



TAKING GOLD



This term your child may come home with a Gold Slip. Staff will award these to pupils who have completed exceptional work.

They are awarded on rare occasions, in recognition of work that embodies our school value of Excellence. On receipt of a Gold Slip, pupils will visit Mrs Edgar to get the Principal's signature on their certificate. This is also an opportunity for pupils to have a discussion with Mrs Edgar about their work.

I am excited to see which pupils might be the first to earn this prestigious award.

Clemency Price (Senior Vice Principal)



NEXT STEPS

"Your Next Steps - University" was the subject of the day when Ellie from Aberystwyth University came in to talk to our year 12 students about this post 18 pathway choice.

Ellie's presentation was full of information, hints and tips and considered questions like: why choose to study in higher education, how to choose a course, and understanding the types of universities available. She also gave an insight into student life, opportunities, and the support available whilst at university. There was lots for our students to think about, including an understanding of the timeline required for this option if it's being considered. We look forward to welcoming Aberystwyth and other universities to our careers fair later this month



SERVICE TO PERFECTION

We would like to welcome gastro pub chef Keith Wyatt (pictured left) to our site.

Keith is taking over from head chef Jamie Gardley (pictured right) who is moving on to Ellesmere College. We thank Jamie for feeding us for the last two and a half years.

Our kitchen is adjoined to Woodlands primary and between the two schools it serves almost 900 dishes a day, that's approximately 175,500 per year!



CAN YOU DO US A FAVOUR!

Favor Amoah Y13 works on a self portait combining early memories as part of her themed personal investigation study.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

We love to hear about our students demonstrating aspiration, respect and excellence in the community.

If your child has a recent achievement in sports, music, drama, art, hobbies or community projects, let us know. We would like to celebrate their success.

Email geraint.roberts@taw.org.uk with:

- Student's full name, year and mentor group
- A paragraph or two about their achievement
- A good quality photo with permissions gained in writing if other persons are featured in the photo
- Confirmation that you've signed our media agreement and consent to sharing in our school newsletter and social media



Y11 students take a rest after school whilst practicing for their upcoming GCSE Drama practical examinations. Break a leg.



BLUE SKIES

Our Y8 group are at the start of their 3-year Blue Skies journey. They visited AFC Telford for a well-received all day workshop developing leadership resilience and teamworking skills.



JUDO CHAMP

David Opreescu in Y7, is passionate about Judo. Last year he represented HAD in several regional school competitions, securing 1st place in three and 3rd in one.

This year's first event was the Regional School Championships, Southern Area, where he dominated his group (all bigger belts, more experienced players), securing a very well deserved 1st place.

David is dreaming big and working really hard to reach his dream of becoming a British Judo Olympian. The dedication and sacrifices he makes outside the school to reach this level of performance are earning him great success. Judo is a martial art where Judokas need to focus not only on technique but also on mindset, physical strength and a healthy diet.

In 2025 he fought across England and Wales in 26 competitions, securing Gold in half of them. In 2026 he'll have around the same, albeit some will be international championships.





Its easy enough to misplace personal items within a school environment.

To improve the chances of the object and owner being re-united:

LABEL YOUR STUFF WITH YOUR NAME



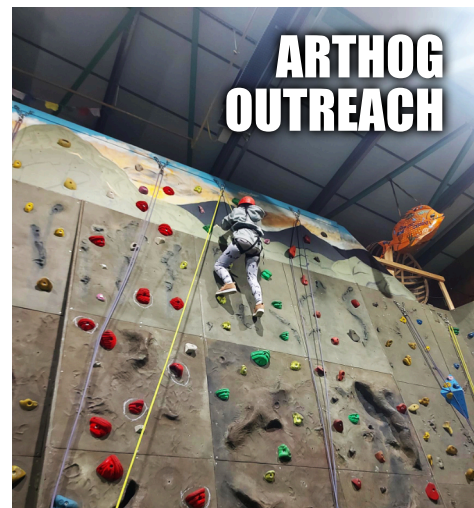
December was a very busy month for the musicians in school. Many of them gave up their time to play carols in the communities of Much Wenlock, Coalbrookdale, Oakengates, in supermarkets such as Tesco (Wrekin Retail Park) & Morrisons (Wellington) and then finished off the term by performing for the singing of traditional carols on the Ironbridge on Christmas Eve. A huge thank you to everyone involved in performing, bucket collecting, transporting and listening to the bands.



