

#SIDNEYSTRINGERMAT

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Sidney Stringer
Multi Academy Trust

MAT NEWSLETTER EDITION 4

MULTI ACADEMY TRUST NEWSLETTER 2025

SUMMER TERM





Sidney Stringer
Academy

CEO MESSAGE 2025

A Term of Celebration!



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www.sidneystringertrust.org.uk/



Welcome to our Fourth MAT Newsletter!

Dear Students, Staff, Parents, Carers, Governors and Friends of Sidney Stringer MAT.

I am delighted to share our Summer Newsletter with you. It is full of exciting events from across our schools in the Multi Academy Trust (MAT).

We have news about our annual MAT Art Exhibition that has been running since 2015, sports days, awards evenings at Coventry Cathedral, visits to London and Westminster Houses of Parliament, summer fairs and the opening of our own hair salon.

We are all looking forward to a well-earned holiday and an opportunity to enjoy some of this lovely weather.

Thank you to all the students, staff, parents, carers, governors, and friends of our MAT for your continued support. Have a wonderful holiday.



Claire Turpin

CEO Of Sidney Stringer MAT



MAT Art Exhibition

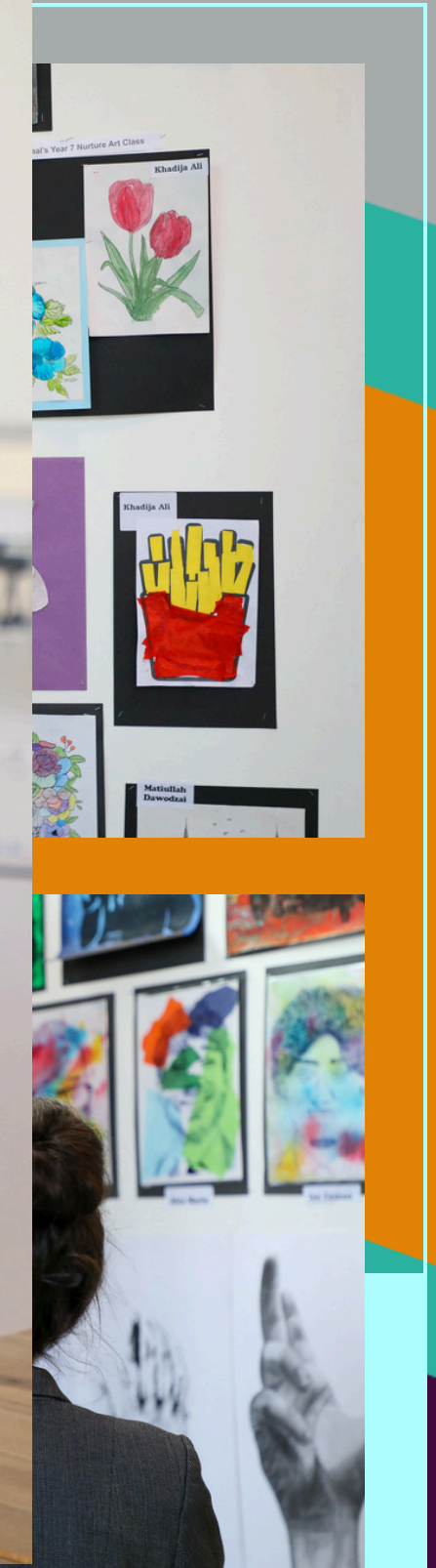
The MAT Art exhibition 2025, was held again at St. John the Baptist Church in Coventry city centre. The church is a beautiful venue to exhibit art work, where visitors were able to really appreciate the fantastic work on display in a calm, peaceful atmosphere.

The schools displaying art work were Sidney Stringer Academy, Ernesford Grange Community Academy, Sidney Stringer Primary School, Radford Primary Academy, Riverbank Academy and Woodfield School. Art and design are such important and valuable subject in all six schools in the trust, enabling students of all abilities, to be creative and express themselves visually. The exhibition included a variety of paintings and detailed architectural illustrations, as well as landscapes made from collages, large architectural cardboard structures, paintings of King Henry the 8th, wire sculptures, vibrant textile work, cardboard cakes and some comical paper mache monsters.

Each year, awards and certificates are given out, this year the prestigious “Tomes” award, named after Wendy Tomes the previous CEO of the academy was given to Adna Kabic, an A Level art student at Sidney Stringer Academy. She produced a stunning oil painting of a woman's face based on the film the Black Swan.

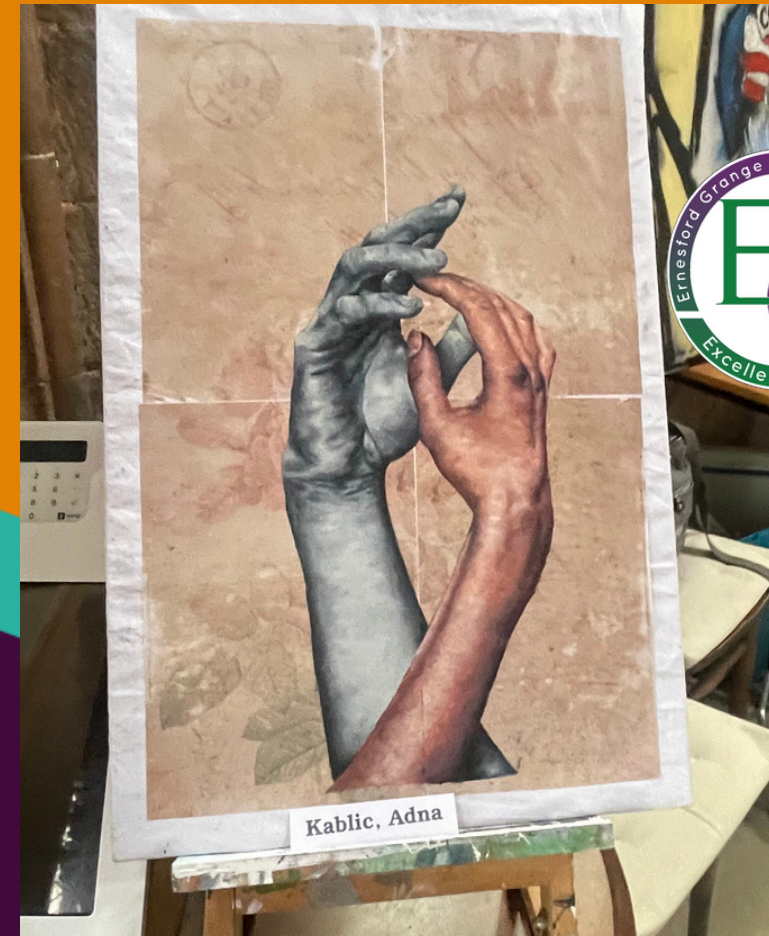
Our CEO, Claire Turpin, commented on the range and standard of the work and how important it is for art and the creative subjects to be recognised and celebrated in schools.

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MAT Art Exhibition

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The winning artwork for Ernesford was from Vanessa, though the judges could easily have awarded it to several other students, but Vanessa's work was incredible.

Thank you so much to our amazing Art Team who work so hard to make sure everything runs so smoothly, but more importantly, support students in their passions in art.





RIVERBANK ACADEMY

*Where learning leads to greater
independence, employment &
further education.*

@RiverbankAc



STEM WEEK



@RiverbankAc

STEM WEEK:



Our recent STEM Week was a resounding success in fostering inclusion and engagement.

We saw our youngest pupils eagerly exploring the wonders of forces, while older students delved into designing and testing impressive chemical reactions. Crucially, every child had the chance to step into the role of a scientist, engineer, or mathematician.

The classrooms were filled with the excitement of discovery, and it was inspiring to witness so many collaborative projects unfold, highlighting that scientific exploration is captivating for everyone, regardless of their background. The hands-on activities ensured learning was not only engaging but also incredibly fun, sparking a genuine passion for discovery in many of our future innovators.



Summer Camp:

A particularly exciting highlight of the term was our fourth annual Summer Camp, where a brave group of pupils experienced the thrill of sleeping in tents right here on the school site for one memorable night! This unique overnight adventure was a fantastic exercise in fostering independence, teamwork, and resilience.

Pupils engaged in outdoor learning, creative activities, and shared meals, creating lasting memories and strengthening friendships in a fun and engaging environment. It truly embodied our commitment to providing diverse, inclusive experiences that extend beyond the classroom and build essential life skills.



Duke Of Edinburgh Awards!

We are also thrilled to celebrate the significant achievements of our pupils who successfully completed their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions and volunteering sections this term. These pupils have demonstrated remarkable commitment, perseverance, and a willingness to step outside their comfort zones. Their journey through the DofE programme has not only equipped them with valuable practical skills and a deeper understanding of their local environment, but has also instilled a profound sense of civic responsibility and personal accomplishment. We are incredibly proud of their dedication and the self-reliance they have developed.

Sports Day:



The highly anticipated Sports Day was, as always, a magnificent display of spirited engagement and joyous fun. It was a day where participation and effort were celebrated above all else.

Every child had the chance to represent their tutor group, cheer on their friends, and experience the thrill of friendly competition. We saw incredible teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship across all age groups. More importantly, it was a day for everyone to get active, laugh, and simply have a brilliant time together, reinforcing the idea that physical activity can be inclusive and enjoyable for all abilities.



Riverbank Academy



Ice cream:

Another fantastic, and indeed delicious, example of practical learning in action recently unfolded with a special visit from a local ice cream van.

