

SUMMER 2025

ERCALL WOOD ACADEMY

www.ercallwood.co.uk

NEWSLETTER



Principal's Address

As we come to the end of an amazing academic year for all involved at Ercall Wood Academy, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the incredible achievements and successes our students have accomplished. It has been a year filled with success and joy and as Principal I want to say how proud I am with all involved at our academy.

I would like to start by acknowledging the Year 11 2025 leavers. This cohort of students carried themselves throughout their final year impeccably and it was a privilege to watch them grow and flourish as they dedicated themselves fully to their examinations. It was wonderful to celebrate their achievements at prom, and then our leavers' assembly, before the whole academy came to applaud them as they left the building, by guard of honour, for the final time.

The talent of our students across a range of disciplines never fails to wow me. Once again, through this academic year, students have shown talent across sport, dance and the arts where their hard work and dedication was clear to see in their performances, whether this be our football teams claiming 4 county cup victories, student dancers performing at Theatre Severn as part of the sold out 'Dancefest' or those who amazed the crowds at 'Ercall in the Parkall'; we are truly grateful. I know I speak on behalf of all the staff when I say these are some of the best moments we experience as teachers and seeing our students all grow in confidence fills us with pride. To add, several students have completed Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award showcasing resilience, independence and giving back to our valued community. It was fantastic to see the number of students engaging in Duke of Edinburgh grow again this year and I know there are more plans to further develop this initiative year on year. Well done class of 2025!

As we now turn our attentions to preparing for the 25/26 academy year, I would like to remind all parents/carers and students of the importance of adhering to our uniform standards. A consistent and appropriate uniform fosters a sense of belonging and pride within our academy community. Please ensure that all students return in September with the correct uniform, ready to start the new academic year with a positive attitude. Copies of uniform policies or information regarding standards and expectations can be found on our website and if there are any barriers regarding uniform, please proactively communicate these with our dedicated pastoral team who are more than willing to support and help overcome and remove these barriers. Finally, a huge thank you to you all for your continued support and involvement in our academy community. Together, we have made this year a resounding success. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Warm regards,
Nicholas Murphy
Principal

Principal's Address



Our Character

Our dedication to student character really came to the forefront this year and culminated in our Ercall Sparkle event, congratulations to all those receiving their character awards across the year. As an academy we completely believe in the development of student character and whilst we always drive academic success and classroom rigour, we will be as equally committed to the development of the whole child. As part of our bespoke values driven Character Education Framework, I would like to commend students for being brave, doing something different and pushing themselves outside of their comfort zone. Whether it be raising money for charity, supporting within the community or presenting in front of peers, it has been fantastic to see our students develop.

A Good Year for Ercall Wood

I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on our wonderful Ofsted inspection this year that saw the school secure a strong "Good" across all areas, this recognised the great work of all involved at the academy and was an exceptional moment. Highlights from the inspection report include:

- **Everyone is welcome at this friendly, inclusive school.**
- **Pupils are happy at this school, they feel safe and know that staff are willing to support them whenever they need help.**
- **Relationships between pupils and staff are warm.**
- **Pupils are respectful, kind and polite to each other and to visitors as they move around site.**
- **Strong and effective pastoral care is available.**
- **The curriculum is broad and ambitious for all pupils. High expectations are evident across all subjects.**
- **Teacher's subject knowledge is strong.**
- **Teachers appropriately adapt their delivery of the curriculum to support pupils.**
- **Pupils appreciate the positive school culture that has been established.**
- **There is a well-designed personal development programme. This reflects the strength of the support and careers guidance they receive.**
- **Parents and carers are happy with the care and education their children receive and support the improvements that have been made over the last two years.**

Important Dates:

- **Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September- Staff inset days- No students on site.**
- **Wednesday 3rd September- Year 7 and Year 11 students only- Normal school timings- Students to wear full school uniform.**
- **Thursday 4th September- All years attending- Normal school timings- Students to wear full school uniform.**

Spotlight on...

DANCE

Black Country Dance Festival

This term Ercall Wood Dancers have been extremely busy representing our school at various events. KS3 Dance club were delighted to attend Black Country Dance Festival in Walsall alongside other schools from the local area. We performed our most recent dance to a mix of songs from High School Musical. It was a wonderful celebration of Dance and our KS3 Dancers performed amazingly. We were very proud of each and everyone of you that took part.



Ercall's Got Talent!



Extra Curricular

Upcoming events...

It has been a busy term but we will be finishing on a high when we take our KS4 Dancers to perform at Charltonbury then ending the term with a rewards trip to see Mary Poppins at the Birmingham Hippodrome! This is going to make us all excited for next year's musical which will be released on our return to school in September. Watch this space..... would anyone like to take a guess?

See Miss Davies for details.



• Student showcase...

Year 8 Dance Workshop

Year 8 were rewarded with a special workshop with Ellie, an ex-student of Ercall Wood Academy who has just completed her final year at BOA. Ellie was a huge member of our Performing Arts team when she was here, and it was wonderful to have her back sharing her experiences and skills from BOA with our students inspiring them to pursue a career in the Performing Arts. Year 8 were treated to a workshop based around the musical 'Footloose' and had a great time learning a short section of choreography to the song 'Holding Out for a Hero.'

Spotlight on...

