

11th September 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to this edition of the Link following a full Monday - Friday week in school for students. It was fantastic to welcome all of our students on Thursday last week, in full school uniform and fully equipped for learning. In particular, our Year 7 students have settled extremely well and hopefully any initial nerves are beginning to subside, new friends are being made and new experiences enjoyed. Thank you, therefore, to you as parents and carers for your support in ensuring students are ready for school, including making sure that they have all the additional equipment that we are unable to provide for their use e.g. glue stick, scissors, scientific calculator etc.

I must say that all of our students have been fantastic, working within the new systems and routines to keep each other safe and quickly getting back into the spirit of learning with their teachers. As we put the plans for full re-opening into practice, we will be making some slight adjustments to how we do things to iron out the wrinkles. Students are informed daily, through the period 1 student briefing slide displayed on the classroom screen so that they know what changes are being made and can ask questions if unsure.

Unfortunately, the pandemic continues to impact on how we do things, in particular where we would normally welcome visitors and gatherings of adults into the school building. In terms of school events forthcoming, we would normally be planning for our Open Evening / Morning. However, the current pandemic has meant that schools have had to consider whether this is the right thing to do this year. The safety of our young people is paramount and having large groups of pupils and parents attending open evenings increases the risk of transmitting the COVID19 virus. Therefore, Shropshire mainstream secondary schools have all agreed that open evenings or open morning tours will not take place in the way that they have in previous years. This does not mean that we will not be sharing as much information as we can about our fantastic school, but it will likely be through 'virtual' means and information through our website. This is certainly not how we would intend for prospective parents to 'see' our school, but in the circumstances, the safest way. A letter has been sent to all primary schools to distribute from the Principal Education Improvement Adviser of the Education Improvement Service.

Finally, we are, of course, very mindful of the concerns that you may have as parents/carers when making a decision about sending your child in to school if they are feeling unwell. We are here to listen and advise as best as possible and although we are not medical clinicians, we are able to discuss any queries if you are unsure. However, if your child does show symptoms that you feel may indicate that it could be Coronavirus, please do not send them in to school. You should contact us to inform us and then [follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed Coronavirus \(COVID 19\) infection](#). We are also aware that in children, there may be other less typical symptoms that have been identified as possible indicators of Coronavirus. These include diarrhoea, nausea/vomiting, headache, sore throat and fatigue. Unfortunately, these are also symptoms of other ailments which are not Covid 19, so making the decision about how to respond is very difficult. We are not saying that if your child develops one of these less typical symptoms that they should not attend school. However, should your child develop two or more of these less typical symptoms whilst in school, if we cannot account for the symptoms e.g. headache due to not having had enough fluids, we may contact you to collect your child and discuss how to proceed. Please do consider this if your child becomes unwell before coming to school. Many thanks, therefore, for your ongoing support. We hope that you have an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

Best wishes

John Parr

Headteacher.

Library Book Amnesty



We are running a library book amnesty . Please could we ask all pupils to check under beds, personal bookshelves and school bags to see if they have any library books that haven't been returned. There will be no fines. There will boxes in their designated zones to leave the books in. Many thanks for your help.

Face Coverings

Please can you ensure that your child has a plastic bag which can be sealed to store their face covering when it is not being used.

PHSE curriculum information

Please can we ask you to keep an eye out for an email sent out this week regarding the proposed PHSE curriculum for year 7- 11. If you have any questions please email
martyn.longhurst@cssschool.co.uk

Thank you.....

We have been very pleased by how well students have returned to school. They have adapted to the new systems with such a positive attitude. They have conducted themselves in a mature manner, which has been greatly appreciated. We would just ask that you remind your child that they must not share their mask with other students.

Thank you.

Mr Longhurst

Bob goes 'hands free'

Thank you to Mr Orme (Wenlock Water) who kindly adapted Bob the bottle filler so that students and staff can use foot pedal switches to fill their water bottle. With Covid 19 in mind, this has helped reduce touch points and keep the water flowing.

Thank you!



