



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to The Link at the end of what has been another busy week in school.

For year 11 pupils, there are now only 52 school days until the final exam series begins! Class teachers have shared targeted and specific areas to work on which will be supported in school and through homework, but timetabled revision should now be the focus of additional work at home. We can't stress enough how important it is that pupils are engaged in a timetabled revision plan and are checking with their teachers for help or to guide them on past paper questions. Of course, pupils must also make time for activities away from study to take a break and re-charge. Thank you for the support that we know you will be giving your child at this important time in their education.

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers of year 7 at the Progress Evening (7D, H & J) yesterday. We hope the opportunity to talk with subject teachers about how things are going, what is being taught and next steps was useful. We look forward to welcoming parents & carers of 7 O and W teaching groups next Thursday.

Next week is the last week of this half term which also marks the half way point in the school year!

Best wishes for a good weekend

John Parr
Headteacher

Next week will be Week B

Tutor Time Take-away

This weeks' focus was on Lunch time routines and routine reminders. Please do ask your child about the topic and get them to explain to you what was discussed.

Tutor time take-away

Today's take-away is....

- Lunch time routines**
- Routines reminders**

Dates for your Diary

- 8th Feb** - Year 7 (Owen & Wylie) Progress Evening
- 10th - 13th Feb** - Year 9 French Trip
- 12th - 16th** - Half Term
- 19th Feb** - Return to school

Lunch Money/Parent Pay

Please can we ask parents to check the balance of their child's ParentPay account for school lunches; we are having a high number of students coming to the Office asking for a phone call home to parents to top up their lunch money. There is also a coin/cash machine where children can top up their accounts in the hall.
Thank you.

Late Students

A number of students are arriving late into school. Please can we remind parents that students need to be in school by 8.45am latest.
Thank you.

PLEASE REMEMBER
WE ARE A NUT
FREE SCHOOL



What are we learning, why are we learning it and how you can support.

Dear Students and Parents,

The Church Stretton Science department aims to help our students become scientifically literate, where they can describe, define, investigate and ultimately try to understand the world in which they live and how it works. We have been busy this term revisiting and retrieving key information from the Autumn term whilst building upon the big ideas of particles, energy and forces.

Year 7 'Sound'



Why are we studying this?

This topic is one of the fundamental building blocks for developing students' understanding of physics, it focuses on one of the 'big ideas' of science, 'energy', and the concept of how energy can be transferred through waves. The topic builds on the concepts taught in 'particles and their behaviour', as students look at how sound waves are produced and how they travel through different materials. Students will go on to look at the relationship between loudness and pitch and then link this knowledge to the human range of hearing, concluding with echoes and ultrasound.

Links

[Knowledge Organiser](#)
[Tracker sheet](#)

Year 9 'Motion'



Why are we studying this?

This topic extends the knowledge gained in motion and pressure, by looking at velocity-time graphs and how the change in velocity of an object over a period of time can be referred to as its acceleration. Students will also look at scalar and vector quantities for the first time, particularly why an object can be said to accelerate if its velocity does not change? The unit will conclude with students using velocity-time graphs to calculate the distance an object travels.

Links

[Knowledge Organiser](#)
[Tracker sheet](#)

How can you support?

- Below each unit description you will find links to useful resources that can be used to increase students' knowledge and help them read around the subject.
- Don't forget to look at our [curriculum page](#) which includes the Programme of Study and all our useful links and resources.

Year 8 'Electricity and Magnetism'



Why are we studying this?

During this topic students will be introduced to a handful of circuit symbols, increasing the number they can identify as they progress through the module. Students will compare and contrast series and parallel circuits and look at how resistance varies in circuits. Students will investigate the relationship between the length of wire and its resistance and then move on to looking at magnets and their magnetic fields followed by factors that effect the strength of an electromagnet.

Links

[Knowledge Organiser](#)
[Tracker sheet](#)

Physics: KS4 Spring Term



CHURCH
STRETTON
SCHOOL

What are we learning, why are we learning it and how you can support.

GCSE physics provides students the opportunity to extend and deepen their understanding, providing a firm foundation for studying physics beyond GCSE.

Year 10 'Conservation of Energy'



Why are we studying this?

