

Welcome

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Welcome to our January newsletter designed to keep you up to date with what is taking place within Severn Academies Educational Trust (SAET).



Students and staff have been involved in some exciting projects so far this term with a wide range of events planned in the coming months. This month, young people across our Trust were involved in a huge variety of enhanced educational experiences, including trips for students from St Bartholomew's and Hartlebury to an art gallery for a drawing masterclass; students from Wilden All Saints spending time with a published sci-fi author; and Stourport Primary students involved in an interactive 'Third Space' project and photography enrichment.

Many congratulations also to students at Baxter College, whose achievements were recognised in a fantastic awards evening hosted by our local British and World Championship cyclist, Scott Beaumont earlier this month.

As always, we hope you enjoy reading about some of the work across our schools in our January newsletter and more about this month's school in focus Stourport Primary Academy.

Thank you for taking the time to read a little more about our schools and our students' successes.

Chris King

**Chief Executive
National Leader of Education**

School in Focus – Stourport Primary Academy



(See page 2)



Congratulations to all Trust schools following recently published performance tables

(See page 4)

Don't forget to check out our Twitter for the latest updates

@SevernAcademies





School in Focus – Stourport Primary Academy

Stourport Primary Academy

This month has been very busy for Stourport Primary - we have lots of budding photographers, a buzz in Year 6, a new build underway and the return of our Crafty Chippies!

Third Space Learning

Every Wednesday a selection of Year 6 students take part in a computing session called Third Space Learning. After last year's success with this package the school signed up for another year. This is a personal one-to-one experience in which the students have their own specialist maths tutor who they speak to through a headset. Third Space Learning has really created a buzz in Year 6.

The sessions led by the specialist tutors adapt the pitch and pace to each individual child. The interactive sessions last 10 weeks and improvements have been noted in their math skills during this time.

Teachers from other schools are welcome to come along to a taster session on Third Space Learning on Wednesday, 27th February from 10:30am to 12:00pm. This event will be free of charge. Contact the school for more information.



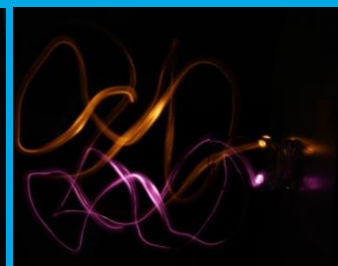
You get instant help.

It helps you nail it!

You learn it in an easy way.



Photography Enrichment



Recently the students took part in Enrichment lessons. These included cooking, Japanese Language, eco, computing, art and much more.

The Enrichment afternoons have expanded with the addition of photography and dance. In photography, the students use our iPads to take photos in the form of portraits, landscapes, forced perspective, product advertising, separating a photo into thirds and learning about camera ISO settings.

In addition to this, they learn about how the use of light can change how a photograph comes out. They also create their own silhouettes. This has proved a very successful addition to our ever expanding programme of Enrichment.

Crafty Chippies inspire trainee teachers!

Feedback from our SCITT trainee teachers following a presentation by the Crafty Chippies at Stourport Primary, who planned and delivered a 15-minute talk about their enrichment programme.

Truly inspirational

I was very impressed

Well done on a fantastic presentation

Wonderful to see how well you all worked as a team



Baxter College Awards Evening

On Thursday 10 January, Baxter College students celebrated their success at the school's annual awards. GCSE and A-level certificates plus a host of awards for individual achievement were presented by guest speaker, British and world champion cyclist Scott Beaumont.

Here's just a few of the award winners; Ella Marshall, who gained 7 grade 9s, 1 grade 8 and an A* at GCSE and is now studying A levels at the school, received the Community Housing Group Award for Achievement and the history award. The Jak Crump Award for Achieving Against the Odds went to year 9 student Carolyn Davies and the Sporting Excellence Award was presented to champion swimmer 15-year-old Nathaniel Crowther.

Jack Blazier was rewarded for not having a day's absence for all his seven years at the school with the Kidderminster Educational Foundation Award for Attendance. Even at primary school, he was only absent for two half days. The Lady Eddy Award for Outstanding Service was presented to retired Kidderminster police inspector and Scout Leader Andy Mackillop for 23 years' service to the school as a governor.

Principal Awards went to Daniel Correia – year 13, Ryan Bishop – year 12, Demi Lloyd – year 11, Jake Whitaker – year 10, Benjamin Weatherstone – year 9, William Edney – year 8, Emily Bloor and Tegan Nightingale – year 7. The Award for Literacy went to year 8 pupil James Ratcliff. More than a dozen students achieved Duke of Edinburgh awards, with silver achieved by Katherine Aston, Katy Cadwallader, Macy Hearn, Joseph Hill, Katie Mann and Charlie-Katie Willott.

