



**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

## **Headteachers report of the week**

Primary staff have been sparking curiosity in science this week launching their new science topic on electricity, the classroom has been alive with energy, quite literally! Learners have been building simple circuits using batteries, lights, buzzers and motors, discovering how electricity flows and powers everyday objects. It's been a joy to see their eyes light up as they made their circuits work.

We're delighted to welcome new learners to our school community. It's been heartwarming to see how quickly they've settled in, making friends and joining in with enthusiasm. We're so proud of how inclusive and kind our learners continue to be.

This week, our learners took on an exciting hands-on project, making their very own toolboxes. With wood, nails and plenty of enthusiasm, they explored the basics of construction, measurement and safe tool use.

Guided step-by-step, each learner measured, sawed and assembled their toolbox, gaining confidence and practical skills along the way. It was a fantastic opportunity to combine creativity with craftsmanship and the pride on their faces when they held up their finished boxes said it all.

Projects like this teach more than just building, they foster patience, problem solving and a sense of accomplishment. Plus, now they have a handy place to store their tools for future projects!

**Best Wishes**

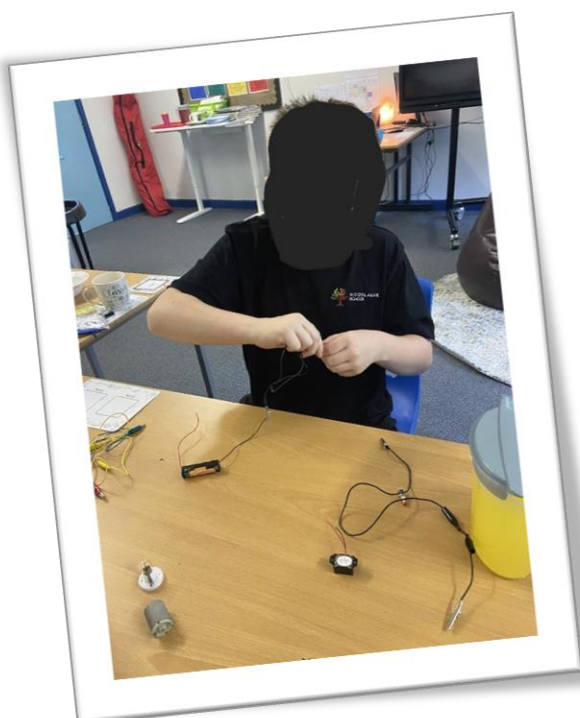
**Jules**





Shout outs to Bobby, Billy and Joey from Acorns 2. They have all engaged in our new Science topic of electricity and made some wonderful circuits using batteries, lights, buzzers and motors

- Amy



Magz, Helen and Saplings 2 would like to give Jayden a massive welcome to our class. It's been great to meet you.



Warm welcome  
to our school  
community  
Jayden, it's  
lovely to have  
you with us.

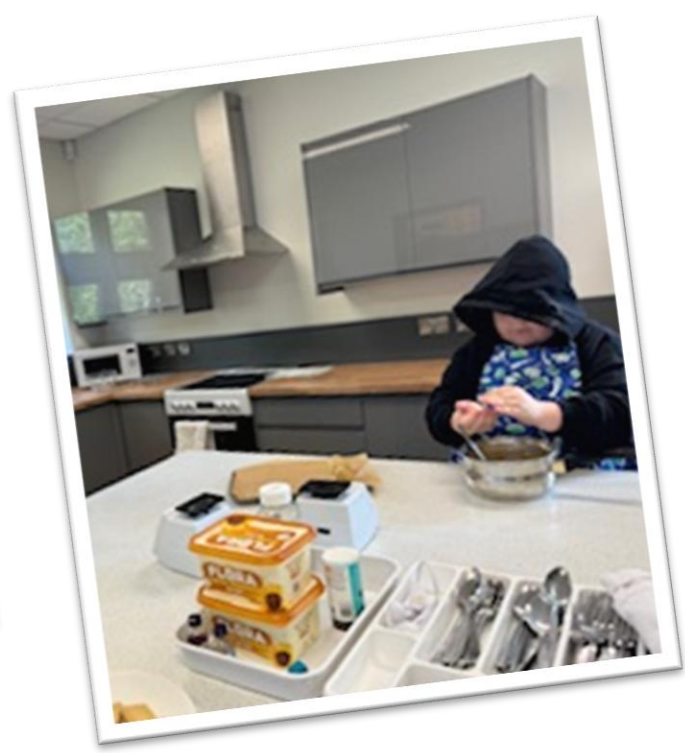


Leo made orange flavoured cakes and icing, piping this on top and some sprinkles to decorate. He has taken them home for his mother.

