

# February

## NOTABLE DATES

<b>1st</b>	Lughnasadh (Wicca/Pagan)
<b>2nd</b>	Candlemass (Christian)
<b>3rd</b>	Setsubun-sai (Shinto)
<b>4th</b>	World Cancer Day
<b>5th</b>	Chinese New Year (Confucian, Daoist, Buddhist)
<b>10th</b>	Vasant Panchami (Hindu)
<b>11th</b>	International Day of Women and Girls in Science
<b>15th</b>	Nirvana Day (Buddhist, Jain)
<b>20th</b>	World Day of Social Justice
<b>26th</b>	Intercalary Days start (Baha'i)

## New College project launched to support Hygiene Poverty

There are some shocking statistics that have recently been released regarding child and personal care poverty.

- across Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin 22,384 children are categorised as living in poverty – two thirds of which live in a family where at least one person works
- 37% people living in the UK and **56% of 18 to 24 year olds** have had to go without hygiene or grooming essentials or cut down on them due to lack of funds. (Source: In Kind Direct, 2017.)
- 1 in 10 girls cannot afford sanitary wear and many have to miss school. (Source: Plan International UK.)
- 3 out of 10 teachers regularly buy their pupils toiletry essentials. (Source: In Kind Direct, 2017.)
- 8 in 10 primary school teachers say that they've seen a rise in the numbers of children coming to school unwashed or not looking presentable in the last five years - nearly half of all teachers said they had seen bullying because of hygiene issues. (Source: In Kind Direct, 2017.)
- 10,000 young adults leave care every year, a third of whom will be homeless in less than 24 months.

To support our regular foodbank collections, we have now put in place permanent collection points at each campus (look out for the blue bins) where students and staff can donate personal care items. A full list of items that can be easily distributed is available via Moodle. The project will be launched fully after half-term.

## Fancy circumnavigating the British Isles by rowing or cycling?



Across all three campuses, students and staff are being asked to row and/or cycle using gym equipment to achieve our top aim of circumnavigating Britain (but several times round Shropshire would be a very commendable achievement too!).

A hop on and hop off exercise to get the miles clocked up and support the British Heart Foundation. The cafes at each campus are joining in too and offering healthy meal deals.

## What can you do to mark LGBT History Month in Shrewsbury?

Quite a lot actually! There are poetry readings, book signings, talks and more.

For Information on what's happening when and where, click [here](#).