MUSIC

Our Year 9 Band have recently performed at Telford College's Band Night at the Firefly in Oakengates. We were invited to perform alongside several other secondary schools from our Trust and also bands from the first and second year Music course at the College. While we waited for our slot, we witnessed many incredible band performances and what an incredible performance; 2 Beatles numbers were performed faultlessly! A confidence boost as the audience loved the choice of songs, particularly as it was Paul McCartney's birthday! Congratulations Isabelle, Olly and Oliver; an amazing achievement to perform alongside these bands!



Ercall's Got Talent!



Extra Curricular

We are delighted that we have had a recent increase in students wishing to have lessons on an instrument through school. Telford and Wrekin's dedicated team of music teachers provide weekly tuition on a variety of instruments in pairs or small groups.

See Miss Bradburn for details.



• Student showcase...

During the summer term we held our very own Band Night. Students were given the opportunity to form new or strengthen existing bands and choose and practise their own repertoire. The music department became a hive of energy and excitement with students practising during break, lunch and after school and it was great to see friendships, musical ability and confidence growing. All bands confidently performed in front of a fantastic audience and for some it was their first time on stage! We also welcomed Phoenix Sword, from Telford College, who closed our show providing inspiration for our students. The talent displayed on the stage was amazing, and a real promising start for what will come next year!

Spotlight on...

DRAMA

GCSE drama students from years 9 and 10 completed an all-day workshop with Boxhouse Theatre Company in June. The workshop covered three different styles of devising, empowering students with the tools they need for their devising coursework. It was a fantastic day with some excellent work produced, leaving students feeling inspired to use what they have learned in the coming weeks and months.



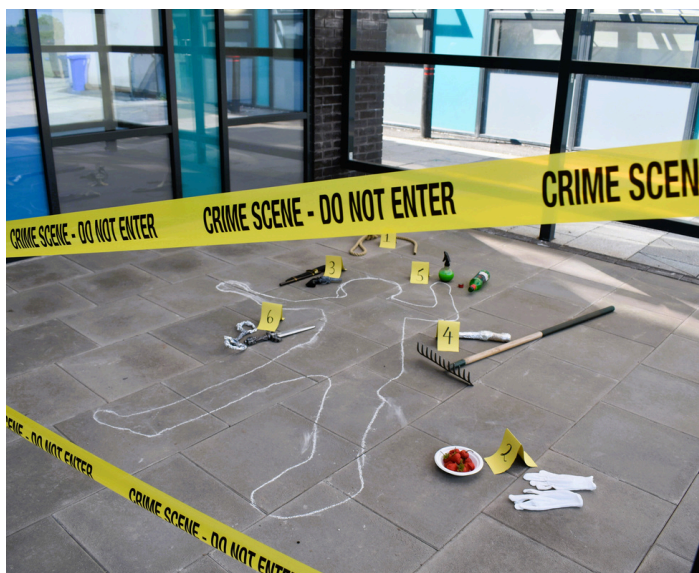
Boxhouse Theatre Company



Upcoming Event

In September we will be releasing the much anticipated news on next year's musical. We can't wait to share the news with you all. So if you love to dance, act and sing then watch this space for details on how and when to audition. We know this is going to be a good one!

See Miss Bowater for details.



Spotlight on...

PERFORMING ARTS

Ercall Wood's Got Talent

This term we saw the return of Ercall Wood's Got Talent. We were blown away by the talent of our young people who sang, danced, played instruments, and performed comedy. It was a hugely difficult decision for our judges to choose a winner but a huge congratulations goes to Scarlett who won the 2025 Ercall Woods Got Talent shield for her beautiful vocal performance of an Amy Winehouse's version of 'Valerie'.



Ercall's Got Talent!



Upcoming Event

In September we will be releasing the much anticipated news on next years musical. We can't wait to share the news with you all. So if you love to Dance, Act and Sing then watch this space for details on how and when to audition. We know this is going to be a good one!

See Miss Davies for details.



• Student showcase...

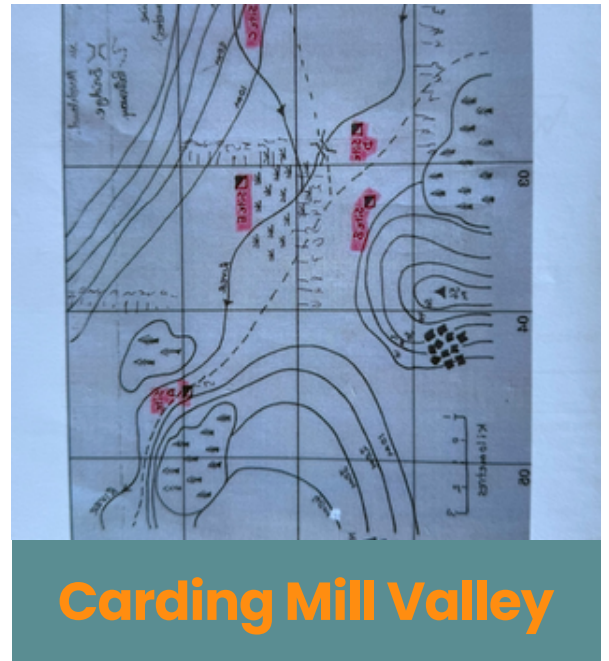
Ercall in the Parkall

Ercall Wood welcomed students, families, and the local community to join us for an afternoon of fun including outdoor activities, stalls, treats, charity events and of course some amazing performances from our Performing Arts Students. Dancers, singers, musicians and actors came together to create 2 hours of entertainment for our community. It was a wonderful celebration of the talent we have here at Ercall Wood Academy and we were thrilled to perform to a sell out audience. We can't wait to do it all over again next year.

