

This issue

Headteacher update	1
World Book Day	2
Jodrell Bank	3
5km walk	4
Bubble Art	5
Darwin update	6
Time for sport	7
After School Clubs	8
Build update	9
Staff and Governor update	10-12

Information Station

- **Easter break**—School Closed from Friday 7th April to Friday 21st April. We will re-open to pupils on Monday 24th April.
- **Term dates** for 2022/23 and 2023/24 are available here: <https://thekeystoneacademy.org/school-holiday-dates/>
- **Uniform** either contact the school office by email or phone for more information, or orders can be made online at: www.schoolshopdirect.co.uk
- Please ensure all items are labelled with your child's name so that lost items can be easily returned.
- **School Meals**—Did you know that you can pay your child's dinner money by bank transfer? Please let us know if you would like our bank details to make a payment.



THE
KEYSTONE
ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 7

April 2023

Welcome to our 7th newsletter!

We have enjoyed another wonderful term, here at Keystone. From snowy days, school trips, amazing artwork and learning how to be healthy, our pupils and staff have had a great time.

We have welcomed more pupils into the school, with only a few more places to fill before we reach our capacity on roll for this academic year, of 50. This is really good news, as it now means that we can enjoy the coming Summer term, with less change and disruption to the class groups.

Staff recruitment for our next growth phase began during the Spring term, with a number of fabulous applicants. You will find introductions from some of them further in the newsletter. So far, we have successfully appointed:

- 2 Assistant Headteachers (one of whom is our own Mr Garton!)
- 1 Teaching Assistant
- 2 Pastoral Support Officers

After Easter, we will begin the interview process for another 6 teachers to enhance our already wonderful staff team.

Also, after Easter, we will be introducing reading books and reading records which will enable our pupils to take books from school to read at home. More information about this will follow early next term.

And finally, we have been incredibly lucky to have received a generous donation of Easter eggs for all of our pupils from Bannatyne Health and Fitness Club in Shrewsbury. We hope everyone enjoys the extra chocolate, just in time for the Easter weekend!

I hope you all enjoy reading our updates in this edition of our newsletter and go on to enjoy a fabulous two-week break. We will all look forward to seeing our pupils back at school again on Monday 24th April.

Best wishes,

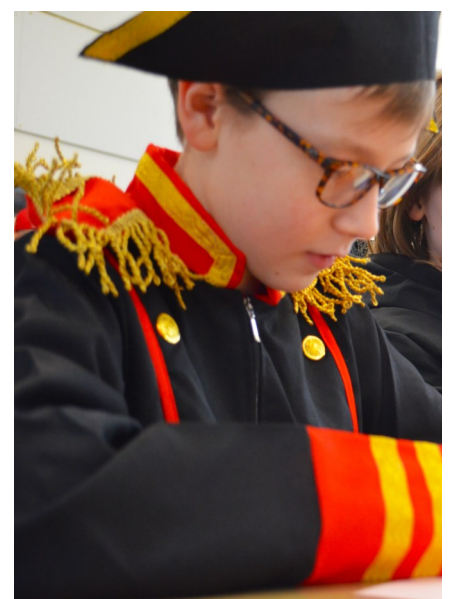
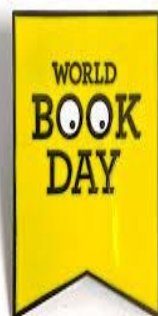
Ali Bellaby



World Book Day

Our first World Book Day here at Keystone was a huge success! We all loved dressing up and seeing the fabulous costumes that those around us chose to wear. Throughout the week, we all participated in some book cover scavenger hunts and learnt more about World Book Day.

Some of us enjoyed participating in our Wacky Reading Challenge over the half term break. A massive well done to Shay, our Wacky Reader winner! Another well done to Beau who won our children's best dressed award and Mr Garton who won our adult's best dressed award!



Jodrell Bank

On Friday 31st March, Einstein and Tajiri class visited the world-famous radio telescope, Jodrell Bank. We all had a wonderful day learning lots about space. At the exhibition, we observed different scientific experiments such as 'what would happen if we took our space suit off in space?' and 'how does a rocket work?' We then were able to visit the amazing space dome, where we blasted off into space and explored different planets in our solar system. We all enjoyed asking the staff lots of questions, as well as answering questions with some of our own knowledge about space. All of the staff were so proud of the children and they represented our wonderful school perfectly! Well done, Tajiri and Einstein!



