



# 'Ellow 'Ellow

## This week at Ellowes Hall

**THEME OF NEXT WEEK:** Holocaust Memorial Day

**HERO & SONG OF NEXT WEEK:** Carl Lutz / *Dance Me To The End Of Love*

by Leonard Cohen **CAREER OF THE WEEK:** Historian



### Headteacher's Introduction

I would like to begin by once again thanking our students for the resilience, maturity and positivity they showed last week as we continue to manage the challenges caused by the ongoing issues with the heating system in the main school building. Last week also brought an unexpected power cut on Monday morning, which unfortunately meant we had to close the school early for health and safety reasons. As always, our students responded calmly and sensibly, and I am very grateful to parents for their understanding and support in what was an unavoidable situation.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to our staff, who continue to work tirelessly and flexibly to support students' learning and wellbeing during this period. Their professionalism and commitment have been greatly appreciated.

While the Humanities Building, X Block and the Sports Hall operate on separate heating systems and continue to function as normal, we have invested further in temporary heating solutions to help keep the main building as comfortable as possible. Temperatures are being closely

### Monday 26 January (Week A)

KS4 Poetry Live Trip, Geography Iceland Trip

### Tuesday 27 January (Week A)

Holocaust Memorial Day, Geography Iceland Trip

### Wednesday 28 January (Week A)

Intermediate Maths Challenge (Y9/10/11), Geography Iceland Trip

### Thursday 29 January (Week A)

Drama GCSE Exam Theatre Trip, Geography Iceland Trip

### Friday 30 January (Week A)

Geography Iceland Trip

### ABSENT PLEASE RING 01384 686600 Option 1

We would like to thank all our students for the very good attendance this week and to also remind everyone that whilst we still allow students to wear their coats in the corridors, we still expect students to wear their blazers.

monitored, and the safety and wellbeing of everyone in our school community remains our absolute priority.

Despite these challenges, it has been wonderful to see improvements in both attendance and the number of positive achievements earned by students, which truly reflects how fantastic they are. School life has continued at pace, with a wide range of activities taking place this week, many of which are highlighted elsewhere in this newsletter. These have included welcoming primary school pupils for a multi-skills competition led by our student sports leaders, ongoing sporting fixtures, and a variety of educational visits ranging from Gornal Library to the West End.

Students will continue to benefit from enriching opportunities, including visits such as the Poetry Live event on Monday and the trip to Iceland this week. Finally, I would like to thank all the parents for your continued support and partnership with the school.

### 5309 Positives This Week



**Year 7:** Donald H, Zack R, Ryan S, Lillia W and Emma W

**Year 8:** Ruby S, **Year 9:** Vinny FY, **Year 10:** Keira B,

Alfie C, Sam H and Joshua S, **Year 11:** Jay C

If your child is a Student of the Week but we have not included their picture, it means we do not have the necessary consent from you. Please contact us if you would like us to be able to use your child's picture!

### Tutor Groups with the Best Attendance

<b>YEAR 7</b>	7DH – Mr Hamilton	97.93%
<b>YEAR 8</b>	8RP – Mr Patel	98.21%
<b>YEAR 9</b>	9FS – Miss Scott	99.26%
<b>YEAR 10</b>	10RJ – Mr Jackson	97.2%
<b>YEAR 11</b>	11RM – Mrs Ming	98%

We have the unique opportunity to offer students the chance to attend a one-off Silent Disco event at the end of this half-term (see poster for details). A Silent Disco has all the usual lights, a DJ and loud music but also we switch to headsets which have three selectable channels for your choice of what you listen to. There is a limit on how many headsets and therefore there is a maximum number of only 250 places. This will be a ticket only event with no availability to pay on the door. Payment for your entry will have to be made on parent pay and you will collect your ticket on the door at the event.

