



CHURCH  
STRETTON  
SCHOOL

# THE LINK

Edition 12 1st December 2023



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to another edition of the link.

I will start with a note of congratulations to our year 11 pupils for the way that they have conducted themselves during their mock exams. These extremely important assessments not only give pupils more experience of exam practice, but also provide teachers and pupils with vital information about the areas that they need to work on, before the final exam series in May 2024.

As a Shropshire 'Safer School', we recently welcomed Mr Bartlett who is Crime Prevention Officer for Shropshire Council for a review and to see whether we meet the standard to retain the accreditation. Mr Longhurst, Assistant Headteacher has shared the outcome of the visit in this edition of The Link. I am sure that you will be as happy as we are with the outcome!

Finally, with the weather becoming colder, we have to think of potential for disruption caused by snowfall, so please look out for a letter to explain the procedure, should we have to close the school in the case of poor weather. Please do read it carefully as there is important information you will need to know as parents and carers. Worth pinning to the fridge! With colder temperatures in mind, please send your child/ren to school with a suitable coat / scarf / gloves where possible. Pupils do spend a proportion of the day outside, especially before school starts, break, lunch and of course when they leave the school building at the end of the day. Thank you for your support with this.

Best wishes for a lovely weekend

John Parr

Headteacher

## Lunch Money

Please can you ensure that you top up your ParentPay account for school lunches. There is also a top up machine in the lunch hall where students can use coins or cash.

Thank you.

## Dates for your Diary

**27th Nov - 8th Dec - Year 11 Mock Exams**

**14th Dec - Year 10 Geography Fieldwork Trip to Birmingham**

**15th Dec - 23rd Dec - Ski Trip**

**19th Dec - Christmas Lunch & Jumper Day**

**20th Dec - Christmas Concert 7pm**

**22nd Dec - Last day of term - Finish at 1.30pm**

## Pupil Absence Procedure

Please click [here](#) for information regarding reporting a pupil absence. Thank you.

## Next Week will be Week A

## Tutor Time Take-away

This weeks' focus was on Yi Peng. Please do ask your child about the topic and get them to explain to you what was discussed.



## Children in Need



Thank you to everyone who donated towards our Children in Need mufti day. With everyone's support we raised £445!

Thank you!



# Church Stretton School

## Safer School accredited



- Safety and security is important at our school.
- We involve our pupils in the Safer School process.
- The school governors have endorsed the Safer School scheme.
- Security/safety is regularly reviewed by our Safer School group.
- Our curriculum includes good citizenship.
- Authorised visitors on our school grounds wear a visitor badge.
- We use a risk management process and analyse issues or problems.
- School problems are reviewed by our Safer School group.
- We have professional advice and support from the Police and Shropshire Council.
- We implement essential security/safety measures for staff, pupils & property.
- If parents/carers have an issue or concern, the Safer School group needs to know.
- Through our newsletters we inform parents of our Safer School work.
- Our curriculum illustrates how incidents of crime or problems can impact on the school.



For further information, please contact  
 Ian Bartlett – tele (01743) 252821 or  
 E mail – [ian.bartlett@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:ian.bartlett@shropshire.gov.uk)



### Safer Schools

Safer Schools is a safety/security initiative, created and supported by West Mercia Police and Shropshire Council. Annually, the Police and Shropshire Council attend Safer School meetings at the majority of Shropshire schools. West Mercia Police and I recently attended a Safer School meeting at Church Stretton School.

Assistant Headteacher, Mr Longhurst, Chaired the school's meeting and I recognise the school for its excellent working as an accredited 'Safer School'. The school was accredited a Safer School in 2022 and not only does the school comprehensively fulfil the Safer School criteria but in addition, the school is continually striving to improve. Since our last meeting and looking to the future, the school has implemented notable improvements with the focus on safety/security. A really positive approach, excellent work!

During the meeting, the school was presented with an updated Safer School certificate and a future meeting is planned for 2024 – congratulations!

