



Friday 13th June 2025

Headteachers report of the week

This week, our brave learners faced their fears head-on as they ventured into the mysterious world of cave exploration. There were nerves, there were butterflies, but there was also courage, laughter, and a whole lot of cheering! A symbol of resilience, bravery and personal growth.

In PSHE, learners explored the digital world through the lens of cyber security. Working in teams, they cracked codes, built secure passwords, and discussed how to stay safe online. The focus was on trust, collaboration, and responsibility, the key values in both the digital and real world.

English lessons took a futuristic twist as learners used AI tools to reimagine Greek mythology. Learners blended creativity with technology.

Our learners rolled up their sleeves and got hands-on in the kitchen, crafting delicious Bakewell tarts from scratch. From preparing the buttery shortcrust pastry to layering sweet jam and almond frangipane, they followed each step with care and creativity. The activity not only developed their culinary skills but also encouraged teamwork, patience, and attention to detail. The end result, a tray of beautifully baked Bakewell Tarts and a food tech classroom of successful and proud learners.

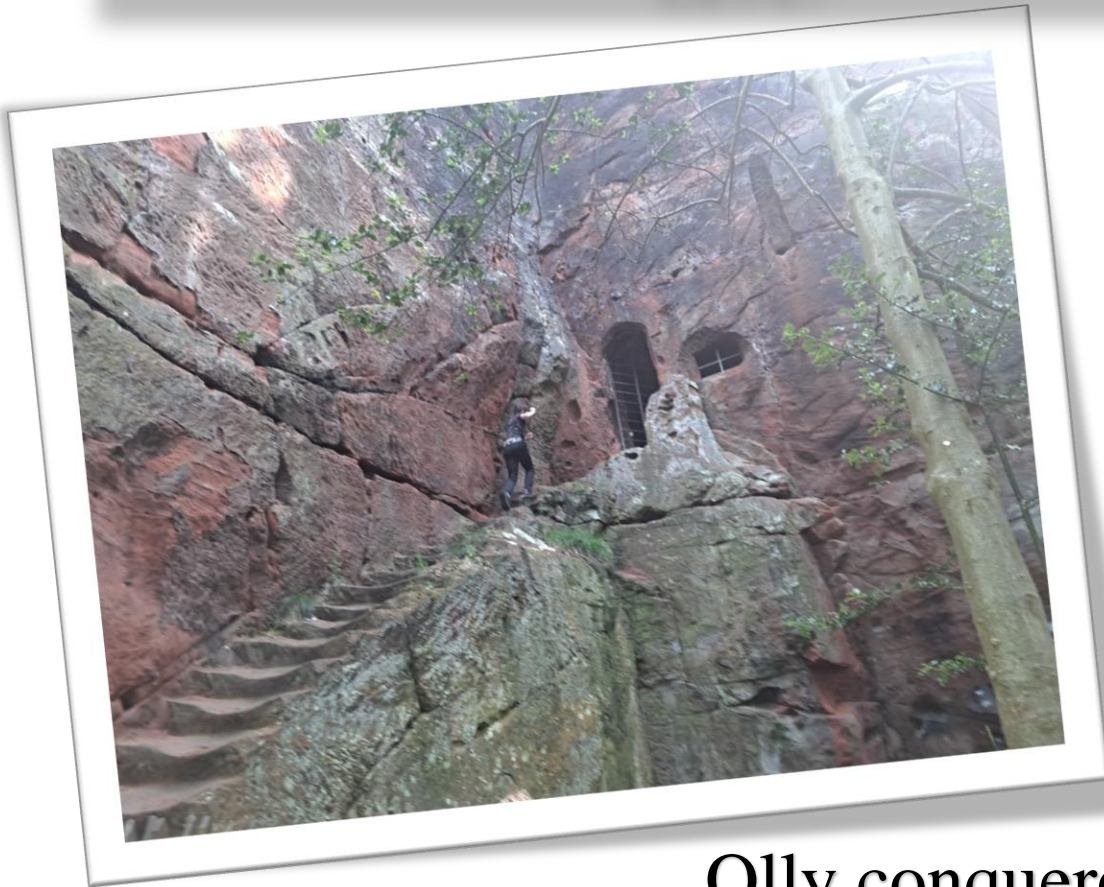
We're starting a new project: building a sensory garden! This space will be filled with textures, scents and sounds to support mindfulness and emotional regulation. We're currently gathering resources, if you have any donations or ideas (plants, wind chimes, herbs, textured paths), we'd love your help!