# Thursday 12th February 2026

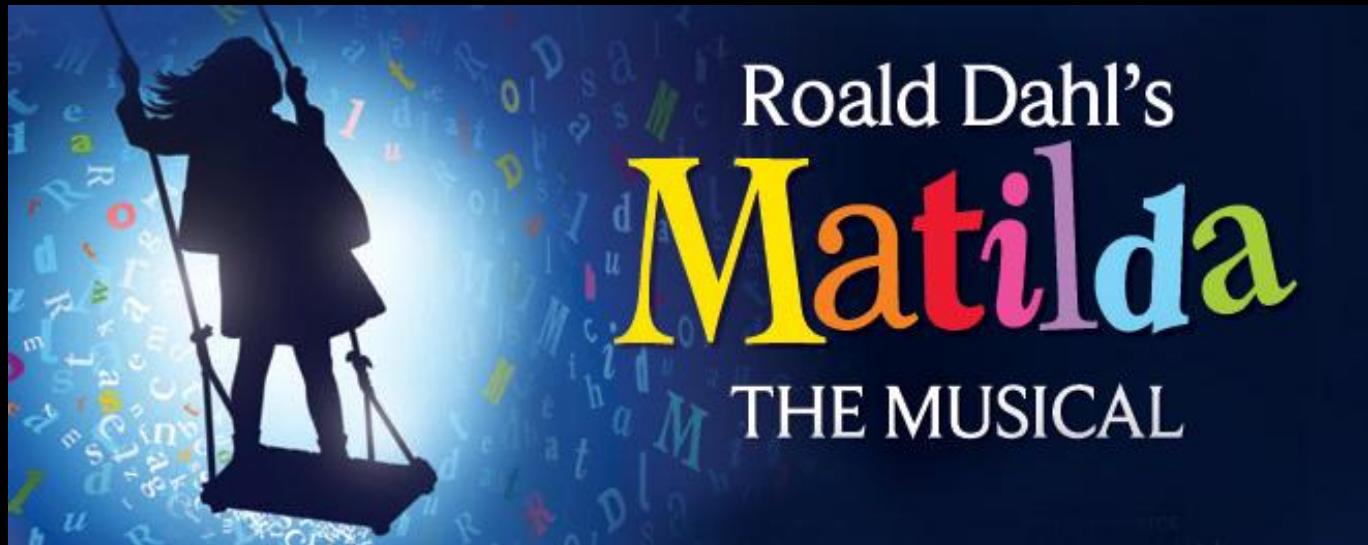
## Valentines Silent Disco



**18:00hrs - 20:00hrs**

**This is a TICKET ONLY event and tickets  
are available on Parent Pay for £4.00**

**There is a variety of stalls including refreshments of  
sweets, crisps and pop. Your £4.00 enables entry to  
the disco and your own personal headset.**



**On Wednesday 89 students from Y7 – 11 went to London to see the hit West End Musical Matilda. For many this was a thank you for performing in the school production of Frozen last summer and for some such as the Y7 cohort it was an opportunity to ignite the performing arts spark.**





"A huge thank you to everyone who donated money, food, blankets and towels to The Bungello's fundraising efforts for Birmingham Dogs Home. We delivered donations this week and staff were overwhelmed by the efforts made from our school. This will make a real difference to the dogs living in kennels there. We raised a huge £396 which will fund health care, training and much more! Students have learnt valuable skills and knowledge around the work the charity do and we will be continuing our efforts to support local charities moving forwards."

