Severndale Star

Principal's Message

Good afternoon parents and carers

What a wonderful week we have had this week at Severndale. The weather has been amazing and it has been lovely to see classes using the school grounds and getting outdoors more. Unfortunately due to an increase in positive cases last week and the rise in cases locally in Shropshire we had to temporarily halt activities that were going offsite. We are reviewing this on a weekly basis as the cases are still high in Shropshire.

Karen Lavelle and David Shaw

This week we welcomed Karen Lovell and David Shaw into Severndale . Karen is the leader for SEND education and David is the assistant director for education and achievement in Shropshire local authority. They met some of the pupils and we are keen to talk about developments at Severndale since September and also look at how they can support us moving forward into the future.

Parent events

As promised last week please find attached the list of parents events for the next two weeks . Not every class has confirmed their dates and activities yet but they will be sharing these with you early next week so that the necessary arrangements can be made. It is going to be great over the next two weeks to see more parents and carers in the building sharing in what we are doing at Severndale. This will also give you an opportunity to see your children's class friends and spend some time with the class team. We know it has been a long time since this was allowed due to the pandemic and we hope that this will become a regular feature of our academy calendar.

Parent details

Last week we sent out a request for parents sending the details if you had any changes for example a new telephone number or a change of address this could be done via the data capture form or if it is easier you can send this in via email to trudi.queen@severndaleacademy.co.uk

Young carers in Shropshire

Last week we were proud to see Shaira Shah on the front cover of the Shropshire Star with her sister Maria. This was to raise awareness around The Young Carers Service and particularly the charity 'crossroads together'. The website for the organisation is crossroads-together.org.uk. As well as the front cover story there is also a more detailed article inside the newspaper about the topic too. You can also find the link to the article https://www.shropshirestar.com/news/local-hubs/south-shropshire/2022/03/18/a-10-year-old-young-carer-from-whitchurch-has-been-celebrated-for-her-incredible-work-on-young-carers-day-2022/

Shropshire 10-year-old celebrated for her incredible work on Young Carer's Day 2022 | Shropshire StarA 10-year old young carer from North Shropshire has been celebrated as part of a nationwide event to highlight the incredible work of young carers. Maria Shah, 10 from Whitchurch who is a Young ...www.shropshirestar.com

It now only leaves me to wish you all a lovely weekend and I hope you can enjoy the sunshine.

Brian

Severndale Specialist Academy

Taking Part in Discussions

Students in F7 have been taking part in group discussions about their favourite subjects in school and why. They demonstrated positive behaviours, social and personal development skills and enjoyed the different types of interaction with each other.

Bollywood comes to Severndale

Bollywood dancing was on the agenda today for F5, but they had a good warm up first to make sure that they were ready. They enjoyed the energy of the dancing and all the different movements! Watch this space they may even branch out and do a dance for us all to see very soon!

Weekly Shrewsbury Town in the Community Sessions

We are lucky to have Shrewsbury Town in the Community join us every week. One of the sessions this week was for S9 who were linking movement to music and sequencing moves. They also role played the characters in the music (from the Lion King) they pretended to be birds and elephants moving or flying around. Lots of noisy elephants and birds were heard and they moved amazingly.

Severndale
Specialist Academy

Visit From Author of The Autism Friendly Guide to Periods

On Wednesday, Robyn Steward visited Severndale Academy to deliver menstruation and emotion workshops to groups across our three sites. We are very proud of how students participated in discussions and it was lovely to see our young people supporting each other so well. The questions that students asked Robyn were extremely insightful.

It was a privilege to see how comfortable and confident all our students were in front of a visitor and how keen they were to engage in Robyn's sessions.

Students who have already started their periods were brilliant at reassuring other students and encouraged them to speak to them if they had any questions.

If parents and carers would like to hear how their child or young person experienced Robyn's visit, please call or email Debbie South (Family Liaison Officer) on:

01743 563201
debbie.south@severndaleacademy.co.uk

FOS

Friends Of Severndale Present :-

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Picnic

- **Saturday 21st May 2022, 2-4pm at Severndale Specialist Academy.**
- Join FOS to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at a family picnic.
- Come with all the family.
- Bring a picnic and something to sit on as we'll be on the Bus Bay.
- Story-telling from Sally Tonge.
- Music from some familiar faces in school.
- Plus other activities.
- Red, White and Blue optional fancy dress.
- Free admission, but we'd be grateful for any donations to FOS.
- NB Parents/carers must be responsible for their children at all times, for everyone's safety and enjoyment.
- Email fossocialevents@gmail.com for more information.

