

02 July 2025 (Week A)

Dear Parents/Carers,

Changes to the CPD days for the next academic year

There have been some changes to the CPD days that have been published for next year, a new version of the calendar has been included with this letter and the published information has been changed. To summarise, the CPD day that was originally scheduled for November has been moved to December and there is an additional CPD day at the end of June.

Merger update

A summary of the proposed merger between The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust and the Four Stones MAT has been included with this letter

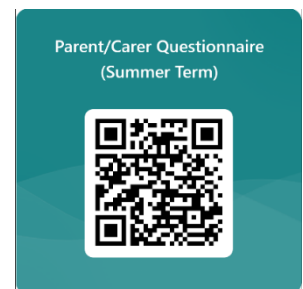
Emergency response drill

The emergency response drill will take place next week. At the start of the week students will have an assembly to go through the process, they will be told the day and lesson of when the drill will take place, tutors will talk through the process on the morning of the drill. The purpose is to ensure that all staff and students are prepared in the event of an incident, it also allows us to test our processes. This is not a simulation, we will not ask members of staff to lock doors or for students to move from their seats, staff will make sure that students are reassured through the process.

Stakeholder Voice

We are continuously looking for ways to improve and your opinions as parents/carers are extremely important to us. Please could we ask you to complete the parent/carer questionnaire using the QR code below. This link will be active for 2 more weeks.

<https://forms.office.com/e/38c7DW87RB>



Parenting Team

The Parenting Team will be delivering free Understanding Your Child and Understanding Your Child SEND, from toddler to teens - groups from September/October 2025 (information attached). These 10-week groups aim to:

- Promote understanding of children's behaviour within the context of developmental issues
- Promote the development of parent/child relationship
- Increase confidence and self-esteem in both parents and children
- Give parents a strategy for repair when things go wrong
- Promote reflective, sensitive and effective parenting

The Parenting Team are also offering free SLEEP TIGHT groups from September 2025 (information attached). These 5-week workshops cover:

- Recognising the role of sleep hygiene to improve sleep
- Identifying causes of sleep issues and appropriate practical strategies to try
- Completing sleep diaries and identifying potential sleep issues

Also attached is the team's poster promoting their Parenting Help and Support Line. In addition, links to their webpage with further information on free online courses and other offers from the parenting team are below:

[The Parenting Team | Shropshire Council](#)

[The Parenting Team | Shropshire Council](#) (Local Offer/SEND)

School meals service

Price increase from September 2025.

A new menu will be available from September and shortly shared on your school website.

Due to rising costs, the trust has taken the decision to raise costs of this service to £2.80 for early years pupils and to £3.00 for KS2, KS3 and KS4 pupils.

Poland – Year 10

In the early hours of Sunday 29th June Twenty of our Year 10 students headed off to Heathrow airport bound for Poland. On arrival in Poland, pupils were given a taste of the city, walking through the main square to the Wawel castle district, and to see Krakow's fire breathing dragon statue.

After a good sleep, we headed off on the Monday to the Galicia Jewish Museum for a guided tour and a meeting with a local lady who told us about how her family had risked their lives to help a Jewish woman survive the war. Pupils were then given time in the Jewish district to lunch with their friends before going on a guided tour of the Jewish ghetto, where they saw remnants of the ghetto wall and heard about the appalling treatment of Jewish people by the Nazis.

Tuesday saw another early start as we headed off to Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Nazis largest concentration and death camp, pupils were moved by what they saw and heard, and many talked about the value and importance of witnessing this site for themselves.

The final evening was spent bowling and having fun with friends, before spending Wednesday sightseeing in the main square and cloth hall, before heading to the salt mine, which was spectacular, pupils climbed down 800 steps and were impressed by the underground cathedral and amused by the invite to lick the salt mine walls!

Year 10 were a credit to Lacon Childe and behaved respectfully throughout the trip. Well done Year 10!

A huge thank you goes to Mrs Rawnsley for her fantastic organisation of the trip and to Mr Roff and Mrs Dolphin for giving up their time.



Arthog – Year 8

Last week it was my great privilege to take fifty-two Year 8s to the beautiful coastal area of the Mawddach Estuary for five days of canoeing, rock climbing, gorge walking, surfing, caving and orienteering. In the evenings we took walks, completed the Nightline team challenge and played football.

