



LUDLOW CE SCHOOL

Spring Term Highlights



Headteacher's Update:

Dear Parents/ Carers

I hope this newsletter gives a taste of how we continue to improve Ludlow Church of England School. There is a focus on the pride we have in our students, your children and a desire to create memories for them. I am extremely proud of the various sporting achievements within and the careers events we are engaging with.

The aim of our school is to prepare your daughter/son for their future with the best experience we can. I would like to thank those staff involved in activities like Matilda, the Poetry Live trip and the recent trip to Harper Adams University. In an era where more schools are doing less trips and productions, we are pleased that is not the case here. It is these extra things that make the memories.

Enjoy the Easter Holidays- eat lots of chocolate and if your daughter/ son are on the bowling trip my old (and I do mean old average) was 148, sure they can beat it. For those year 11's on the Safari Park reward trip; please come back with limbs attached.

See you in the new term.

Mr M Stoppard

Kitchen News

Just a little update from the kitchen. From our point of view there has been a positive take on the new menu. The students seem to be enjoying the offer and exploring the specials that we put on along with the advertised menu. Current favourites have included Katsu style chicken on 'Spice up your Life' day, and a Jumbo fish finger bap on 'Fishy Friday'. There has also been positive parent feedback so it's nice to know that the students are discussing it with you at home. The menu and prices are on the school website for you along with the FSM application form if you think you could qualify. All this new yumminess comes at a cost, so you can also cap spending on the scopay app or inform the school if you have any issues with what your child is spending or how they are spending their budget. We do try our best to keep students spending within budget limits, and often remind them if they need to top up their account (which we hope they pass on). Looking forward we will be updating the menu, to fall in with the season offering some more spring/summer options. Introducing salad and pasta pots to the 'Grab and Go' and also looking at a meal deal with a homemade pudding. Which as a lover of pastry cooking, I am looking forward to. Any queries or questions do feel free to get in touch.



Ludlow School Launches First Ever Girls' Football Kit



In January, Ludlow School proudly launched its first ever girls' football kit, marking an exciting milestone for girls' sport at the school. The kit has been generously supported and sponsored by Inex Solutions Limited, a local exterior cleaning specialist based in Ludlow.

The introduction of the new kit gives the girls their own identity within the school and the wider community, recognising the continued growth and success of girls' football. The home kit features navy and purple, proudly reflecting the school colours, while the away kit is a vibrant bright pink. The bold choice was led by the girls themselves, who wanted a kit that stands out and represents the pride they have in both the sport they play and the school they represent.



Girls' football at Ludlow School continues to grow year on year, and the school is committed to providing students with as many opportunities and experiences as possible. The launch of the new kit is an important first step in supporting that vision — offering something modern and current that the girls can feel comfortable and confident wearing on the pitch.

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Girls Football Festival Tournament



The Under 14 Girls' Football Team delivered an outstanding performance at the recent 7-a-side tournament held at Shrewsbury School, where 19 schools gathered to compete in the Annual Girls' Football Festival.

The girls began the day in a challenging group stage, facing three strong schools. Showing determination, teamwork, and resilience, they battled through each match to secure their place in the knockout stages.

A tightly contested semi-final followed, with the team holding their nerve in a close encounter to book their place in the final. Entering the final with confidence and pride, the girls produced their best performance of the day, securing an impressive 4-1 victory.

Their win saw them lift the shield trophy and celebrate their first piece of silverware of the year for girls' football. It was a fantastic achievement and a reflection of the squad's hard work, commitment, and team spirit.

Congratulations to all players involved and a fantastic debut for Ludlow's new away kit. The pink shined just as brightly as the team's performance.

KS3 Girls Step Forward as Future Football Ambassadors

Fourteen KS3 girls have been given the exciting opportunity to become Girls' Football Ambassadors within the school. Their role is to inspire and support other girls to get involved in football through playing, coaching, and officiating, while helping to grow the girls' game across the school community.

As part of this initiative, the students are taking part in the National Youth Sport Trust and Barclays **Go Lead** programme, which focuses on developing important personal and life skills through leadership and sport.

During their first day on the programme, the girls engaged in a range of activities that encouraged them to learn, design ideas, negotiate with one another, challenge thinking, and discuss changes they would like to see not only within school but also in wider society. A key focus of the day was exploring how they can better support all girls in school to participate in sport, not just football.