Ian Bartlett  
 Safer Schools  
 Shropshire Council

**Shropshire Council** **West Mercia POLICE**

**SAFER SCHOOL**

*This is to certify that*  
**Church Stretton School**  
*has taken a responsible approach towards ensuring a safer & more secure environment for its pupils, staff and visitors.*

*Tony Miles*  
 Executive Director for People

*Ian Bartlett*  
 Assistant Chief Constable,  
 West Mercia Police

**Expires November 2025**



# This Week in Photos



# Sporting News

Please can students collect lunch passes for their PE lunch time clubs from the PE office at the start of the week. Students can then show this pass to enter the queue on first calling.

A reminder that students who cannot take part in PE should always bring a note and their PE kit to take part in other roles.



## Running Club

Restarts Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November afterschool until 4.20. All welcome please wear suitable clothing, trainers, warm tops, hat, gloves (Hi vis)

*Consent needs to be signed on parent pay.*

**Ms Gajny**

### Sport Studies Revision/Catch up sessions:

All sessions will be in G4!

**Monday after school 3.20-4.30**

**Thursday Lunch - 12.30-1.10pm**

**Thursday After School - 3.20-4.30**

**Friday Lunch - 12.30-1.10pm**







What are we learning, why are we learning it and how you can support.

Dear Students and Parents,

Through a variety of creative and practical activities, the Church Stretton Design and Technology department aims to teach the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to engage in an iterative process of designing and making and develop skills that enables pupils to feed themselves and others affordably and well, now and in later life. Here's a breakdown of what each year group will be getting up to this half-term alongside some useful links that will help you support their study.

## KS3 Food Technology

Why are we studying this?

**Year 7:** Year 7 have learned about how preparing and cooking food safely and hygienically are vital for health. They have applied what they've learned about current healthy eating guidelines by making super fruit smoothies, marvellous muffins, cool coleslaw and perfect pizzas.

**Year 8:** Year 8 have applied what they have learned about macronutrients and food commodities by making perfect pasta pots, fabulous frittatas and fantastic fish finger. They have learned how to interpret nutritional labels and information on portion size when choosing foods for themselves and others and made sweet treat cheesecake. They also applied their understanding of the science of raising agents by making gorgeous gingerbread.

**Year 9:** Year 9 have been learning about food science. They have applied what they know about the role of fat by making pastry, starch by making sauce, yeast by making bread making and gluten by pasta making.

## How can you support your child?

- Check Go4S and Seneca regular to find out what tasks have been set for homework
- Support the completion of homework
- Talk to your child about what they have been studying in lessons
- Encourage them to read through class notes on a regular basis

## KS3 Textiles

Why are we studying this?

Pupils in Textiles are producing amazing work. **Year 7** are making 'Monster Mouth' zipped pencil cases using a batik process. **Year 8** are using tie dye and applique to create a 'Tote Bag'. In **year 9**, pupils are making colourful 'Feather Flags' decorated using graffiti art. The results look fantastic!

## KS3 Resistant Materials

Why are we studying this?

**Year 7** - Year 7 students are learning about polymers. Throughout the mobile phone holder project, students have learned about the sources and types of polymers, new and smart technologies and the design process. They have used strip heaters to bend a thermoplastic polymer into shape, applying what they have learned about the importance of wearing personal protective equipment and safety in the workshop.

**Year 8** - Year 8 students are nearing the end of their unit on timber, where they have been exploring the properties of materials, types of wood and types of joints. They have applied what they have learned about importance of marking out with accuracy, the processes used to shape timber, as well as fittings and finishes when making their wooden boxes.

**Year 9** - Year 9 students have been learning about metals. Throughout their pewter cast pendant project, students have learned about how metal is made, and the environmental impacts of its production. They have had a go at Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing (CAD/CAM).

[KS3 Design Technology at Church Stretton School](#)

[KS3 Food Technology at Church Stretton School](#)





What are we learning, why are we learning it and how you can support.

## GCSE Design Technology

Why are we studying this?