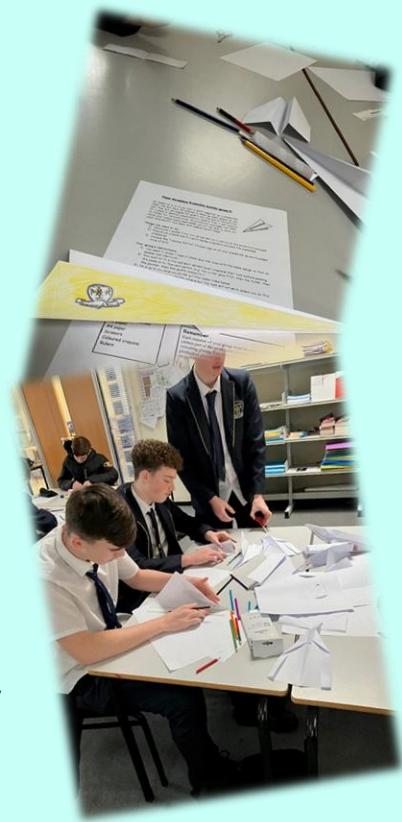




Year 10 Child Development students playing in preparation for writing their next piece of coursework. They are experiencing the toys an 18month old would play with to give them experience ready to complete the section of work about how children play and their development. We are looking forward to seeing how well they write given the real-life experiences of construction, sensory and imaginative play used to inspire them!

## Aeroplane production lines in GCSE Business!

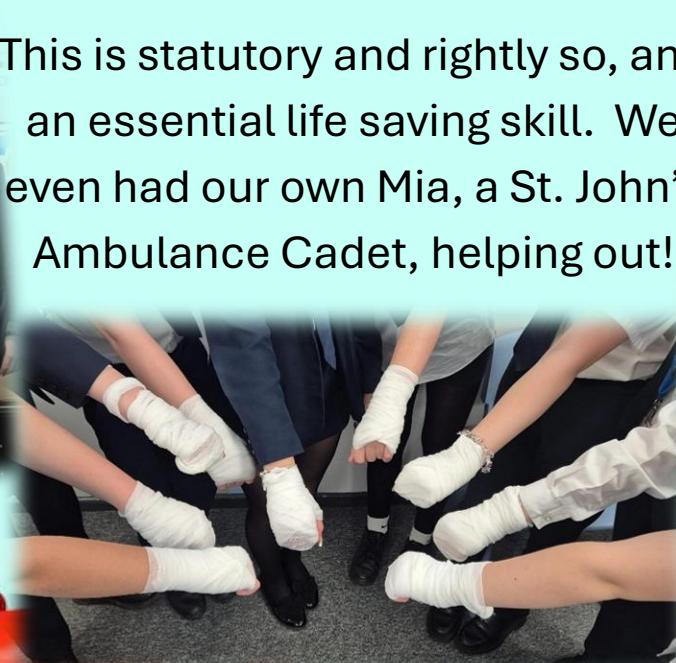
As part of their GCSE Business curriculum, Year 11 students have been producing aeroplanes. Each team were given a different method of operation and had to create their aeroplanes as per the instructions. This simulated job, batch and flow production. At the end, they were able to test them out!



## First Aid lessons in ACHIEVE

Our Year 9 students have been learning how to do basic first aid and CPR as part of their ACHIEVE curriculum.

This is statutory and rightly so, and an essential life saving skill. We even had our own Mia, a St. John's Ambulance Cadet, helping out!