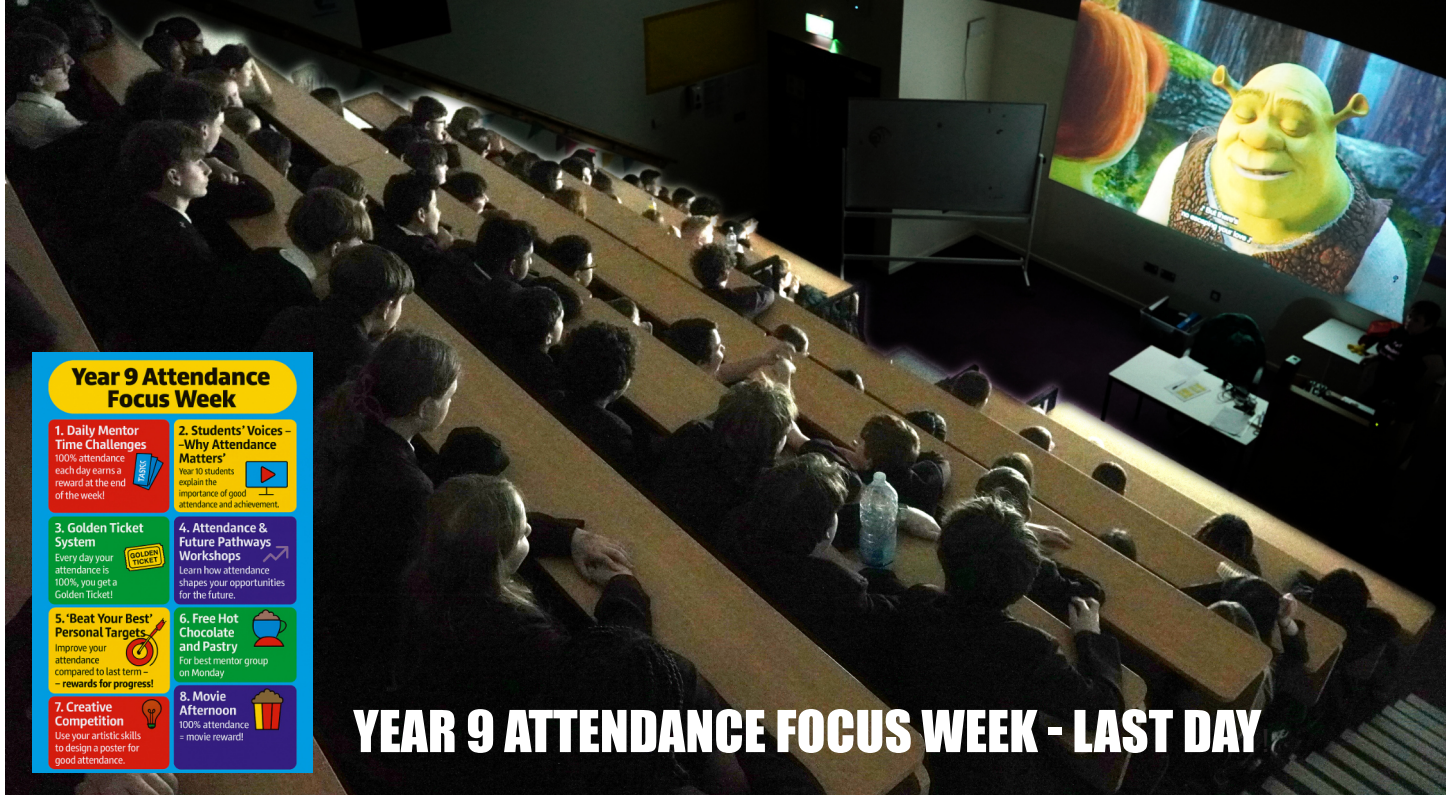
BE KIND

In commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day, year 10 had an assembly delivered by a guest speaker. Lesley shared her family story of some who did and did not survive the Holocaust. Lesley ended her talk with a powerful message, which was to be kind to each and everyone.