**Year 10: To support their learning of the design process** Year 10 technology students have been taking part in Design Ventura – a design and enterprise challenge for students supported by industry professionals. So far, they have carried out research to better understand the setting for their and their target audience. They have also begun to look for ways to come up with new and original responses to the theme.

Alongside this, students have been learning about the impact of new and emerging technologies on contemporary and potential future scenarios in relation to industry, enterprise, sustainability, people, culture, society and the environment.

**Year 11:** Students have begun work on their 'design and make' activity. So far, they have investigated design possibilities, produced a design brief and specification and generated design ideas through sketching. Currently they are developing their design ideas using CAD.

Alongside this, students have been learning about the impact of new and emerging technologies on contemporary and potential future scenarios in relation to industry, enterprise, sustainability, people, culture, society and the environment.

[Design Technology at Church Stretton School](#)

## GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

Why are we studying this?

**Year 10:** Year 10 have been studying the nutrients found within the foods that we eat. They have learned about the source and function of macro and micro nutrients as well as the health effects of consuming an excess/deficiency of each. They have learned about the current guidelines for a healthy diet, nutritional needs for the different life stages and how to plan a balanced meal for specific dietary groups: vegetarian and vegan, coeliac, lactose intolerant and high fibre diets.

To support with their development of practical skill, students have applied the theory they have learned to practical tasks. They make Jambalaya – a nutritionally balanced savoury meal based upon the advice of the Eatwell Guide; investigated the ability of fat to shorten foods such as pastries when making the Mediterranean vegetable flan and prepared, cooked and served a nutritionally balanced main meal with good sources of HBV protein and starchy carbohydrates suitable for children and older adults when making fish cakes or cottage pie.

The year 10s also made over 300 cupcakes to sell at the school show!

**Year 11:** Have completed their food investigation assessment where they have demonstrated their understanding of the working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. They have in recent lessons begun to look at the second assessment, for which they will prepare, cook and present a final menu of three dishes within a single period of no more than three hours, planning in advance how this will be achieved.

[Food Preparation and Nutrition at Church Stretton School](#)





# Year 7 Reading Habit Challenge

Last academic year, we had an amazing selection of Year 7s who completed the challenge.

This year, can it be you!



Our Year 7s have been challenged to read at least 10 minutes a day for 21 days!

Students who have a fully completed card will enjoy some festive fun with their English teacher!

## Christmas Reading Challenge

They say it takes 21 days to form a habit. Set yourself a challenge to read for at least 10 minutes a day for 3 weeks! You fully completed challenge is your ticket to a lunchtime Christmas party!

MIX IT UP! Try an audiobook on a walk or a graphic novel!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 1</b>					
27.11.23	Signed:	Signed:	Signed:	Signed:	Signed:
<b>Week 2</b>					
4.12.23	Signed:	Signed:	Signed:	Signed:	Signed:
<b>Week 3</b>					
11.12.23	Signed:	Signed:	Signed:	Signed:	Signed:



- 1.
2. **Get reading!**
3. **PARTY!**

## THE BENEFITS OF READING!

Research shows that reading has benefits in many areas of education and life. In addition to the obvious benefits on reading comprehension and attainment, it also impacts:

- Vocabulary
- Understanding of grammar
- Spelling skill
- Writing attainment
- Knowledge and understanding of the world
- Achievement in other subjects, including maths
- Empathy and understanding of emotions



Reading is incredibly important at Church Stretton School. Students read during form time, as part of dedicated 'Reading for Pleasure' lessons in English and across the curriculum.

On our website there are additional reading lists available, for example in English at KS3 we provide additional reading resources to stretch and challenge students.

*For more information and advice on supporting your child in their reading, please click on the links below:*

[The benefits of reading.pdf](#)

[Finding reading materials for your child](#)

[Finding reading materials for your child](#)



## Orchestra

(For anyone who already plays an instrument)



Tuesday 12.45–1.15

B9 (Music Room)

**PLEASE REMEMBER**

**WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL**





## Student of the Week



Winners and nominees for this week are listed below....

