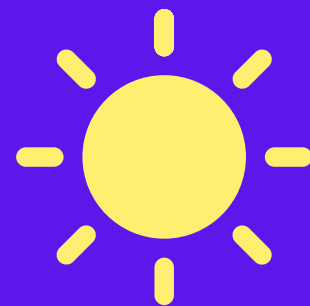




Summer Newsletter 2026

Dear Parent/Carers

Inside this newsletter is a taste of all we have done this summer term. There is a lot more missing and as ever at the end of term there is not enough time to get it all in. We look forward to doing even more next year at the school and continuing to take learning outside of the classroom as well as improving what we are doing in the classroom. Have a wonderful summer and we will see your wonderful children back in the school in September.

Take care

Mr M Stoppard

On 3 June, Mrs Wrafter took eight Year 10 students to Ludlow Junior School for the Creativity Connections Day. The students worked alongside younger pupils on a variety of Art and Design & Technology projects throughout the day. Our students made a very positive impression on both the staff and pupils at Clee View. They were smart, polite and respectful, acting as excellent role models for the younger children. Their enthusiasm for Art and D&T was evident, and they were an absolute delight to work with



On the 26th June, we had our Summer Ball for the Year 11 students. Once again this was held at Ludlow Racecourse, an amazingly beautiful place to celebrate in the sunshine. The venue had been decorated by staff and looked stunning for the evening. Year 11s made their way to the venue in various types of transport and then danced the night away. It was a fantastic end to school for a superb year group who will be fondly missed.

Science Club Summer Term

Our fantastic year 7 scientists have been very busy this term doing lots of interesting experiments, investigations and making scientific things.....

- Making lollipop stick catapults
- Dissecting a fish and fish heads to discover how gills work
- Looking at sound waves using a signal generator, loudspeaker, polystyrene balls and slinky spring.
Making straw gazoos and harmonicas
- Testing for oxygen, hydrogen and carbon dioxide gases
- Making plaster fossils and looking at fossilised dinosaur poo...
- Investigating how our lungs and diaphragm work and making model lungs
- Using pooters to collect insects to study and identifying trees from their leaves

One of the bugs discovered by Archie and Mac:



To mark the end of the exam season, we held a shirt signing on the 12th June. Students were entertained with 5 years of photos from school, showing their time from Year 7 onwards.



Following a month of exams, we did our best to give our Year 11s a memorable send off. They had worked so hard over the last two years, and we also really pushed them with their revision from January. There were extra revision sessions on Fridays after school, whole year group revision sessions in the exam hall and targeted subject revision sessions before exams. They rose to the challenge brilliantly.

On the 24th June, we held the annual Leaver's Day, where the Year 11s arrive to school in fancy dress, have a morning of "alternative" Sports Day and then have a send off from staff in the main hall. This year we had everything from students dressed as bananas to sparkly trolls, the mood was jubilant, and the day was packed with fun. One of the highlights was a special video staff had made, sharing pieces of advice for the future.

Congratulations to Miss Van Den Bergh, who has been selected to represent England at the prestigious Home Nations Regatta on 25th July in London, competing against Scotland, Ireland and Wales. She will be rowing in a mixed double PR3 boat, a fantastic achievement that reflects her dedication and talent. This selection follows her successful acceptance into the Paralympic Pathway Academy, where she now has the opportunity to train alongside athletes with a wide range of disabilities from across the country. It marks an exciting step forward in her rowing journey, and we are incredibly proud of everything she has accomplished so far.

Year 9 London Adventure – June 2026

Our Year 9 students enjoyed an unforgettable overnight trip to London in June, packed with exciting experiences and links to their GCSE English Literature studies.

The adventure began at Shakespeare's Globe, where students discovered what an Elizabethan theatre looked like, learned about 17th-century printing methods, and even tried on costumes worn by actors. A walk along the South Bank followed, taking in famous sights including The Golden Hind, The Shard and London Bridge.

After a delicious meal at Pizza Express on The Strand, students headed to the West End to watch the spectacular Matilda the Musical—a real highlight of the trip. Day two saw students step into the world of Sherlock Holmes with a Thames river cruise, following the route of the dramatic boat chase from The Sign of Four. The trip finished with a ride on the London Eye, offering breathtaking views across the city and bringing Victorian London vividly to life. The visit provided fantastic links to both Macbeth and The Sign of Four, while creating lasting memories for everyone involved. A brilliant time was had by all!



Earlier this year, St Giles organised a charity fundraiser to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital in memory of a former student, Alex Elder. Alex was a much-valued member of St Giles when he was at Ludlow CE School.