The pupils were beautifully behaved and a credit to the school. Throughout the week pupils showed thoughtfulness in how they looked after each other, courage in facing their fears and resilience. The weather was variable, but it didn't stop Year 8 from making the most of this wonderful opportunity. I know from previous years that this experience is one they will never forget. A big thank you to the staff, Mr Martin, Mrs Eades, Mr Jordan, Mr Hillman and Miss Tandy who gave up their time to ensure that this trip could take place. If you are the parent of a child in Year 7, watch out for the letter in the autumn term to apply for a place on this exciting adventure next year. Ms Shepherd

London – Year 7

Our Year 7 trip to London was an unforgettable experience packed with adventure, creativity, and fun! We kicked off the trip with an exciting raft building activity, where teamwork and problem-solving were key as we worked together to design and test our own rafts on the water.

We then travelled to eat our evening meal and enjoyed a walk to look at Wembley Stadium. After which we retired to the Premier Inn in Harrow, checking into our rooms and settling down for the night to prepare for the action packed day ahead on Thursday.

On Thursday, we explored innovation and design at the Design Museum, discovering fascinating exhibitions on architecture, fashion, and technology. It was a great chance to get inspired by the creativity behind everyday objects and future inventions.

One of the highlights was the ride on the London Eye, giving us spectacular views of the city skyline and famous landmarks – an amazing way to see London from above!

We were also lucky enough to watch The Lion King musical in the West End. The performance was absolutely breathtaking, with incredible costumes, music, and performances that brought the story to life in a powerful way.

To round off the trip, we spent an exhilarating day at Thorpe Park, enjoying thrilling rides, laughter, and making brilliant memories with friends.

It was a fantastic trip full of learning, excitement, and fun – Thank you to year 7 who made the whole trip fantastic.



Mock Trial – Regional Champions!

The annual national mock trial competition is an event where school students take on the roles within a court room and act out a criminal case to determine whether a defendant is guilty or not.

In March, Lacon Childe's 2025 mock trial team, consisting of 15 students aged between 12 and 14, competed in the local heat of the national mock trial competition at Worcester Magistrates' Court, and brought home the trophy for the eighth time. Next the team faced tougher competition from the schools that had reached the regional final that took place on Saturday 28th June at North Staffordshire Justice Centre in Newcastle-Under-Lyme.

The defence team was up first against Wilmslow School. The defendant was accused of stealing four bikes from the entrance hall of a block of flats, vandalising three of them and keeping one for themselves. The defence's case held firm and with lack of a positive identification, the defendant was found not guilty. When it was Lacon Childe's turn to prosecute, they faced another Shropshire school: Meole Brace. The standard of advocacy was extremely high but the witnesses held their nerve. After much deliberation by the magistrates, this trial also ended in a not guilty verdict.

The team received high praise from the judges and dignitaries present, including the High Sheriff of Stafford and the Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, Sir Ian Dudson. Once the scores were collated, Lacon Childe was crowned as this year's winning team, much to the elation of the students, Mrs Britton their coach and the supporting parents. This Young Citizens scheme has provided our students with a rare opportunity to learn about the workings of the UK justice system: aside from all of the formality and etiquette of the courtroom, the

students also got a taste of life on the other side of the bars with a visit to the cells below the courts. It has been an unforgettable experience for these incredible students who have been a joy to work with.



Schol Fete – Next Thursday

Please come and join us at our school fete next Thursday. Poster attached for you.

PTA Raffle Tickets – Final week

This week marks the final week of raffle ticket sales, please return money for sold tickets and return any unsold tickets to your child's form tutor this Friday. Thank you!

Thank you for your continued support

Attachments

[Calendar 2025-26](#)

[Update on proposed merger](#)

Free parenting and sleep groups 2025 [\(1\)](#) [\(2\)](#) [\(3\)](#)

[Lacon summer fete](#)

Yours sincerely

Rachel Croxton-Broome
Head of School

Stuart Weston
Headteacher Designate

Item	Information	Payment Due
Year 7 KS3 Design Technology Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Year 7 Science Revision workbook	£4.50	
Year 10 GCSE Materials Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Year 10 French revision guide	£3.55	
Year 10 French workbook	£3.55	
Year 10 History Revision Guides		

Dates to remember:

Wednesday 2 July	Sports Day
Thursday 3 July	Year 9 Bronze DofE expedition
Thursday 3 July	Year 10 (selected students) Ludlow college visit
Friday 4 July	Year 7 Readathon
Friday 4 July	Year 9 Bronze DofE expedition
Friday 4 July	Year 10 (selected students) King Edward VI college visit
Thursday 10 July	Lacon summer fete
Friday 18 th July	Last day of term

Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 8PE

Tel: (01299) 270312

E-mail: admin@laconchilleschool.co.uk

www.lacon-childe.org.uk

The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust