PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Severndale Academy

24/10/25

THIS WEEK'S UPDATE

Dear Families,

As we once again come to the end of a great half-term, we look ahead to the prospect of Christmas planning on the horizon when we return.

One of the big events for Key Stage 2 this half term was our focused work on the NSPCC Talk PANTS Campaign, and a celebrity visit from Pantosaurus!

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages.
Download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pantsguides

Our classes prepared thoroughly for the visit, learning the Makaton and campaign song. We are very proud of our learners for participating so beautifully, and learning more about how to keep themselves safe.

Please take a few minutes to read the following pages about Harvest donations, our academy development plan and achievements, and the 'Understanding Your Child' course held at Monkmoor campus.
Don't forget that if you have a question, query, grumble or praise, please contact your child's teacher, Department Co-ordinator, AP, VP or me! We are all here to listen when you need us.

Important Dates for Your Diary

November

- Monday 10th November – Anti-Bullying week – Odd Socks Day
- Monday 10th November – Parents Evening - In person
- Tuesday 11th November – Parents Evening – Virtual
- Friday 14th November – Children in Need.

December

- Weeks beginning 8th and 15th December – Christmas parent events – Foundation & Key Stage 2, 3 & Post 14
- Wednesday 10th December – Futures Christmas Market
- Thursday 11th December – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day.

Harvest Food Bank Donations

We're collecting donations for our school food bank:

Tinned and Canned Goods

- Baked beans
- Tinned soup
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned meat
- Tinned fish

Cong-Cife Items

- UHT milk
- Cong-life custard/rice pudding
- Tea bags / instant coffee
- Hot chocolate

Dry Goods

- Pasta
- Rice
- Noodles
- Instant mash
- Cereal
- Porridge oats

Snacks & Treats

- Biscuits
- Crackers
- Snack bars
- Chocolate or sweets

Toiletries & Household Items

- Soap
- Toothpaste / toothbrushes
- Shampoo
- Shower gel
- Toilet roll
- Washing up liquid
- Sanitary products

Please send in any items in the first week back after half term

What have we achieved together in 24/25? (Families Version)
Ofsted agreed that we are a GOOD School in all areas!

Quality of Education

-Introduced EvidenceMe successfully with excellent parent engagement.

-New CPD for staff e.g. Ukulele teaching for music and communication, Liquid Listening and Attention Autism.

-Curriculum Leads developing and refining the curriculum across the school.

-IEPs are monitored and checked termly and present in every classroom.

-Pathway 1 team are collaboratively developing curriculum and practice, showcasing expertise in their field through CPD.

-All curriculum areas are well resourced aligned to long term plans.

Personal Development

-Learners have a broad range of off-site learning opportunities so that they integrate into their local communities

- Enhanced communication by meeting Makaton royalty!

-PfA Outcomes mapped across the key stages 2-5

-Pupil Council led PfA outcomes doc and video to share

- An abundance of moments that make memories, such as the 30 Years of Severndale Celebration

EYFS Focus

- Successful transitions and positive starts for families in Foundation

-Extension of RDA opportunities to all Foundation classes

- Maths redevelopment of curriculum and delivery

Sixth Form Focus

-Preparation for Adulthood is embedded within the curriculum

-Introduced assessment frameworks targeting Futures and 6th Form

-Futures students accessed a timetable to equip them with 'college ready' skills.

-The independent living provision showcases student skills in readiness for adulthood

Behaviour and Attitudes

- Restorative practice and Trauma Informed practice training took place for all staff

-Trained new PBS HLTA in Team Teach Train the Trainer to support whole academy training

-Developed PBS recording practices and coaching models

- Increased Team Teach trained staff, in addition to de-escalation training for all.

-Successfully reduced RPIs across the academy

-Coaching and mentoring model of PBS team supported class teams across the academy

Leadership and Management

-Recruited to Foundation and Post-14 AP roles for Sept 25 starts.

-Elicited responses from staff across school for further school improvement.

-Successfully introduced parent workshops and information sessions.

-Responded to feedback around IEP processes and implemented significant change.

-Staff wellbeing events are fun, successful and well attended.

Safeguarding, Attendance and Disadvantaged Pupils

-Leaders engaged with safer recruitment training, and Lead DSL delivered training to Trust Schools

-Successfully recruited an Attendance Officer

-Continued to expand on Pupil Premium offer of interventions.

-Bespoke interventions and leader support given to ensure positive attendance.

-My Safeguarding curriculum implemented across the academy.

Our Academy Development Plan Objectives 2025-26 (Families Version)

Curriculum, Teaching and Achievement

-To develop the Pathway 1 curriculum with a greater focus on sensory processing and developing engagement and attention.

-To make sure teaching and learning is high quality every day in every class.

-To make sure timetables and planning match, so that learners are accessing all the planned curriculum offer.

Personal Development and Wellbeing

- To introduce the forest school wild passport, strengthening outdoor learning provision for Foundation and Key Stage 2 learners.

-To work with all LCT schools to celebrate every unique learner across the Trust

-To further develop lunchtime clubs across all sites

-To raise the profile of eSafety across the Academy

Inclusion

- To streamline IEP processes to support teacher workload

-To develop a team of outreach experts to support mainstream settings

- To support LCT schools with EHCP processes

Attendance and Behaviour

-To closely monitor attendance patterns and provide targeted interventions

-To further develop the Positive Behaviour Support Team, making sure access to high quality support is available across the whole school

-To further develop Trauma Informed and Restorative practices, supporting teams and learners where dysregulation occurs.

Leadership and Governance

- To develop class based and non-class based support staff through training opportunities and performance management

-To develop parent/carer engagement and learning via workshops, social events and joint projects.

-To collaboratively redevelop the Business Continuity Plan in line with Martyn's Law

Safeguarding

-To redesign the staff induction process to include pre-start and continuous learning via Padlet.

-In line with updated EYFS expectations, to deliver CPD in nutrition, intimate care and Paediatric First Aid across Foundation dept.

- To further enhance exploitation prevention in the curriculum.

Pantosaurus came to visit for the NSPCC Talk PANTS Campaign

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 our free face-to-face group

Understanding Your Child SEND

Wednesday 14th January 2026

10.00am to 12.00pm

Severndale Academy, Monkmoor Campus

Woodcote Way, Shrewsbury, SY2 5SH

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

LITTLE RAINBOWS

SEN SESSIONS

Previous attachment

SAFE, SUPPORTIVE SEN STAY AND PLAY SESSIONS FOR 0-8S

MONKMOOR SCOUT HUT

10-11:30AM

SATURDAYS

Calm, inclusive play environment
Sensory friendly activities
Gentle structure with space to explore
Signed Makaton songs
Story massage
Opportunity to chat and connect with other parents and carers

CONTACT US

Little Rainbows SEN Sessions

@littlerainbowssen