Alfie's 5km walk



On Monday 27th March, The Keystone Academy students and staff were privileged to support Alfie in his challenge of walking 5km every day for a week. Alfie was taking on the 5km challenge to support a local Autism charity and celebrate Autism Acceptance week. He raised over £500 before we even started the walk! We took part in a 5km route around the local area starting and finishing at school. We set off at a brisk pace leaving at 9am and returning to school before break time to kickstart Alfie's week of walks. After our walk, we came back for tea and cakes and celebrated our achievements. The pupils were wonderful and thoroughly enjoyed the morning. We are all so proud of Alfie—he had such a positive attitude and showed real determination as he tackled this challenge. Well done Alfie!

Bubble Art



“Turing class enjoyed a messy morning creating abstract patterned paper with ink and bubbles. This was to wrap up their work on natural forms which looked at how different shapes and patterns occur organically.”



Healthy Learning

Darwin class have had a fantastic term learning all about how to keep themselves healthy. We have learnt about the importance of exercise and have completed circuits in Health and Fitness and some of the pupils have managed to improve their scores week on week which is amazing! We have looked at different types of foods, which food groups they belong to and how to eat a balanced diet. We had a lovely morning learning all about sleep and ways to help our bodies to rest and to relax and pupils spent time relaxing in the sensory room. We've also looked at the importance of keeping our bodies clean and all had a go at washing our hands and cleaning out teeth which all of the pupils were great at. To complete our unit of work we've looked at how to be safe around medicines and household products that can be harmful.



time4sport

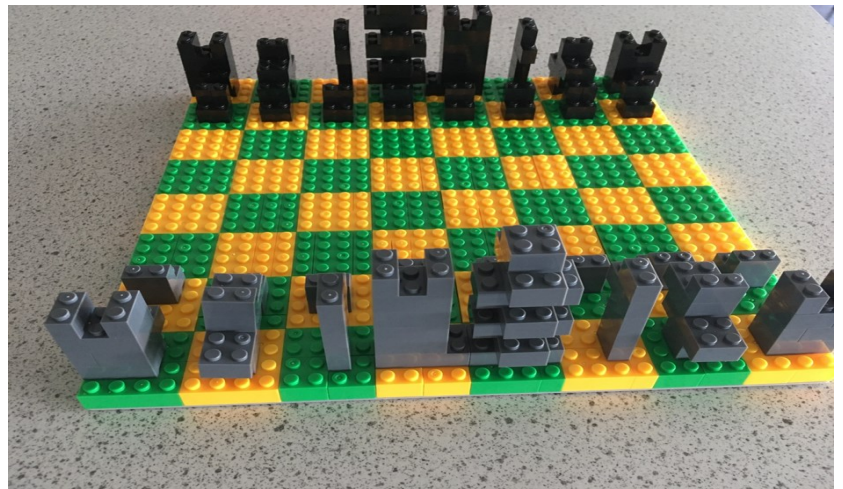
The children's main topic this term has been based around a healthy lifestyle. They have spent time learning about fats, sugars and how to achieve a balance. This has also included time spent on screen and its effects. They have learnt how to problem solve and play strategic games to help their skills develop. Each week the coaches will choose a 'Class of the week' and a trophy is given. So far Burton and Tesla have won.



After School Clubs

Construction Club

We have recently introduced Construction Club at Keystone on Tuesday afternoons. Students have had the opportunity to get creative with both Lego and K'nex during the club. This term our focus has been around creating a game. One of our students chose to make his own Lego chess set. First we worked out the necessary maths to divide our starting board into 64 equal sized squares. Next task was to design the different pieces, a lot of time was taken to consider the appropriate size of each piece when compared to another. When the designs were approved we set about making two identical teams.



The chess set is now in use and it has been a joy to see this project being dreamt and completed by one of our youngest students. I am looking forward to seeing what we will be making next!

Musical Club

We have had a blast in our musical club this half term. We have enjoyed singing, dancing and acting along to lots of our favourite musicals (lots of Disney!). We have also played lots of theatre and drama games such as charades. We still have spaces for after half term so if this sounds like fun, feel free to come along and try after Easter!



BUILDING WORK UPDATE

There has been a huge amount of progress on site since the last newsletter. The structure and shape of the building is now apparent and the builders have moved onto the second floor. Mrs Bellaby was lucky enough to spend time on site meeting the team and even managed to find her office!