Students have already studied energy in Year 8, where they were first introduced to; the 10 types of energy, energy transfers (conduction, convection and radiation) and energy conservation. Through a cyclical approach, the big idea of 'energy' is constantly being revisited and built upon each year. This topic will allow students to show energy transfers in systems and quantify the transfer of energy, which helps to embed the concept of conservation of energy. Everyday examples will be used to consolidate understanding, including energy resources, and the energy transfers that take place to generate electricity. The underlying principles taught in the topic will later help explain the transfer of energy when looking at waves in action in the topic 'waves'.

Links

[Knowledge Organiser](#)
[Tracker sheet](#)
[GCSE Bitesize Link](#)

[Extracurricular](#)

Year 11 'Electricity and circuits'

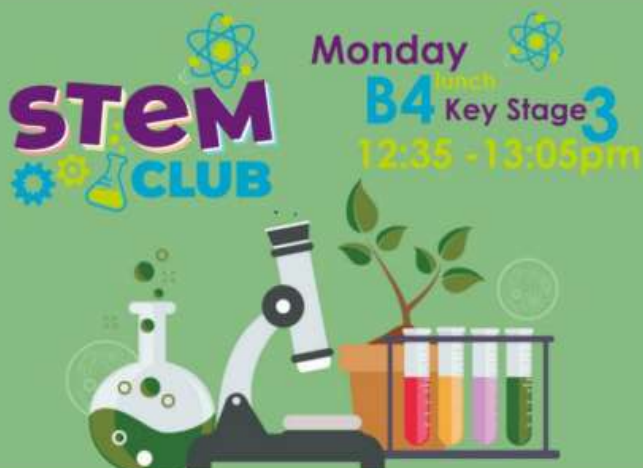


Why are we studying this?

This topic develops and extends the concepts taught in the Year 8 'electricity and magnetism' topic. In the first few lessons students will revisit the structure of an atom and how this relates to the current in a circuit and then investigate what happens to current at a junction and determine the connection between an electric current and the amount of charge that flows in a circuit. Students will explore the connection between current, voltage and resistance, and describe how the resistance of a LDR, thermistor and variable resistor can change the resistance in a circuit. This topic will also allow students to look at the differences between alternating current (AC) and direct current (DC) and move onto three pin plugs and their safety features. Students will be able to explain how the earth wire and fuse make circuits safer.

Links

[Knowledge Organiser](#)
[Tracker sheet](#)
[GCSE Bitesize Link](#)



Sporting News

Please can students collect lunch passes for their PE lunch time clubs from the PE office at the start of the week. Students can then show this pass to enter the queue on first calling.

A reminder that students who cannot take part in PE should always bring a note and their PE kit to take part in other roles.

PE EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

	<u>LUNCH –12.30-1.10PM</u>	<u>AFTER SCHOOL 3.20-4.30</u>
MONDAY	KS3 Netball (HH) KS3 Boys Rugby (GK)	KS3 Rugby (GK) Hockey ALL YEARS (MW) Sport Studies Catch up (HH)
TUESDAY	Table Tennis (JS) Volleyball (GK) Fitness Club/Gym (HH) Leadership Club (LD)	Cricket – All years (GK)
WEDNESDAY	Basketball (GK) Dance Club (AB)	Netball training – All years (HH) (AB) X Country Running Club (YG) Gym Club – Fitness Suite (TW)
THURSDAY	Badminton KS3 (HH) Sport Studies Catch up (GK) KS3 Football (JS)	Boys Basketball all years (GK) Girls Basketball all years (HH)
FRIDAY	Sport Studies Catch up (HH) Badminton KS4 (GK)	

Joining a club can help you: Improve skills, fitness & social skills. If you have any questions, please see Mrs Hodnett or Mr Kirkby

PE timetable
can be
found [HERE](#)

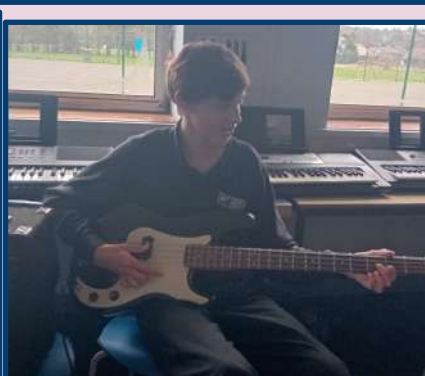
Lost Property

If your child/ren have lost any items of clothing, please ask them to check lost property in W1.