Far more than just a treat, this unique experience provided a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to develop independent choice-making and apply their numeracy skills within a genuine, real-world context. Each child confidently selected their preferred ice cream and independently managed the transaction, handling money with the supportive guidance of staff. This proved to be an incredibly fun and engaging method to reinforce essential financial literacy and decision-making abilities in a truly exciting scenario.



School picnic:

Our recent School Picnic truly cemented the spirit of community and fun that we cherish at Riverbank. It was a wonderful opportunity for pupils and staff to come together in a relaxed and joyful setting. The laughter echoing across the fields, the shared treats, and the informal play were a testament to the strong bonds within our school. Events like these are crucial for fostering a sense of belonging and ensuring that our school environment is not just a place of learning, but also a place of genuine connection and happiness.



Sidney Stringer
Academy

SIDNEY STRINGER ACADEMY

A Year of Success and Growth

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WELCOMING OUR NEW YEAR 7:

June and July saw our new Year 7 students start their journey with us here at Sidney Stringer Academy.

Pre-transition sessions saw the children in high spirits throughout our 3 day transition program and by the end, students were confident and eager for their September start.

Their preparation included sessions getting to know their tutor family, staff and fellow Years 7s, taster lessons in their timetabled subjects and successfully navigating their way around a much larger, busier building. We are very much looking forward to their arrival in September.



A WEEK IN THE LIFE:

‘A Week in the Life ‘ of a post16 student ran between Monday 23rd June and Friday 27th June. This week welcomed 240 students to join us to experience what a week in post 16 is like. Students all followed a post 16 time table with over 30 different courses being run across the week.

The week started with a welcome assembly in the theatre lead by Mr Martin and then students all followed the timetable they would have next year to prepare them for what will be expected from them when they join us in September.

As part of the week students spent a day in the 16+ centre with Mrs Foric getting an insight into the importance of private study and how it should be used when in post 16.

The week closed with an assembly looking at goal setting and resilience. All students have been given bridging work from their subject teachers to prepare them for the start of the new courses.

We wish all the students a relaxing summer and look forward to seeing them in September when they become the class of 2025 - 2027!

Annual Awards Ceremony:

Thursday 26th June saw our Annual Awards Evening take place at Coventry Cathedral.

It was lovely to see so many pupils, parents and staff gathered together in such a wonderful venue to celebrate the achievements of our pupils.

Guests were welcomed to the ceremony from 6pm with a beautiful piano performance from Mr Aston, who so successfully set the right mood for the occasion.

The high standard of musical performances continued throughout the evening. Dr Cribdon sang and performed a ukulele solo, whilst Princess Sophia-Green and Prisha Tawari performed a moving duet following the awarding of the Hamza Alrimi Kindness Shield to Taheeda Islam in Year 11.

Inspirational speeches from Head Boy Kaison Bains, Head Girl Nadia Lada, and the guest speaker and former pupil Kim Anh Nguyen rounded off the ceremony and ensured that everyone left the ceremony feeling inspired.



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Year 11 Students Experience Important Learning Through Trust Me Programme

On Tuesday, 1st July, our Year 11 students participated in an impactful educational experience through the Trust Me theatre programme, delivered by Loudmouth Theatre in Education. This vital initiative was made possible through generous funding from Coventry City Council's Health Protection team, allowing us to offer this valuable programme at a fraction of the usual cost.

A Day of Learning and Engagement

The day began with a powerful one-hour theatre production assembly for the entire Year 11 cohort. The performance used dynamic drama and interactive elements to explore crucial topics around sexual health and consent in an age-appropriate and engaging manner. Students were captivated by the professional production, which opened up important conversations about STIs, contraception, and healthy relationships.

Following the main performance, students had the opportunity to participate in a character Q&A session, where they could ask questions and gain deeper insights into the themes presented. This interactive element helped bridge the gap between the theatrical experience and real-world application.

In-Depth Workshop Sessions

The learning continued throughout the day with consecutive class-based workshops, each running for 20-30 minutes. These smaller group sessions provided our students with a more intimate setting to explore the topics covered in the performance. The workshops were designed to solidify knowledge, develop practical skills, and build confidence when discussing these important health and wellbeing issues.

The workshop format allowed for more personal reflection and discussion, giving students the space to ask questions they might not have felt comfortable raising in the larger assembly setting. Our teaching staff noted how engaged and thoughtful the students were during these sessions.

Supporting Our Students' Development

The Trust Me programme aligns perfectly with our commitment to providing comprehensive personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education. The timing was particularly beneficial, as it complemented our contraception lessons that are delivered at this time of year, creating a cohesive learning experience for our Year 11 students.

Throughout the day, students demonstrated excellent behaviour and engagement, showing maturity and respect when discussing these important topics. Their positive response highlights the effectiveness of using professional theatre as an educational tool for addressing sensitive subjects.