Spotlight on...

GEOGRAPHY

Students in Year 8 have been studying population and urbanisation. They have been looking at how and why cities have developed over time and begun to develop their critical thinking and oracy skills with a decision-making exercise. Students created some great arguments for where they would place their settlements within the physical landscape and used this to support their verbal arguments to the group. Students also revisited key skills such as OS map reading, adding an extra layer of challenge to the task.



Give a score of 1-5 for each factor for each site:
1= Very good; 2= Good; 3= Average; 4= Poor; 5= Very poor

Resources	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	Site E
Water	1	4	1	1	1
Grazing land	4	2	3	2	4
Crop land	3	1	2	2	3
Fuel supply	3	4	4	4	3
Building materials	2	4	4	4	4
Protection	4	5	2	4	2
Flat land that doesn't flood	4	1	4	3	4
Total score	20	21	20	19	21

Grid reference of the best site to settle: 070 045, 079



Field Study...

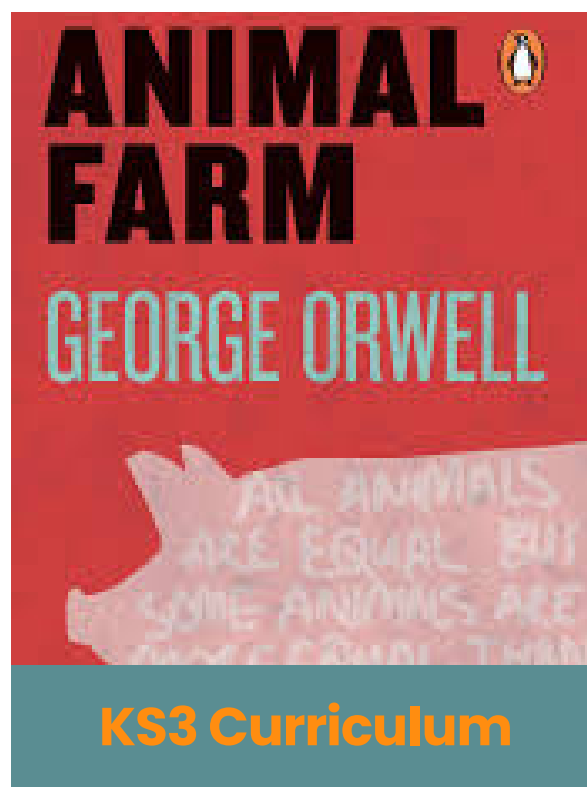
In this past term, our wonderful Year 10 students have undertaken the first of their two fieldwork visits. Students visited Carding Mill Valley collecting data to support their enquiry. Students collected different data samples from river width and depth to velocity at different points along the course of the stream. This gave our students some great experience in collecting data and an insight into geography in action. Our students did have to get a little creative on the day as due to the dry weather, water in the valley was limited.

Spotlight on...

ENGLISH

This Summer term has brought opportunity for all our KS3 groups to study their 20th century novels.

Year 7 had the opportunity to craft deadly sweet stories to showcase an embellishment of their figurative language techniques. Year 8 are currently investigating crime poetry to use their inference skills to determine the suspect hidden within each. Finally, following their study of the literary heritage novel – Animal Farm, Year 9 are now becoming empowered to use their oracy skills to craft and deliver persuasive speeches based on a further idea from Orwell: Room 101.



Extra Curricular

Upcoming events...

The English department are working hard currently on their exciting events calendar for next academic year, full of an abundance of enrichment opportunities.

When we return in the Autumn term, we will be celebrating the following events:

- October – Black History Month – we will be celebrating Black History and our favourite Black writers. A book fair will be held in school with a chance to purchase some fantastic texts to celebrate diversity in literature.
- Thursday 2nd October 2025 – National Poetry Day – look out for more information on the Poetry by Heart competition we will be running.



• KS4 Curriculum

The English team are immensely proud of all Year 10 students who have partaken in their GCSE Spoken Language Endorsement this half term. This has provided an opportunity for students to demonstrate their superb public speaking skills and deliver high quality speeches on topics of their choices.

We have had an array of superb topics, with some notable and profound example as follows:

'Fake news and extremism', 'who is life's greatest teacher', 'education is a privilege not a right', 'serial killers: nature vs nurture', 'witch trials throughout the centuries', 'the wider ocean', 'fascism' and 'the progression of women's football.'

We are very proud of you all!

LITERACY

Summer B saw the return of our exceptional 'Ercall in the Parkall', where our Literacy Ambassadors supported the event by holding a book stall of surplus books that could be bought or swapped to raise funds or new books for our growing library. The event was a wonderful success, where money was raised and books donated, Mr Singh felt extremely proud of Michael and Liv for taking the lead with this; watching their interactions with the wider public, conversing and showing such confidence was a beautiful thing to see!



READING FOCUS



LITERACY AMBASSADORS

Upcoming events...

Thursday 2nd October 2025 – National Poetry Day – look out for more information on the Poetry by Heart competition we will be running.

Monday 6th October to Friday 12th October – National Libraries Week – a chance for our library ambassadors to visit local primary schools to celebrate reading.

See Mr Singh for details.

During the summer term tutor groups were assigned an age related class text to read with books assigned to suit staff specialism, 'The Boy in Striped Pyjamas' was read by a tutor who is a history teacher, so students can not only read a text, but gain cultural capital and subject specific knowledge from their tutor. This also enabled tutors to build on 'talk and text' which helps bolster our whole academy focus on oracy.