Homework timetable and assessments

Students and staff have shown fantastic levels of resilience as they have worked towards becoming accustomed to the new ways of learning and working within school. As we all settle into our new routines, we can begin to integrate the elements of the old routines that are such an important part of students' learning. Homework is a powerful way of checking and embedding the new skills and learning that has taken place in the classroom. Staff are working tirelessly to diagnose the gaps that may have developed in students' understanding as a result of the time they were not in school during the lockdown. Staff will be using homework tasks to help fill these gaps, assess how students are progressing towards their targets and then providing further tailored intervention to allow all students to catch up.

The homework timetable has been developed, and is being carefully checked by each department, to make sure that it fits with planned 'closing the gap' activities and assessments, without overburdening students. The final homework timetable will be published in next week's Link, as well as on the school website, to allow students and staff to plan for homework tasks. In the meantime, departments will be setting long term revision tasks that will help students to prepare for the upcoming end of year assessments, which were missed as a result of the lockdown, catch up assessments, which will allow teaching staff to identify whether students are progressing towards their targets and baseline tests, which will assess students' prior learning as they begin a new Key Stage. These assessments will take place during the first half term and the homework tasks will give students ample time to prepare for the assessments, we will also be revisiting lockdown work in class and giving students a chance to ask questions and review this work if they are unsure.

ICT access at home

To ensure that we are fully prepared for any possible future local or national lockdown we would like to survey access at home. All results will be dealt with confidentially and will allow us to plan our home learning provision to ensure all students are appropriately supported. Please follow this [link](#) to share your thoughts with us.

Little Princess Trust

A huge well done to Grace Daglish in year 9. She has been raising money for The Little Princess Trust who make wigs for children with cancer, and has also had a lot of her hair chopped off to donate so they can use her hair to make wigs. We are still collecting donations to the end of the month but so far she has raised £897.





Key Stage 4 Student of the Week



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

Caradoc:

Lydia Naylor

Nominated by Miss Sollars for the excellent contributions to the lesson

Hazler:

Fenn Bartlett-Garrard

Nominated by Mrs Mackechnie for an outstanding start to Year 11

Lawley:

Phoebe Watkins

Nominated by Mrs Profitt and Mrs Mackechnie for an outstanding start to Year 11

Ragleth:

Ed Nockolds

Nominated Mrs Bowler for being the first to finish a tricky challenge question.

Look out for Key Stage 3 next week!



This week's nominations:

Nominated by	Student	Reason
Mr Clarkson	Ellie Price	Focused revision work in Physics
Mrs Mackechnie	Elliot Thomas	Regular contributions to lessons
	Phoebe Watkins	Outstanding start to Year 11
	Fenn Bartlett-Garrard	Outstanding start to Year 11
	Annie Cleaver	Outstanding start to Year 11
	Jay Durant	Outstanding start to Year 11
	Phoebe Smith	Spotting my mistake and arguing the point!
Mrs Bowler	Rebecca McFarlane	Solving a maths super challenge question
	Ed Nockolds	First to complete a challenge question in maths
Miss Sollars	Seb Rees	Excellent contributions to class discussion
	Jessie Nicholas	Excellent contributions to class discussion
	Elliot Thomas	Excellent contributions to class discussion
	David Jones	Excellent contributions to class discussion
	Ellie Brown	Excellent contributions to class discussion
	Jack Sankey	Excellent contributions to class discussion
	Lydia Naylor	Excellent contributions to class discussion
	Carl Allison	Excellent contributions to class discussion
Mrs Profitt	Ruari Frankel	Excellent start to GCSE French
	Laura Brian	Excellent Start to GCSE French
	Edward Bowen	Excellent start to GCSE French
	Phoebe Watkins	Excellent start to Year 11
	Dan Terrill	Excellent start to Year 11
	Luke Matthews	Excellent start to Year 11
	Rebecca McFarlane	Excellent start to Year 11 French

Open Events Colleges and Training Providers 2020-21

Shrewsbury Colleges Group

Booking essential

A levels and Vocational Art Courses @

English and Welsh Bridge Campuses

Tuesday 13th October 2020 4:15pm – 8:00pm

Wednesday 21st October 2020 4:15pm -8:00pm

Vocational courses@

London Road Campus

Thursday 5th November 2020 4:15pm – 8:00pm

North Shropshire College

Physical tours outlined below. Virtual tours also available

Oswestry Campus

Wednesday 17th October 2020 5:00pm-7:00pm

Wednesday 10th February 2021 5:00pm -7:00pm

Wednesday 16th June 2021 5:00pm – 7:00pm

Walford Campus

Saturday 17th October 2020 10:00am -12:00pm

Saturday 6th February 2021 10:00am – 12:00pm

Saturday 19th June 2021 10:00am -12:00pm

Hereford 6th Form College

Physical open evenings will happen on the dates below. No booking required at the moment. No times have been announced as yet.