We're grateful to Coventry City Council's Health Protection team for recognizing the importance of this educational opportunity and for making it accessible to our school community. The programme's success and positive reception from both students and staff means we are already looking forward to repeating this valuable session next year.

This initiative demonstrates our ongoing commitment to supporting our students' holistic development and ensuring they have access to high-quality, evidence-based education on topics that matter for their health and wellbeing.

SIDNEY STRINGER ACADEMY

Wimbledon!

On Monday 30th June, eight SSA students accompanied Mrs McNulty and Ms Turpin on a trip to Wimbledon, to watch some of the world's best tennis players in action at the All England Tennis Club. It was a blisteringly hot day, with temperatures reaching 34 degrees, which has now been clocked as the hottest Day One on record. For many students, this was the first time that they had watched any live tennis, and it was an amazing day watching the action on No.1 Court. Staff and students got to watch the Women's first seed, Aryna Sabalenka, and Great Britain's very own US Open winner, Emma Raducanu, as well as another GB competitor, Jacob Fearnley. It was a brilliant day of tennis, with a side of strawberries and cream! Fingers crossed that we will be successful in next year's ballot!





ERNESFORD **GRANGE** COMMUNITY ACADEMY

Striving to achieve excellence for all of our young people.

@EGCS1973



Culture Day 2025:

This year for the first time ever, Ernesford decided to celebrate Culture Week in the month of June. The theme for the week was 'Celebrating Us', we pride ourselves in being an inclusive school and we have 64 different languages, students from over 40 different countries and 8 different religions that represent our school community. We do not teach our students to be tolerant instead we say learn to celebrate the differences and diversity that exists amongst us.

The whole week was planned and executed by our amazing 16+ students, from planning assemblies, lessons, presenting to whole school staff and students, delivering lessons and planning the show stopping culture show, this was a great opportunity for students to learn those interpersonal skills that they can take with them for the future. Months and months of planning led to an amazing week that was so well appreciated by students and staff and here are some of the snippets of what they had to say.

"Culture day gives me a purpose as we have to rehearse our dances, practice and ensure that we represent our culture and country well".

"The students are so well prepared and take so much pride in delivering lessons as well as presenting their culture that it makes us reflect what an amazing community we are".

During the week each year the group had a drop down day where they took part in sessions based on cultural art, tourism and sports like Gaelic football. They also had an opportunity to experience music and dance along with some speeches written by our students that definitely pulled on the heart strings.

As leaders of the school, we do not always get things right, so it is vital to provide opportunities that give us an insight on the day to day experiences of our students. We know the world is unstable and people's perceptions need challenging. By providing them with a platform to raise their voices we feel we are taking a step in the right direction. We firmly believe that education is the biggest tool we have in the world to change lives and moving forward as leaders of the school we will try harder to aim for a better tomorrow. We will not promise to make the change immediately as we all know that Rome was not built in a day, however we can assure our students that by raising their voices they have given us the reasons to make those small changes one at a time so the world can be a better place for the upcoming generation.

Finally, on the evening of the 27th June we came together to honour and enjoy the range of cultures that make our community so special. This was a time to celebrate our differences, recognise our shared humanity and appreciate the traditions, stories and values that shape who we are.



From music and dance, to traditional clothing and language, each performance in the evening represented a piece of history, pride and identity. It was a chance to learn from one another, to celebrate one another and to come away with a deeper understanding of the world around us. For offers of support, please email: pkobrin@egacademy.org.uk.



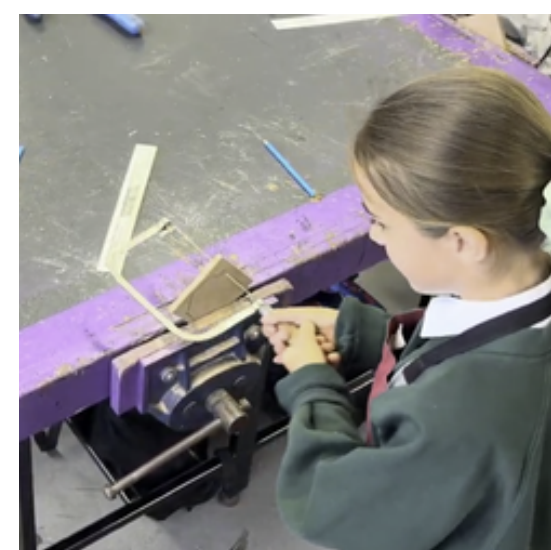
ERNESFORD GRANGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY

Sports Personality of the Year Awards:

The PE department recently hosted another fantastic evening, celebrating the incredible sporting success and leadership skills of our talented young people. It was wonderful to see students and families alike dressed up for this special occasion!

