A Word from the Head …

It’s been an incredibly busy and productive academic year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff for their hard work and dedication throughout. Without this level of professionalism TMBSS wouldn’t be able to offer the wide range of opportunities. I would also like to thank parents and carers for their ongoing support and hope they have a super summer holiday.

Greg Portman - Head of Service

It’s a Mug’s Game

Bridgnorth regular, John Prockter, recently brought together pupils from key stages 3 and 4 to discuss some complex world issues in an unusual and interactive way...

In June, John Prockter and Becky came into Bridgnorth Education Centre to do an activity with some of the students.

The activity was about different issues in the world. John brought many mugs with him with world issues such as terrorism, murder, feminism and violence written on them.

He asked us to place them in priority of importance to us on a board. The most important mug was placed in the middle ring then the least on the outside ring.

We discussed with one another how we should solve this which caused a few heated debates!

This was an interesting activity because we learnt about each other’s different viewpoints which was really interesting, but we also learnt about how to reach a happy conclusion.

M Tate
On a ‘Global’ Scale

KS3 students at Bridgnorth worked hard to create a miniature version of the world famous theatre.

As part of their studies around Shakespeare and the infamous Romeo and Juliet, the key stage three class worked together to create a replica of Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre out of card, paper-maché, a little bit of creativity and a lot of patience.

Time To Of The Rules...

A Ludlow student has come up with a novel way of using up all of those annoying little pieces of leftover Lego.

The inventive Year 8 has used his design, photography and ICT skills to create a series of tutorials showing step by step instructions on how to make micro models.

The mini creations cleverly utilise all of the tiny bits that everyone seems to accumulate but have no real use for. Creations so far include a mini-plane and a micro HUMVEE, complete with scenery!
¡Buen provecho!

Oswestry pupils have been learning some very important life skills through their exciting enrichment programme.

As part of the enrichment programme at our Oswestry Education Centre, students have been preparing and serving up some delicious meals on Tuesday lunchtimes.

Last term, we had a Spanish theme and meals included the very popular chicken paella, chorizo pasta bake, fajitas, patatas bravas and even churros (which was a challenge but nevertheless, successful!). This term, meals have included different types of curry, all of which have gone down a treat.

Thanks to Joy Evans, who had the brilliant idea of writing to local supermarkets, we have had some very generous donations from Morrisons. Each week, they provide us with some of the necessary ingredients for the meals, which we are extremely grateful for. As well as learning some Spanish culinary terms along the way, students have to do some mathematical calculations, particularly when larger quantities are involved.

We decide a week in advance what the meal will be and advertise it around the centre. Pupils and teachers then know to bring in a small contribution, which has enabled us to provide ingredients for the afternoon group, who have made some scrummy puddings.

Many thanks again to Morrisons for helping make this happen and we look forward to many more tasty delights this term.

Watch this space for the publication of our recipe book!

Paddle Power!

Canoeing and kayaking have long been regular additions to the curriculum for many of our students.

This term a handful of them have succeeded in passing various awards and qualifications, demonstrating not only their skill and determination but also their commitment to ‘paddling’.

Congratulations go to:

Scarlet Williams (Y11) for achieving British Canoeing 1* Award

May Clayton (Y9) & David Waterhouse (Y9) for achieving Paddle Power Start Award

Andrew Rushworth (Y10) for achieving Paddle Power Discovery Award
The centre uses fancy technology, called an auto belay which allows the students the freedom to clip themselves on to the walls under the close supervision of Mr Mac. The auto belay takes up the slack as the student ascends and safely controls the descent when the climber lets go or falls.

Although they were nervous and climbing was new to many of the students, they got stuck in and surprised themselves. After all, Climbing the Walls say that ‘the biggest challenge is to feel the fear and do it anyway!’
Delving Into Shropshire

Students across all of our secondary centres have been making the most of the recent gorgeous summer weather to get out of the classroom and explore what Shropshire has to offer...

In June, Shrewsbury based students explored the beautiful Habberley Valley and Pontesford. They also used a go-pro video camera to produce a short film to highlight the geographical processes and how to do a gorge walk safely using team work.

Although at one time it was a vast Norman castle rebuilt some time between 1098 and 1101, all that remains of Bridgnorth Castle is part of the keep. Nonetheless, it offers stunning views over the River Severn and the infamous Severn Valley Railway.

Some of the South Shropshire students explored somewhere a little less demanding... Bridgnorth castle walk and Severn Park
Within Hook-A-Gate Centre, a small group of students (affectionately known as ‘The Nurture Group’) have been learning about alliteration. They worked together to create an acrostic poem with each pupil given a letter to create their line. Put together it creates Hook A Gate STARS!

V Downes, L O’Callaghan, X Rhodes, K Thomas, J Tomlins and O Smith.

Mentoring with a difference

Two students from Bridgnorth Centre have had the opportunity to work through an interesting mentoring programme with Mr Benbow

Engaged through a variety of unusual settings, the students involved have been very positive about the work they have done this term.

We went to the exotic zoo and saw some spiders and I was scared of them. Neolad held a snake that was yellow and white. I think it was a corn-snake. I saw the best animal there too—a parrot that said hello but when Mr Benbow was talking to it, he just blanked him!

B Grocott Y7
Celebrating Creativity

The annual Whole Service Arts Day provided an exciting opportunity for students across all centres to get involved and to celebrate some of the fantastic Year 11 portfolios.

A welcome banner had been made by KS3 pupils from Oswestry Education Centre and three musicians from ‘Creative Inspiration’ were with us for the day, leading music workshops with pupils from all Secondary centres and Primary. The music workshop included challenges such as ‘name that baseline’, and ‘how many people can play the banjo at once?’ (Harlescott won with 12!) and was followed by group percussion jam and performance. Will from Oswestry was lucky enough to have a 1:1 guitar session.

It was a fantastic day, full of energy and it was wonderful to see pupils having so much fun with Delia, Ben and Ali.

‘Thank you so much for involving us in Arts Day yesterday. The children absolutely loved it; especially the music workshop. They had so much fun! The musicians were fantastic with them and had them totally engaged and mesmerized.’

A message from Harlescott Centre

On Thursday 5th July Sundorne Education Centre hosted this year’s Whole Service Arts Day. There was an Art exhibition, displaying work from KS1-KS4 in the main corridor and Art room, including fine art, textiles, photography and sculpture. There was also a slide show with photos and videos from this year’s music residency.
Mr Rudge would like to praise two Hook-A-Gate students, A Rushworth and M Clayton for their confidence and professionalism when interviewing the candidates for the role of TMBSS Head of Service. They grilled each prospective candidate for 15 minutes and asked some excellent, probing questions. The two students were presented with certificates by Mrs L Bloomer as recognition of their contribution to the interview process.

Also, a massive congratulations to Cadet S Bennion who received a Squadron Commander’s Commendation for his ‘invaluable contribution and assistance above and beyond’ Market Drayton Arts Fest.

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