Tutors have also gained knowledge in a range of different whole class reading strategies such as: Read Around the Room / Snake Reading; Pre-reading for Vulnerable Readers; Round Robin / Popcorn Reading; Choral Reading; Control the Game. Both tutors and tutees have welcomed this very important reading time.

Spotlight on...

SCIENCE

We have launched the special recognition programme with the Lab Rat Club. Students have been nominated by their class teachers for membership to this members-only club. We have made chocolates and sherbet to look at chemical and biological reactions this year. We also played giant hungry hippos while investigating forces. We look forward to having even more opportunities in the new year including some field trips.



KS3 Curriculum



Upcoming Event

We are looking forward to the new science block opening in September with a special opening event to be held in the first few weeks, so watch this space!



• KS4 Curriculum

In Science we have continued with the launch of the new Key Stage 3 curriculum using Springboard and new GCSE courses with Edexcel. This has included lots of new and exciting practical lessons as well as opportunities for students to develop their oracy skills through class discussions and debates.

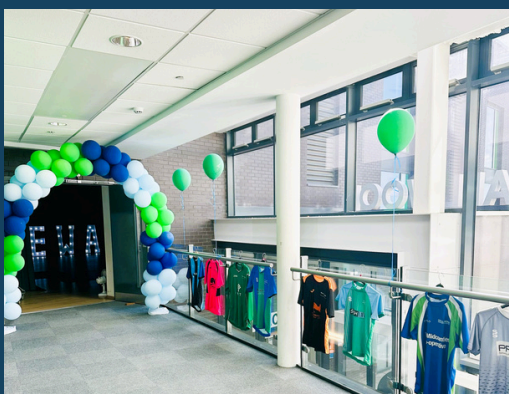
Spotlight on...

PE

Key Stage 3 pupils have been taking part in Athletics and Rounders during our summer term, lessons have consisted of learning new skills such as speed and acceleration, trajectory and Power but also co-ordination and balance. Students then put all these skills in to practice out on the field. They have all done really well and should be proud of themselves.



KS3 Curriculum



Extra Curricular

Club Calendar...

The Ercall Wood Academy PE Department runs a wide range of extra curricular clubs. Look out for our new timetable of opportunities from September 2025 and see how you can get involved. All are welcome!

See Mr Furlong for details.



• KS4 Curriculum

For those Key stage 4 students who have chosen OCR PE as an option it has been a busy term. We have seen 52 of our Year 10 students, who are now half way through their coursework recently complete R185. Meanwhile 106 of our Year 11's took their GCSEs in OCR and they handled them exceptionally well, we are proud of them all and wish them all the best for the future.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Each year group will have a Head Boy and Head Girl and a supporting Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl. These students will meet every 2 weeks with Mr Furlong and once every half term with Mr Murphy for a 'Breakfast with the Head'.

Staff will shortlist the candidates and the student body will cast democratic votes for each year group.

The role involves supporting all aspects of student leadership within the school and gathering student feedback, opinions and ideas, representing their year group at the meetings.



PEER MENTORS

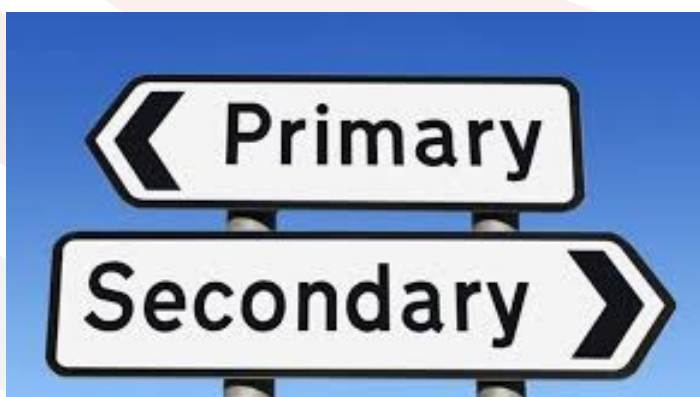
Prefects

Students in every year can apply to be a Sports Prefect. We will have 5 prefect roles for:

- Charity Prefect
- Wellbeing Prefect
- Environmental Prefect
- Anti Bullying Prefect - students involved in the Grassroots programme are automatically eligible
- Equality and Diversity Prefect
- Careers Prefect
- Performing Arts

Every prefect will be issued with a green and silver tie.

- Each category of Prefect will have their own specific responsibilities
- Each category of Prefect will be mentored by a member of staff in school
- They will be required to meet with this member of staff at least once each half term, you must also come up with at least one idea/initiative each half term
- They may also need to help out with whole school events



Lots of applications were received from Year 9 students after a formal interview process with either Mr Murphy, Mrs Dungey, Mrs Waters or Miss Jones and we had 36 successful students. They were then assigned to tutor groups and spent 2 days with our Year 6 intake on transition days, helping them with all aspects of the academy day. The smiles on the Year 6's faces at the end of the day showed what a great job you are already doing, we look forward to the Year 6s joining us in September.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

More than 120 students were presented with trophies on an evening of huge celebration.

Around 400 people, including students and their families, attended the first 'Ercall Sparkle' event, which was the culmination of a year-long challenge for students to demonstrate the academy's key values - Empower, Respect and Aspire.

Among the 24 tasks set for the students were challenges to do something for someone less fortunate, help a family member or neighbour, carry out a random act of kindness, and take part in something which helps the community.