- Debbie J

Massive congratulations to  
Willow!  
Willow has passed her  
Personal Development  
exam at  
Spring Bank Riding school





Saplings 2 made some delicious honey biscuits. Made with ingredients already in the cupboards and a generous drizzle of honey. The aroma was incredible.





## Fruit Salad – Fresh, Fun and Full of Flavour

Billy practiced safe cutting techniques and learned about nutritional benefits of different fruits.



The best part!  
Sharing and  
eating the  
colourful  
creation

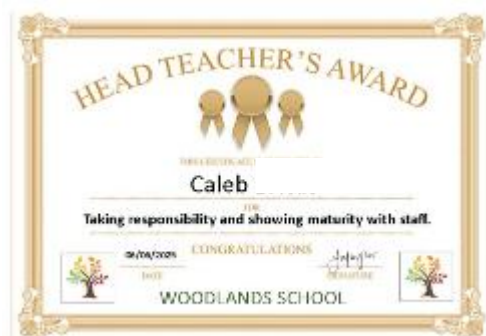


Xander has been working hard with Andy measuring, sawing and assembling to create his own toolbox.





# Headteachers Awards



# Woodlands Shout Outs



- Shout out to Scott for helping set up a practical. I encouraged him to help as "work experience" and he followed instructions amazingly, setting up the flame tests for this afternoons practical and gaining maths and science knowledge and practice along the way. – Linda
- Excellent self-regulation from Tyler ST, Leo and McKenzie getting fully involved in a practical looking at energy in foods, making mathematical calculations and scientific conclusions - Linda
- Thank you to Caleb, who actually taught me how to kick a ball properly... who knew I can now kick a ball in a straight line – Linda
- Welcome to Jayden who engaged fantastically with the flame tests and to Saplings 2 who have been very helpful in catching Jayden up with procedures in the lab and behaving safely during experiments - Linda

- Big shout out to Saplings 3 for positive engagement and regulation in science – Linda
- Really impressed with Romeo and Emilia for their improved engagement and regulation in science. – Linda
- Shout out to Michael, Oscar R and Josh for demonstrating safe and excellent knife skills when making their fruit salads. They all successfully segmented an orange too! – Ceri

## **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.

## **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 on **07967 763324****



Shrewsbury Academy

# Parkrun

**Get moving,  
feel great,  
and do  
something  
incredible!**



**Who?**  
Calling all Parents  
to bring their  
children along (in  
their PE kits) to walk  
or run the 5k  
course.

**Where?**  
The Quarry,  
Shrewsbury,  
Shropshire,  
SY1 1RN.

**What do you need?**  
PE kit, trainers,  
enthusiasm and a  
small donation!  
*(There will  
be collection  
buckets nearby)*

***Every  
step counts!***

Shrewsbury Academy students are stepping up to support **S4T** our school's **food bank** — and we need **YOU** to join the mission!

Join us for Parkrun on **Saturday 28th June 9.00am** and help make a difference!

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EMOJIS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Emojis are more than playful expressions – they form a fast-evolving digital language that many adults struggle to decode. For young people, this ‘secret code’ is central to how they communicate identity, humour and emotions. With over 5 billion emojis sent daily on Facebook Messenger alone, understanding these symbols is key to engaging meaningfully with digital youth.

### GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 👍 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

### SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like ‘mid’ or ‘delulu’ may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

### RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (👤) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

### MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍃 (falling leaves emoji) or 💊 (pill emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌵 (wilted flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

### NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🔥👤🍷 (fire + ‘woozy’ face + pill emojis) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emojiopedia.org or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.



### CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.



### ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted “What does 🍷 (juice box emoji) mean these days?” can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.



### PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to – not just someone who’s watching them.



## EMOJI CHEAT SHEET – The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples – please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

### COMMON EMOJIS:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around | 🙄 (Pleading face) Over-affectionate or ‘simpling’                      |
| 😏 (Cold face) Cool, stylish or ruthless       | 👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold  |
| 😍 (Hot face) Intense attraction or excitement | 🐐 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.)                               |
| 😐 (Moai) Stone-faced, unbothered              | 👉 (Nails) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference                       |
| 👑 (Crown) ‘Slaying’, as in doing great        | 🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag; a warning sign about someone’s behaviour |

### POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 🍷 (Ear of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms) | 🌵 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness      |
| 🌨️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine            | 🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being ‘two-faced’                     |
| 🗝️ (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use                          | 🔫 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm        |
| 🍃 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis          | ⚠️ (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil        |
| 💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse               | 🍜 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes (‘noods’ is an abbreviation of noodles) |

### Meet Our Expert

Keith Broni is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emojiopedia.org, the world’s number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology.