Please can we also ask parents and children to check at home whether they have the correct labelled PE kits as a few have gone missing in recent weeks.

Thank you

This week in photos





Student of the Week



Winners and nominees for this week are listed below....

This week's winners

KS3 Winner

Lily Beel nominated by Mrs Carr for her amazing work on the working scientifically assessment.

KS4 Winner

Jake Jones nominated by Miss Evans for working hard and doing as expected without ever causing a fuss. Well done Jake!



This week's nominations:

KS3 Nominations

Student Name	Nominated by	Reason for Nomination
Isobel Shaw	Miss Evans	For dutifully reading the part of Miranda from The Tempest with confidence and fluidity. Isobel has also encouraged me to persevere with learning the guitar!
Lola Lewis Williams	Miss Evans	For showing an increased confidence in English and offering to read parts of characters from Small Island. Lola also continues to demonstrate focus and maturity in class. Well done Lola- keep it up!
Eowyn Lowe	Mr Seager	Eowyn has wonderful attitude to learning and she is showing an excellent understanding of our set text 'A Midsummer Night's Dream. Well done Eowyn!
Finlay Hadwin	Mr Seager	Finlay has a fantastic attitude to learning and he continues to produce quality work in English. Well done Finlay!
Leia Davis	Mr Seager	Leia is displaying an excellent attitude to learning in English and she is showing a very good understanding of our set text 'Small Island'. Well done Leia!
Morgan Thomas	Mr Seager	Morgan has a very good attitude to learning and she is showing a great understanding of our set text 'Small Island'. Well done Morgan!
Priya Singh	Mrs Quye	Positivity and politeness
Ella Sewry	Mrs Quye	Positivity and determination
Jake Purslow	Mrs Quye	Using similes in narrative writing
Tyler Winter	Mrs Carr	Notes are always so very well presented.
Katie Northwood	Mrs Carr	Her brilliant working scientifically assessment.
Maria Frankel	Mrs Carr	Her fab working scientifically assessment.
Jacob Foster	Mrs Carr	His great answers in the working scientifically assessment

Lily Gregg	Mrs Carr	Great contributions to lessons
Miley Longhurst	Mrs Carr	Her great work on the working scientifically assessment
Sophie Lycett	Mrs Carr	Her excellent work on the working scientifically assessment
Reigan Pugh	Mrs Carr	Her excellent work on the working scientifically assessment

KS4 Nominations

Student Name	Nominated by	Reason for Nomination
Clara Powis	Mr Bird	For helping at the Year 7 Progress Evening
Poppy Cumberlidge	Mr Bird	For helping at the Year 7 Progress Evening
Isabelle Hill	Miss Evans	For always doing as expected (both in terms of classwork and homework) without ever causing a fuss. It is lovely to see Isabelle starting to believe in herself and she is beginning to have the confidence to contribute more. Well done Isabelle!
Roisin Wilkes	Miss Evans	Roisin's commitment is exemplary- she has asked to catch up on the work she has missed whilst ill on top of completing homework. Roisin also shared an incredibly perceptive idea regarding an interesting simile in the poem 'Poppies'. Well done Roisin!
Darragh Frith	Miss Evans	Darragh's analytical writing has improved massively. He attained a high grade 6 in his recent poetry essay. Well done Darragh- keep up the fabulous work!
Maria Louro	Miss Evans	Putting together a presentation to show to our form on the Portuguese dictatorship that lasted between 1932 and 1974 to raise awareness of this topic that many people are unaware of.
Finley Boulton	Mrs Williams	For hard work and perseverance on his work with surds this week.
Summer Jones	Mrs Williams	For an excellent unit of work on quadratic equations.
Toby Williams	Mr Seager	Toby has a wonderful attitude to learning. He is working really well in class and displaying a very good understanding of the poems we are currently studying in class. Well done Toby!
Isabel Strelitz	Mr Seager	Isabel is displaying a wonderful attitude to learning in English. She is working really well in class and showing an excellent understanding of the texts we are currently studying in class. Well done Isabel!
Isla Burgoyne	Mrs Carr	Achieving above target in Biology assessment
Poppy Carr	Mrs Carr	Achieving above target in Biology assessment
Harry Cummins	Mrs Carr	Achieving above target in Biology assessment
Hadassa Scurtu	Mrs Carr	Achieving above target in Biology assessment
Ben Watkiss	Mrs Carr	Achieving above target in Biology assessment