Mayor of Wellington, Councillor Reg Snell – a former Ercall Wood governor - handed out the trophies, describing the students' achievements as an 'absolutely marvellous' demonstration of civic pride.

CHARACTER AWARD FOCUS



Spotlight on...

MATHS

Congratulations to Albert, Charlie, Eliza, Alimat and James (not in photo) who have won our Sparx pupils of the year awards. Over the course of the year, these pupils, through hard work, and determination, have achieved the highest Sparx level in their year groups. Albert is our overall champion with over 37 hours on independent study on Sparx this year.

We also have over 100 pupils who have completed 100% of every maths homework set this academic year.

Well done to all of you.



Further Maths...

28 of our highest achieving and most ambitious year 10s have started their level 2 Further Maths qualification. Pupils are completing the qualification in their own time after school every Friday and will sit the exam in the summer of 2026.

So far, we've covered expanding triple brackets, binomial expansion, division of polygons and the remainder theorem.

The Further Maths qualification will also help with their GCSE Mathematics and A-level mathematics.

Well done to all pupils for an impressive start to the course!

Spotlight on...

HISTORY

Year 7 have ended this term by exploring Wellington through the ages. They have made a Time Traveller's Guide to Wellington.

Year 8 have been studying the rise of dictators in 20th century Europe in preparation for their study of WWII next term.

Some Year 9 students will be leaving History this week, we really hope they remember what they have learnt with us at KS3 and are able to use their knowledge and skills to be critical, analytical and empathetic thinkers.



KS3 Curriculum

• KS4 Curriculum

Wow! We are over halfway through our GCSE History course and ready for the challenge and intensity of year 11.

This term Year 10 completed their first full GCSE mock exams and we are proud of how well our historians tackled it. They all revised independently and we have been really impressed by the progress made so far!



Extra Curricular

For those who have chosen to stay with us in History we are really excited to start the GCSE course with you in September when we will kick off with the Vikings battling it out with the Anglo-Saxons. For all our new GCSE historians, the summer holiday is a great time to find some history series or videos on youtube that interest you so that you can start to build your knowledge for GCSE.

See Miss Evans for details.

History students explore Berlin.



Spotlight on...

MFL

Students across all year groups are currently busy working on their creative projects. Year 7 are getting stuck into the Henry Hühnchen Projekt and have made an excellent start learning a new language. Year 8 are exploring the film project Das Wunder von Bern and Year 9 are developing their presentation skills through the Oracy Projekt using a little bit of translanguageing to celebrate their home and heritage languages as well.

3 Translate the paragraph into German.

I am always hard-working and honest. On Saturday afternoon I earn money in a shop in the town centre. My manager sometimes helps when I have a problem. Last week we talked about jobs abroad, perhaps in Germany. It is my dream to work for an international company in the future.

Ich bin immer fleißig und ehrlich.
Am Samstagnachmittag verdiene ich Geld in einem Geschäft in der Stadtzentrum. Mein Manager hilft manchmal, wenn ich ein Problem habe. Letzte Woche, haben wir über Jobs im Ausland geredet, vielleicht in Deutschland. Es ist mein Traum für ein internationales Unternehmen arbeiten in der Zukunft.

5+3
8

KS3 Curriculum



In other language news, our Head of Languages, Frau Bastow, was honoured to be invited by the German Ambassador, Herr Miguel Berger, to attend the Sommerfest der deutschen Sprache at his residence in London. This prestigious event brought together representatives from some of the UK's leading schools and provided a fantastic opportunity to raise the national profile of our Academy while celebrating the importance of language learning and provided opportunities for networking and building connections.

* kriegen

If you answer Question 1(b) put a cross in the box ☐.

b) Write to someone you know about friends at school.

You must include the following points:

- what you like to do with friends
- your opinion of a friend with reasons
- what you did with friends last week
- what you will do with friends after exams

meine Freundin, Kino, sprechen
nett, fleißig, ich glaube dass
spielen, auch Tennis
Skifahren, shoppen, fitnessstudio, kochen
nach unsere prüfungen gehen wir
In die Sommerferien

Write your answer in German. You should aim to write between 80 and 90 words.

Hallo ich heiße Mariah, ich heiße und ich treffe gern meine Freunde jeden Wochenende. Normalerweise gehen wir shoppen für schöne kleidungen in die Stadtmitte und es gefällt mir sehr, weil wir immer zusammen lachen und Zeit zusammen verbringen. Meiner meinung nach meine Freundin Raunet ist dass sie einen sehr nett ist und fleißig ist, obwohl sie manchmal auf meinen nerven geht, wenn sie meinen essen nimmt. Sie arbeitet und studiert jeden Tag für drei Stunden.

13+5
18

• KS4 Curriculum

We are also delighted to share that our Year 10 students have recently completed their very first set of mock exams for the new GCSE course — and they have done brilliantly. We are particularly proud of the quality of their written responses in both the 80-90 word and 130-150 word tasks. Congratulations to Mariah and Megan, whose work stood out as excellent examples of effort and progress. A special mention also goes to Nethula, who demonstrated outstanding skills in his translation task.

Spotlight on...

ETHICS

At Ercall Wood Academy we study ETHICS, not R.E. or Religious Studies because the subject needs to explore all beliefs and values. Our lessons provide for reflection, empathy, understanding and debate. Above all it is about thinking, listening, sharing and respecting the thoughts, beliefs and values of others.

At KS3 students have been studying the life of the late Pope. He embodied what our philosophy is all about. I share with you his thoughts and those of some of our students.