We are proud to share that, thanks to the generosity of our school community, we raised an amazing £400 for this wonderful cause.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated raffle prizes and to all those who purchased raffle tickets. Your kindness and support helped make the event a great success and will contribute to the vital work carried out by Birmingham Children's Hospital.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who took part and helped us honour the memory of Alex while supporting children and families in need. Together, we have made a real difference.

Alex's family and friends are organising a fundraising challenge to continue to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital and Alder Hey Children's Hospital. A group of Alex's friends and family will be cycling 170 miles from their home in Ludlow to the Emirates Stadium in London, home of Alex's favourite football team, Arsenal.

If you would like to support their incredible effort and donate, please visit:

<https://gvwhl.com/HXKA1>



Year 10 Students Complete A Silver Industrial Cadet Award at NMITE

Between Monday 29th June and Friday 3rd July, approximately 50 Year 10 students took part in an exciting and rewarding workplace experience programme at the New Model Institute for Technology and Engineering (NMITE) in Hereford.

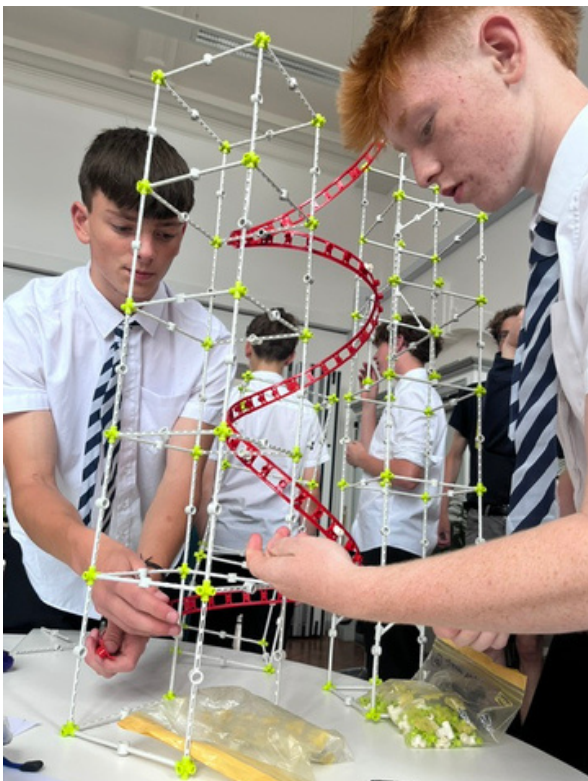
Throughout the week, students had the opportunity to meet a variety of employers and learn more about the skills and qualities that employers value. They explored the difference between hard skills, such as technical knowledge and job-specific abilities, and soft skills, including communication, teamwork, resilience and problem-solving. Students also gained a valuable insight into the opportunities available through apprenticeships and the different pathways that can lead to successful careers.

The programme was packed with a range of engaging and hands-on activities. Students worked collaboratively on problem-solving and team-building challenges, used Ozobots to develop their coding and critical thinking skills, took part in engineering and construction challenges, and designed and tested their own roller coasters. These activities encouraged creativity, innovation and teamwork, while helping students develop key employability skills.

The week culminated in students presenting back to employers and programme leaders, sharing their learning and reflecting on the skills they had developed throughout the programme. They demonstrated increased confidence, professionalism and an excellent understanding of the workplace.

In recognition of their hard work and commitment, all participating students were awarded the Silver Industrial Cadets Award.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to NMITE and EDT (Engineering Development Trust) for providing such an inspiring and successful experience. The programme has equipped our students with valuable skills, increased their awareness of future career opportunities, and given them a fantastic achievement to celebrate. We are incredibly proud of everything they accomplished during the week



The Language Leaders have had a busy term! In May they welcomed French visitors from Ludlow Twinning Committee to school. After meeting them at the Brewery for their arrival, the Language Leaders hosted an afternoon of school tours, afternoon tea and rounders with some of our Year 7s. They gave our French visitors a very British experience and a lovely afternoon.

More recently the Language Leaders have been working with Ludlow Primary School, welcoming Year 5s for Language sessions where they have taught them some new Spanish vocabulary, as well as teaching them how to play an authentic French game of boules.

Our Language Leaders have also visited Ludlow Primary School to teach Spanish to Reception and Year 2 classes. The Language Leaders were excellent representatives for the school and the MFL department and they delivered Spanish sessions beautifully.



We are delighted to have been awarded the Intermediate Level of the British Council's International Schools Award. This award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education. This year, we have developed links with schools in France and Spain, writing letters to pen-pals in Normandy and Madrid, and working on projects to share with them.

Additionally, pupils have been working on International Cuisine in Food Technology, making and sampling a wide variety of dishes from different cultures. As a result of this international work, we have received this prestigious award recognising our efforts to bring global learning and deeper cultural understanding into our school curriculum.