Music News

Stretton School Big String
Project

Thursday

12.45 - 1.15

FREE tuition & instrument loan

Book your place with Miss Chapman



Piano Accordion Band

Starting on Wednesday 21st February

3.30 - 4.30



Tuition and loan of a piano accordion to take home

FREE!!!

Please see Miss Chapman to book your place

What's on In Music – 05/02/24

Monday Lunch time – Guitar Club for beginners and more advanced players

Monday after school – Monday Night Noise – new bands welcome!

Tuesday Lunch time – Band rehearsals – all bands welcome

Tuesday after school – High School Musical rehearsal (B9)

Wednesday Lunch time – Stretton School Singers – new members welcome

Wednesday after school – Band rehearsals – new bands welcome

Thursday Lunch time – Stretton 'Love' Lounge

Thursday after school – High School Musical rehearsal (B9)

Friday lunch time – High School Musical rehearsal (Drama Studio)

Don't forget to collect lunchtime passes for clubs at breaktime. You will not be allowed in without one

Guitar Club

**For students who want to
learn AND who already
play**

Monday lunchtimes

12.45 - 1.15

Music Room – B9

Everyone welcome



Stretton Live Lounge

Thursday 8th February

Featuring:

Abbi Williams
'Rarf Attack'
Year 8 Band



12.45 – 1.15
Music Room

£1 entry



Careers News

Tuesday 6 February

4.45-6.00pm

Rugby Skills Taster Session

SCG London Road Campus, SY2 6PR

Got a passion for Rugby?

A practical rugby session for any year 10 and 11's looking to join a Player Performance Pathway onto our [Level 3 Rugby Education](#) course, or our wider academic offer for any potential rugby players.

These fun after-school sessions will be delivered our Rugby Coach Dale Smallman and other RFU Level 3 course staff and will include specific tactical content to improve development.

For more details email dales@shrewsbury.ac.uk

Book your place at

<https://shrews.co/RugbyTaster>

Routes into STEM Virtual Experience

2023/24

Routes into STEM virtual experience provides an exciting opportunity to explore the various routes you can take towards your STEM career. This course is designed to enable young people to work through activities and projects at their own pace, tour a variety of institutions virtually and also have access to live career sessions and mentor panels with STEM employers.

Who is it for?

- Students in **Year 9 or 10 / S3 or S4 / equivalent** who are interested in exploring a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)
- All you need is an interest in STEM and curiosity about the future. The course is open to all academic abilities

What's involved?

- Approximately 20 hours of study virtually at a pace that suits you
- Exploring different Routes into a STEM career including College Courses, University Courses, and Apprenticeships and learning from industry what is involved in a STEM career as well as enhancing your skills
- Live interactive sessions over the half-term breaks, school holidays and after school, allowing you to listen and ask questions to STEM students and professionals
- Getting to work on a project set by a STEM company to look further at a career area that interests you

What do you get out of it?

- Find out about different Routes into a STEM career from industry experts, college and university leaders, as well as young people who are currently on that path
- Engage in projects and activities that will enhance your problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity and innovation skills and inspire you to find career motivation. Projects include a Biopharm challenge from GSK, a Design challenge from Balfour Beatty, an RSC Chemistry challenge and many more exciting challenges in all areas of STEM.
- Create your own personalised action plan to see your own Route into STEM
- Learn about your career skills and how you could write about this in your CV/ Personal Statement or Application form
- Receive an Industrial Cadets Bronze Award showing all that you have achieved on the course

When is it?

This experience runs from 2 October 2023 until 2 August 2024 **with live sessions running throughout the duration, over the half-term breaks, school holidays and after school**

Cost

£75

If cost is a barrier, fully funded places are available, please indicate your interest on the application form

How to apply?