The evening kicked off with a captivating magic show by Mr Smith-Blain, who also entertained us during the interval, a huge thank you to him for adding that extra spark! We were also incredibly fortunate to hear from our motivational speaker, Jamaine Donkor, an international bodybuilder, who shared an inspiring message with everyone.

A massive well done to all the students who were nominated and to those who took home awards on the night. A special shout-out goes to Shannon Sinfield, who was deservedly crowned the winner of Sports Personality of the Year 2025!



A Glimpse into the Future: Ernesford Elite Transition Day!

We had the absolute pleasure of welcoming our next cohort of Ernesford Elite students on Wednesday 2nd July, for an exciting Transition Day! It was fantastic to see students from over 21 primary schools join us, ready to dive into the amazing sessions our staff had planned.

The day was packed with a carousel of engaging activities, including a thrilling team-building "Escape Room," hands-on Design Technology and captivating Science experiments. Students also had the chance to meet their Head of House and Tutors, beginning to build those important connections for September.

Every member of staff was incredibly impressed with the students' politeness and fantastic attitude to learning. Their enthusiasm was infectious and it is clear we have a truly excellent group joining us. We are all incredibly excited for September, when our new students will embark on their Ernesford Elite Week. Get ready for an incredible journey, future Ernesford Elite!

Ernesford Grange Community Academy Achieves Prestigious Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Quality Mark



@EGCS1973

We are absolutely thrilled to announce that Ernesford Grange Community Academy has been awarded the highly prestigious Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Quality Mark!

This remarkable achievement is a testament to the unwavering dedication and hard work of our entire team. The award formally recognises our continuous efforts towards addressing inequality and embedding EDI throughout every facet of our school community. Over the past 12 months, our staff have remained committed to this vital work, navigating challenges with inspiring determination.

The EDI Quality Mark acknowledges our school's strategic, long-term commitment to constantly seeking improvement in our provision. It highlights our high-level consultation with stakeholders, ensuring that our efforts truly reflect the needs and voices of our diverse community.

This award signifies that Ernesford Grange Community Academy:

- Has championed throughout the school and fostered an inclusive environment for all pupils.
- Has a strong team which supports an inclusive approach for every child.
- Is highly effective in promoting and celebrating differences through planning lessons that reflect the diversity of the community.
- Continues to develop and train to ensure inclusive provision for all.

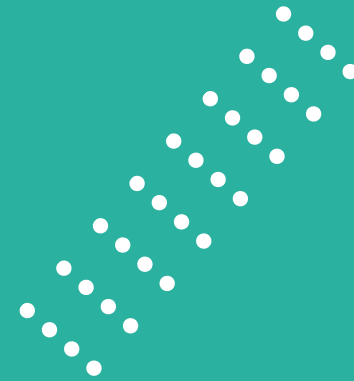
We are incredibly proud of this recognition, which celebrates our deep commitment to creating an equitable, diverse and inclusive environment where every student feels valued, supported and empowered to thrive.

The formal letter recognising our accomplishments, outlining the evaluation process, and providing guidance on next steps has been received. Our certificates will be sent by post shortly. We look forward to proudly displaying the EDIQM logo as a symbol of our ongoing dedication to these core values.

A huge congratulations and heartfelt thank you to everyone in the Ernesford Grange Community Academy family for making this outstanding achievement possible!



Sidney Stringer
Primary



SIDNEY STRINGER PRIMARY

Believe | Achieve | Succeed

@SSAPrimary



SIDNEY STRINGER PRIMARY


Sidney Stringer
Primary

Heights of Abraham:

In June Year 4 visited the Heights of Abraham. The children had to come to school very early to travel all the way up to Derbyshire! The weather was kind, and everyone had an excellent time. The children had to climb up A LOT of steps, and then took a cable car to the top of Masson Hill, where you can look across the hills to see the beautiful views.



Ice Cream & Stories:

In June Sidney Stringer Primary welcomed lots of families to school for our annual Ice Cream and Stories event. The children and their parents enjoyed an ice cream from the ice cream van, getting to choose from a wide range of delicious toppings. They then read some stories outside in the sunshine or in the cool of the hall.



@SSAPrimary

Art Week:

Every year Sidney Stringer Primary students participate in Art Week.

For Art Week, local artist Deborah Dutton spends a week in school working with lots of the children on a collaborative project. This year, the work was inspired by Pollock and Kandinsky. The children studied existing styles and pieces before setting to work on creating their own pieces of work.

The children mixed colours, explored shape and deepened their understanding of techniques that you can use to work with paint. The final pieces of work look amazing, and the children should be very proud of them.

A huge thank you, as ever, to Deborah for bringing her passion and enthusiasm to SSP's art! Thank you also to Mrs Reeve, who supported Deborah and the children throughout the week.