Best Wishes

Jules

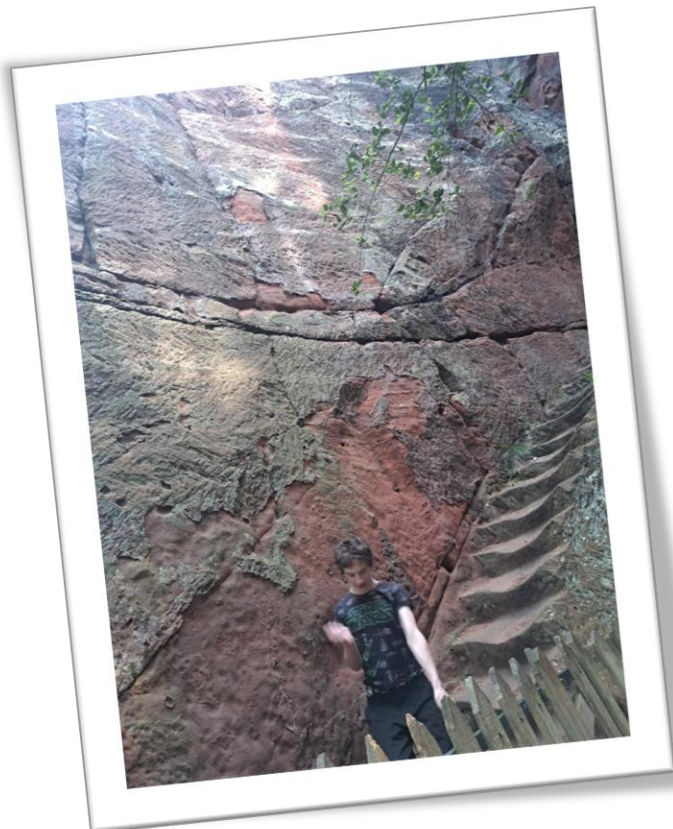


Nest's Forest School Adventure to a cave!



Olly conquered his fear of heights, heading on with confidence and coming down a steep slope to the cave.

- Katie



Arran also headed up to the cave very bravely on his own.

- Katie

Xander was very encouraging and supportive to both learners.

- Katie



Skills

Discussing our
feelings and
emotions
whilst
developing
fine motor
skills.

- Debbie G



Shout out to Kody, Well done!



Kody pushed himself during swimming today and gained his 20 Metres badge- well done Kody, we are so proud!

