

# May Half-Term Newsletter

## News from the Headteacher

The half-term holiday is already upon us. With the two Bank Holidays, it has felt a short, but sweet, start to the Summer term. GCSE exams have successfully got underway for Year 11s, and students in all other year groups should be preparing for their Summer exams. Tutor time activities, this half term, have focused on strategies for effective revision to support students with their preparations. All exam timetables are on our website, under Exam Information.

You may have noticed several vacancies posted on our website, recently. With growing student numbers in the school, we have been able to appoint additional staff in some subject areas, as well as make arrangements to replace staff who are moving on.

There will be time for more fulsome goodbyes in the last newsletter of the year, but to keep you up to speed with some significant changes, Mrs Hughes, Assistant Headteacher, is retiring in July. She has been a fantastic teacher, Curriculum Learning Tutor (CLT) and Assistant Headteacher during the 28 years she has been at Ludlow School, and we will all miss her very much. Her Senior Leadership role will be taken up by Mrs Tysall, who is currently the CLT for St Peter's House. Mrs Griffiths, currently Head of English, will also be joining the Senior Leadership Team, along with an external appointment, Ms McArthur. The process for selecting a new Headteacher, for when I retire in January 2024, is well underway. Interviews will be taking place at the end of June.

Some other news:

We will be pausing the Duke of Edinburgh programme next year, whilst Mrs Lewis is on Maternity Leave. We will remain as a licensed centre, with the intention of offering the activity to students in the future.

Funding has been secured for the provision of Free School Meal (FSM) vouchers over school holidays for the next financial year: a week for this May Half-Term holiday; three weeks of the Summer holiday; the Autumn Half-Term break; two weeks at Christmas 2023, and the Spring Half-Term week in 2024. The voucher is for £15 per child in receipt of FSM.

*ClubSport*, our branded uniform provider, will be setting up a Pop-Up Shop at the school, on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July from 4pm to 7pm. It is a good opportunity to pick up uniform items without having to travel to Leominster, or having to order online.

Finally, we send our congratulations and best wishes to two Year 10 students, Isabelle Andrews and Robyn Mear, who will be travelling to Vianen, in Holland, over half-term, with the Herefordshire Lions Girls Football team. They have been selected from over 100 girls to be part of the 15-player squad, taking part. It will be an amazing experience to be playing in an international tournament, and a reward for their hard work and dedication to training. Good luck, girls!

I hope that you all have an enjoyable break over the next few days. School restarts on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June.  
Best wishes, Paula Hearle

## Visit from the Imam of Craven Arms Islamic Centre

Mrs Merrick's Year 10 RE class enjoyed a visit from the Imam of Craven Arms Islamic Centre. He spent the whole afternoon with the class, explaining Islamic beliefs and teachings and offering an open question time. Students asked thoughtful and insightful questions and gave the Imam a round of applause at the end. A memorable day!



## Supporting Family Relationships

Shropshire Council's Strengthening Families team are offering support for families in managing relationships:

Are you facing challenges with your partner? Could your relationship do with an MOT? Did you know that relationship stress affects your health and your children's, too? If you would be interested in attending a Relationship workshop, with or without your partner, to chat with other parents and professionals about relationship issues and how to move forward with them, please let your school know. The workshops are run by Shropshire Council.

Parental **conflict**:  
the impact on children

## Careers Information, Advice and Guidance

Year 11 are in the midst of the GCSE exam season, all with a post-16 pathway secured. Hereford, Herefordshire and Ludlow colleges continue to be the most popular destinations. A-Levels in Psychology and Business are as popular as ever, and vocational courses such as Plumbing, Electrical Installation and Construction, along with Early Years, are top of the list for applications. Shrewsbury Colleges group have had more applications from Ludlow School this year, from students living north of the town. Hartpury College, Gloucestershire and Holme Lacy (Herefordshire) have also received applications. It is fantastic to see our Year 11s entering the final weeks of school with a clear next step in front of them.

Year 10 have all secured Work Experience placements for the week 3-7<sup>th</sup> July. It certainly has not been easy sourcing suitable placements, but our local employers have once again played a key role in supporting this invaluable experience. We are very appreciative of their support.

## Uniform

Thank you for your continued support of our uniform code. The overwhelming majority of our students look smart and wear exactly what is expected. Visitors to the school regularly comment how smart and welcoming our students are. I am immensely proud of them.

There are just two or three specific issues currently that are cause for concern:

- Please ensure boys wear black socks, and not white PE socks.
- Facial piercings are not permitted. Students must wear a clear keeper stud if they cannot remove the piercing.
- Students can wear a single stud earring in each ear only, and one ring on their finger. No other jewellery is permitted.
- Long or artificial nails cannot be worn to school; they prevent students from holding a pen securely, and can cause injury in practical lessons.

