



Friday 24th July 2025

Headteachers report of the week

As we reach the end of another school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared over the past months. It has been a year filled with learning, laughter, growth and resilience and I could not be prouder of our learners and staff.

From the very first day of term to the final assemblies this week, our school community has shown what it means to support one another, strive to do their BEST and celebrate every success, big or small. Whether it was through academic achievements, creative projects, sporting events or acts of kindness, our learners have truly shone.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff, who work tirelessly to create a safe, inspiring and joyful environment for our learners. To our families, thank you for your ongoing support, encouragement and partnership.

As we head into the summer holidays, I hope everyone finds time to rest, recharge and enjoy the sunshine. Whether you're travelling, exploring locally or simply taking a well-earned break. I wish you a safe and happy summer.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, ready for another exciting year ahead.

Best Wishes

Jules



Sports Day



The day kicked off with the running races, sprints, relays and long-distance challenges that had everyone on their feet. Learners of all ages dashed round the track, their faces a mix of determination and joy. Whether it was a lightning-fast sprint or a steady-paced jog, every runner crossed the finish line to applause and high-fives.



Over at the shot-put area, learners took turns showcasing their strength and technique. With a deep breath and a powerful swing, each competitor launched the heavy metal ball into the air, aiming for distance and precision. The judges measured each throw carefully, while learners cheered on their friends. It was a display of focus, power and perseverance.



The high jump even brought a mix of suspense and celebration. One by one, learners approached the bar, their eyes locked on the target. With a running start and a leap, they soared into the air, some clearing the bar with ease, others brushing it with their heels. Each attempt was met with cheers, and even the misses were celebrated with encouragement and smiles. It was a lesson in resilience and the thrill of pushing limits.



Meanwhile, the sandpit became a hub of joy and laughter. From long jump competitions to impromptu sandcastle building, the area was alive with energy.

Sports day was not just about winning it was about participation, teamwork and the joy of being active together. It was a celebration of effort, spirit and school pride, which Ben carried on with the Sports Day Awards.

Sports Day Awards



Woodlands are proud to share the success of this years Sports Day.



Learners received from Ben medals and trophies, awarded in recognition of outstanding athletic performance, teamwork and sportmanship.





Summer Fair



Woodlands transformed into a wonderland of colour, laughter and excitement as our annual Summer Fair burst into life this week. The Woodlands community of families, staff and learners gathered for fun, food and unforgettable memories.

Learners bounced sky-high on the inflatable castle. Just a few steps away, the mega slide towered above the crowd, drawing brave sliders who zoomed down with arms raised and faces lit up. It was the perfect place for thrill-seeks and little adventurers alike.

The inflatable course was a whirlwind of crawling, climbing and sliding. Teams of friends raced, dodged inflatable barriers and scrambled over walls.





A queue of eager faces formed at the face painting tent, where talented Destiny transformed children into a variety of different requests. With glitter, paint, and a touch of magic, each child left with a smile and a new identity for the day.

Tucked away on the path was the ever-popular lucky dip, where curious hands reached into a box of mystery to pull out small treasures, a whole lot of fun!



The scent of sizzling burgers and sausages wafted from the BBQ stand, where Andy and Ben served up delicious bites hot off the grill. Nearby, a table groaned under the weight of homemade cakes and biscuits with a special shout out to Leo for his outstanding effort towards the feast.

Happy Birthday to You!!!



Taylor turns 12 in the summer holidays so Saplings 2 celebrated our peer slightly early with some chocolate cake and some yummy biscuits as a treat.... and of course a sing song of Happy Birthday To You!!! - Magz

Maths Blocks

Taylor has been unlocking learning with Maths Blocks this week. He has been extending his mathematical understanding with counting, adding, subtracting and exploring patterns. The tactile blocks have helped Taylor grasp abstract concepts in a hands-on, visual way.





FREE Family Barmouth Trip.

!!

Key Information

7th August 2025

Shrewsbury Depart:
8:15am

Barmouth Depart:
5:00pm



FREE Family Blackpool Trip.

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Key Information

11th August 2025

Shrewsbury Depart:
8:15am

Blackpool Depart:
5:00pm



Pre book is essential, please email:
 info@4all.foundation
 www.4all.foundation

Pick Up: Harlescott Grange
 Community Hub, Kynaston Rd,
 Shrewsbury SY1 3JR

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Understanding your child From toddler to teen

- Would you like to know more about your child's development?
- Do you need help and support to understand your child's behaviour?
- Would you like a chance to meet with other parents and carers with children of a similar age?

Join us for our free face-to-face group
 Delivered by the BeeU and Parenting Team

Understanding Your Child SEND
Thursday 2nd October 2025
9.45am to 11.45am
Woodlands School

Tilley Green, Wem, Shrewsbury SY4 5PJ



All our groups run for 10 weeks
 from the start date excluding the
 School Holidays.

