



**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025**

### **Headteachers report of the week**

**This week marked an exciting milestone for Xander as he dove into his very first Electrics options session! With wide eyes and eager hands, he explored circuits and components, showing great enthusiasm and curiosity. It was a joy to see him light up – quite literally – as he began to understand how electricity powers our world.**

**In a heartwarming display of camaraderie, learners across the school have been bonding over games of UNO. These playful sessions have sparked laughter, teamwork and the building of positive relationships, reinforcing the importance of social connection in our learning environment.**

**Acorns 1 took their taste buds on a trip to Italy this week, whipping up a vibrant dish of green pesto spaghetti with zesty lemon and toasted pine nuts. The classroom was filled with the aroma of fresh basil and garlic as learners practiced their culinary skills and explored Italian culture through food. Bellissimo!**

**Also in Acorns 1, learners got hands-on with nature by dissecting tulips to explore the reproductive cycle of plants. With magnifying glasses in hand, they examined stamens, pistils and petals deepening their understanding of how flowers grow and reproduce. A blooming success!**

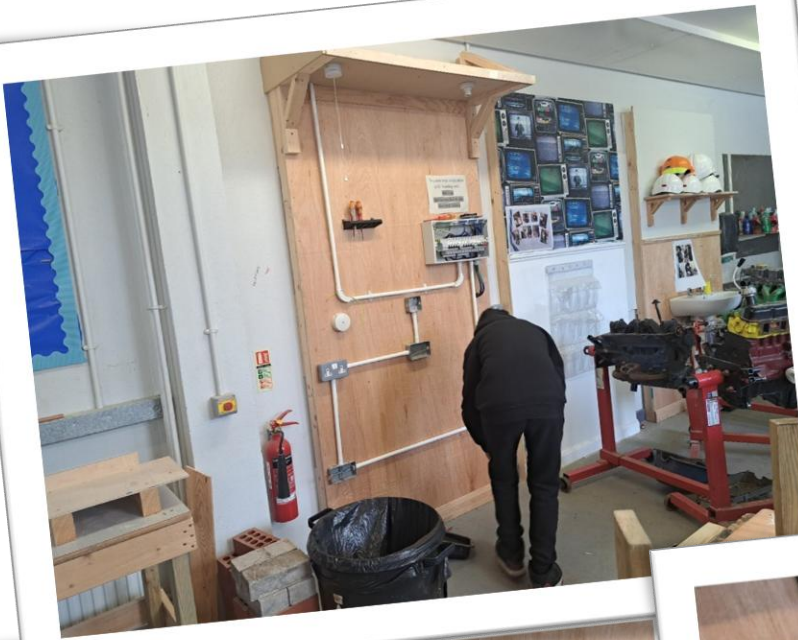
**In a powerful act of unity and environmental stewardship, learners from Woodlands, Shrewsbury Academy and The Grange came together for the OneVoice Collaborative Community Litter Pick. Armed with their grabbers and bin bags, they worked to clean up our local spaces, demonstrating pride in their community and shared Commitment to a cleaner, greener future.**

**Best Wishes**

**Jules**

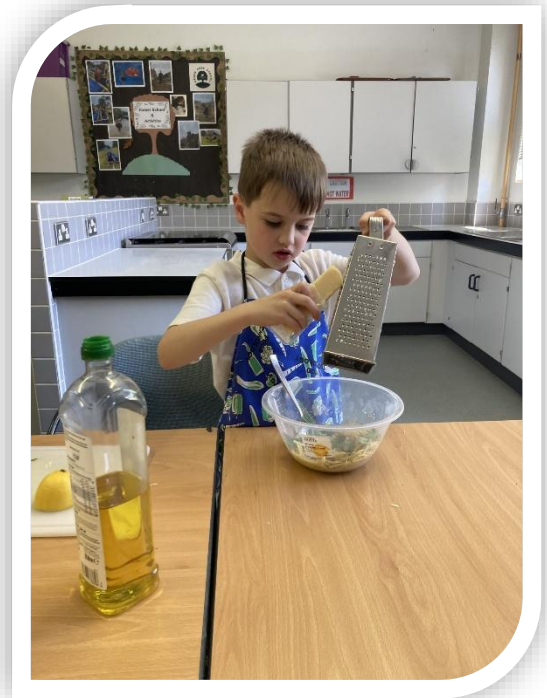


Xander really enjoyed his first electricians session with Andy this week, this is part of his options choice - Katie