### This week's winners

#### KS3 Winner

Soraya Sheppard nominated by Mr Balmer for being a lovely, hard-working student who always gives 100% in lessons!

#### KS4 Winner

Ethan Knight nominated by Mr Balmer for an excellent work effort and contributes really positively to class work.

This week's nominations:

### **KS3 Nominations**

<b>Student Name</b>	<b>Nominated by</b>	<b>Reason for Nomination</b>
Isaac Huxley	Mr Wise	Increased confidence in drama - performance and discussion
Kaitlyn Cunningham	Mrs Quye	Letting a member of staff know that a child needed help. Good citizenship.
Amelia Nadin-King	Mrs Quye	Resilience and positivity.
Michael Connolly	Mr Vera	For all the hard word and resilience in Spanish lessons
Finlay Hadwen	Mr Seager	Finlay is showing a very good knowledge and understanding of our set text 'Oliver Twist' Well done Finlay!
Carly Holland	Mr Seager	Carly has made many positive contributions during discussions this week. Well done Carly!
Jack Jones	Mr Seager	Jack is showing a really good knowledge and understanding of our set text 'Jane Eyre'. Well done Jack!
Olivia Miller	Mr Seager	Olivia has made some very thoughtful and insightful comments during class discussions this week. Well done Olivia!
Lena Soussi Dahdouh	Miss Evans	For always trying her absolute best in English- she puts her all into both classwork and homework and it is clear that she wants to achieve in this subject. Lena is always so polite and lovely with impeccable manners.
Oliver Stubbs	Miss Evans	Oliver has really started to come out of his shell this year and is contributing more in lessons. He is a positive role model and works well with the boy he is sat next to. Oliver never fails to complete both classwork and homework to the best of his ability and is simply a pleasure to have in the room.
Darcey Blackwell	Miss Chapman	Outstanding work in Music
Lexie Foulger	Miss Chapman	Outstanding work in Music
Eleanor Merrill	Miss Chapman	Outstanding work in Music



## KS4 Nominations

Student Name	Nominated by	Reason for Nomination
Abbi Williams	Mr Wise	Representing the school at the Christmas Lights Switch On
Eve Simpson	Mrs Quye	Kindness and helping a friend
Martha Bruce	Mr Seager	Martha is working extremely well in class and is making really good progress with her answers to questions found on the examination paper. Well done Martha!
George Payton	Mr Seager	George consistently offers positive contributions during group and class discussions. Well done George!
Emily Child	Miss Evans	For beavering away at the back of the classroom and for never failing to complete her homework to an impeccable standard. Emily's descriptive writing (that she has been working on this week) was also extremely impressive with some fantastic vocabulary! Well done Emily- keep up the hard work!
Evie Vaughan	Miss Evans	For finally succumbing to my nagging and doing her homework. Evie's effort and contributions in English lessons are also fantastic and it is clear that she is finally starting to believe in herself! Keep it up Evie!
Both of my Year 11 classes	Miss Evans	It is clear that each and every one of you have revised for your English mocks and marking them is filling me with pride!
Megan Williams	Lou Fletcher-Tyrie	Excellent portfolio work in sketchbook and amazing batik skills. Well done Meg!
Harry Cummins	Miss Chapman	Outstanding work in Music
Lawson Wyatt	Miss Chapman	Outstanding work in Music
Finn Healey	Mr Balmer	Finn has clearly taken his revision very seriously for English - well done!



## CHOIR



**Wednesday 12.45 - 1.15**

**B9 (Music Room)**

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Myley and Wrenaya Griffiths - Sergeant who have given over 125 hours of their time to the Shropshire hills and youth ranger projects and have both been awarded the John Muir Conserver award. Well done both!



# Revision@Lunch

The timetable for the Revision@Lunch sessions is shared daily with Year 11 on the screens in the hall and restaurant.