The students showed great enthusiasm, creativity, and leadership throughout the day, demonstrating a real passion for making sport more inclusive and accessible.

We look forward to continuing the programme and are particularly excited for the summer term, when the girls will begin putting their new ideas and leadership skills into practice across the school.



Matilda



After six months of dedication, rehearsals, and teamwork, our school production of Matilda the Musical Junior edition was a huge success, with two completely sold-out performances. The show brought together over 50 students, all contributing their talents both on stage and behind the scenes, creating a truly unforgettable experience.

From the very first scene to the final bow, the energy and enthusiasm of the cast shone through. A special mention must go to Isla Leech, who delivered a remarkable performance as Matilda, capturing the character's intelligence, courage, and charm. Amira Chumber impressed audiences with a powerful and commanding portrayal of the fearsome Miss Trunchbull, while Bella Bowater brought warmth and kindness to the role of Miss Honey, earning well-deserved praise.

The production showcased not only acting talent but also singing, dancing, set design, and technical skill. It was a fantastic example of what can be

achieved through commitment, collaboration, and passion.

Congratulations to everyone involved in making Matilda the Musical such a memorable event. The hard work of the past six months truly paid off, leaving audiences inspired and thoroughly entertained.

Year 11 Enjoy Inspiring 'Poetry Live!' Trip



Our Year 11 students recently attended the fantastic 'Poetry Live!' event, organised by exam board AQA, at the impressive Birmingham Symphony Hall. The trip offered a unique chance to hear several GCSE anthology poets read and discuss their own work, giving students valuable insights ahead of their English Literature exams this summer.

Throughout the day, poets took to the stage to perform selected pieces, allowing students to experience the rhythm, tone, and emotion exactly as the writers intended. Many also spoke about the inspirations behind their poems—ranging from personal memories to global issues—which helped deepen students' understanding of key themes and contexts.

The spectacular setting of Symphony Hall made the experience even more memorable. Its excellent acoustics and grand atmosphere brought the poetry to life and created a real sense of occasion.

Students also benefitted from a helpful session led by an AQA examiner, who offered clear guidance on analysing and comparing poems in the exam. This practical advice, combined with hearing directly from the poets themselves, has equipped Year 11 with greater confidence as they revise the anthology.

Overall, the day was both enjoyable and academically valuable, leaving students inspired and well-prepared for the challenges ahead.

Operation Mincemeat

GCSE Drama students recently enjoyed an exciting trip to the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre to see the award winning comedy musical Operation Mincemeat. The show was truly amazing, with fantastic performances that kept everyone engaged from start to finish. The cast's energy, creativity, and skill brought the story to life in a memorable way, offering plenty of inspiration for our own drama work.

Since the trip, students have been buzzing with excitement, sharing their favourite moments and discussing the performance techniques used. It was a valuable and enjoyable experience for all, giving students a real insight into professional theatre and leaving a lasting impression.

Harper Adams University Trip

In February Miss Evans, Mr Jardine and Miss Dubberley accompanied some of the aspiring year 9 and GCSE year 10 food students to Harper Adams University for an experience day on all things food. During the visit students had an opportunity to learn about the food and agriculture courses available at Harper Adams University, a tour of the facilities, partake in a sensory activity, starch experiment, a tour of the onsite farm, observed the milking parlour and finished the day with a quiz.



PSC Soup Kitchen



The Pupil Support Centre held a week-long lunch time “Soup Kitchen”, in February. These photos show the vegetable preparation in the PSC kitchen



and some of our customers enjoying their soup. All the vegetables, for the soups, were grown by pupils in the school garden and cooked by them too. We served 3 varieties of soup: African Sweet Potato, Curried Pumpkin and Mixed Vegetable. Thanks to the pupils and staff who supported our annual fundraising event. We raised £106 which means we can buy more seeds, for sowing this Springtime.

Artwork for Ludlow Brewery

Students have been working on a commission for Ludlow Brewery. As part of the Year 8 curriculum, we explore food in art with a particular focus on Pop Art. Their work has been inspired by Andy Warhol’s soup cans and Roy Lichtenstein’s iconic explosions. Ludlow Brewery kindly donated funds for the materials, so each student created an individual panel in acrylic paint. The 130 students have produced an impressive and vibrant collection of work. Some of this work will be on display at the Brewery in the near future.