Uniform issues may appear trivial, but we have to ensure that we do not allow individual cases to undermine the aim of uniform. Many thanks for your support.

## Reporting your child's absence

Please make sure you either make a phone call into school, or send an email to [admin@ludlowschool.com](mailto:admin@ludlowschool.com), if your child is too unwell to attend school. This contact needs to be made *each day* of your child's absence, not just the first day. We also need *written confirmation* of the absence when your child returns to school, either as a separate letter, or a note in the Student Planner. We ask that all routine dental and medical appointments are not made in school time. However, if this is unavoidable, please send in a note with your child. It is very difficult for our Reception staff to manage last minute phone calls.

Finally, a request for any changes of details, particularly mobile phone numbers and emails, to be communicated to us. In some circumstances, it is really important that we are able to make contact with you swiftly.

## Parking

We are very fortunate that the Teme Leisure are happy for parents to pick up and drop off from their carpark. Can I ask that you use the newly re-surfaced area to the left as you drive in, please, so that paying customers can park close to the centre. On a similar note, only customers visiting Majestic Wines should use their carpark.

The front of school should not be used by parents, please; we need safe access for buses picking up and dropping off students. We would also ask that you respect the neighbours around the school by not pulling into their driveways, or onto the roadside in Burway Close, where there are yellow lines.

## Key Dates 2022-23

5th June	Return to School
15th June	Y7 Parents Evening (tutor-based)
19th June	Y10 and KS3 Exams begin
22nd June	Y8 & Y9 - Field Events
23rd June	Y10 - PM Field Events/Y8 Arthog Trip departs
27th June	Leavers' Day
30th June	Y11 Summer Ball
3rd - 7th July	Y10 Work Experience Week
4th July	Y6 Induction Day & Parents' Evening
5th - 6th July	Y5 Taster Days
10th July	Y9 Healthy Life Styles (A Half) / Y7 AM Field Events
11th July	Y9 Healthy Life Styles (B Half)
12th July	Y10 Ludlow College Taster Day
13th July	Sports Day (Track)
14th July	Sports Day (Reserve)
18th July	Awards Evening / Y10 GCSE History Trip to Ludlow Castle PM
19th July	Y10 GCSE History Trip to Ludlow Castle PM
21st July	Last Day of Term

## Ludlow Church of England School School Terms and Holiday Programme 2023-2024

September 2023						
M	4	11	18	25		
T		5	12	19	26	
W		6	13	20	27	
Th		7	14	21	28	
F	1	8	15	22	29	
S	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	3	10	17	24		

October 2023						
M		2	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	31
W		4	11	18	25	
Th		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
Su	1	8	15	22	29	

November 2023						
M		6	13	20	27	
T		7	14	21	28	
W	1	8	15	22	29	
Th	2	9	16	23	30	
F	3	10	17	24		
S	4	11	18	25		
Su	5	12	19	26		

December 2023						
M		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
W		6	13	20	27	
Th		7	14	21	28	
F	1	8	15	22	29	
S	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	3	10	17	24	31	

January 2024						
M	1	8	15	22	29	
T	2	9	16	23	30	
W	3	10	17	24	31	
Th	4	11	18	25		
F	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		
Su	7	14	21	28		

February 2024						
M		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
W		7	14	21	28	
Th	1	8	15	22	29	
F	2	9	16	23		
S	3	10	17	24		
Su	4	11	18	25		

March 2024						
M		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
W		6	13	20	27	
Th		7	14	21	28	
F	1	8	15	22	29	
S	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	3	10	17	24	31	

April 2024						
M	1	8	15	22	29	
T	2	9	16	23	30	
W	3	10	17	24		
Th	4	11	18	25		
F	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		
Su	7	14	21	28		

May 2024						
M		6	13	20	27	
T		7	14	21	28	
W	1	8	15	22	29	
Th	2	9	16	23	30	
F	3	10	17	24	31	
S	4	11	18	25		
Su	5	12	19	26		

June 2024						
M		3	10	17	24	
T		4	11	18	25	
W		5	12	19	26	
Th		6	13	20	27	
F		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	
Su	2	9	16	23	30	

July 2024						
M	1	8	15	22	29	
T	2	9	16	23	30	
W	3	10	17	24	31	
Th	4	11	18	25		
F	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		
Su	7	14	21	28		

August 2024						
M		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
W		7	14	21	28	
Th	1	8	15	22	29	
F	2	9	16	23	30	
S	3	10	17	24	31	
Su	4	11	18	25		

Key	
	Year 7 and 11 only
	All year groups return
	School Days
	School Holidays
	Bank Holidays
	PD Days

Please note Ludlow School's PD Days, when the school will be closed to students are:

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

One PD Day to be disaggregated and will appear on the internal school calendar