

Welcome



Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends,

May I take this opportunity to warmly wish all our young people, families and wider partners within our Trust a safe and enjoyable Christmas break. As always, I have been delighted with the progress our young people have made across our Trust this term and would like to thank all our staff for their hard work and of course all our parents, carers and partners that have supported us in what we do.

Your support over the last week during extreme weather conditions is also particularly appreciated. It is never an easy decision for any of our schools to close and, as you know, our Headteachers and Principals take into account a whole range of factors centred around the number one priority of keeping our children and staff safe. I hope that it has not taken too much away from what is a great time of year for everyone involved in our schools.

The wide range of additional seasonal activities that our young people take part in, be that nativity plays, carol concerts, church services or the support of numerous charities, is a real credit to them and our staff that support them.

All our schools recognise the importance of a broad and enriching curriculum experience that goes beyond strong academic achievement. We all know that all the additional and extra-curricular experiences support the growth and development of our students into well-rounded individuals, so again thank you to our parents/carers in particular that support all these activities.

There is much to look forward to in 2018 to build upon the many opportunities and achievements from this year. From all of us in the Trust we wish you again a safe and enjoyable Christmas break and successful New Year.

Chris King
Chief Executive and National Leader of Education

Worcester Warriors Rugby Partnership

The Stourport High School & Vith Form College is delighted to partner with Worcester Warriors to provide excellent academic and pastoral support to all students on the Achieving Academic and Sporting Excellence (AASE) Programme from September 2018.



From left: Chris King SAET Chief Executive, Ryan Watkins AASE Manager, Ted Hill Warriors player and former AASE student, Lorna Deakin, Principal SHS, Ian James SAET Director of Performance & Partnerships

The AASE Programme is a rugby model for talented 16-18 year olds providing players with the best opportunity to succeed in the next step of their life, be it rugby, university, an apprenticeship or full-time employment. The AASE Programme helps students to optimise and realise their sporting and academic potential.



School in Focus – Wilden All Saints C of E Primary

Wilden All Saints identified as 110th state primary school in England

Wilden All Saints C of E Primary, who joined the Severn Academies Educational Trust family in August 2017, has been ranked amongst the highest performing state primary schools in England in The Sunday Times Parent Power rankings.



Delighted students from different year groups at Wilden All Saints (above)

Schools are ranked by the aggregated average scaled scores achieved by children in reading, grammar and maths from SATs taken in 2016. The Top 250 list identifies Wilden All Saints C of E Primary as 110th from 16,000 primary schools. Scaled scores were introduced in 2016 to replace SATs levels and are reported on a 41-point scale ranging from 80 to 120, with the expected standard set at 100. Wilden All Saints C of E Primary achieved an aggregated score of 329 with scores of 110, 110 and 109 respectively in reading, grammar and maths.

Delighted Headteacher Francesca Fishwick said,

“We are over the moon to have everyone’s hard work and commitment to the children of Wilden recognised in this way. So many people have played a part in enabling this cohort of children to achieve their best: our wonderful, committed staff and governors who go above and beyond on a daily basis to ensure our children have fantastic learning opportunities; parents who support and believe in both the professionals who work here and in the capabilities of their own children; and of course the determination, resilience and growth mind-set of the children themselves. It just shows that when everyone works together towards a shared aim, truly amazing achievements can be made.”

Local author Harriet Goodwin (right) inspiring students including Ellie from Stourport Primary Academy and Elliot from Wilden All Saints



Local author inspires students

Gifted students from local primary schools were inspired to improve their writing skills by local author Harriet Goodwin (above). As part of an ‘Able Writers Day’ at Wilden All Saints on 15th November, students developed their story-telling and use of the written word to improve their work. Harriet developed students’ creative writing including her top tips for a fantastic opening and the components of a good story.

Well done to Wilden Year 6 teacher and English Lead Erin Watkins for organising a very successful and well attended day. Plans are now in place to run an additional day in the summer term to inspire weaker writers too.



Greggs Foundation Environmental Grant

St Bartholomew's CE Primary recently received a grant for £2,000 from the Greggs Foundation to develop a gardening project which will empower students to produce their own food and learn about the environment.

Following a successful Ground Force Day in October, students and staff from St. Bartholomew's continue to work with other schools across the Trust including tree planting and preparing the allotment for the spring.



Newly appointed Global Stars from Wolverley Sebright Primary (above) and a fantastic display of work completed during a week of whole school global events. This was organised superbly by Year 4 teacher Rachel Stiles as a follow up to the Global Learning Day in September.

Land Rover 4 x 4 Challenge

Students from Stourport High and Baxter College are involved in the Jaguar Land Rover 4 x 4 STEM schools competition whereby team members have to work together to design and build a radio controlled four-wheel drive (4 x 4) vehicle to set specifications. The vehicle must be able to successfully negotiate a specially designed test track emulating real life and it must perform as a full scale 4 x 4 vehicle would do in an off-road situation.

Able supported by Baxter College Science teacher Simon Gough and Jaguar Land Rover Mentor Emily Shaw, Year 10 and Year 12 students from both schools are busy preparing for the regional finals at Shirelands Collegiate Academy on 23rd January. Watch this space to see how they get on!



Clockwise from above: 'Staxter' team meeting; Year 10 students Josh Bloomer from 'Nova'; Mentor, Emily Shaw from Jaguar Land Rover supporting students



University visit

Students from Stourport High and Baxter College visited Birmingham City University to explore the world of Visual Communication, gaining an insight into virtual reality, illustration, graphic design and animation.



Year 10 SHS students Maisie Lane and Georgi Tracey (above) and Year 10 Baxter College student Molly Harvey (right).



£100,000 to trade on the stock exchange

As part of the London Institute of Banking and Finance student investor challenge, Post 16 business and economics students from BC6 and SHS have been busy buying and selling shares on the stock market.

The prizes up for grabs include an all-expenses trip to New York and monthly cash prizes for the school and student teams!



Harry Deacon (SHS) and Hugo Sousa (BC6) are currently in the top 400 nationally

Inspiring Lads and Dads



Storyteller, Richard O'Neill, visited Stourport Primary Academy in November and spent the day motivating students across the school and local community. Students were inspired to be creative in their writing as Richard helped them to 'tell their own stories'.

After school over 50 boys were joined by their Dads and Grandads in a fantastic event to encourage support of the school and support of their own sons and grandsons. Plans are in place for Dads and Grandads to not only share their stories but to offer their skills and knowledge for the benefit of the school.

Hartlebury students visit Morgan

Year 6 pupils from Hartlebury CE Primary School enjoyed a great visit to the Morgan Motor Company in Malvern.

