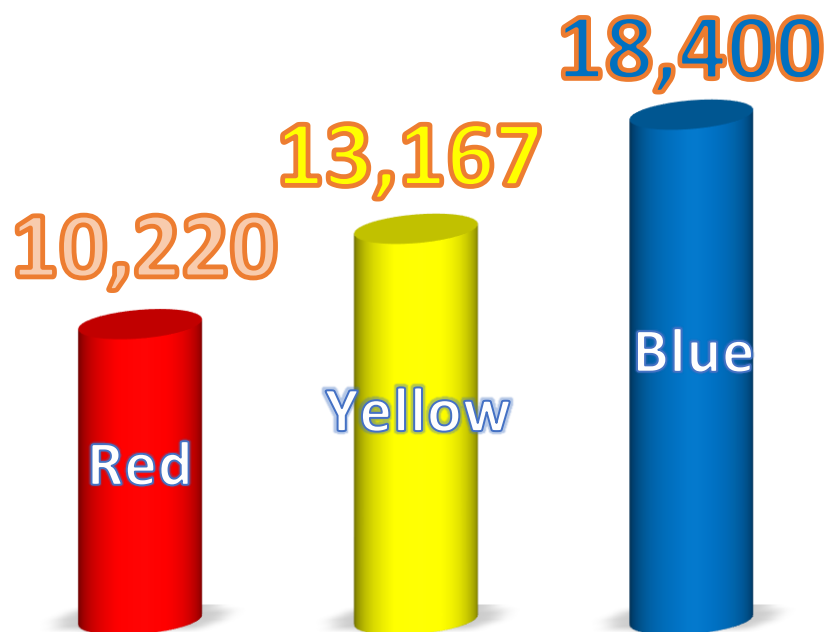


**HOUSE CUP
WINNERS
2024
ANNOUNCED
JULY**



Upcoming House Events

9 th February 2024	Just Danceathon
22 nd March 2024	Woodlands Bake/decorate
24 th May 2024	Quiz off
July 2024	House Sports Day Finale



House Totals

This Week at WOODLANDS



- It's been lovely to see Ewan back in school this week.
- Jodie has had a really positive week and carried on with her work even when at times she did not want to. – Superstar Jodie!!
- Aaron showed staff real maturity today completing some very difficult maths work. – Wow Aaron - Brilliant!
- Tommy has really impressed staff in Acorns working well in class. – Amazing Tommy!



- Brandon has impressed staff with his consistent hard work all week with his learning.
- Lars, Caleb and Luke have made amazing pizzas at their Woodlands café – Move over Jamie Oliver!
- Corey has been an excellent mentor to McKenzie in DT encouraging and supporting him with his work. – Fantastic Corey!
- Willow has been creating some beautiful artwork. – Great work Willow!
- Caleb has been showing his excellent knowledge in sport and been a positive influence in his group. – Well done, Caleb!!



- Well done to Rhiley who has shown real resilience when taking on challenging work in class. – Brilliant work Rhiley!
- Welcome back Ollie, lovely to see you back in school.



Students with 100% Attendance last week

Arran	Acorns 1
Mason	Acorns 1
Taylor	Acorns 1
Kiean	Acorns 1
Destiny	Acorns 1
Alexander	Acorns 2
Tommy	Acorns 2
Scott	Oaks 1
Luke	Oaks 2
Brandon	Oaks 2
Caleb	Oaks 2
Corey	Oaks 2
Jack-Junior	Oaks 3
Aaron	Oaks 3
McKenzie	Saplings 1
Riley	Saplings 1
Leo	Saplings 1
Tyler	Saplings 1
Tyler	Saplings 2
Willow	Saplings 3
Romeo	Saplings 3
Oscar-Freddie	

Challenge of the Week

For Parents/Carers, Students and Staff the challenge this week for anyone willing to give it a try is to

Write a list of what is good in your life



Headteacher Awards

- Acorns 1 – Tommy Harris for fantastic learning and embracing his new school.
- Oaks 1 - Rhiley Turner for excellent leadership and communication during house rewards.
- Acorns 1 - Destiny Smith for reading a whole book all in one go for the first time!
- Tyler Horner for putting maximum effort into circuit training during his PE lesson.

Wellbeing

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental control settings available to you. With most devices, you're able to change the settings to control the content your child has access to. This isn't difficult to do, as you'll often find guidance in the instructions that come with the device. By setting a private pin code on certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.



2 PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES

You can set up restricted users on Android tablets through a Google account. Open the settings menu (look for a cog icon) and select the 'Users' option. Here you can add a new restricted user. After setting up a password and username, select which applications you want to restrict access to. On an Android smartphone it's similar, but first select 'Parental Controls' in the play store.



3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES

For Apple devices, you can simply visit the preferences/settings menu and within 'General' there is an option for 'Restrictions'. Here you can turn off any applications or features on your child's device that you do not want them to have access to.



4 THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES

As well as tablets and smartphones, you should think about any device in your home connected to the Internet: a games console, a media hub, or a personal computer. In each case you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think carefully about how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the Internet.



5 MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER

Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a 'safe search' setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it's extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the Internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you're using, go to the settings and search for 'safe search'. Make sure you save the change so it defaults each time you open the browser. This will seriously reduce the chances of your child being exposed to something they shouldn't be.




NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices

6 REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS

Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the dangers with them. You should also make sure you're able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The companies behind social media platforms often make privacy changes without making it very obvious to the user, such as Facebook's introduction of facial recognition software.



7 DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE

Location software sounds useful for seeing where your child is, but it also provides the opportunity for others to locate your child too. For safety, it's a good idea to disable location software on all devices or at least turn it off when it's not required. Also, be mindful of specific apps that record running routes or locations where your child might be playing a game. Talk to your child about why these can be dangerous and how to turn the setting on and off as required.



8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES

Sadly, social media presents an enormous opportunity for the likes of paedophiles to set up fake profiles and interact with children. Keep a track of the people your child interacts with on social media and if you do not recognise a user as a friend, consider blocking them.



9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME

Managing how much time we spend on screens is a new challenge for us all. It's critically important when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It's not just a case of setting arbitrary time limits. Guidelines published by The Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health suggests it's more important to consider the 'context and content' of what the screen is being used for. Still, it is helpful to put limits on devices using 'Guided Access' functions, which you can find in the settings of certain devices.



Meet our expert

Emma Davis was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than a decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old, she's had vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.