We are mindful that examinations can be stressful occasions, and so the session hosted by Mrs Carr week concentrated on helping students master their nerves. It is important that we all help students to prepare for success by ensuring they are getting between 8 to 10 hours of sleep a night, eating a healthy meal, including breakfast, and that they take breaks from their revision to exercise and socialise. There is help, support and guidance on the school website [here](#) covering how to revise, how to deal with stress and useful links to documents such as the exam timetable. There is a Parent and Carers guide to revision on the school website [here](#).

## Autumn Term Mock Exams 2023 – Year 11 Timetable

(F = Foundation, H = Higher, bracketed timings are for students with extra time in exams)

Week A

Date	Period 1 9:15 – 10:15	Period 2 10:15 – 11:15	Break 11:15 – 11:30	Period 3 11:30 – 12:30	Lunch 12:30 – 13:20	Period 4 13:20 – 14:20	Period 5 14:20 – 15:20
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Normal Lessons			Normal Lessons		Normal Lessons	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Chemistry</b> 1 hr 45m (2 hrs 12m) <b>Combined Science</b> 1 hr 10m (1 hr 28m)			Normal Lessons		<b>Sport</b> 1 hr (1hr 15m)	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>DT</b> 2 hrs (2 hrs 30m)			Normal Lessons		Normal Lessons	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>French Listening &amp; Reading</b> F 1 hr 20m (1 hr 40m) H 1 hr 45m (2hrs 12m)			Normal Lessons		<b>RE Judaism</b> 1hr (1hr 15m) <b>Music</b> 1hr 30m (1hr 53m) <b>Computer Science</b> 1hr 30m (1hr 53m)	
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Drama</b> 50m (1hr 3m) <b>Food Nutrition</b> 1hr 30m (1hr 53m) <b>Geology</b> 1hr 30m (1hr 53m)			Normal Lessons		Normal Lessons	

(F = Foundation, H = Higher, bracketed timings are for students with extra time in exams)

Week B

Date	Period 1 9:15 – 10:15	Period 2 10:15 – 11:15	Break 11:15 – 11:30	Period 3 11:30 – 12:30	Lunch 12:30 – 13:20	Period 4 13:20 – 14:20	Period 5 14:20 – 15:20
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Normal Lessons	Normal Lessons		Normal Lessons		Normal Lessons	Normal Lessons
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>11B Art Exam</b> All day						
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Normal Lessons	Normal Lessons		Normal Lessons		Normal Lessons	Normal Lessons
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Normal Lessons	Normal Lessons		Normal Lessons		Normal Lessons	Normal Lessons
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>11D Art Exam</b> All day						



# NOTICE TO PARENTS/CARERS

## SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2025/26

Shropshire Council, as admission authority for community and controlled schools in Shropshire, is conducting a consultation exercise on School Admission Arrangements for 2025/26. The Council is simultaneously coordinating a consultation exercise for own admission authority schools, such as academies, whose governing bodies/trustees are responsible for setting their admission arrangements and who wish to make changes to those arrangements. We wish to notify all parents/carers that the consultation will begin on **4 December 2023** and continue for more than 6 weeks until **19 January 2024**.

The proposed amendment to Shropshire Council's admission arrangements are as follows:

**St Lawrence CE Primary School** in **Church Stretton** is proposing a reduction to its Published Admission Number from 34 to 30.

Shropshire Council are proposing changes to the in-year admission arrangements from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 for all community and voluntary controlled schools as well as own admission authority schools. Shropshire Council is proposing that the Local Authority be responsible for coordinating in-year applications, as well as retaining responsibility for coordinating main admissions rounds. The proposed coordination represents a significant change from the existing position, where the responsibility for in-year applications is delegated to all Shropshire schools.

Proposed changes to Shropshire's admission authority school arrangements are shown below.

