

Edition 13 : 20/12/24



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Michelle King - Headteacher



This week at Idsall

End of Term Arrangements

As we reach the end of term, it's the perfect time to reflect on all we've achieved together and celebrate the incredible moments that have defined these past months. From exciting classroom projects to outstanding achievements in sports and the arts, and the impact of our community outreach initiatives, this term has truly been one to remember.

A particular highlight was our wonderful Christmas carol concert. The performances were simply amazing, and it was heartwarming to see the talent, dedication, and festive spirit of our students shining so brightly. Thank you to everyone who participated or supported—it was a magical way to bring our community together.

We recently capped off the year with a special assembly, a time to recognise and applaud the hard work, creativity, and dedication of our students. Their energy and enthusiasm continue to inspire all of us, and we couldn't be prouder of what they've accomplished.

The holiday season offers a much-needed chance to rest, recharge, and perhaps set new goals for the year ahead. Personally, I make New Year's resolutions each year—though, like many of you, I don't always manage to keep them, my intentions are always sincere, and I'm sure many of you can relate!

As we prepare to welcome 2025, I'm reminded of a favourite quote: *"A new year is like a blank notebook. It's your chance to write an amazing story!"* The New Year brings a fresh start with optimism and a shared commitment to make the next chapter even better. School will resume

on **Monday, 6th January 2025**, at the usual time, and we are excited to see everyone back, ready for a term filled with opportunities and new adventures.

Wishing you and your families a joyful **Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year**. Thank you for being such an integral part of our school community. Here's to another year of learning, growing, and achieving together!

Year 11 Mock Exam Success



On Wednesday 18th December we held a rewards assembly for year 11 students who were recognised for their amazing hard work and dedication to their mocks in November. Brilliant success stories for most of our year 11s who increased grades and have attended session 6's in order to do this!

We wanted to praise the year group for their incredible behaviour throughout the mock process - our invigilators have recognised year 11 as being one of the best year groups they have seen in years.

I am very proud of them.

Students were awarded with 'A.C.E' awards as well as Krispy Kremes', cookies, muffins, doughnuts and yum yums!

We have 15 school weeks left before their summer GCSE'S start - as I have said to the year 11's 'time is precious' and being in school, on time to lessons and showing good to outstanding effort in lessons will get them the grades they deserve! Year 11s - have a very Merry Christmas and here's to 2025 with new chapters starting for you as well as me!

Well done all.

Miss Whitehouse



BBC Young Reporters



On Wednesday, the BBC Young Reporter's took part in a national, interactive BBC Bitesize quiz against over 120 schools.

The students placed 33rd and scored a whopping 11362 points.

Hosted by Joe Tasker, the Kahoot game featured photos of celebrities such as Stormzy, Jenna Ortega, Billie Eilish, Charlie XCX and even Lizzo dressed as Marge Simpson! Students had to decipher whether a range of photos and videos were Real or AI and if headlines were Fact or Fake.

The students said that they thoroughly enjoyed it and would love to do it again.

Written by Zara Jenkins - Y10

St Andrews Church Performance

On Tuesday 17th December, the Performing Arts department descended on St. Andrew's church to perform their Christmas concert.

The students performed a range of songs including The Snowman, Never Enough from The Greatest Showman, Gaudete and Silent Night.

Our talented band performed some musical numbers, including Arctic Monkey's 'I bet that you look good on the dancefloor'. There were also performances from KS3 Drama Club, who presented their own original Christmas themed pieces.

The students performed with professionalism and gusto, getting the audience into the Christmas spirit.

The Performing Arts team would like to thank everyone who came and celebrated with us!





Sixth Form Taskmaster

This week has seen rounds 4 and 5 of the Sixth Form Taskmaster Tutor Competition.

Round 4 was the famous 'Gnome Quiz' which ended with an extremely exciting grand final. Only 1 point separated first from second with 6HBA winning in the final round.

Round 5 was the festive challenge, which this year saw students design a Christmas themed tie for Mr Bowler.

After careful deliberation, the winning tie from 6HBA was chosen and is being worn by Mr Bowler today.

Current standings for taskmaster are: 6HBA in first place. 6RST in second place and 6SDU in third place.



Calendar and Trips



- 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)

Trip Updates

Disneyland Paris



Final payment for the Disneyland Trip is due Monday 20th January 2025.

In the new year we will send out a date for a parent / student meeting. This will be around the end of February so watch this space. This is when we have all the finalised information from the tour company.

We have had a couple of students who have had to drop out so if you have student in year 7 or 8 that is interested in the trip please contact cathy.leverington@mmat.co.uk.

Don't forget to put Mickey Ears on the Santa list!

Year 9 Battlefields



Y9 WW1 BATTLEFIELDS TRIP 22-24 MAY – PLACES OPEN FOR BOOKING!

All parents/carers should have received the letter with excursion details and payment schedules.

Please contact Mrs Strachan or Miss Evans for more details.

Ski Trip 2026



Ski trip for 2026 will be announced soon. Final destinations being discussed.

This trip will be open to current year 9 students and upwards.

Watch this space for more information!

Winter Shropshire HAF Programme

Please find below the school Shropshire Winter HAF Codes and information for eligible children and young people.

There are still spaces available at some of the clubs – we are having one final push before the clubs start. I've attached some social media posts, which can be shared and included in newsletters please.

There are still spaces available on the Winter Shropshire HAF programme, at several holiday clubs.

Children and young people aged 4 to 16, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals and those who meet the wider HAF eligibility criteria, can access free places at holiday clubs and activities.

Children and young people will have the chance to socialise with friends, take part in fun and engaging activities, be enjoy delicious food.

Watch the Winter promo film to find out more: <https://youtu.be/r9xWtH1H8jo>



Safeguarding



Shropshire Council have made us aware of some “Understanding Your Child: From Toddler to Teen” courses that are running in the new year.

These courses are run with the aim of supporting parents to meet with other parents, as well as discuss concerns that may include development, sleep, behaviour etc.

Some are specifically focused on children with SEND needs (no diagnosis needed), and some are suitable for all. Some courses are face to face, and others are online via TEAMS. Please see below poster for more details.

If, as a parent, you would like some more support with your child and cannot make these sessions, please to contact Mrs Reeve at school and she can signpost you and support with making referrals to the Early Help team for your local authority (jennie.reeve@ids.mmat.co.uk).

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 one of our free virtual or face-to-face groups, our next groups start:

Understanding Your Child SEND Group Monday 27th January 2025 from 9.15am to 11.15am
at Wilfred Owen School, Shrewsbury, SY2 5SH

Understanding Your Child SEND Group Monday 27th January 2025 from 12.30pm to 2.30pm
Virtually Via MS Teams

Understanding Your Child Group Wednesday 29th January 2025 from 9.30am to 11.30am
at Meole Brace Primary School, Shrewsbury, SY3 9HG

Understanding Your Child Group Friday 31st January 2025 from 9.15am to 11.15am
Virtually Via MS Teams

Understanding Your Child Group Friday 31st January 2025 from 1.15pm to 3.15pm
at Christ Church Primary School, Cressage, SY5 6DHH

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



 Shropshire
Supporting
Families
through Early Help

 Shropshire
Council

Contact us



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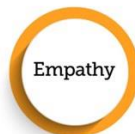
Our values :



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