'Humanity is still scarred by the belief that race, religion, disability or sexuality make some people's lives worth less than others'. Genocide, antisemitism, racism, xenophobia and discrimination still continue. We have a shared responsibility to fight these evils'. (HMD - Stockholm Declaration)



Arthog Outreach Day is part of our Pathways Provision, designed to give students the opportunity to build confidence, resilience, and independence through outdoor learning. The day encourages teamwork, problem-solving, and personal development while helping students explore new challenges in a supportive environment. Here are our Y7 Thrive students who, despite the miserable weather, kept their high spirits throughout and had a great day canoeing and rock climbing!

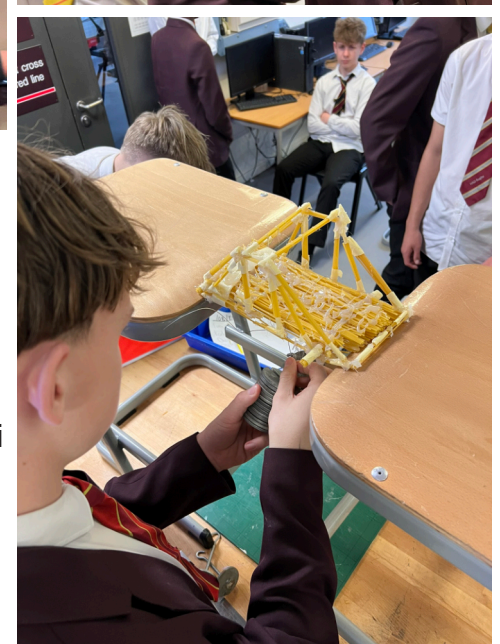


Year 9 Attendance Focus Week

- 1. Daily Mentor Time Challenges**
100% attendance each day earns a reward at the end of the week!
- 2. Students' Voices - Why Attendance Matters?**
Year 10 students explain the importance of good attendance and achievement.
- 3. Golden Ticket System**
Every day your attendance is 100%, you get a Golden Ticket!
- 4. Attendance & Future Pathways Workshops**
Learn how attendance shapes your opportunities for the future.
- 5. 'Beat Your Best' Personal Targets**
Improve your attendance compared to last term - rewards for progress!
- 6. Free Hot Chocolate and Pastry**
For best mentor group on Monday!
- 7. Creative Competition**
Use your artistic skills to design a poster for good attendance.
- 8. Movie Afternoon**
100% attendance - movie reward!

YEAR 9 ATTENDANCE FOCUS WEEK - LAST DAY

A huge thank you to all our Year 9 students and parents for your incredible effort this week in making attendance a top priority! Your commitment truly makes a difference in helping everyone succeed. Shout-out to the amazing students who won the chance to receive a gift card over the week. For all students who had 100% attendance this week, there's was a special movie screening on Friday afternoon! Keep up the great work!



SPAGHETTI JUNCTION!

Year 10 Product Design and Engineering students took part in a spaghetti bridge, design and build competition. Both classes demonstrated commitment and creativity, with one winning team selected from each class.

Students learnt several skills through the process, and as their craftsmanship and technical skills developed, some even chose to continue experimenting at home, testing different types of spaghetti and refining their designs beyond lesson time.

The challenge allowed students to explore structural design, problem-solving, and iterative improvement, growing in confidence and maturity through the design process, even when outcomes varied!