- Debbie G

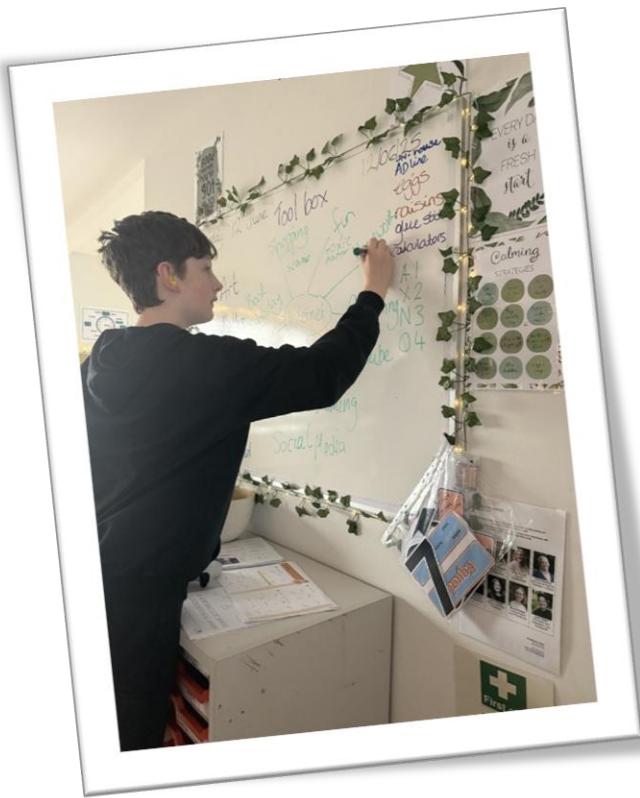


Leo and
Tyler made
Bakewell
Tarts this
week
- Debbie J



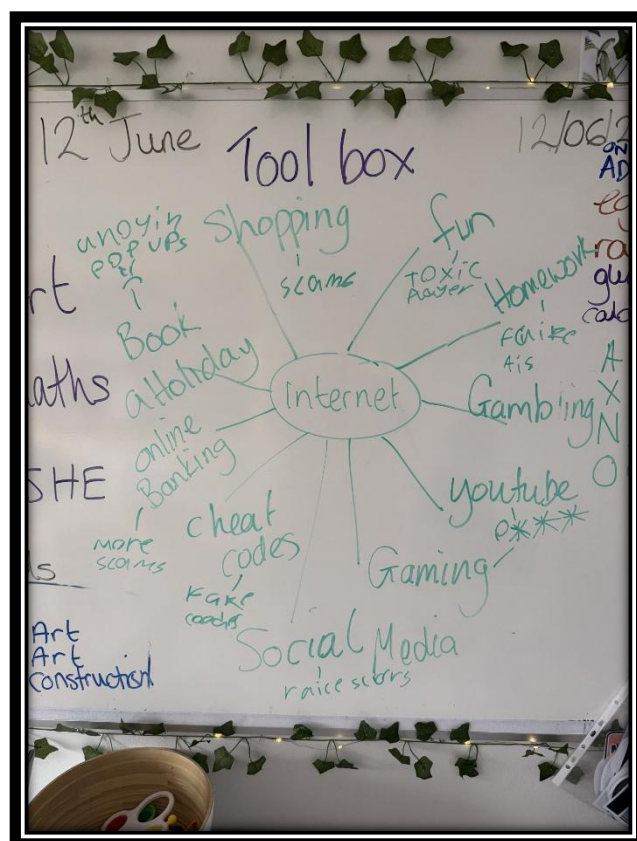
They carefully followed the recipe, starting with rolling out the pastry, spreading a layer of jam, and topping it with a smooth almond filling. Then decorating with icing and a cherry to finish!





Shout out for Arran, Noah Ho and Ollie N for great teamwork in a PSHE lesson about cyber security.

- Wendy



In English Saplings 2 are exploring Greek Mythology and have created their own Greek Gods.

- Magz



Tall, Strong, Fair, God-like, Muscley, Long brown hair fluttering in the wind, Sturdy lightening sword, standing proudly on top of a mountain.

This is Lycus (means wolf in ancient Greek) He is the protector of the forests and mountains and is the leader of an army of intelligent wolves who serve to protect the woods as their alpha.



Tommy's

They had to pick carefully words
to describe the characteristics and
physical appearances of their Gods
and then with the power of AI we
brought them to life!

They did fantastic work!

- Magz



Taylor's



Jayden's

Saplings 2 experimented with flavours when making croissants, they flavoured them with jam, biscoff and peanut butter.

- Debbie J



Ryan and Leighton planned a meal each and the results were delicious.

- Debbie J



Ryan made
BBQ
chicken with
triple cooked
chips.

- Debbie J

Leighton made Chicken Goujons,
he coated them with seasoned
breadcrumbs and served them with
triple cooked chips. – Debbie J





Shrewsbury Academy

CHANGE THE DATE!

Due to the Shrewsbury Food Festival, the S4T Parkrun **has been moved to Saturday the 5th of July!**

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 5th July at 9.00am** and help make a difference!

All students under the age of 11 must run with an adult.

Can you help?

We're making a sensory garden!
for Primary and Secondary
Learners are going to be involved
in making and creating this new
special area.

Owen would like to make
a waterfall

Zane and Lacey would like to make a

- fidget board,
- plants in wellies,
- recycled bottle greenhouse
- Hanging baskets
- Hanging tyres with flowers
- Water features
- Bottle lids pathway or feature

And so much more ...



We'd love to make a sensory path

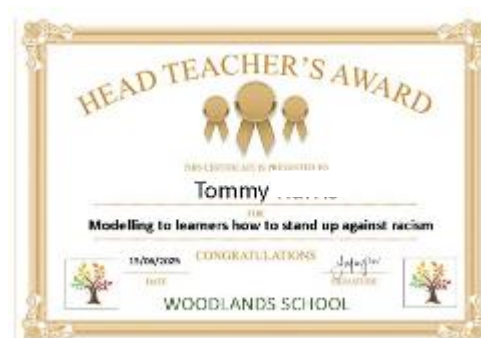


To help get us started we're reaching out to ask if anyone would have any items they could kindly donate or knows anyone who does that we could use. Some of the items we are looking for are.