Sidney Stringer
Primary





Westminster:

As part of our British Values curriculum, Year 6 visited the Houses of Parliament. We travelled down to London from Coventry on the train, taking the tube from Euston to Green Park. The children enjoyed seeing Buckingham Palace, Horse Guards Parade and Downing Street on our walk from Green Park to Westminster.

The children had a tour of the Houses of Parliament and did a workshop. Our local MP even popped out to say “hello” and answer some questions. The children then walked along the river back to Embankment Station and took the tube from there back to Euston. On our walk back we saw the London Eye and Scotland Yard.

By the time we got back to Coventry, the children were proficient Tube users, making sure to stand on the right of the escalators, hold on tight when the train moved, and choose the right platform!

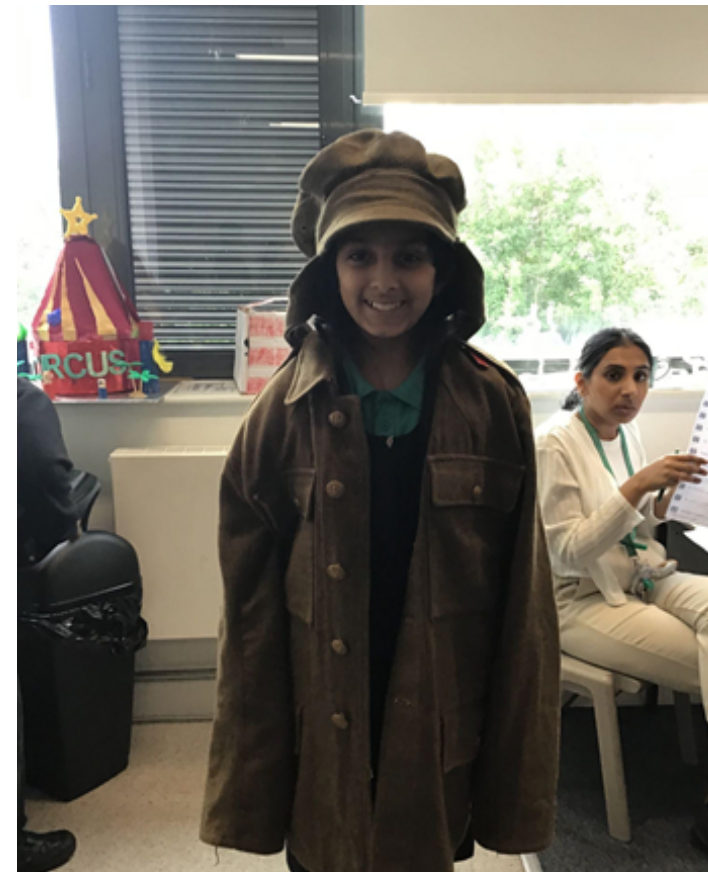
They behaved beautifully and coped really well with the long day.

VR Headsets:

Year 5 have been learning all about WW1 in their topic 'Fallen Fields'. Their learning was brought to life by experiencing life in the trenches through VR headsets.

The workshop was delivered by a historian dressed as a WW1 soldier. The children found it really fascinating and engaging, giving them a real understanding of what the soldiers experienced.

The children also got to explore a number of artefacts including a newspaper announcing the end of the war, some items of uniform and some tinned food that the soldiers would have been given to eat.





RADFORD PRIMARY ACADEMY

Our logo and motto “**High Flyers**” embodies our ambitious aspirations for the children and adults in our community.

@RadfordAcademy



Adventures in London

Year 6 enjoyed an exciting trip to London, traveling by train to Euston and then by tube to Green Park. After seeing Buckingham Palace, they had an unexpected encounter with the King near St James's Palace.

They continued through Horse Guards Parade, observing the King's Guards practicing, before reaching the Houses of Parliament. There, they toured the House of Lords and House of Commons, even seeing MPs in action. A highlight was a Q&A session with Radford's MP, Tiawo Owatemi, who explained her role. Before heading home, they saw Big Ben, the London Eye, and the River Thames.

The children's excellent behavior throughout the day made them a credit to the school.



RADFORD PRIMARY ACADEMY



Entrepreneurs:

As part of the Economics curriculum at Radford Primary, the children in each class have taken part in an enterprise project. Each class had been tasked with making something to sell to try and make a profit. Each class set up their businesses up slightly differently, but all have managed to make something to sell to members of our school community. The children in UKS2 have even been thinking about profit margins and investing profits back into their businesses. The enterprise projects have been a great success and the children have gained some brilliant entrepreneurial skills. Each class will now decide what to do with their profits - many of them are thinking about end of term treats!



A Special Guest

Radford welcomed a special guest in June, our local MP Taiwo Owatemi. Mrs Owatemi discussed democracy, and explained her role as Coventry North's MP. She asked the children what they thought of Coventry and what needed to change.

The children did an excellent job and asked questions about dentist wait times, the housing crisis and even road safety.