- **The Trust-Ed CSAT Alliance** is proposing the standardisation of all their Trust policies, the schools below are consulting on the following changes:
  - Alveley Primary School** - adding medical and staff criteria
  - Castlefields Primary School**, Bridgnorth - adding medical and staff criteria
  - Stokesay Primary School** - adding medical and staff criteria
  - St. Leonard's CE Primary School**, Bridgnorth - adding medical and staff criteria
  - Church Stretton School** - adding medical and staff criteria
  - Mary Webb School & Science College** – changing the position of staff criteria
  - Oldbury Wells School** - adding medical and changing the position of staff criteria
- **Barrow 1618 Primary School** – removal of faith-related criteria
- **Cleobury Mortimer Primary School** – adding medical criteria
- **Clunbury CE Primary School** – adding medical criteria
- **Longden CE Primary School** – removal of faith criteria, adding staff criteria and changing the position of medical criteria
- **Greenacres Primary School** – adding staff criteria
- **St Mary's CE (aided) Primary School** - adding medical criteria
- **Bowbrook Primary School** is a new school and a part of the 3-18 Education trust in Shropshire. As the school opened in September 2023, they need to consult on their proposed oversubscription criteria and admissions policy
- **Much Wenlock Primary School** has joined the 3-18 Education Trust and is proposing to remove medical criteria along with adding staff criteria, bringing the policy in line with those in the rest of the trust
- **St Michaels Federation, consisting of Lydbury North CE Primary School and Onny CE Primary School** is proposing changing the position of medical criteria
- **Our Lady & St Oswald's Catholic Primary School, Oswestry**, and **St John's Catholic Primary School, Bridgnorth** is proposing to give priority to all looked after children and previously looked after children whether or not of Catholic faith
- **Idsall School** has joined The Marches Academy Trust and is and is proposing to add medical criteria to bring their policy in line with those in the rest of the trust

The consultation documents and further information can be found on the individual school websites and on the Shropshire Council website [www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk) in the link to Consultation on Admission Arrangements 2025.

You can make comments on any of the proposed changes and submit by Friday 19 January 2024 e-mail [school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk), contact the school directly, or write to: School Admissions, Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND





## **Winter Holiday Fun in Shropshire with HAF (Holiday Activities & Food) – Bookings Open!**

Bookings are now open for the Winter Shropshire HAF (Holiday Activities & Food) programme.

Shropshire Council is working with local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to run an exciting holiday programme this winter, Shropshire HAF (Holiday Activities and Food).

There are free places available on the programme for children and young people aged 4 (reception class age) to 16, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. There are also a limited number of free places available for children and young people living in areas of high deprivation and/or from low-income households, who are not in receipt of benefits related free school meals. These children and young people can be referred onto the programme by a professional. Places are also available for Ukrainian families, currently staying in Shropshire with host families.

From 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 to 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024, eligible children and young people are invited to take part in a range of fun activities, happening at over 40 holiday clubs from across the county.

There is something on offer for everyone including sports, arts, cooking, forest schools and other exciting opportunities. Free nutritious meals will be provided at each session, as well as information to benefit the whole family.

The Winter What's On Guide and details of how to book are available online [here](#)

Some of the holiday programmes also include paid spaces for children and young people who are not in receipt of free school meals.

Kirstie Hurst-Knight, Portfolio Holder for Children and Education, said: "Over the summer holidays, over 2,800 eligible children and young people, took part in a wide range of exciting and engaging activities at 64 holiday clubs from across the county. 98% of children and young people enjoyed the activities on offer at the clubs, with nearly 95% wanting to attend more holiday clubs in the future.

"Again, providers are offering fantastic holiday clubs this winter. I'd like to encourage all eligible families to book onto HAF and have fun over the holidays. There is a huge range of activities happening, with free meals provided at each session."

For more information on HAF in Shropshire, for a copy of the What's On Guide and to sign up to the HAF e-news, click [here](#)

Please contact the HAF Programme Co-Ordinators – email:

[haf.programme@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:haf.programme@shropshire.gov.uk)



Winter Holiday Fun and Food in Shropshire

**Book Now!**

Across Shropshire, spaces are still available on the winter HAF programme.

