

Edition 11 : 06/12/24



- *Headteacher Comments*

- *Sleep Out*

- *End of Term Arrangements*

- *Uniform Update*

- *Managing Absence Challenges and the Importance of Attendance*

- *School Development Plan*

- *Calendars and Trips*

- *Christmas Jumper Day*

- *Christmas Dinner*

- *Christmas Concert*

- *BBC Young Reporters Session 6*

- *Win A Christmas Hamper*

- *Notice to Parents/Carers - School Admission Arrangements 2026/27*

- *ECO Club*

- *Medals for Niamh*

- *Lost Property*

- *Wellbeing for School Parents*

- *Computing Work for Year 8*

- *Ski Trip*

- *Disneyland Trip*

- *History Department Trip*

- *Sport at Idsall*

- *Year 10 Football*

- *Netballers- BTEC & GCSE Standardisation*

- *Lower KS2 Dodgeball & Invasion Games*

- *Safeguarding*

- *Contact Information*

Michelle King - Headteacher



This week at Idsall

Sleep Out

This week, we are recovering from the Big Sleep Out, where we raised a significant amount of money for the St Basil's Homelessness charity.

It was a night filled with no sleep, lots of laughter, and meaningful conversations.

Our students were impeccable, taking on the challenge and creating some wonderfully creative cardboard box shelters.

End of Term Arrangements

As we approach the end of term, here are some important dates and events to keep in mind:

- **Shifnal Primary Y6** : Thursday 10th December - joining us for a Christmas lunch
- **Christmas Jumper Day** : Friday, 12th December. Wear your festive jumpers!
- **Christmas Carols at St Andrews Church** : Tuesday 17th December
- **Christmas Dinner Day** : Friday 13th December
- **Non-School Uniform Day** : Friday, 20th December - a £1 donation will be collected for charity

Students will break up for the festive season on Friday, 20th December at 1:30pm to enjoy the holidays with their family and friends.

As we work towards the end of term, please make sure to read the rest of the newsletter for more important reminders and information.

Uniform Update

We wanted to bring to your attention an important update regarding our school uniform policy. While it may not be explicitly stated, page 14 of the planner outlines the acceptable school trousers. Recently, we've noticed a number of students wearing trousers that are shorter than expected, showing their ankles.

To clarify, trousers should be full length with no ankles visible. We also discourage the wearing of ankle socks to ensure compliance with this policy. This update will be reflected on our website soon.

We appreciate your support in ensuring that all students adhere to the uniform policy. If a student is not complying, we will be noting this in their smart log.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Managing Absence Challenges and the Importance of Attendance

We are currently experiencing high levels of absence among both students and staff largely due to the upsurge in winter viruses. This can make maintaining consistency a challenge. Despite this, we are doing our best to ensure every class has a specialist teacher whenever possible. While this isn't always achievable, we regularly employ supply teachers to ensure all lessons are covered.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to stress how important regular attendance is for students. Missing lessons means missing vital learning and knowledge that can be hard to catch up on later. Attending school every day helps ensure students stay on track and reach their full potential.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we navigate these challenging times together.

School Development Plan

Idsall School Development Priorities 2024-25

 People First	 Anytime, Anywhere Learning	 Belonging	 Working today to protect tomorrow
 We offer High quality training investment	 Adaptive teaching is evident in all lessons	 Enrichment is accessed by all	 We are a first-choice school & employer
 We support a healthy workload balance	 Effective assessment is embedded in every classroom	 The voice of students and parents inform decisions	 The sixth form grows with a creative offer to all students
 Everyone has a voice	 The progress Gap is narrowing	 There is a strong culture of celebration & rewards	 All students have positive next steps
 Learning for life supports learning opportunities	 The needs of ALL students are met	 Tutor time & PSHE supports preparation for adult life	 Our vision: Great oaks from little acorns grow Our values: 

We are excited to share with you our new one-page School Development Plan for the upcoming year.

This plan outlines our key priorities and goals, reflecting our commitment to providing the best possible educational experience for our students.

Our focus areas include enhancing academic achievement, fostering a supportive and inclusive school environment, and strengthening our community partnerships.

We believe that by concentrating on these areas, we can create a vibrant and dynamic learning environment where every student can thrive.