A Warm Welcome

We are delighted to welcome some new staff members to join our Keystone Team:

Hello everyone

I'm Mrs Jones-Mutch and I can't wait to join Keystone academy in June as Assistant Head. I am very much looking forward to meeting all students and families and to support as SENCO along with Mrs Trow throughout the school. When I'm not in Shrewsbury working, I live by the beach and love long walks with my husband and two frenchies Luna and Blu. In my spare time I love to make jewellery for family and friends and of course some for myself! I love swimming and try to go most mornings before school starts and when the weather is warmer I will be swimming in the sea! I am very excited to start at school and to work with all the amazing staff and students.



Hello, My name is Donna Smith and I am really pleased to have joined Keystone as a Teaching Assistant. I have worked in a large school for many years, supporting children with SEND.

I am enjoying getting to know the children throughout the school and am looking forward to many great learning experiences with everyone at Keystone..

Introducing our Governors

Boyd Robinson—Parent Governor

I am an accountant working in Telford for a financial services company. I was previously a Governor for six years at St Lucia's Primary School in Upton Magna.

In my spare time I enjoy walking, watching my children's sport activities and supporting my football team, Brighton.

Mike Dyer—Community Governor

I am the joint Managing Director and Co-founder of The Inspirational Learning Group, a company that has worked with over 500,000 students nationwide on their National Careers Challenge. We work with UK companies who set secondary school students business challenges and compete on a national scale at their finale events at iconic venues such as Wembley Stadium and more locally at the Telford International Centre. Through the challenge I have worked with brands such as Ryman, Natwest, Alton Towers and Airbus. My passion for entrepreneurship has given me the opportunity to take up the role of a judge for the Great British Entrepreneur Awards and I have also mentored a plethora of start-up businesses in the Shropshire and Staffordshire area. I want to use my business leadership and event management skills to help prepare the students at Keystone for the world of work by helping with Careers, KS4 and Post-16 links.

Tricia Slater—Parent Governor

I have worked in Education for 9 years and I am currently the Chief Operating Officer incorporating the role of Chief Finance Officer for a Multi Academy Trust consisting of 8 primary schools in and around the Shrewsbury area.

Before moving into the Education sector in 2013, I worked for 12 years in the legal public sector working in roles such as press and media relations, training and development and business management.

Between 2013 and 2018 I worked as a School Business Manager in a large primary school and it was here that I completed my Level 5 ILM Accredited Diploma in School Business Management in 2016. I recently completed the CIPFA Level 7 Diploma in School/Financial and Operational Leadership and Certificate in Financial Reporting for Academies (Cert FRA). I am also a member of ISBL (Institute of School Business Leaders).

I am a DfE accredited SRMA (Schools Resource Management Advisor). The SRMA programme is part of the DfE's wider work to help schools achieve excellent school resource management.

In my spare time I like to spend time with my husband and 2 daughters and also our horse, 2 dogs and cat! I love returning to see family in Ireland and take long walks along the coast near where I grew up.

Georgia Smith—Community Governor

I have been living and working in Shropshire for almost 30 years but hail originally from Merseyside. My background is in secondary school teaching – English and History, having been a head of department and pastoral lead along the way. My career progression has been into school behaviour management and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, and I have studied post graduate qualifications in both areas via Birmingham University and Edge Hill University. I am a qualified and experienced SENCO. I am currently a Specialist Teacher with Shropshire Virtual School, and part of my role is to support our children-in-care cohort to work toward excellent learning outcomes. In addition, I support schools and early years providers to offer the additional nurture, adjustments and adaptations that our children often need in order to repair and rebuild their confidence, trust and self-esteem whilst being supported to reach their academic potential. I am very excited to be part of the Keystone Academy governor team and am very much looking forward to assisting in some way, toward the ongoing development and expansion of the school.

Hilary McGlynn—Community Governor

I have a specialist background working in services supporting neurodiversity. I currently work for the NHS Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin Integrated Care Board where I am a member of the team that commissions and develops services for adults and children with learning disabilities and/or autism. Prior to this I worked for Autism West Midlands for 13 years, where I began in the Shropshire family service and ended up in a role covering all of the West Midlands. I live in rural North Shropshire with my husband. I have two grown up sons, who have almost left home (they keep coming back!) In my spare time I enjoy gardening and singing in my local community choir.

Steve Gray—Staff Governor

My name is Steven Gray, and it is my pleasure to be the Staff Governor at the Keystone Academy. I have been a teacher for 10 years and my primary role is teaching Mathematics, ICT and Outdoor Studies across Key Stage 2 and 3. I am really looking forward to helping teach and develop the skills of our children at Keystone and hope to bring my passion for teaching into the role of staff Governor. I am very privileged to represent the amazing staff here at Keystone and look forward to help the school progress into the new building at Bowbrook.