# Enrichment Activities – Spring Term 2026 (Jan - Feb)



Before School	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast in the Diner 8.00 – 8.40am					
	Equality Ambassadors in E3 from 08:20 (BH)				
11:15		Break Time Thrive Grace Foundation (ES)	Break Time Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	Break Time Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	
Lunch Time Clubs & Activities					
	Y7 Football in PE (Astros) & Year 11 in Sports Hall	Y11 Football in PE (Astros) & Year 10 in Sports Hall	Y10 Football in PE (Astros) & Year 9 in Sports Hall	Y8 Football in PE (Astros) & Year 7 in Sports Hall	Y9 Football in PE (Astros) & Year 8 in Sports Hall
	Choir in X1 (WJ)	Drama Scriptwriting Club in X4 (EH)	Drama Games Club in X4 (EH)	Beginners Guitar in X1 (WJ)	KS4 Dance Drop-in in X3 (RG) PE Kit Needed
	DT Club in D3 (DBA)	Christian Union / Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	Equality Ambassadors & Space in E3 (BH)	Y7/8 Dance Club in X3/X4 (EH/RG) PE Kit Needed
	Textiles Club in D7 (TJ)	Digital Ambassadors in V3 (OM) KS3 programming club in V3 (DJ)	Keyboard Club in X1 (WJ)	Nurture in SEND (MS/SW)	Orchestra in X1
	Enough - invite only (VR/MS) In Grace Foundation	Working Tuesdays (Careers and Health Ambassadors) in V6 (ATP/SR)		Drama Performance Club in X4 (EH)	
	KS4 Drama Rehearsal in X4 (EH)	Art Club in D5 (HHA)		Y7 Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	
	Media Ambassadors in E8 (KRI)	Chess in S2 (DH) Psychology Club in E8 (Week B) SRI			
	Science Sparx HWK Club in V7 (DH)	Producers Club (WJ)			
After School Clubs Activities					
		Bright Sparx in V2 (PJ)	Lego Club 15:15 – 16:15 – Grace Foundation Rooms (VR)	Dodgeball (Y7 – 10) in Sports Hall (LK)	Advanced Guitar Club 15:15 – 16:00 in X1
		Baking Club 15.15 – 16:15 D6 for KS3 See Miss Harris due to numbers	Volleyball in Sports Hall (WJ)	Eco Ambassadors 15:15 – 16:15 in D4 (JMI)	Y11 Dance Rehearsals in X3 (RG) PE Kit Needed
		Netball Y7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JOP)	Basketball (Y7 – 10) 15:15 – 16:15 in Sports Hall	Badminton Y7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (LM)	
		Barcelona Training on Astros (RG)		Girls Football 7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JW)	
		Rugby Y7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JEV)	Y7, 8 (X4) & 9 (X3) Dance Club (RG/EH)	Parallel Club 15:15 – 15:45 in M10 (AR)	
		Musical Theatre Club in X4 (EH)			
		Film Club 15:15 – 16:15 – Grace Foundation Rooms (ES)			

## Sport at Ellowes Hall



A selection of year 7 students stayed for an extra curricular session delivered by The Virtual Golf Hut. The students got to try their hand at putting and chipping exercises and also played golf games on the virtual simulator.



**The U14 Basketball Ellowes vs Kinver** The girls played a tough game of Basketball against Kinver on Wednesday evening. Facing a squad of 20 the girls worked tirelessly to keep energy high, win back possession and finished the game with a 4-2 win.  
Miss Parkers Player - Lola F and Aaliyah S-J.  
Players Player - Kyra C

Massive well Done to Lewis in Year 9 who competed in the regional Cross Country event last weekend. An excellent achievement!



### Leadership

Ellowes Hall hosted the Dudley Year 1 and 2 Multi Skills Competition this week. 28 Sports Leaders from Y8 & 9 lead a variety of activities for the children to take part in. Our leaders displayed excellent communication skills and were great role models for the young children.

# Uganda



A massive thank you to all the students that have supported the 'Letters to Uganda Project' this year. We raised £177 in total and the equipment pictured, along with a donated mobile phone and Year 8 letters are now on their way.

Year 7 visited Gornal library again this week to understand what the library has to offer for our reading for pleasure initiatives, as well as independent research and online resources. They thoroughly loved it and we thank the staff there for their support.



Our aim is that all of Year 7 by the end of the year will have had opportunities to visit and take out some good reads!

A huge thank you to our local community volunteers who have responded to Mrs Jones' email too about reading volunteers!

We've had an amazing response, and Mrs Jones will be in touch over the next week.



## This weeks Featured Poem!

The Garden Year (1834)

January brings the snow,  
makes our feet and fingers glow.

February brings the rain,  
Thaws the frozen lake again.

March brings breezes loud and shrill,  
stirs the dancing daffodil.

April brings the primrose sweet,  
Scatters daisies at our feet.

May brings flocks of pretty lambs,  
Skipping by their fleecy dams.

June brings tulips, lilies, roses,  
Fills the children's hand with posies.

Hot July brings cooling showers,  
Apricots and gillyflowers.

August brings the sheaves of corn,  
Then the Harvest home is borne.

Warm September brings the fruit,  
Sportsmen then begin to shoot.

Fresh October brings the pheasant;  
Then to gather nuts is pleasant.

Dull November brings the blast,  
Then the leaves are falling fast.