Calendar and Trips



- Tue 10th Dec : Local Primary School at Idsall Christmas Lunch
- Thu 12th Dec : Year 11 Parents Evening
- Fri 13th Dec : School Christmas Lunch
- Fri 13th Dec : Christmas Jumper Day
- Tue 17th Dec : Christmas Concert at St Andrews Church
- Fri 20th Dec : Break up for Christmas Holidays
- Mon 6th Jan : Spring Term Starts

TRIPS

We are presently putting together potential / already in process trips for :

- Year 10 & 11 - Wolverhampton Grand Theatre Trip for Performing Arts Students to see Warhorse (20 March 2025)
- Year 7 & 8 - France Disneyland Paris and Paris <https://www.idsallschool.org/disneyland-paris-trip-presentation/> (April 2025)
- Year 8 - PGL (May 2025)
- Year 9 - France and Belgium Battlefields Trip (May 2025)

- Year 8 & 9 - Las Vegas Geography Trip (see Mrs Green in G3 for more information) (October 2026) <https://www.idsallschool.org/las-vegas-trip-presentation/>
- Year 10, 11 & 12 - Kenya Expedition (see Mr Pittam in G2 for more information) (Summer 2026)

Christmas Jumper Day

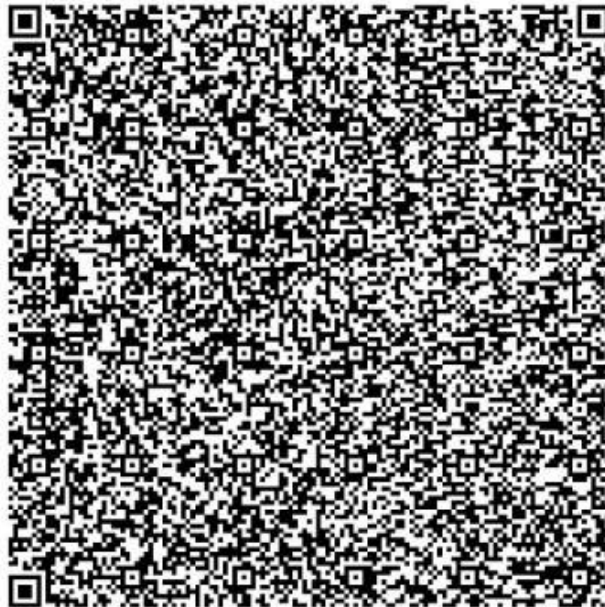


On Friday 13th December, staff and students at Idsall are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper instead of **school blazer (only)** for a £1.00 donation (information has been sent out in a letter).

The money raised goes to Save the Children, by taking part we'll be helping kids who don't have the basics they need to survive – like food, school or medicine – to start seeing the magic in the world again.

So whether you buy one, wear a vintage one, decorate an existing jumper or knit your own help us raise some money for an excellent cause and ditch the blazer for a day!

CHRISTMAS JUMPER Day



Christmas Dinner



Friday 13th December is Idsall's annual "**Christmas Dinner Day**".

MENU

Christmas Turkey and all the trimmings

- stuffing, pigs in blankets, roast potatoes, sprouts, carrots, peas, gravy and cranberry sauce

Vegetarian

- Mushroom, leek and pea wellington with all the above trimmings

*** Gluten free available - just ask at service **

Usual cost £2.40 a main meal

or for an extra 10p add a pudding £2.50!

*** **BARGAIN** ****

Puddings are : christmas pudding or mince pie or chocolate cake and custard!

PLEASE BE AWARE

There will be no breacktime food available either at the canteen or at the deli bars.

Lunchtime the only other provision is the deli bar will be open as usual for alternative sandwiches / baguettes / wraps.

Christmas Concert

A vertical poster for a Christmas concert. The background is a gradient of blue, decorated with white musical notes, snowflakes, and a stylized Christmas tree. At the bottom, there is a white box containing ticket prices. The text is centered and uses various font sizes and weights to create a hierarchy of information.

Idsall Music Concert
Tuesday 17th December
St Andrew's Church,
Shifnal
7pm start
(Doors open 6.30pm)

Adult Ticket	£3.50
Child / Concession Ticket	£2.00
Family (2 Adult & 2 Concession)	£8.00

BBC Young Reporters Session 6

"BBC Young Reporter is the BBC's media literacy project supporting young people to develop content creation skills and find out about careers in broadcasting."



The BBC Young Reporter works in partnership with schools, colleges, youth organisations and charities to provide young people, aged 11 to 18, with the skills they need to create and understand the media.

Schools and organisations that take part benefit from access to exclusive events, training and resources, as well as mentoring and career talks from BBC staff and journalists.

Here at Idsall we run a BBC Young Reporter Session 6 on a Tuesday Week A (this has changed from Monday).

If you want to find out more, speak to Ms Donohue - the session 6 is in room BA1

Everyone is welcome!