Year 11 Art Students Shine on Visit to Wolverhampton Art Gallery

As part of their Externally Set Assignment and artist research, our Year 11 Art students enjoyed an inspiring trip to Wolverhampton Art Gallery—and they represented the school beautifully. Staff at the gallery, as well as members of the public, went out of their way to comment on how polite, engaged, and exemplary our students were throughout the visit.

Wolverhampton Art Gallery, established in 1884, is home to an impressive collection spanning more than 300 years of art history. Students were able to explore a wide range of works, from the gallery's renowned Georgian and Victorian collections to its striking Pop Art displays. Highlights included pieces by celebrated artists such as Thomas Gainsborough and Joseph Wright of Derby, as well as iconic works from Pop Art legends including Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein.

During the visit, students spent time closely observing the artwork, sketching key pieces, gathering research, and taking valuable notes to support their coursework. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and mature approach made the day both enjoyable and academically enriching.

It truly was a fabulous day—well done, Year 11!



Students Enjoy Ten-Pin Bowling on Attendance Rewards Trip

Students from Years 7 to 10 have enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of ten-pin bowling this week as part of our Attendance Rewards trip. The event was a great opportunity for pupils to celebrate their positive attendance, spend time with friends, and take part in some friendly competition. A great time was had by all, and we look forward to continuing to reward excellent attendance throughout the year.



Careers news



Hugo Hunt: Head Boy (2022/23)

Hugo left us to study A-Levels in Biology, Business and PE. at Hereford Sixth Form. After having completed 2 years, he decided not to go to university and so chose to combine working and gaining on the job experience. Hugo successfully applied to Herefordshire and Worcestershire Group Training Association and an apprenticeship in IT Operations was found with Allpay, a company operating nationwide, with an office in Hereford.

“I have learned many skills such as agility, teamwork and leadership. After my current apprenticeship, my goal is to do another apprenticeship in a more specific area within IT. I hope that I will be able to find an appropriate one with the team at Allpay.”

We wish Hugo every continued success.

Year 7 will enjoy a drama production in April organised by the University of Staffordshire. After the performance, students will have the chance to learn more about the career opportunities related to the world of Performing Arts. From Actor to Producer and Script writer to Set Designer, there is a role for everyone.

Year 8 have welcomed a guest speaker into their PSHE lessons as part of their Careers module. Clare Gilkes from the DWP, led a session on ‘Can I afford my dream lifestyle?’ Year 8 were asked to carry out research into their dream job and looked at whether the lifestyle they would like to lead, would be affordable. I think that penthouse suite, high-powered sports car and all-inclusive holidays may need another look at the budget. A very important lesson to learn.

Year 9 are looking forward to a Taster Day at the University of Staffordshire next Term. The opportunity to experience the life of an undergraduate, campus tours and taking part in a range of different lectures are planned.

Year 10 will attend careers appointments in school in preparation for their post-16 Open events and applications. Small group sessions will also be offered, giving the opportunity to share ideas and learn from the experiences of former alumni.

Finally, Year 11 post-16 applications have now been made and interviews are underway. Some students have been required to attend auditions and produce a personal portfolio. Interview techniques and question and answer preparation has been offered to all our final year students. We wish them luck as they make their next steps.

Year 11 Information

Year 11 have just completed a two-week intensive round of mock exams, and we've been really impressed with their attitude and behaviour throughout. We hope they feel proud of their efforts and can see the progress they've made since the November mocks.

We're now heading into the final stretch before their summer exams in May. We wish them all the very best and hope that, by continuing to work hard, they create their own "good luck" and achieve their very best in their final exams.

Key Dates Whole School

23rd April – Yr 7 Parent's Evening

24th & 25th April - DofE Y10 Expedition

9th & 10th June – English trip to London

19th -22nd June - Y10 & Y11 DofE Expedition

1st July - Y10 Ludlow College Taster Day

9th July – Sports Day

13th – 16th July – Yr8 Trip to Arthog

Key Dates for Year 11

7th May - GCSE Exams Start

17th June – GCSE Exams End

12th June - Signing Shirt Day

24th June - Leavers Day

26th June - Summer Ball