- Wellies,
- Tyres
- Plastic bottles
- Lid tops
- Locks
- Fidget spinners
- Glockenspiels/xylophones
 - Cogs
 - Clocks
- Moving parts
 - Plants
 - Pots
 - Hub caps
- Large wooden spools
 - Any wood
 - Bricks
 - Stones
 - Paving
- Cutoffs of astro turf
- Anything we are open to.



Headteachers Awards



Woodlands Shout Outs



- Shout out to Jayden who is a joyous addition to Saplings 2 and impressed us with his mental Maths skills this week! – Magz
- Shout out to Morgan for great engagement all day in Vocational -Elly
- Olive have had a fantastic session in the Vocational Centre with Andy – Sarah
- Shout out to Bobby, Corey and Romeo, really engaging positive sessions. – Simon
- Taylor rescued a crow and saw the importance of looking after the world around us. – Jules
- Year 11 completed their final core GCSE exams, all learners have done extremely well and attended all their exams – Alice and the Woodlands family
- Corey and Leighton listened to instructions and build positive relationships - Elly

- Corey followed his plan - Elly
- Ollie K and Leighton were fully engaged in changing wheels with Andy
- Cody and Matthew had a great morning building relationships – Sarah
- Saplings 1 showed great respect for their environment, they had a tidy and made a welcoming classroom.
- Bobby had a great Maths session and a great session with Andy – Maddy N
- Corey engaged well in Maths and allowed staff to support him to regulate – Elly
- Morgan engaged well in his lessons - Elly
- Olive have been engaged and actively participating in

Sending an Email to the Safeguarding Team

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

Or

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

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**

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GENERATIVE AI SAFETY

Generative AI tools – such as ChatGPT – are now commonly used by children. In fact, 3 in 4 pupils in the 2024 Annual Literacy Survey reported using generative AI, up from just 2 in 5 the previous year. While these tools can boost learning and creativity, they also raise concerns around misinformation, privacy and overuse. This guide explores the key risks and how to support safe use.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MISINFORMATION AND ACCURACY



Generative AI can sometimes produce false or misleading content. Children – and even adults – may assume the information is accurate and trustworthy. This can affect learning and understanding of important topics. It's vital to teach children to critically assess all information, even when it comes from AI.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Because generative AI is trained on vast datasets from across the internet, there is a chance it may occasionally generate harmful or inappropriate content. Without supervision, children could encounter disturbing or unsuitable material. Active monitoring and clear usage boundaries can help reduce this risk.

PRIVACY AND DATA SECURITY

Some AI tools ask for personal details or store users' interactions. If privacy settings are not correctly configured, children's personal data could be exposed or misused. Teaching good digital hygiene and setting strong privacy controls is essential for protecting children online.

REDUCED CRITICAL THINKING



Relying too heavily on AI-generated responses may reduce children's willingness to think independently. If they consistently use AI to solve problems or complete tasks, it could impact their ability to reason, analyse and form their own ideas. Encouraging thoughtful reflection is key.

DIGITAL DEPENDENCY

Regular use of generative AI can contribute to increased screen time and less real-world interaction. If left unmanaged, it may affect physical activity levels, sleep, and social development. Striking a healthy balance between online and offline activities is important for wellbeing.

UNCLEAR ETHICAL BOUNDARIES



Children may not fully understand the ethical implications of using AI to complete homework or creative tasks. This can lead to unintentional plagiarism or dishonest academic practices. Conversations around responsible use and academic honesty are crucial.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ESTABLISH CLEAR GUIDELINES

Set clear, age-appropriate rules for when and how generative AI can be used. Reinforce these regularly to help children develop a healthy, respectful and informed relationship with the technology.



ENCOURAGE CRITICAL EVALUATION

Help children to question the accuracy of AI-generated information and seek out additional trusted sources. This builds essential digital literacy skills and supports better decision-making.



PROMOTE ACTIVE SUPERVISION

Keep an eye on how the children in your care use AI tools. Check in regularly to ensure they're using them appropriately and be ready to step in if something doesn't feel right.



ENHANCE PRIVACY AWARENESS

Talk to children about the importance of keeping personal information private. Make sure privacy settings are in place and explain how data shared with AI tools could be used.



Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keefe, Deputy Headmaster and Director of Digital Strategy at Eaton House Schools, has extensive expertise in digital safety, safeguarding, and generative AI in education. As an author and speaker on digital literacy and online safety for institutions such as The National College, Brendan guides parents and educators in creating safe digital learning environments.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College