Win A Christmas Hamper



This is a request from the kitchen!

As of next week there will be a Christmas hamper of goodies that they are raffling off in aid of Aramark's charity. This is a charity that the kitchen team have supported for many years and the hampers are always great!

Tickets will be available from reception if you wish to buy any.

What does the YoungMinds charity do?

- ***We provide young people with the tools to look after their mental health. We empower adults to be the best support they can be to the young people in their lives. And we give young people the space and confidence to get their voices heard and change the world we live in.***



Medals for Niamh



Niamh is an elite kickboxer who competed at WKU world GB OPEN championship where she represented Great Britain.

She did a fantastic job with results of :

Light contact 0 - 12 years F 35.1 - 40.0kg bronze medal

Light contact 0 -12 years F 40.1 - 45kg bronze medal

Points / semi contact 0 - 12 years F 35.1 - 40.0kg bronze medal

Points / semi contact 0- 12 years F 40.1 - 45.0kg silver medal

This is an amazing achievement and congratulations Niamh from everyone at Idsall!

Lost Property



We presently have a lot of lost property at reception including coats, PE kits, uniform items, water bottles etc etc. Regretfully we cannot keep hold of it all.

If your student has come home without something over the last half term, please contact reception.

Anything that is not collected by Thursday 19th December will be either thrown out, taken to charity or given to the *St Basil's – Preventing Youth Homelessness* charity.

Wellbeing for School Parents



Accessible online learning about emotional health & wellbeing is available free to all Shropshire families; the courses are proven to positively impact mental health, behaviour and relationships.

Please visit inourplace.co.uk for more information and to access these free courses.

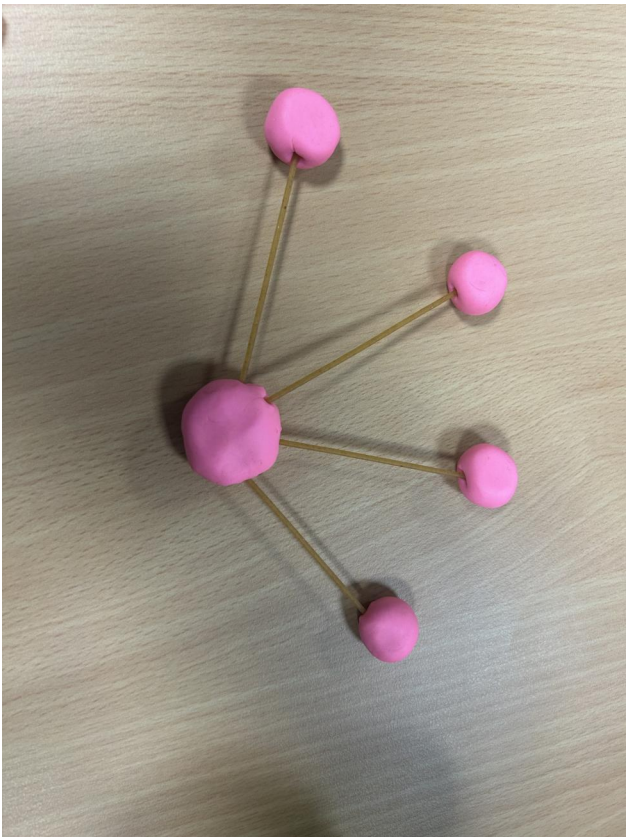
Computing Work for Year 8

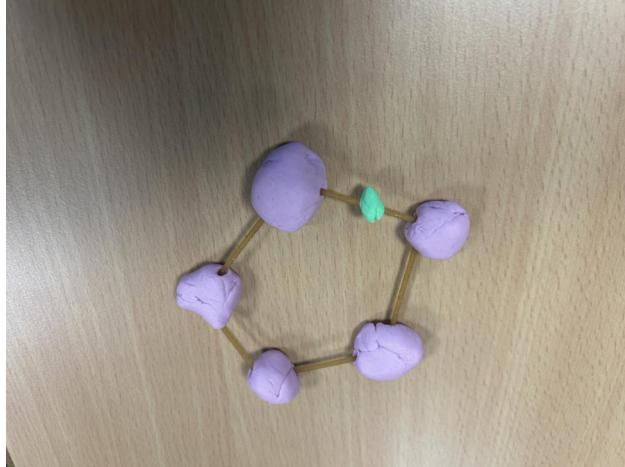
Year 8 Computing students have been re-creating network topology designs they learned about in class, as well as computer hardware, using playdoh and spaghetti.

Some great designs have been created - a big well done to them!