Mr Carpenter said:

"It was a great pleasure to celebrate so much success and I am immensely proud of our students and staff here at Baxter College. Scott Beaumont, who lives in Kidderminster, inspired everyone talking about his world of BMX and four-cross cycling and thinking outside the box when it comes to career choices."



Sci-fi Writer at Wilden All Saints

On Monday 14 January, a writing workshop was held at Wilden which sci-fi writer Colin R. Parsons led. The workshop was well attended, including students from St Bartholomew's. Students left the event feeling truly inspired!



Congratulations to Wolverley and Wilden who ranked top 10 in Worcestershire

Well done to pupils in all our primary schools following the recently published validated data from 2018. There were many individual successes in all Trust primaries with pupils extremely well prepared to start their secondary education mentally, physically and academically.

We are very pleased that Wolverley Sebright Primary Academy and Wilden All Saints CE Primary have both been ranked in the top 10 highest performing state primary schools in Worcestershire in The Sunday Times rankings. Recently validated primary school league table data for England identified that an average of 64% of pupils in England met the expected standard last year in reading, writing and maths with 10% meeting the higher standard. Wolverley Sebright came out on top in the County with 94% reaching the expected standard and Wilden All Saints 85% and Hartlebury CE Primary 82%. Moreover, 27% of pupils at Wilden All Saints achieved at a higher standard and 18% at Wolverley Sebright. In reading, Wolverley Sebright were top in Worcestershire and also 'well above average' in maths. Wilden All Saints were 'well above average' in writing alongside Stourport Primary Academy.



Baxter College

Kidderminster foodbank send their sincere thanks for the wonderful donation of 197 kgs of food towards the work of the Kidderminster foodbank. We do appreciate your support towards this worthwhile project for families in crisis. We loved the photo in the shuttle!

Maureen Lewis (Co-ordinator) &
Denise Carson (Treasurer)



Drawing Masterclass at Wolverhampton Art Gallery



On Wednesday 23 January, students from St Bartholomew's and Hartlebury primary were involved in a drawing masterclass held at Wolverhampton Art Gallery. Students focused on drawing free-hand both portrait and landscape, self-portraits showing how the students saw themselves, focusing on areas of the face such as eyes or nose. They then had to draw pieces of art whilst on a tour of the gallery, in small clusters they gathered around different pieces of art to draw their perceptions.



SAET BASKETBALL ACADEMY



SPARTANS
BASKETBALL

For talented basketball players who
are currently in Year 11 from September
2019

Train, play & study at Baxter College
& The Stourport High School VIth Form
College

Quality academic & sporting provision

High level coaching & training

Basketball qualifications

BASKETBALL TRIAL & INFORMATION

STOURPORT HIGH SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY 13/02/19

5:00 PM Basketball Trial: Arrive
ready to play in the state-of-the-
art sports hall

6:00 PM Information Briefing: For
students & parents / academic and
sporting offer

Wednesday afternoon elite basketball
league



THE STOURPORT HIGH SCHOOL
& VIth FORM COLLEGE

SAET Basketball Academy

A new Basketball Academy is to be initiated from September 2019 for students currently in Year 11. A trial and information evening is taking place at Stourport High School on Wednesday 13 February. All talented basketball players are warmly invited to come along to find out more about this exciting opportunity.

Post 16 Success

Congratulations to everyone involved with post 16 education at SHS and Baxter College. There were considerable individual successes within both schools.

Results from the summer place Stourport VIth Form 7th out of 51 sixth forms in Worcestershire for value added which is a fantastic achievement. If you discount independent schools SHS is 3rd in the County. Post 16 provision at both Baxter College and SHS is not just about exam success, although it is important as it opens doors for students and gives them a wide range of options. Students accessing sixth form provision within the trust also receive excellent support and guidance and have the opportunity to access a wide range of activities and experiences that help them in becoming well rounded young adults.

Colleagues at Baxter College are busily preparing to be part of the pilot Ofsted inspections taking place during the spring and summer terms. The school has volunteered to work with Ofsted as they undertake pilot inspections using the new framework in schools around England. This is a great opportunity for Baxter staff to work closely with HMI and an inspection team in a collaborative way, and to receive feedback on the progress the school has made since it was last inspected in 2015. The pilot inspection will take place sometime between March and June.