To apply, please visit our website [here](#) or **scan the QR code!**



What previous students have said

"This experience has shown me just how varied STEM is. I know that I can have a career that suits me, no matter my academic merit or personal qualities. I've also heard a lot from people who study and work in STEM, and it has been inspiring and encouraging to hear about their positive experiences and ambitions for the future. Industrial Cadets has also taught me key skills such as problem-solving and communication, which I am eager to apply to my future education and career."

"I've always loved STEM things but I always worried about not being able to make it, but now getting a STEM career seems more achievable."

"Before, I was fixed on a regular plan to go into 6th form, go to you university, and move forward without looking for any non-linear pathway. Routes into STEM has shown me that many of those who end up in STEM careers have not pursued that linear pathway, and this has made me more open to options such as apprenticeships, which I had never considered previously"

94%

of students felt confident about making future career choices following their course

99%

of students felt they know more about the STEM careers opportunities available to them



www.etrust.org.uk



CHANGE TRACKS

Songwriting & Music Production Project

28th - 31st May 2024

- An opportunity to record in a professional studio

- Open to 11 - 18 year olds in Shropshire

- No previous studio or instrument experience required

- Free of charge and coach transport provided

SCAN ME!



**YOUTH
MUSIC**



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

SMS
Shropshire Music Service
TEACHING MUSIC · CHANGING LIVES

 **TELFORD
COLLEGE**

CHANGE TRACKS



Songwriting & Music Production Project

Change Tracks is a songwriting and production project introducing music technology and popular music composition to children and young people (between 11 and 18 years) in Shropshire. This exciting opportunity requires no previous studio or songwriting experience.

The workshops take place on:

Tuesday 28th May
Wednesday 29th May
Thursday 30th May
Friday 31st May


TIME: 10AM - 4PM
COST: Free of charge


The first two dates will be held at the SMS centre in Bayston Hill (Longmeadow, Shrewsbury, SY3 0NU). These sessions will cover lyric writing, the fundamentals of songwriting and pre-production.

The final two dates will be delivered at Telford College's industry-standard recording studios, where attendees will be introduced to tracking, mixing and mastering - ending the week with a fully mixed track!

Attendees who sign up for Change Tracks need to attend for the whole week. Coach travel to the college is provided. Please note, lunch is not provided.

 01743 874145

 admin@shropshiremusicservice.org.uk

 www.shropshiremusicservice.org.uk/services/workshops-and-events



**YOUTH
MUSIC**



Supported using public funding by

**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

SMS
Shropshire Music Service
TEACHING MUSIC - CHANGING LIVES

 **TELFORD
COLLEGE**

VISIT OUR TASTER DAYS



WOULD YOU LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT APPRENTICESHIPS AND WHETHER IT'S THE RIGHT ROUTE FOR YOU?

Visit our Apprenticeship Taster Days to allow you to fully explore the apprenticeship route.

By the end of the Taster Day you will have gained key skills, knowledge and understanding to enable you to make a more informed choice. The day will support and develop your skills and knowledge across the range of sectors within Engineering and Manufacturing.

RESERVE YOUR PLACE AT OUR
UPCOMING TASTER DAYS

ALDRIDGE

Tuesday 13th Feb
9.00am – 2.30pm

TELFORD

Thursday 15th Feb
9.00am – 2.30pm

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR PLACE](#)



**FUTURE
PROOF
YOUR
CAREER
WITH AN**

APPRENTICESHIP



Visit our world class state-of-the-art Training Facilities and gain an insight into the benefits of an engineering apprenticeship!



**RESERVE YOUR PLACE AT
OUR UPCOMING OPEN DAYS**

ALDRIDGE

Saturday 10th Feb
10.00am – 2.00pm

TELFORD

Wednesday 14th Feb
10.00am – 2.00pm

- Take a tour of the training academy
- Talk to our recruitment team
- Discuss our fantastic vacancies
- Apply via our easy step application form
- Talk to tutors and apprentices
- Talk to companies about their current vacancies

CLICK [HERE](#) TO BOOK YOUR PLACE