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
 or call 01743 250950

Find more free online courses at
 inourplace.co.uk/shropshire



Does your child struggle with their sleep?

Free Sleep Tight Groups

Join us on one of our virtual or face-to-face groups 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

SEND Group Tuesday 23rd September 2025 from 1.00pm to 3.00pm Virtually Via MS Teams

or

Group Wednesday 24th September 2025 from 9.30am to 11.30am 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 or call 01743 250950

Find out
more here



Shropshire Parenting Help and Support Line

01743 250950

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

No judgment, just support.



Coffee & chat



How can we help you?



Free info, advice and support for your family
shropshire.gov.uk/early-help



You can get free information, advice and support on all aspects of family life, at our family drop-ins. Come along for a coffee and a chat, and find out how we can help you with things like:

- ♥ Family life
- ♥ Parenting support
- ♥ Domestic abuse support
- ♥ Money worries
- ♥ Housing support, and much more

There are drop-ins all over Shropshire find your nearest one here:
<https://orlo.uk/Nt3iP>

WELLBEING ACTIVITIES

JOIN OUR WEEKLY WELLBEING ACTIVITIES!



EVERY MONDAY

10:30AM UNTIL 12:00PM

AT THE DITHERINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, SHREWSBURY, SY1 4DF

WEEKLY WORKSHOPS WILL INC:

- ARTS AND CRAFT ACTIVITIES
- GARDENING PROJECTS
- FILM DAYS
- PLUS MORE!

WEBSITE WWW.4ALL.FOUNDATION

EMAIL INFO@4ALL.FOUNDATION

Community hubs webpages promote wellbeing support for Shropshire



Shropshire Council and its partners have launched new webpages to highlight the community and family support on offer in hubs all over the county.

The community and family hubs are located in Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Bridgnorth, Market Drayton, Highley and Ludlow, with activities and guidance available to help families and residents stay healthy and connected.

There is a wide range of support on offer based on feedback from communities, from early help for families, domestic abuse support, help to stop smoking, information and housing and more, for all ages, as part of NHS integrated neighbourhood teams.

Whilst much of the support is already ongoing, the new webpages bring the services together to one online space, so people can easily search and find what they need.

[Find the pages and share with your communities.](#)



Free CBT Courses

Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin NHS Talking Therapies offers free access to digital Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) and various courses to support mood and anxiety. These courses, run by trained psychological practitioners, use research-backed techniques to improve emotional wellbeing. They address issues like low mood, anxiety, intrusive thoughts, obsessive-compulsive difficulties, and trauma-related distress.

Courses are available in group settings with varying levels of participation. For those preferring self-paced learning, the Silvercloud digital CBT programme provides a private, supportive platform with online clinician assistance to help achieve personal goals.

If you would like support with your mental health, you can make a self-referral by:

- **Online:** Completing a self-referral form, or chat to our Limbic digital assistant via our website – mpft.nhs.uk/stwtt
- **Phone:** 0300 123 6020



Summer Reading Challenge launches

This summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading! The Summer Reading Challenge, created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries, is a FREE, fun-packed way to keep kids reading and learning all summer long.

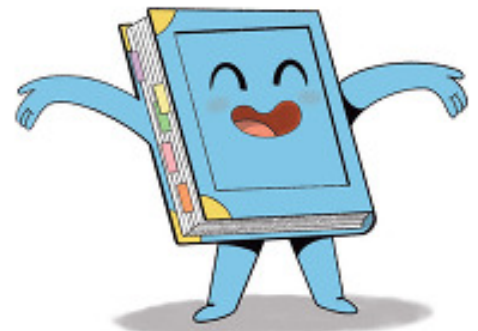
This year's theme is Story Garden, where imagination blossoms and stories grow!

- It's FREE! Available at local libraries and [online](#)
- Inspires a lifelong love of reading
- Boosts confidence, creativity, and imagination
- Earn stickers, a medal, and certificate
- Fun for the whole family. Visit your local library together
- 95% of children said they read more after joining!

Children's activities

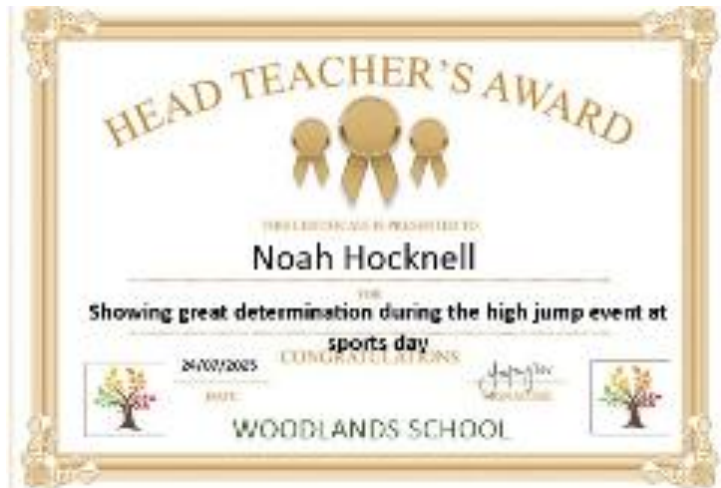
Story Garden themed activities will be running through the summer, many of them free.