KS3 Curriculum

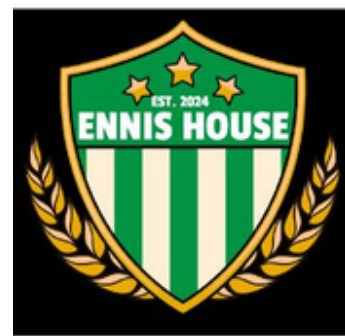


• Student Spotlight...

George Mario Borgoglio was born in Italy and lived a simple life. As a young man he trained to be a chemist and planned to have a career based on science. As a student, he had a part time job as a bouncer on a night club. He never planned to enter the church or become the Pope. He had a girlfriend he was very fond of. His life changed when he felt God was speaking to him. He was a very humble man when he was elected, choosing to wear white robes instead of the traditional red ones.

Year 9 Student Assessment.

REWARDS



HOUSE POINTS

As we approach Sports Day, the years' activity is culminating in a closely fought competition between Burrow and Ennis who are going to push things right down to the wire. Farah and Storey Houses, are still in the competition and with a flurry of Sports Day winners, could still be in contention. Points totals were topped up after we closed a popular recycling competition. We collected 100's of bottle tops with Burrow taking the maximum of 8 points. This was following the immensely successful 'Ercall's got Talent' with all 4 houses picking up a number of points.

The calendar for next year has doubled in size, with even more events ready to grace our exciting schedule. The pre-Sports Day points are as follows:

Burrow – 199 Points
Ennis – 190 Points
Storey - 107 Points
Farah – 116 Points

The winning House will be awarded a film afternoon, complete with Popcorn!
They will also have the great honour of being our first House Cup winners!

Leaderboard

Year 7:

Student with the most merits: Avery Warrender
Tutor group with the most merits: 7 Yellow
Tutor group with best attendance: 7 Yellow

Year 8:

Student with the most merits: Esmail Burrows
Tutor group with the most merits: 8 Blue
Tutor group with best attendance: 8 Orange

Year 9:

Student with the most merits: Katie Barnett
Tutor group with the most merits: 9 Yellow
Tutor group with best attendance: 9 Blue

Year 10:

Student with the most merits: Blake Conner-Williams
Tutor group with the most merits: 10 Orange
Tutor group with best attendance: 10 Orange

Spotlight on...

ART

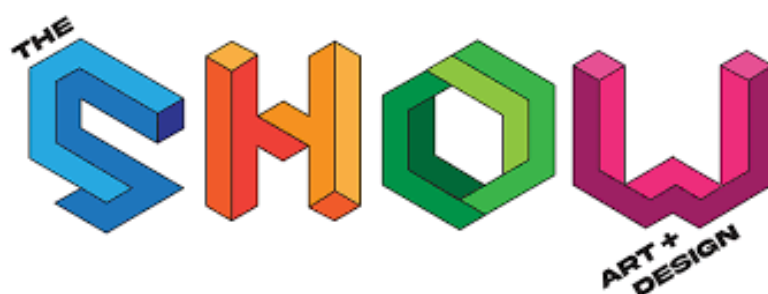
This term in Art has seen the completion of the GCSE Fine Art and Photography courses, which saw 24 Photography students and 21 Fine Art students work incredibly hard to present final pieces. The exhibition of work was presented to the Art moderator which looked fantastic. Well done to all involved.



Extra Curricular



Art club students were asked by Mrs Little to paint a mural, and they jumped at the opportunity. They have been busy painting a fantastic tree mural to represent the kindness shown across the Academy. This Kindness Tree is shimmering with gold, reflecting the day-to-day acts of kindness shown here at the Academy and will be filled with messages for all to see.



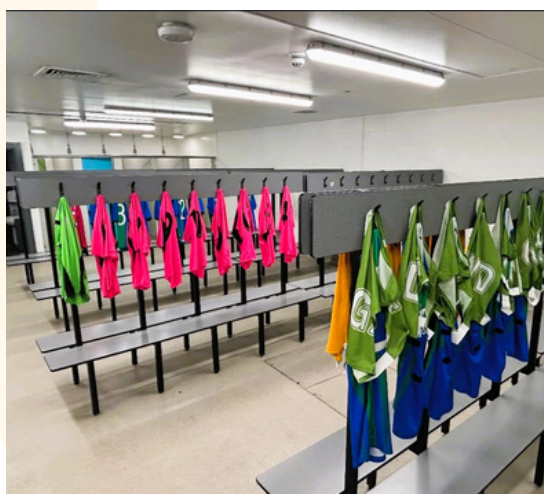
• KS4 Curriculum

GCSE Fine Art and Photography students were given the fantastic opportunity to visit the English Bridge campus at Shrewsbury College for a special performance of the Fashion Show and Art exhibition. This event showcased the work of students studying a range of creative programmes including Art and Design, Fashion, Fine Art, Photography, Creative Media, Graphics, Textiles, Product Design and Film.

Ercall Wood Academy students drew inspiration from the fantastic Year One and Year Two work on display and were full of ideas and enthusiasm after seeing such a range of creative stimuli and outcomes.

SPORTS ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to all students who competed in this years LCT Head2Head at New Road Academy. Teams from Years 7 to 10 competed across 5 different sports events. After a long day Ercall Wood Academy students were named Second in the Trust with both Year 8 and Year 10 Boy's Football Teams being crowned champions in their category.
Well Done All!



