



We welcomed over 400 teachers to Idsall, on Monday 19th February, we were delighted to be chosen to host the Trust Conference, which was a real success. It was great to see so many teachers working through the workshops and enjoying the educational guest speakers, sharing the theme of belonging. There was a real sense of Team Idsall around the school which continued when students arrived for their first day back following the half term break.

This week we hoped to have started our designated reading time, but unfortunately the books have been delayed, however we are ready to start this from Monday 26th February. Every adult, every student, everywhere, reading with the proven use of Drop and Read time of 20 minutes every day, just before lunch. We are really looking forward to this, with new reading families actively running with the help of the reading mentors from the sixth form and Year 10.

Following the theme of belonging we want to ensure every student has every opportunity to be part of their school and get more involved, we are currently gathering ideas from students to see how we can extend this and get them more involved.

To finish on a you said we did, Year 7, 8 and 9 students wanted to have their pastoral area based separately from the upper school, so over the holidays the team have been busy making this happen so any concerns, reporting or even sharing good news is now easier. Year 7, 8 and 9 can see their Heads of Year in the old student support base, (where it was before), and Year's 10 and 11 have moved into the mobile rooms that were L1 and L2 so everyone can see a Student Support Manager or their Head of Year.

Have a wonderful weekend

Michelle King
Headteacher



FOCUS



School Day from Monday

Monday brings a few small changes to our daily timetable to allow the addition of dedicated reading time. Please see right.



Reading is a vitally important skill for every subject and, with this dedicated time, we can benefit from improved vocabularies, increased concentration and reduction in stress.

Time	
8:50 – 9:10	Registration
9:10 – 10:05	Period 1
10:05 – 11:00	Period 2
11:00 – 11:20	Break
11:20 – 12:15	Period 3
12:15 – 1:10	Period 4 +
1:10 – 1:30 (year 7 would start at 1pm)	Reading Time
1:30 – 2:15 (1:20 lunch for year 7)	Lunch
2:15 – 3:15	Period 5
3:15 – 4:15	Session 6

Upcoming Events

Events at a glance:

- * Fri 23 Feb: Year 11 Prom Deposits due. Final payment by 20th May
- * Mon 26 Feb - Fri 8 Mar: Year 11 Mock Exams
- * Wed 28 Feb: TrustEd KS2 Indoor Athletics Event 3.30-5.30pm
- * Wed 28 Feb: Disneyland Paris Parents Meeting, 5.30pm, Main Hall
- * Thurs 29 Feb: Year 8 Parents Evening, 4-7pm
- * Wed 6 Mar: TrustEd Year 3/4 Tennis Festival, 2.30-4pm
- * Thurs 7 Mar: Sixth Form Varsity Rowing
- * Thurs 7 Mar: Year 12 Parents Evening, 4-7pm



News

Visit our website to:

- * View our [upcoming events](#)
- * Check our [term dates](#)
- * Read the latest [news](#)



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Reminders & Notices

Safeguarding Focus



eSports (short for 'Electronic Sports') are best understood as competitive-level video gaming. Players compete against each other for prizes, money, and prestige. Any videogame with the potential for competition can become an eSport – from sports games (e.g. FIFA) to first-person shooter games (like Call of Duty). Risks can include:

- Time consuming activities, potentially leading to addiction to the game
- Inappropriate content
- Emotional distress or anger
- Communicating with strangers

Please see [the website](#) for further information and guidance.

MATLitFest

Any entries for the MATLitFest competition need to be handed in or emailed to [Mrs Thorpe](#) as soon as possible please. We have had some excellent entries so far, and look forward to reading more.

Telford Skills Show 2024

Telford and Wrekin Council are happy to announce the return of the Telford Skills Show to The International Centre, Telford. More than 70 employers and training providers will be in attendance, offering hands on activities and opportunities to ask questions and investigate future options. The event runs on Thurs 14 Mar, 12noon until 7.30 pm and free tickets can be reserved via [EventBrite](#).

Road Safety Warning



We would like to reiterate the importance of road safety when walking to school. There have been some incidents reported of students stepping out between parked cars without looking and a few close calls with traffic. This message will be shared during assemblies, but if parents could also speak to their children, it will help to keep everyone safe.

Student Absences

Please ensure that you ring the school attendance office first thing in the morning, every day of your child's absence (01952) 468 400 or email attendance@idsall.shropshire.sch.uk for years 7 to 11 absence and email 6thformattendance@idsall.shropshire.sch.uk for Sixth Form absence. Thank you.

Trips

Planned trips appear here. Please see communications or trip leader for more information.

- ◆ 'Oh, What a Lovely War', Theatre Severn Shrewsbury, Feb 2024, Trip Leader: D Williams
- ◆ 'A Mid Summer Nights Dream', Year 7-9, RSC Stratford Upon Avon, Feb 2024, Trip Leader: A Thorpe
- ◆ Reward Trips for Easter 2024, Coming Soon
- ◆ Disneyland Paris, Year 7/8, March 2024, Trip Leader: C Leverington
- ◆ Wimbledon Tennis Championships, Year 9-13, July 2024, Trip leader: P Goodison
- ◆ GCSE PE Climbing Trip, Year 10, 18th, 25th June 5th July 2024. Trip Leader P Goodison
- ◆ Skiing Trip Austria, Year 10-13, Easter 2025. Trip Leader P Goodison



Apprenticeship Gold

Former student Kian left to pursue an apprenticeship in Craft Engineering with Ricoh. He has recently won a Gold Award through [World Skills UK](#) who use international best practice to raise apprenticeship standards. Kian also has an invitation to visit the House of Commons to receive recognition for his hard work and dedication. Well done!

Conservation Careers Workshop

The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO Shropshire), in partnership with Shropshire Ornithological Society (SOS) are pleased to announce a free Conservation Careers Workshop via Zoom on Tuesday 27th February 2024 (7pm – 8.30pm).

The event is aimed at young people aged 15-25, based in Shropshire and the West Midlands who are considering a career in conservation.

Guest speakers will talk about their experiences and careers, followed by opportunities to ask questions on screen or in the chat. Please feel free to forward this information on to anyone who may benefit. Places are limited so if you are interested in securing a place on this workshop or would like more information please head to [their website](#).

LRC Closure during Mock Exams

The LRC will be closed to all students every morning for two weeks while Year 11 mock exams take place in the LRC. This includes Registration, Periods 1-4 and break time. The LRC will reopen at lunch time and be available for Period 5 and Session 6 as usual.

Disneyland Parents Meeting

Parents of Year 7 and Year 8 students attending the trip are invited to a meeting on Wed 28 Feb, 5.30pm in the Main Hall. Letters have been sent out and anyone not able to attend needs to contact the School please.



Year 10 Netball South Shropshire Champions!

On Tuesday, our Year 10 Netballers played at William Brooks School in the South Shropshire Schools Netball



Tournament. The girls showed fantastic organisation and were raring to play on the first day back after half term. We played William Brookes A and B teams, Lacon Child and Bishops Castle.

Idsall are such a talented squad, they showed great teamwork and flexibility rotating around positions and winning all of their games. The closest game was against William Brookes A Team, who are a strong opposition. It was a tight game, but we managed to hold on for the win. Player of the Match goes to Chloe for showing amazing determination and skill in defence. Well done, a fabulous team performance!

Coughs and Colds

Minor coughs and common colds should not stop pupils from attending school, unless they have a fever.



When attending with a cough or cold, please make sure students are well stocked with tissues and water to drink.



They should also be reminded of the importance of throwing away used tissues and regular hand washing. Covering mouths when coughing or sneezing is also important to stop the spread.