Sally Tonge

F.O.S. Charity number: 1096455

Severndale Specialist Academy

Futures

Last week Futures students had a great week heading out on public transport and visiting Barclays bank. The students enquired about bank accounts that are suitable for them and were given advice by the branch customer service advisor. They had the opportunity to ask questions and hopefully a representative from Barclays may be able to make a visit to Futures to support students who wish to have a bank account but don't have one yet.

We also visited the post office. We had a group chat about what services the post office offers such as money bureau, travel insurance, banking, applying for a an 'EasyID' card, paying bills and of course posting letters and parcels. A very informative and positive experience for all the students.

The students also really enjoyed the freedom of being able to browse the clothes shops and stop off at a café for refreshments in the Darwin centre.

Some students have been donating items for the Ukraine refugees and have brought them into the centre so that they can be collected. Thank you to all of those students who donated any items.

Outside Play at Severndale

This week the weather has been so beautiful our students have really enjoyed their time outside in the fresh air at break time. They have been busy in sandpits, on climbing frames, playing games, running and relaxing with their friends and staff.

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EASTER EVENTS WK 4TH APRIL – 8TH APRIL

	MONDAY 4TH APRIL	TUESDAY 5TH APRIL	WEDNESDAY 6TH APRIL	THURSDAY 7TH APRIL	FRIDAY 8TH APRIL
AM			S11 – ART SHOW 10AM S10 – Egg Hunt and parent snacks	F7 Stagecoach collaborative dance session – Drama studio 10:45 – 11:45am	
PM	SIXTH FORM MEXICAN EVENING 5-7PM S1 CAROUSEL EASTER ACTIVITIES WITH EGG HUNT – 2PM S3 Easter event - 2pm	P10 Share Easter sensory story and craft activity in P10 – 1:30pm S2 Easter Event 2-3pm	FUTURES SHOWCASE INDEPENDENT LIVING +AFTERNOON TEA 2PM F6 REFRESHMENTS IN CLASS FOLLOWED BY SHOWCASE STAGECOACH IN DRAMA ST 1:30-2:20PM F3 – AS ABOVE DRAMA FIRST REFRESHMENTS AFTER S4 – afternoon tea 2:00pm S12 Sports, dance, cake in the sports hall 2pm P3 and P5 - 2pm P4 – EASTER WORKSHOP PUPIL LED PARENT ACTIVITIES 2pm P9 – SENSORY STORY & SPRING DANCE MESSAGE IN CLASS 2PM P13/14 EASTER THEMED WORKSHOP LOWER HALL – 2PM P12 Afternoon Tea & cake for parents with Sensory Stories – 2pm EYFS – Easter Extravaganza & Egg Hunt in the rainforest garden 2-3pm	F4 Easter Bingo in class 2pm F5 Easter Bingo in Class 2pm P1 Easter Egg Hunt – 2pm P11 Easter sensory story on the sail playground and activities in class 2pm S5 – Afternoon tea in class 2pm EYFS – Easter Extravaganza & Egg Hunt in the rainforest garden 2-3pm	S9 EASTER EGG HUNT 2PM P6 Easter Themed afternoon tea – 2pm MW 1,2 & 3 – Easter themed school fare to raise funds for the Ukraine 1:30pm P8 – Easter event on Sixth Form playground (TBC) 2-3pm P7 Drama studio – Easter Celebration assembly - 2pm

Severndale
Specialist Academy

Staff Spotlight

This weeks “Staff Spotlight” section is focusing on and all about Gareth…

Name: Gareth Smith
Job: Assistant Principal

What does this involve?
I talk to parents, support students across the school and oversee the student progress data. I am a deputy designated safeguarding lead, specialising in supporting pre-verbal students. I am also one of the schools Makaton Tutors.

What do I enjoy outside of school?
I have lots of hobbies; photography, running, playing music and riding my bike on long camping adventures. A few years ago I rode all the way from Brussels in Belgium to Nice in the South of France, that’s over 1000km!

Please tell us something interesting about you?
When I left university, I ran a recording studio in Cardiff and recorded radio sessions for Mumford and Sons and alt-j. I moved to London to undertake my teacher training ten years ago and have loved everyday of it. I have always taught in special schools and use Makaton and music to motivate communication.

Here you can meet the staff in our newsletter and this will allow everyone to find out more about the people who work at Severndale.

What’s happening this term!

Last day before Easter Friday 8 April 2022
First day back after Easter Monday 25 April 2022
May Day Holiday Monday 2 May 2022
Last day before May Half Term Friday 27 May 2022
First day back after May Half Term Monday 6 June 2022

Dates Coming up...

Contact us on:
maria.whittaker@severndaleacademy.co.uk
01743 563287