LCT Head2Head



U15 Girls Cricket Festival

Well done to our U15 Girl's Cricket Team and U12s Cricket team who participated in the Chance to Shine Cricket Festival hosted by Shropshire Cricket at Frankwell.

INTERNATIONAL VISITS

Year 8 and 9 students embarked on a trip to remember travelling to Spain this term. Experiences included a theme park visit, stadium tour, the opportunity to immerse themselves in the history of the area and plenty of competitive sports opportunities! Student conduct was exemplary throughout and we are proud of the way students have represented the academy internationally!

SPAIN



SPORTS ACHIEVEMENTS

Year 11 sign off with Silverware

Congratulations to the Year 11 boys who finish their last season as a team as Telford and Wrekin Champions. They beat Telford Langley 4-3 in the final at Shifnal Town FC to earn themselves some well deserved Silverware before they leave us. Our goals came from Oli x2, Ollie and Alex and POTM was Gary. The boys have been a credit to the PE Department and the Academy over the last 5 years and this was well deserved.



SPORTS AWARDS

Congratulations to all students who were nominated for the Sports Awards. Your dedication to sport at Ercall Wood is fantastic to see.

Our winners of 20 Awards go to:

Mr Furlong's PE Commendation - Lily Year 9

Mr Marsden's PE Commendation - Finlay Year 8

Miss Penn's PE Commendation - Daniela Year 10

Mr Thomas's PE Commendation - Kwasi Year 10

The Georgia Williams Award- Finn Year 8

Dancer of the Year Key stage 3- Anashe -Year 8

Dancer of the Year Key stage 4 - Verity - Year 9

Team of the Year Key stage 3-Year 8 Girls Football Team

Team of the Year Key stage 4- Year 10 Boys Football Team

Sports Person Year 7- Peyton

Sports Person Year 8- Naeva

Sports Person Year 9 - Millie

Sports Person Year 10- Kacper

Most Improved Keystage 3- Isla

Most Improved Keystage 4- Edmund

Extracurricular Award- Annabelle Year 7

Sportsmanship Award- Alex Year 8

Outside of School Achievement- George Year 8

Academic Achievement- Kyla Year 10

Most Valuable Player- Liv Year 9



TRIPS AND VISITS

Duke of Edinburgh Award

This year, we had 36 students from year 9 complete the expedition section of the Bronze award. They planned routes across the Church Stretton area and coped with the very high temperatures on day one and then the rain on day two.

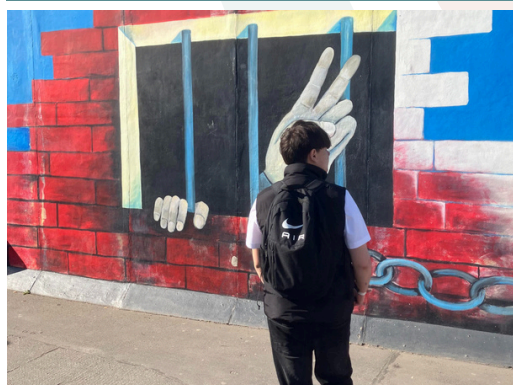
To prepare for the award they practised their first aid skills on each other. They also practised navigating with a compass, pitching tents and setting up stoves.

The celebration event for both Year 9 and 10 students who have completed the award will be next half term, more details to follow so complete those final sections!



INTERNATIONAL VISITS

BERLIN



28 Year 10 students travelled to Berlin for 4 days of German culture and important historical landmarks linked to our GCSE History course. After navigating two airports and many U-Bahn stations, the students explored an underground nuclear bunker, toured the Berlin wall, climbed one of the tallest buildings in Europe and even stood on top of German parliament. With so many museums and sites, such as the Holocaust Memorial, Jewish Museum and German Spy Centre, it was a wonderful place to bring history to life, and being in the German capital, students practised their language skills with native speakers. Another successful trip, we look forward to doing it again next year!



BRUSSELS

KS3 Ercall Wood Academy Students explored Brussels this week, visiting The European Parliament - House of European History, Mini Europe Museum and Park, Chocolate Museum – Choco Story of Brussels, St Michael and St Gudula Cathedral and the nearby town of Leuven.



Spotlight on...

BUSINESS



DRAGON'S DEN



Extra Curricular

Our Charity Prefects have embarked upon the Hope House £50 Challenge, students are planning enterprise opportunities to raise as much money as possible for this worthwhile cause. You may have seen the students' stall at 'Ercall in the Parkall' and 'Ercall Sparkle' recently!

See Mr Castro for details.

Last week, our Business department rolled out the red carpet for a group of enthusiastic Year 6 students, offering them a taste of enterprise with an exciting Dragon's Den-style challenge. The event formed part of the academy's annual transition activities, designed to help younger pupils feel confident and inspired about their move to secondary school.

The session kicked off with a warm welcome from the Business team, who introduced the students to the world of entrepreneurship. Pupils were split into small teams and given a simple brief: come up with a unique product idea and prepare to pitch it to a panel of 'Dragons'.

The room buzzed with creativity as students brainstormed everything from sporting designs to 'create your own t-shirt design' t-shirts. With guidance from the session leaders, the Year 6s worked on their branding, pricing, and final designs.

Subject leader Mr. Hickman commented, "We were blown away by how quickly they picked up key concepts like market research and unique selling points. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to build confidence and start thinking like young entrepreneurs."

The visiting pupils left feeling proud, excited, and perhaps with dreams of becoming the next big name in business. The session was a resounding success, and the Business department is already planning more interactive experiences for future cohorts.