Over the winter holidays, eligible children and young people aged 4 (reception class age) to 16, are invited to attend free holiday clubs happening at over 40 venues from across the county.

To find out more please go to:  
[www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf)



## What's on In Music – 04/12/23

Monday Lunch – Practice Rooms Available (see Miss Chapman at break to book)

Monday after school – Monday Night Noise

Tuesday Lunch – Band

Tuesday after school – High School Musical rehearsal (B9)

Wednesday Lunch – Choir

Thursday Lunch – Practice Rooms Available (see Miss Chapman at break to book)

Thursday Lunch – Year 11 Music Revision Session

Thursday after school – High School Musical rehearsal (B9)

Friday Lunch – High School Musical rehearsal (Drama Studio)

\*\*\*\*

Composer of the Week – Frédéric Chopin

\*\*\* COMING SOON \*\*\*

Stretton Live Lounge – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December in Music Room

~ Featuring 3 bands from Key Stage 3 ~

Church Stretton School Christmas Concert – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – 7.00pm

## Keep your child safe on



### What are the risks?

- Bullying, particularly in group chats
- Seeing content of a sexual nature, or showing violence and hatred
- Settings that allow messages to disappear after 24 hours or 7 days. This could make it harder to track bullying, and your child might share things they wouldn't otherwise because it'll disappear
- Sharing their live location, particularly with people they don't know in person
- Spam or hoax messages
- Being exposed to strangers through group chats

WhatsApp says the minimum age to use it is 16, but younger children can still use it easily.

### 6 steps to help your child use WhatsApp safely

#### *Keep their personal information and location private*

By default, WhatsApp shows profile photos, status and when you last used it to all users. Encourage your child to only share this information with their contacts, and be careful about who they talk to on the app, as anyone could pretend to be a child online.

To check and change these settings:

- On iPhones, open settings in WhatsApp (the cog icon), then Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to.
- On Android, tap the 3 dots in the top-right of the home screen, then > Settings > Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to.

WhatsApp also has a feature that you can use to share your 'live location' with others. Tell your child to keep this turned off, or to only share their location with people they trust.

To check this:

- On an iPhone, go to phone Settings (the cog icon) > WhatsApp > Location, and tap to change if you need to.
- On Android, go to privacy settings as above, then scroll down to 'Live location', and tap to change if you need to.



## ***Remind your child to be careful about what they share***

It's easy to forward messages, photos and videos to others on WhatsApp. Even if your child sets a message to automatically disappear or deletes it after sharing it, the person they send it to could still screenshot it, forward it to someone else, or save it.

So, before they share anything, tell them to ask themselves: "Would I want others to see what I'm about to send?"

## ***Remind your child they can leave group chats***

If they see something they're not comfortable with in a group chat, or are in a chat with someone they don't know and are uncomfortable with, they should leave the group. To do this:

- On an iPhone, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit group.
- On Android, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit.

## ***Make sure your child knows how to report and block people***

When they first receive a message from an unknown number, they'll have the option to report it. If someone in your child's contacts is upsetting them or making them uncomfortable, they can report or block them at any point. (WhatsApp won't tell the user they've been blocked/reported.)

To do this:

- On an iPhone, open settings in WhatsApp, go to Account > Privacy > Blocked > Add New..., then find the contact they want to block, and tap the contact.
- On Android, tap the 3 dots icon, then Settings, then tap Account > Privacy > Blocked contacts, tap the icon in the top right showing a person and a plus sign, search for the contact they want to block, then tap the contact to block them.

To report issues like offensive or abusive content or spam:

- On an iPhone, open the chat with the user you want to report, tap the contact then then tap Report Contact > Report And Block.
- On Android, open the chat with the user you want to report, then tap the 3 dots icon, then > More > Report.

## ***Encourage your child to watch out for spam and hoax messages***

These can appear to come from contacts, as well as people they don't know. Tell your child to watch out for messages that:

- Ask them to tap on a link, or specifically to click on a link to activate a new feature.
- Ask them to share personal information like bank account details, date of birth or passwords.
- Ask them to forward the message.
- Say they have to pay to use WhatsApp.
- Have spelling or grammar errors.