International School Award

Certificate

This is to certify that

Ludlow Church of England School

has achieved

Intermediate level
Developing internationalism

Scott McDonald
Chief Executive, British Council



Careers

We said farewell to our **Year 11** students, having made their post-16 pathway choices. We have students with intended destinations of: Ludlow Sixth Form College, Hartpury College, Herefordshire and Ludlow, to name just a few. We have seen a big increase in the number of students opting for apprenticeships and T-Levels. We wish them all well as they take their next steps in September.

Year 10 have had a particularly busy Term: the very first Y10 Careers Week, a 4- day experience at NIMITE, an engineering company in Hereford, a trip to Attingham Park, Shrewsbury and a Taster Day at Ludlow Sixth Form College. These events are intended to introduce KS4 students to what post-16 studying is like and what different working environments expect. Career appointments have already begun and will continue in September. Apprenticeships are proving to be popular, along with Criminology.

Year 9 spent a 'day in the life of a university student' in May, when they visited Staffordshire University. 'Studying at Higher Education level is open to everyone', finance and budgeting were areas that were looked at, along with a tour of the campus.

Year 8 have attended an assembly introducing them to the concept of the 'World of Work' and another on 'Apprenticeships.' These were then followed up in PSHE lessons with work on 'Post-16 pathways: What choices do I have?'

Year 7 attended a creative performance, organised by Staffordshire University. There was the opportunity for students to ask the team, performers and back stage staff, about their jobs, what qualifications they have and what opportunities are there in the industry of Creative and Performing Arts.

Year 7: One teaching group took part in a mini Careers Fair with the intention to roll it out to the whole of Year 7 in the new academic. Take a look at the website 'Career Pilot', particularly the area that matches your interests, skills and qualifications to the best-fit careers. You might be surprised!



University of
Staffordshire



Ludlow Sixth Form
College

Shrek The Musical Jr.

Excitement is already building for our 2027 school production of Shrek The Musical Jr. Following the launch of the show, we were delighted by the fantastic turnout from students eager to be involved in every aspect of the production, from performing on stage to supporting the backstage team.

Auditions were of an exceptionally high standard, showcasing the incredible talent across the school. The quality of performances has made the casting process a real challenge, and we would like to thank everyone who auditioned for their enthusiasm, confidence and hard work.

There will also be an exciting opportunity for our new Year 7 students to join the cast and production team when they start in September, ensuring that this year's show is a whole-school celebration of talent and teamwork.

We can't wait to begin rehearsals and look forward to welcoming audiences to our performances in February 2027. It promises to be a spectacular production that you won't want to miss!



Year 8 Students Enjoy an Inspiring Visit to Hay Festival

In May, a group of enthusiastic Year 8 students had the exciting opportunity to visit the world-famous Hay Festival, enjoying a day packed with literature, creativity and inspiration.

The students attended three engaging talks by acclaimed authors Patience Agbabi, Manjeet Mann and Bernardine Evaristo, each sharing their personal journeys as writers and the stories behind their latest books. A common theme emerged throughout the day: the importance of drama, theatre and creative expression in helping young people find a sense of belonging and discover their own voices.

Patience Agbabi introduced her verse novel *Wonderland*, exploring themes of identity, friendship and finding your place in the world. Manjeet Mann delivered a lively and empowering session based on her novel *Roar*, encouraging students to be courageous, embrace their individuality and never underestimate the power of their own voice. Bernardine Evaristo reflected on her remarkable career, sharing the determination and resilience that led her to become the first Black woman to win the Booker Prize, inspiring students to pursue their ambitions with confidence and perseverance.

The glorious sunshine added to the atmosphere, and students enjoyed exploring the festival site, browsing the enormous bookshop and treating themselves to ice cream between events. The visit was a fantastic celebration of reading and storytelling, leaving everyone inspired by the authors' powerful messages of creativity, resilience and self-belief. It was a memorable day that encouraged our students to read more widely, think more deeply and recognise that every voice has a story worth telling.

School Uniform Pop-Up Shop – 22nd July

To make purchasing school uniform as convenient as possible, we will be hosting a School Uniform Pop-Up Shop in the school canteen on Wednesday 22nd July from 11.00am to 2.00pm.

ClubSport will be on site throughout the event to assist families with uniform purchases and answer any questions. We encourage parents and carers to take advantage of this opportunity to ensure students are ready for the new academic year.

Second-Hand Uniform Service Launching in September

We are delighted to announce the launch of our Second-Hand Uniform Service from September. This service will be available by appointment only and will provide families with an affordable and sustainable way to access school uniform.

If you have any clean, good-quality uniform that your child has outgrown and would like to donate, it would be greatly appreciated.

Donations will help us support other families within our school community while promoting sustainability and reducing waste.

For further information, to arrange an appointment, or to donate uniform, please contact the school reception.