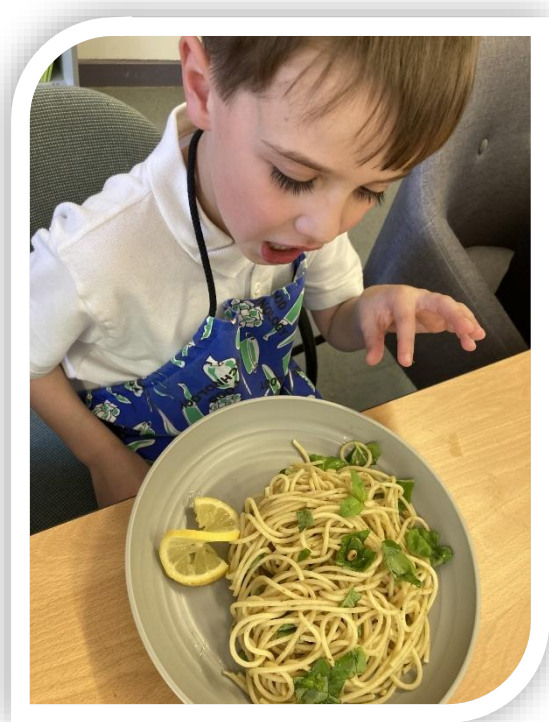


Learners have been playing uno  
and building positive relationships  
- Katie



Acorns 1 took a culinary trip to Italy this week by rustling up a delicious plate of Green pesto spaghetti with lemon and toasted pine nuts. It was scrumdiddlyumptious!

- Ceri





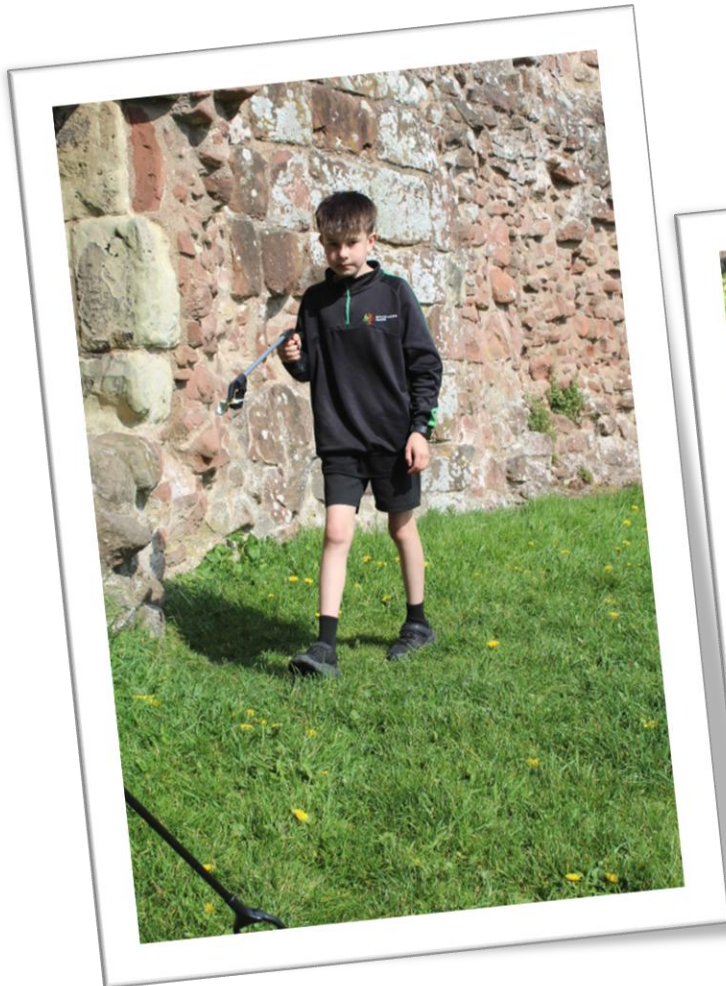
Acorns 1 have been exploring the reproductive cycle of plants this week in science by dissecting a tulip.  
- Ceri