## ***Tell our school about any bullying they experience***

Look for signs they may be being bullied, like being afraid or reluctant to go to school, feeling nervous, losing confidence or becoming distressed and withdrawn, or losing sleep.

# Church Stretton School Chrome book leasing programme

## Lenovo 300e Flip & Touchscreen Chromebook



### Specification:

- AMD 3015CE Processor
- 11.6" IPS Touchscreen Display
- 4GB Memory
- 32GB SSD
- Lenovo Pen (Garaged)
- Dual Band Wireless-AC & Bluetooth
- Rugged & Flip Design (Turns into a Tablet)

The Chromebook leasing scheme was launched on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November, which you will have received a letter and flyer about, which explain how the programme works, the specification of the Lenovo 300e Chromebook that is available for purchase or lease and details of how to order the device. The Lenovo 300e Chromebook's are ordered through, and supplied by, Freedom Tech, which is a technology leasing company that provides students with access to the latest devices in a way that is cost effective. Should you have any questions about the device or how the purchase/leasing scheme works please contact Freedom Tech via email: [tech4learners@freedomtech.co.uk](mailto:tech4learners@freedomtech.co.uk) or by phone: 02038575632.

By joining this programme students will have a School ready device exclusively for their own use at home, with 3-year extended warranty, accidental damage, and theft insurance, both with £0 excess for a one-off payment of £448.65. Orders can be placed using the portal at [www.tech4learners.co.uk](http://www.tech4learners.co.uk), you can logon by providing your email address, the username: **CSS23** and password: **S3cure02!** The portal is open now and the deadline for orders will be Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December and the first direct debt payment will be taken on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December. We would expect delivery of the devices to be in early January.

Joining the programme is optional, we are simply offering parents/carers the chance to purchase a 'school ready' device that we know would have all the necessary software installed, antivirus protection and security settings to keep students safe. There is no financial gain to Church Stretton School from this scheme and we have worked with several technology suppliers to negotiate the most favourable price. We understand that this cost may not be easily affordable which is why a leasing option is available via monthly direct debit payments over a range of payment terms in addition to the option of outright purchase, for example 31 monthly payments of £17.02. At the end of the leasing period, you will have full ownership of the device. Further details of the programme and the payment options available can be found on the portal at [www.tech4learners.co.uk](http://www.tech4learners.co.uk).



# SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MATTERS



How much school will you have missed in a year?

## INCREDIBLE!

You have missed very little learning and stand the best possible chance of success.

97-100%

Fewer than 5 days

## GOOD!

You have met our school target – well done.

96%

6 days missed

## NEARLY THERE

This is almost 2 weeks of school missed. That's 50 lessons!

95%

9 days missed

## IMPROVEMENT NEEDED

55 lessons missed across the year.

94%

11 days missed

## CONCERN

This is known as persistent absence and will involve school action. It is the same as missing half a day of school every week.

90%

20 days missed

## SIGNIFICANT CONCERN

This is the same as missing a day of school a week. If you have 80% from years 7-11, you will have missed **ONE YEAR** of school.

80%

38 days missed

# Ludlow Community

Free information, advice and support

**Helena Lane House**

20 Hamlet Lane, Ludlow SY8 2NP

**Every Monday 9:30- 11am**

**And**

**Every Wednesday 1:30 -3pm**

**Running from**

**Monday 6th November to**

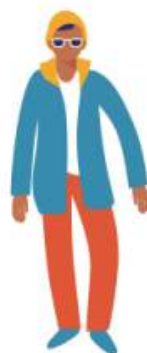
**Wednesday 20th December**



**You can chat, have a coffee and see how we can**

- Housing support
- Children's health and wellbeing
- Healthy living advice
- Dementia support
- Family life
- Home fire safety
- Domestic abuse support
- Drug & alcohol support
- Financial advice
- Getting older

and lots more!



**Shropshire**  
Council