Nurturing a love for animals

This year, our Reception class has had a fantastic time learning about animals, their habitats, and the fascinating processes of growth and change. We started by helping to care for and observe living eggs, watching in awe as they hatched and the chicks slowly developed their wings. Then, in May, we enjoyed a wonderful trip to Ash End House Farm, where we saw lots of different farm animals and their adorable babies, bringing our learning to life.



RADFORD PRIMARY ACADEMY



Selly Manor:

Year 1 went on a fantastic trip to Selly Manor in Bournville. They enjoyed a workshop all about the Great Fire of London and even had the opportunity to dress up as some of the characters from 1666.

The children had a picnic lunch and a tour of the old house where they explored rooms that looked similar to those of Thomas Farriner's.

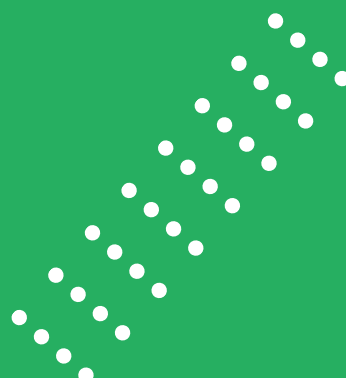


Trip to Twycross:

Our Year 3 students had an absolutely fantastic time on their recent trip to Twycross Zoo! It was a day packed with exciting discoveries and memorable encounters with animals from all corners of the globe.

From marveling at the majestic snow leopards to giggling at the playful monkeys, the children's faces were filled with wonder.

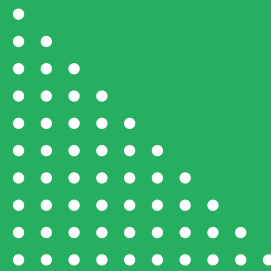
They learned all about different habitats, conservation efforts, and the unique characteristics of each creature they observed.



WOODFIELD SCHOOL

*We are committed to become a beacon
of excellence in SEMH education.*

@1woodfield1



Woodfest

@1woodfield1

The Woodfield Summer Fair:

'Wednesday 2nd July saw the first Woodfest event happening at Hawthorn Lane.

There was a lot happening - 20 stalls and activities including Alpacas, Archery, a Tin Can throw and a Book stall - all accompanied by music from Mr. Brown, Goby and the Music Therapy Group.

The Stocks were very popular with Mr. De Groot, Mr. Plant and Mr. Blow all volunteering to get soaked by sponges (hopefully Mr Blow has dried out by now). A number of students also went in to get pelted by members of their families!

There were amazing refreshments, with a special mention to the Lemonade stand and the delicious lemonade made by Mrs. Beecher.

Mrs Harris says "Just want to say a massive thank you to EVERYONE that supported WOODFEST, it really was an amazing event.

An enormous thank you to Jen for endless hours of work behind the scenes, and supporting me all the way. Thank you to Wanda for all your help and hard work we missed you not being there.

It was lovely to have external support, with the Alpacas and music from Girls and Boys club.....and not forgetting our DJ GOBY !!!! Outstanding! Thank you to the staff who volunteered in the stocks - great sports! Next one- WOODFEST Christmas Style!"

Mr De Groot said "Woodfest this afternoon at Hawthorn Lane was amazing! The connection between the children, their families and staff was truly special. This was a demonstration of what makes Woodfield an amazing place.

A great team effort - special thanks to Nicky H, Jenny D, and Wanda for leading on this event.



The Woodfield Salon:

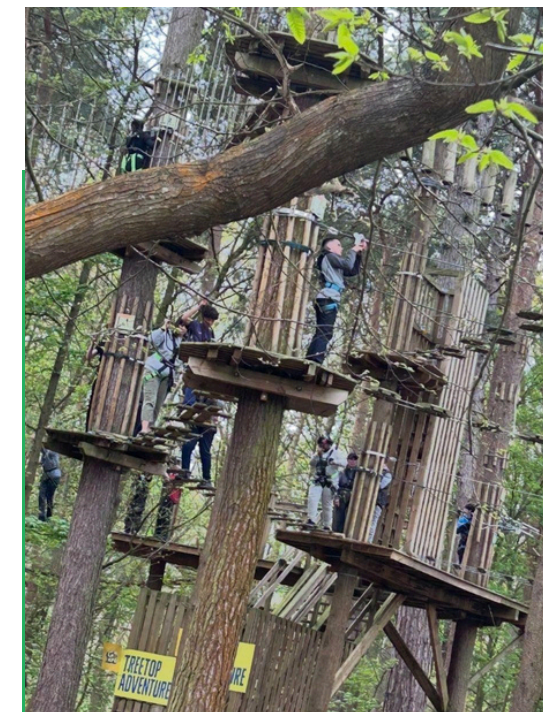
The Salon officially opened on 1st May this term. Students of all ages at Woodfield have now had a taster session in the very professional looking salon and beauty treatment rooms.