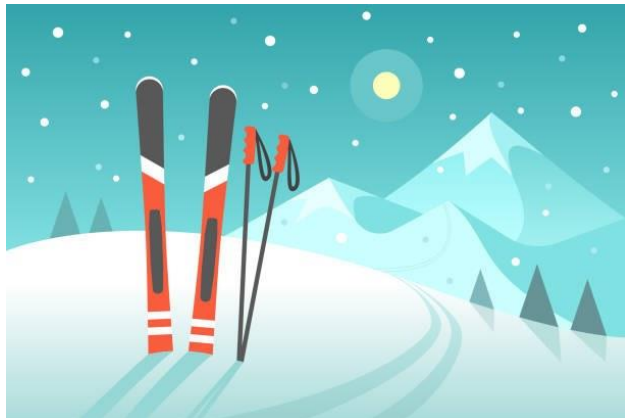
Great display of creativity in the classroom!







Ski Trip



Mr. Goodison held a successful Ski Trip meeting on Wednesday 4th where parents / carers were able to hear about the resort, venues, transport etc.

If your student is going on the trip and you were unable to make the meeting please contact :
phil.goodison@ids.mmat.co.uk

Disneyland Update



Reminder : 2nd Deposit of £215.00 payable by : Thursday 12th December 2024 (Parent-Pay has now been set up)

If you have any questions about the trip please email : cathy.leverington@ids.mmat.co.uk

History Department Trip



The History Department is offering our current Year 9 students the chance to take part in a residential visit to Belgium and France in May 2025. There are places for 40 students on this trip.

By visiting battle sites, museums and cemeteries, students will gain an experience that usual school resources cannot offer. This excursion will enable pupils to develop an understanding of events of the First World War and the nature of warfare.

Invitation letters will shortly be sent out by email. Any further queries, please contact Mrs Strachan/Miss Evans.

Sport at Idsall

Year 10 Football

An amazing performance by Idsall's Year 10 A team against Church Stretton in the County Cup.



Netballers - BTEC & GCSE Standardisation

Tuesday evening saw the Year 11 netballers taking part in a friendly game to allow students to collate video evidence for their GCSE and BTEC qualifications.

They faced a tough opposition from St Dominics school in Wolverhampton.

The girls played well throughout, demonstrating key skills across several different positions throughout the evening.

Thank you to those students who supported by filming their peers. Lovely to see such a team ethic. We will look to repeat this fixture again next term.

Well done to all involved. 😊

Lower KS2 Dodgeball & Invasion Games

On Wednesday 4th December Idsall Sport Leaders alongside Trusted Sports Alliance had the pleasure of hosting a dodgeball tournament and an inclusive invasion games skills event for children in Year 3&4.

We welcomed 50 children from St Andrews and Shifnal Primary School.

5 teams participated in a round robin dodgeball tournament with St Andrews A team winning all of their games and winning the tournament.

This competition has given many children a fun afternoon and helped develop confidence and competence within different sports.

A massive thank you to the 27 sports leaders who gave up their own time to help host this fantastic event. Also to our Staff member Mrs Thompson who helps the leaders to do their jobs as best as they can.

Students are more than welcome to come to leadership meetings and join in on these events on Monday lunch times, in E4 where they all have a meeting and discuss the next leadership events, plans and tips.

Written by Ffion Williams & Charlotte Ives (Year 10)



Safeguarding



This week's safeguarding focus for families, is to share awareness of a "help and support line" provided by Shropshire Council for parents.

Parents can call up to gain non-judgemental support and advice, for free, on topics including child development, sleep behaviour and family life. Please see poster below for more details.

Shropshire Parenting Help and Support Line

01743 250950

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

No judgment, just support.

An illustration of a man and a woman. The woman is holding a smartphone and pointing at it. Above them are several speech bubbles containing the words: Sleep, Child Development, Babies, Teens, Family life, Behaviour, Toddlers, and Tweens. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the illustration area, with the text "Find out more here" and a pink arrow pointing to it.

Shropshire Supporting Families through Early Help

Shropshire Council

Contact us



Coppice Green Lane, Shifnal, Shropshire. TF11 8PD



01952 468400



admin@ids.mmat.co.uk



Idsallschool.org

Michelle King BA MA NPQH NPQEL

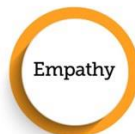
Our values :



Excellence: striving always for mastery and personal success



Integrity: consistently acting with honesty, compassion and respect



Empathy: embracing and supporting the uniqueness of every individual



Creativity: inspiring and challenging through invention, experimentation and exploration



Equality: ensuring fair opportunity for all