Welcome to the world of enterprise, Year 6 — you're off to a flying start!

CAREERS

Talk from University of Cambridge

Over 50 Year 10 pupils attended a presentation to find out more about applying to the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford.

Pupils were encouraged to start their research into different universities and the courses they offer, and to start their independent study (examples were given in the presentation).

The talk was an amazing opportunity to gain a valuable insight into studying at the University of Cambridge.



KS4 WORK EXPERIENCE



Special Commendation

Congratulations to The Young Enterprise company team. They are the only Year 10 team in Shropshire, so they were competing against other teams in Year 12, and they won the Creativity Award. The team have faced challenges in this extracurricular programme, since September, putting in long hours to create, design, produce, market and then sell their product.

STUDENT FOCUS

Year 10 – Work experience programme 7th July - 11th July 2025

148 of our year 10 pupils completed their week out on placement with 129 organisations. 20 pupils have completed live online work experience through 7 national companies and 18 pupils have completed our in house programme which has consisted of many different activities from the RAF/Enterprise Challenge/First Aid/ ASK Apprenticeship and our local colleges. Thank you to all employers who agreed to host a pupil or came in to school for our in house programme so that they could develop skills, gain knowledge and practical experiences, and enhance their career prospects. We look forward to hearing about all of their successes.

Spotlight on...

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Year 7 have been busy looking at recycling and reusing the wood we have in order to be more sustainable and environmentally friendly, each creating fantastic little 'Block bots', which are hand held small wooden toys. Year 8 have been using their wood working skills to create an amplifier for their phones to use reflection of sound waves to increase the volume.

Year 9 are also finishing off this term's project of an adjustable lamp, looking at using electronics, recycling materials and using mitre saws, this more technical project has added to their skills set considerably.



KS3 Curriculum



Extra Curricular

After school club runs on Mondays throughout the year for students interested in developing their technology skills. Our latest creation has been a fantastic extra large bug/creature house which will be going into the schools nurture garden, along with a hedgehog house. It will be great to see them in their final positions.

See Miss Phillips for details.



• Curriculum

Year 10 have now moved onto the coursework component of the course which always begins on the 1st of June in Year 10. We are looking forward to seeing what students come up with as solutions to the problems set by the exam board and we have already had some great ideas thrown around in class discussion. Watch this space!

Year 6 transition days have been a great success with those getting a taste of technology being able to have a go at making their own cork totem poles to take home, using drills and glue guns.

Spotlight on...

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

During the summer term our Key stage 3 students have been very busy. Year 7 have been developing their biscuit making skills, ideas ranged from chocolate chip to smarties.

Year 8 have been developing their creativity by adapting Victoria Scone recipes.

Year 9 have also been working on the cake theme and developing their skills around independent working. All students have focused on Hygiene and Health and Safety.



KS3 Curriculum



Extra Curricular

The Baking Club is open to KS3 students and runs for an hour after school on a Wednesday, the aim is to have fun, allow students to develop a love of baking and socialise with people they may not normally mix with.

See Mrs Taylor for more details



• KS4 Curriculum

Year 10 Food Technology

Year 10 GCSE food students have been working on a mock NEA task during the Summer Term, where they have had to choose from a set design brief and explore what is required and answer it in full.

The students have shown a good understanding of the work needed and created a range of different dishes and meals which fit the chosen brief. Hygiene and safety played a large part in the three-hour practical exam which students undertook.

Spotlight on...

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Ercall in the Parkall - Year 10 Health and Social Care students represented yet again, running four stalls including a very popular tombola, a 'Keepy Uppy' competition, 'Bounce the Ball' game and a 'Guess the Football' game. Altogether they made over £100 towards their charity choice, which was to support a local homeless shelter.



Supporting Charity



Extra Curricular

Throughout the year, Year 10 H&SC have been busy raising money and collecting for charity, meaning we have been able to support the local food bank, Christmas cards for local care homes, and supporting local homeless charities. We collected over 150 pairs of glasses to be sent to less fortunate people abroad and supported 'Telford crisis centre'.



• KS4 Curriculum

Health and Social Care students in both Year 10 and Year 11 came to the end of their coursework for this year this term. With coursework being 30% of their overall grade, each one takes a lot of time and effort to complete and is the result of a years worth a work.

SAFEGUARDING

Online Safety:

As we head into the summer break, we appreciate students will have more free time to spend away from home or online. Some of you may already use apps to monitor your child's whereabouts or online activity, however, please see below a list of recommended apps you may wish to consider:

Parentalr
Family Link
Microsoft Family Safety
Life 360
Find my Kids



WELLBEING



Right help at the right time

Family Hubs will be running drop in sessions during the school holidays, these can be accessed at:

Hollinswood - Tuesdays
10am-12 noon.

Southwater Library-
Wednesdays 9.30am- 12.30.

The Hub Newport Thursdays
10am- 12 noon.

Contact: 01952 385385

SUPPORT AND ADVICE

Safeguarding Concerns

If you have any concerns over the safety and welfare of a young person during the summer break you can contact family connect or send an alert to our school Safeguarding Team (please note we will be working remotely and will not be on site during the holidays).

Parents and Carer Support: Being a parent/carer is never an easy job and many times we are faced with situations that catch us off guard, leaving us questioning have we made the right choice for our child. Telford and Wrekin Family Hubs have an extensive offer for parents and carers all year-round including parenting support, links with Strengthening Families and plenty of information ranging from health, SEND, and finances to education.