Here are some photos from the grand opening on 1st May and some students having their taster sessions.

On 7th July, there was a trip to Heart of England Training College in Rugby, where some students had a taster of a Hair and Beauty course.

They were all very well behaved and a credit to Woodfield.C and K got to be clients and had their hair washed and blow dried by S and A.

We all had a great time ...even Durrell had a little go



HAF:

During the Easter HAF programme, students enjoyed a range of exciting experiences, including a visit to the Helicopter museum in Weston Super Mare, a thrilling ride on the London Eye and an adventurous day at GO Ape Coventry.

Stoneleigh Road School Summer Fair – 9th July

@1woodfield1

On Tuesday 9th July, our primary site hosted its annual Summer Fair – and what a fantastic afternoon it was! The event was a great success, with an excellent turnout from families across the school community. The warm weather and lively atmosphere made it a truly memorable occasion.

The field was buzzing with excitement, with children enjoying the inflatable attractions throughout the afternoon. A food vendor and an ice cream van added to the summer vibe, offering delicious treats that were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

A highlight of the fair was the display of 22 classic cars. The owners were incredibly generous with their time, enthusiastically sharing stories and information about their vehicles with both children and adults. Many pupils had the thrilling opportunity to sit inside the cars, sparking curiosity and conversation.

In addition to the fun and food, a variety of craft stalls were set up, offering handmade items, books, and toys for sale. These stalls added a lovely creative touch to the event and were very popular with families.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the staff, volunteers, families, and stallholders who helped make this year's Summer Fair such a success. Your support and participation are what made the day so special.



Brades Lodge Soapbox Challenge:

On Friday 27th June, HG tutor group took part in the annual Brades Lodge Soapbox Challenge. The students were given the topic title 'Fast Cars' just before Easter and they decided as a team that they would run with a 'Mario Kart' theme.

After choosing the name 'Toadally Awesome Racing' the team worked hard each week to complete the task given.

We already had a rolling chassis, but it needed a few mechanical repairs.

Luckily we were able to source some free thick polystyrene insulation from Facebook Marketplace (three car loads!), so we had plenty of material from which to make the body work.

"I found it very exciting and funny. Even though I nearly crashed into the ditch, we won the best design certificate, and I was Luigi."

From Brandon HG



"At the start of making the go-kart, we used insulation foam to make the go-kart, and we shaped it and painted it to make it look like a Mario Kart with Toad pictures scattered around the kart.

On the race day, we all dressed as the characters. The characters which were used were: Mario, Luigi, Toad, and Princess Peach. When we went to the event, I felt the immersive thrill of going down the hill. When we got to the bottom of the hill, we had to be careful, as we would have gone into a ditch!

Another pupil in my class went down the hill and crashed into the pole on the way down which was funny. There was also a teacher competition and Mr Burke tried to fit his head into the helmet which was just about fitted. He was then called up to race down. We decided to let him suffer by making him bring the go-kart back up the steep hill.

After the event we took the 1 hour and 30 minutes long drive back to Woodfield school."

From Kian HG

Jack Benson (the organiser) wrote - "Thank you so much for attending this year's soap box derby. Your learners were amazing and their effort, enthusiasm and conduct was superb and they are a fantastic representation of your school. I hope you all enjoyed the event and will attend next year. Pass my thanks and congratulations on to your pupils."

Kitted out!

@1woodfield1

Young football stars at Woodfield have been kitted out with a brand-new home strip after a sponsorship assist from a Warwickshire-based logistics firm.

Pupils got off to a stylish start in their new kit, which has been sponsored by Independent Freight Solutions (IFS), running out 8-5 winners in a friendly match against Solihull's Castlewood School.

Joe Campbell, who helps run Woodfield's Key Stage 3 and 4 football teams, said the new kits had provided a real boost to the players, who had been using their PE kits during matches, and hoped to organise more friendly fixtures.

Joe said: "This is the first time our players have had a proper school football kit and we are incredibly grateful to IFS for their support. "It has given our kids a real boost to their self-esteem, and it was great to get off to a winning start.

The new tops look absolutely brilliant, and the feel-good factor and pride in wearing them definitely played their part in the win.

We are looking to increase the number of friendly matches we play as they are a great opportunity to give our players some really positive learning experiences, not just in terms of teamwork, but travelling and meeting new people and developing new skills." IFS, helps organisations trade across the globe, by arranging shipments and solving complex trade issues.

Jenny Hooper, Managing Director of IFS, said: "We are always looking to support the communities we do business in and it's a privilege to be able to support Woodfield School with this sponsorship.

"It was fantastic to see the new kit get its first runout and we hope it gives the school's teams a boost in all their future matches."





Sidney Stringer
Multi Academy Trust

Thank you