Wednesday 21st October 2020

Saturday 6th February 2021

Thursday 29th April 2021

Herefordshire College

Physical Tours on the following dates. No booking needed at the moment.

Hereford Campus

Tuesday 10th November 2020 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Wednesday 20th January 2021 4:30pm – 7:00pm

Thursday 10th March 2021 4:30pm -7:00pm

Hartpury College

Virtual Tours but on set days. Places need to be booked.

Times to be announced. See website.

Saturday 17th October 2020

Saturday 14th November 2020

Saturday 12th December

Marches Centre of Manufacturing and Technology

Apprenticeship centre for engineering and related trades based in Bridgnorth but working across the county.

A Virtual Pre Apprenticeship Week is happening during Autumn Half Term 26th -30th October 2020. This will give information about various roles as well as the work involved. An email explaining this will go out to Yr10 and 11 students and families, along with the process for booking a place with them.

Ludlow College

A virtual tour is on offer on the website but the following days are available for physical tours. No booking required at the moment.

Thursday 1st October 2020 5:00pm- 7:30pm

Tuesday 12th January 2021 5:00pm – 7:30pm

Saturday 6th March 2021 10:00am - 12:00pm

Useful websites

Start Profile – the website the school use for Careers investigation and logging of careers activities. Each student has a profile. Parents can also log in as a guest. <https://www.startprofile.com/>

Skillsbuilder – an education company working with the school to help students develop the 8 essential skills for work. Recognised by the Careers and Enterprise Company and major employers. <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/>

National Careers Service. A national government Careers Information, Advice and Guidance platform which, like Start helps with careers investigation. Personality profiles and really good links to professional and trade bodies for more information. <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

Find An Apprenticeship. A national government service helping Yr11 students (and ages above) search for apprenticeship opportunities in the local area and beyond. Applications forms can also be completed through this platforms as well. <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Reed.co.uk

An independent private company. A search engine for apprenticeship opportunities nationwide <https://www.reed.co.uk/jobs/apprenticeships>

UCAS. The University and College Admissions Service. This service helps students apply to University. Though our students are a few off from needing this, UCAS will show what A levels and other qualifications are needed to apply for various degree course. There are also useful information about gap years and degree level apprenticeships. <https://wwwucas.com/>

Medical Schools Council. The professional bodies for medical schools across the UK. Details the process to enter medicine specifically becoming a doctor, the requirements at post 16 and additional testing and work experience needed for the profession. <https://www.medschools.ac.uk/>

Hereford College of Arts

Virtual tours at the moment. Places need to be booked.

Saturday 10th October 2020 10:00am

Monday 9th November 2020 6:00pm

Tuesday 1st December 2020 6:00pm

Holme Lacy Campus (Land based)

Saturday 14th November 2020 10:00am -12:00pm

Saturday 23rd January 10:00am -12:00pm

Wednesday 10th March 4:00pm -7:00pm

Reaseheath College

Virtual open days at the moment. Go directly to the website.

Further Education College websites

Shrewsbury Colleges Group (Shrewsbury 6th Form College and Shrewsbury College) <https://www.scg.ac.uk/>

Hereford 6th Form College <https://www.hereford.ac.uk/>

Ludlow College <https://www.ludlow-college.ac.uk/>

Reaseheath College <https://www.reaseheath.ac.uk/>

Hereford College of Art <https://www.hca.ac.uk/>

North Shropshire College (Oswestry and Walford Campuses) <https://www.nsc.ac.uk/>

Hartpury College <https://www.hartpury.ac.uk/college/>

Herefordshire College (Hereford and Holmes Lacy Campuses) <https://www.hlcollege.ac.uk/home>

Training and Apprenticeship providers

Marches Centre of Manufacturing and Technology <https://mcmt-bridgnorth.co.uk/>

County Training <https://www.ctapprenticeships.co.uk/>

SBC Training <https://www.sbc-training.co.uk/>