New Stationery Packs Available Through SCOPAY

From September, families will be able to purchase Student Stationery Packs through SCOPAY. These packs will contain the basic stationery items students need for school.

Orders can be placed and paid for online via SCOPAY, and stationery packs will then be available for collection from school the following day. We hope this service will provide a simple and convenient way for families to ensure students are equipped for learning.

Changes to Free School Meal Eligibility

From September, changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility mean that more families may qualify for support. The Department for Education is introducing new benefit criteria which will mean that all children from households in receipt of universal credit will be entitled to receive a free school meal.

At the same time, the transitional protections that have been in place since 1 April 2018 are ending. If your child currently receives a free school meal because they've been protected under the transitional protection rules, but you no longer receive universal credit, their entitlement will end in August 2026.

We strongly encourage parents and carers to check whether they are eligible, even if they have not qualified previously. Registering for Free School Meals can provide valuable support for families and may also help the school access additional funding to support students. Further information about eligibility and how to apply FSM@shropshire.gov.uk



County Success for Year 7 Softball Cricket

Congratulations to our Year 7 Softball Cricket team, who finished as runners-up in the county finals held at Frankwell Cricket Club in Shrewsbury. The team performed superbly throughout the competition and narrowly missed out on the title in a closely contested final. Their teamwork, determination and sportsmanship were a credit to the school.

Gold School Games Mark Award

We are delighted to announce that the school has been awarded the Gold School Games Mark. This national award recognises schools for their commitment to providing high-quality PE, school sport and opportunities for physical activity. The achievement reflects the dedication of our staff, students and Sports Leaders, whose hard work in supporting events, competitions and participation opportunities has played a significant role in securing this recognition.



Strengthening Community Links with Ludlow Cricket Club

We would like to extend our thanks to Ludlow Cricket Club for their fantastic support throughout the cricket season. The club has generously allowed us to use their pitches for county fixtures and their nets for training sessions. These opportunities are invaluable for our students and help to strengthen the excellent sporting links between the school and the local community.

House Tug of War and Rounders Competitions

The competitive spirit has continued with our annual House Tug of War and Rounders competitions, where students from St Giles, St Peter, St Laurence and St John battled it out for valuable house points. These events provided plenty of excitement, teamwork and friendly rivalry, with students showing great commitment in representing their houses. The final house standings, incorporating results from Sports Day and the various inter-house competitions throughout the year, will be announced during the final day assembly as we crown this year's House Champions.

Athletics Success Across the District and County

This year has seen excellent performances from our athletics teams at both the District Athletics Championships at William Brookes School and the County Athletics Championships at Oakengates Athletics Ground. Our students competed with great determination and achieved a number of first-place finishes, showcasing the strength and depth of athletics talent across the school.

Year 10 Experience of a Professional Workplace

Our Year 10 students recently enjoyed an exciting Experience of a Professional Workplace (EPOW) day at Shrewsbury Town Football Club. Students took part in a variety of activities including a stadium tour, learning about the many roles involved in running a professional football club. They also experienced sessions in strength and conditioning, performance analysis and football coaching, all linked to potential careers within the sports industry. The day provided valuable insight into future pathways and next steps for those interested in sport-related careers.



A Fantastic Sports Day

This year's Sports Day was a tremendous success, with students across all year groups displaying outstanding effort, enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the day. The atmosphere was fantastic, with competitors and spectators alike creating a brilliant sense of occasion. From sprint races to field events, students represented their houses with pride and determination, making it one of the highlights of the sporting calendar.





Year 8 Residential Adventure at Arthog

Sixty-eight Year 8 students recently enjoyed an unforgettable four-day residential trip to Arthog.

Throughout the week, students took part in a wide range of exciting outdoor activities, including rock climbing, gorge walking, hill walking and kayaking. Whether scaling rocky cliffs, navigating rushing streams or riding the waves, everyone showed tremendous courage, determination and enthusiasm.

The trip also featured a variety of team-building activities, encouraging students to work together, support one another and develop their communication skills. It was fantastic to see students stepping outside their comfort zones, growing in confidence and celebrating each other's successes.

A fantastic time was had by all, and we look forward to offering our current Yr7 students the same opportunity next year.

Duke of Edinburgh

This year, 54 students have been working towards their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award, demonstrating commitment, resilience and a willingness to challenge themselves both in and out of school.

As part of the award, students have dedicated time to volunteering within the local community, developing new skills and participating in a range of physical activities. A key highlight of the programme was the recent one-night, two-day expedition. Students successfully completed the challenging walking expedition, putting their navigation, teamwork and problem-solving skills into practice while exploring the countryside.

Students are now putting the finishing touches to their remaining sections and will soon be eligible to receive their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. We will be offering the same opportunity to Year 9 students who will have the chance to begin their Bronze Award in September.