See our [events page](#) for full details.





Headteachers Awards



Woodlands Shout Outs



- Ryan showed fantastic engagement in English this week, confidently performing three role plays with enthusiasm and creativity.
- A big shout out to all our new learners who visited us this week, it's been such a pleasure having you in school! We're so excited to welcome you back in September for the start of your journey with us.
- Taylor was amazing with Ollie and Michael this week, showing kindness and patience.
- Willow has engaged really well in school this week, showing great focus and making excellent progress in her learning.
- Olive have engaged well this week, showing great enthusiasm and participation in activities.
- Corey and Leighton brought great energy to their dance performance, showing brilliant teamwork and rhythm!

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 ONLINE SLANG

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Slang moves fast – and for many young people, it’s not just how they talk, but how they share their identity and feelings. Learning key terms helps adults connect and show understanding, even if the lingo seems baffling at first.

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

Words like ‘rizz’ or ‘slaps’ can be misunderstood by adults, leading to awkward moments or a breakdown in trust. These phrases often carry subtle social meanings among young people.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Slang changes quickly. A term like ‘bop’ might sound innocent one week and be repurposed the next. This makes it easy for adults to fall behind and for children to misstep.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR EXCLUSION

Inside jokes and trending terms like ‘simp’ or ‘NPC’ can be used to mock or exclude others. What looks like harmless fun might actually reinforce social divisions or bullying.

PERFORMING FOR THE ALGORITHM

Slang often reflects what’s popular on platforms like TikTok. Young users might exaggerate or act out for likes, creating online personas that don’t match their real selves.

CONTENT MODERATION WITH CODED SPEECH

To avoid content filters, young people sometimes use slang or emojis to talk about serious topics – for example, saying ‘unalive’ instead of other death-related terms. This makes harmful content harder to spot.

LONG-TERM DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

A slang-filled post might seem funny now but could resurface years later during job checks or university applications – possibly out of context, but still damaging.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP UP, DON’T CATCH UP

Follow youth culture pages or ask your child about new slang. Staying informed shows that you’re engaged and open to understanding their world.

FOCUS ON CONNECTION OVER CONTROL

Being someone your child can talk to is more valuable than using strict filters or monitoring apps. Openness builds trust.

ASK, DON’T INTERROGATE

Use open questions to invite conversation. You’re not quizzing them – just trying to learn more about their online lives.

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL MEDIA LITERACY

Talk about where slang comes from, how it spreads, and how it can impact others. This helps young people use language more thoughtfully.

ONLINE SLANG CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms are common examples – please be aware this isn’t an exhaustive list and both meaning and prevalence can change swiftly.

COMMON SLANG:

- **Sigma** – Independent, self-reliant (often male) mindset; proud outsider status. Often celebrated in motivational memes.
- **Skibidi** – Nonsense word from the viral ‘Skibidi Toilet’ meme; expresses chaos or fun. Usually harmless but pervasive.
- **Chat** – The collective audience or group of viewers (e.g. on a livestream). Used when addressing followers directly.
- **Lock in** – To focus, commit or get serious (e.g. before gaming or sports). Positive encouragement to concentrate.
- **Cooking** – Doing something exceptionally well or gaining momentum. Opposite of ‘cooked’.
- **Rizz** – Charisma or flirting ability (short for charisma). Can praise social confidence.
- **Aura or aura farming** – One’s perceived ‘energy’ or vibe; ‘farming’ means manufacturing clout.

POTENTIALLY CONCERNING SLANG

- **Bop** – An adult content creator (e.g. OnlyFans). Indicates exposure to 18+ material.
- **Gyatt or gyatt** – Sexualised exclamation about someone’s backside. Objectifies appearance.
- **Tralalero tralala / bombardino crocodilo / tung tung tung sahur** – Spammy references to AI-generated creatures with ‘Italian-sounding’ names. Can clog chats, derail discussion, and harass others.
- **Glazing** – Overpraising or obsessively defending a streamer or celebrity.
- **Crash out** – To lose control, give up or have a meltdown; sometimes hints at self-harm.
- **Cooked** – Ruined, exhausted or in serious trouble; sometimes mental health-related.
- **Unalive** – Euphemism for death or suicide; used to avoid content filters.
- **NPC** – Used to suggest someone is lacking independent thoughts or is repetitive and predictable.

Meet Our Expert

Keith Broni is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emojipedia.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.