# OneVoice Collaborative Community Litter Pick



In a heartwarming display of community spirit, learners from Woodlands School, Shrewsbury Academy and The Grange within the Trust came together for a collaborative litter pick event local to their school.

This initiative, aimed at promoting environmental awareness and fostering a sense of responsibility, saw enthusiastic participation from learners and staff.





Throughout the morning, learners not only collected litter but also engaged in conversations about the importance of keeping their environment clean and the impact of litter on wildlife and the ecosystem.

A huge thank you to Taylor and Hassan for their amazing efforts during the litter pick! Your dedication and hard work have made a significant difference in keeping our community clean and beautiful





# Headteachers Awards



# Woodlands Shout Outs



- Shout out to all of Sapings 2 for working hard on their writing this week! – Magz
- Shout out to Billy for hard work and resilience throughout our first week back at school – Maddy
- Shout out to Kieran for positive engagement in his restorative activity – Magz
- Shout out to Caleb for his willingness to support staff, your assistance made a big difference. Keep shining and inspiring others – Alice and Rachel

## Sending an Email to the Safeguarding Team

[safeguarding@wdl.mmat.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@wdl.mmat.co.uk)

- If you have any worries Parents/Carers or Students, please email the above address.
- Students, you can use your school accounts or personal email addresses.

### Staying Safe Online



If your child has any worries about online safety or in general they can get free 1:1 online support at Kooth

[READ MORE](#)

The NSPCC also have some great resources for parents and children around online safety, including resources for families who have children with special educational needs and disabilities

[READ MORE](#)



## **Why not follow us on Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/WoodlandsShropshire/>

**Or**

## **Take a look at our website!**

[www.woodlands.school](http://www.woodlands.school)

**Or**

**Join the conversation - We love hearing from you!  
Share your thoughts, questions, and suggestions  
with us.**

[rachel.bates@wdl.mmat.co.uk](mailto:rachel.bates@wdl.mmat.co.uk)

**If you need to contact us out of normal school  
hours, please either email on the above address**

**or call**

**Rachel Bates**

**07967 763324**



## What's on in May at Oswestry's Early Help Coffee and Chat (Stay and Play)

<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Who can you talk to today:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heath visitors at their open access clinic, with support from the Early Help 0-5 team</li> <li>• Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service – Come and talk to a specialist Domestic Abuse Support Officer</li> <li>• Katie Penny – Star housing offering Housing support.</li> <li>• Bernise Tasker – Mental Health Practitioner</li> <li>• Jenny Johnson – Employment and Support officer</li> </ul>		<b>Mark Making</b> Come and join us for some fun mark making with your children, understand the benefits of early marking and share some ideas with each other
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Who can you talk to today:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Katie Penny – Star housing offering Housing support.</li> <li>• Jenny Johnson – Employment and Support officer</li> </ul>	<div style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>Free sessions</b>            You do not need a child to attend the session to access family help.             Safe, comfortable, confidential and informal space to talk.             Early Help Family support workers available to chat to every week.   <b>We look forward to seeing you</b> </div>	<b>Celebrate VE Day with us</b> Understanding your world is crucial for children's development, enabling them to make sense of their physical and social world.
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Who can you talk to today:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heath visitors at their open access clinic, with support from the Early Help 0-5 team</li> <li>• Katie Penny – Star housing offering Housing support.</li> <li>• Jenny Johnson – Employment and Support officer</li> </ul>		<b>Healthy Snacks and trying new fruits</b> Come and talk to us about healthy snacks and try out new fruits with your children
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>Who can you talk to today:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Katie Penny – Star housing offering Housing support.</li> <li>• Jenny Johnson – Employment and Support officer</li> </ul>		<b>Musical Fun</b> Come and join us for a fun morning exploring different sounds and singing rhymes
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Who can you talk to today:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Help Family Support Workers</li> <li>• Jess Roberts from the Parenting Team -Come and find out what the parenting team offer</li> </ul>		<b>Half term fun in the hub</b> <b>Family session – all children welcome for a fun packed sessions.</b>