SHS – SMSC on Uni and Budgeting

On Monday 21 January, students at SHS had a talk from University of Wolverhampton about finance for university and budgeting. This was during SMSC day. As part of this, Year 12 and 13 students were involved in a talk about apprenticeships. Year 13 are taking part in cooking sessions to prepare them for University.



Forest School at Wolverley



Wolverley Sebright's Year 3 Woodpeckers got stuck into imagining they were Stone Age people for the day in their forest school site. They learnt how to light a fire using natural materials, a flint and steel. Then they cooked bread on the open fire, which tasted delicious! They also explored the site and made a shelter using sticks, twigs and leaves.

During the rotation of enrichment, the students have been experiencing Forest Schools. They are loving being so creative in the natural environment and initiating outdoor play.

Hartlebury's Open the Book Workshop

Open the Book takes place during the school's Worship and is run by church volunteers. Every Wednesday morning the volunteers perform stories from the bible with help from the students. They finish each week with a hymn chosen by the team. Reverend Stephen Winter is new to St James' Church and joined Open the Book on Wednesday 16 January 2019. We hope he feels very welcome within our community and school.



Wilden All Saints – Head Boy & Head Girl

Congratulations to the new Head Boy & Head Girl at Wilden All Saints - Edward & Leah. They have just taken over these coveted posts from Jacob and Millie who held them for the duration of the Autumn term. Edward and Leah are excellent role models and have earned great respect from their peers and staff alike. We are looking forward to seeing what they bring to the Leadership team of their school.



Community Ambassadors



Year 10 Community Ambassadors from Baxter College and Stourport High School are committed to supporting other students in dealing with important issues that affect young people. They have had a busy term focusing on issues such as mental health, Halloween and firework safety and encouraged their fellow students to sign their anti-bullying pledge not to accept bullying and to report any bullying they see. As part of the White Ribbon campaign against domestic abuse, our Community Ambassadors gave out white ribbons for students and staff to wear to show their support. They also created a tree of pledges and Community Ambassadors at Stourport High School produced the largest white ribbon in Wyre Forest.

The Community Ambassadors are enthusiastically planning this term's activities such as internet safety, LGBT, coping techniques during exams (part of the Healthy Minds campaign) and the #TellSomeone crime prevention roadshow.

Please take a look at their dedicated website www.communityambassadors.org.uk showcasing the great work being done in our high schools.



Thank you to all who helped Baxter College raise money for the Brain Injury Trust through non-uniform Christmas jumper day.

In total a huge £606.60 was raised for such an important cause.

thank
YOU

Students talk Apprenticeships

On Monday 21 January, Year 12 & 13 students at SHS who are not going to university were involved in a talk on apprenticeships. This was explained as the alternative route to university, enabling qualifications in a work-based environment. Students were keen and engaged, asking questions and seemingly buzzing with excitement for their futures



Conservation Competition

Year 6 students at Hartlebury CE VC designed and painted this wonderful Zebra as part of West Midlands Safari and Leisure Park Conservation Competition.

Well done Year 6. It is truly fabulous!



Stourport cops visit Wilden

The Stourport cops visited Wilden recently and educated Hawks on inclusion, the law, prejudice, crime and promoting positive values in society. Hawks then wrote pledges on how to keep the community happy and safe.



Worship Group at St Bart's



Recently members of the Worship Group: Cassie, Nadine, Libby, Lewis-Lee, George, Rachel, Lincoln and Yazmin led an assembly based on 'The story of Naaman' which links to the school's values. The assembly involved the Worship Group reading some prayers, acting and singing songs. The Worship Group planned what they were going to do beforehand. The rest of the school really enjoyed their performance and, as a school, we were very proud of the confidence the children showed in leading their own act of worship. This term, the Worship Group will be planning and leading an assembly based on the values of compassion and forgiveness.

Worcester Warriors – 'Only Girls Allowed'

A group of year 9 girls from Baxter College attended the Worcester Warriors Stadium for classroom and physical based activities. This was a 7-week programme which focused on communication skills, self-esteem and self-confidence, leadership qualities and team building. The first session was a tour of the Sixways stadium and meeting players. Students and staff alike had lots of fun and tried new activities. Students: Abbie Leigh, Carolyn, Kaci, Caroline, Ellie Louise, Abi, Frankie, Dana, Kayleigh and Ellie.



I have enjoyed the sports, especially rugby. I've developed my ability to get on better with people and work together in a team.

I have enjoyed doing cheerleading and I loved the rugby session. I have gained a lot more confidence in myself. Thank you.

I have enjoyed these past couple of weeks. I've gained a lot more confidence in myself and learned how to work in a team. Thank you.