Oswestry Library, Arthur Street. Oswestry. SY11 1JN  
9.30-12.00



**Kids** Disabled children say we can

## Shropshire Universal Autism Support Service

### Kids will be offering the following support to families:

- The 'Healthy Parent Carer' programme, designed to reinforce parent carers' resilience. This programme aims to improve health and wellbeing among parents of children with additional needs and disabilities through:
  - Promoting greater empowerment, resilience and confidence of parent carers;
  - Taking small steps that are associated with better health and wellbeing;
  - Encouraging setting achievable goals and taking a problem-solving approach.
- 'Riding the Rapids' programme to support parent carers' understanding of behaviour and implement support strategies. The course enables parents to understand their child's behaviour in the context of their additional needs, and apply strategies to support positive behaviours. It also helps parents to develop stress management strategies and confidence in managing their child's behaviour. The course is collaborative, so that parents develop tools they can take with them and continue to apply once the intervention is complete. Riding the Rapids differs from other parenting groups as it is applicable to children with a range of disabilities, and has been adapted to meet the needs of particular groups of children with additional needs.
- Coffee mornings and drop-in sessions
- One-to-one support
- Child/young person 'Understanding me' group sessions.

### Bespoke workshops that cover:

- ASD Vs ADHD (3 hours)
- Neurodiversity (Specifically Autism, ADHD and Demand Avoidance)
- Girls and the Autistic Spectrum
- Demand Avoidance
- Sleep
- EBSA

## Shropshire Autism Support Service



Shropshire Council have announced that the national charity Kids, have been awarded the contract to deliver the Shropshire Universal Autism Support Service from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025. This is the service previously delivered by Autism West Midlands.

Kids will continue to offer support to families without the need for a formal diagnosis and positively the age range for the service has been increased by 1 year to 0-19 years. The services will also provide training for Shropshire practitioners to increase the understanding of autism and how to effectively support autistic children and young people and their families.

[READ MORE](#)

# Shropshire Parenting Help and Support Line

**01743 250950**

Mon - Thurs, 9.30am - 4.30pm  
Fri, 9.30am - 3.30pm

No judgment, just support.



Find out  
more here



# Does your child struggle with their Sleep?

## Free Sleep Tight Groups

Join us on one of our virtual or face-to-face groups which run for 5 weeks and:

- Find out why sleep is important for our health and emotional wellbeing
- Get support to help improve sleep and bedtime routines Meet
- other parents/carers to share and discuss experiences Our next groups start:

**Sleep Tight SEND Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 from 12.45pm to 2.45pm**

**Virtually Via MS Teams or**

**Sleep Tight Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 from 9.15am to 11.15am**

**Virtually via MS Teams**

*SEND groups are for parents/carers of children who might have special educational needs and disabilities, no formal diagnosis is needed to attend the groups.*

To book a place email [Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk) or call 01743 250950

Find out  
more here



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

### 1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

### 2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

### 3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

### 4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

### 5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

### 6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

### 7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view, instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

### 8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

### 9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

### 10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

## Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



The National College