Chill December brings the sleet,  
Blazing fire and Christmas treat.

Our featured poet this week is **Sara Coleridge**. Born in Cumbria, Sara was the daughter of the Romantic poet **Samuel Taylor Coleridge**. Poetry formed the background of her childhood, as her parents were close friends with the poets **Robert Southey** and **William and Dorothy Wordsworth**. These writers were part of a group of poets, known as 'the Lake poets', who were closely associated with the majestic landscape of the Lake District.

**Remember!** If you want to be a Poetry by Heart **superstar** bring your poem to Miss Britten-Jeavons in E2.

Why not use our featured poem to inspire you to try write your own poem about how the seasons change, or your own favourite season.

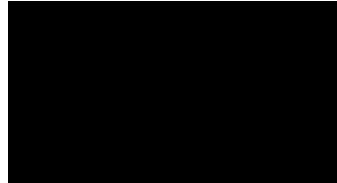
# Sparx

## Parent/Carer Guide

### How to log into Sparx to complete homework from home

Weekly homework will be set on the following days and then due on the same day the following week.

- Monday: Sparx Science
- Wednesday: Sparx Maths
- Thursday: Sparx Reader



Students can log into Sparx through either [the link on their Arbor page](#) or through a search engine such as Google.

If accessing via Google, students will need to type Sparx Science/ Sparx Maths/ Sparx Reader into Google and select the first search result that appears.

Subject	Homework set	Homework due in	Detention Night
Maths	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday
English	Thursday	Thursday	Friday
Science	Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday

Once they have clicked on either the link on Arbor or the search result on Google they need to click the white log in icon in the top right corner and then select student log in.

They will then be asked to select their school, which will appear as they start typing in Ellowes Hall Sports College

They can then click the purple box that says 'log in to Sparx using Microsoft' and then use their school email and password to log in. Their password is the same password that they use to log into any computer in school.

Any homework students have been set will appear. Students can continue to read on Sparx Reader even after their homework has been completed, and we would encourage them to, especially if they are really enjoying the book they have chosen.

## Carousel Homework for Geography and History

- One quiz per week per subject.
- Set and due Thursdays. Monday night detentions.
- Link set by Miss McCormack and Miss Perry to your email. Click this and login with your Microsoft email.
- You have to revise before you can take the quiz (say the answer to each flashcard aloud and then click 'show answer' to test yourself. Self-mark and then move on).
- Take the quiz and self-mark your answers. Be honest as your teacher can see!

**Y7 GEOGRAPHY**  
**WEEK 1**  
QUIZ BY MISS PERRY  
CLASS: YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY

**REVISE**  
**TAKE QUIZ**

Your teacher has locked the quiz.  
You must complete the flashcards  
① before you can take this quiz.  
Click REVISE to get started.



9 COMING UP!

Define 'political geography'

SHOW ANSWER

I GOT THIS...

WRONG

NEARLY RIGHT

RIGHT

# HOMEWORK

ELLOWES HALL  
KEY STAGE 3

## LOVE TO LEARN

### HOMEWORK BOOKLET

This booklet contains a range of tasks from each of your non-core subjects. You will need to use this as part of your homework. Please show your teacher on completion of a task for rewards.

Check in weeks 2025-2026  
Autumn term : w/c 8<sup>th</sup> December  
Spring term: w/c 16<sup>th</sup> March  
Summer term: w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> June



DRAMA LOVE TO LEARN CHALLENGES.

Staff Signature & Date

1. Complete a science task  
2. Successfully complete 10 literacy tasks  
3. Complete a maths body challenge  
4. Attend a PE class for over half term  
5. Get involved in a local history activity  
6. Attend a trip this academic year  
7. Create a fact file on a sport of your choice  
8. Use any of the skills you have learned  
BONUS CHALLENGE: Complete any additional challenge

**KS3 Students (Years 7-9) have also been issued with Love to Learn Homework tasks. These will be checked at 3 checkpoints throughout the year, with effort scores shared with home. Prizes will be awarded for excellent participation!**



NHS

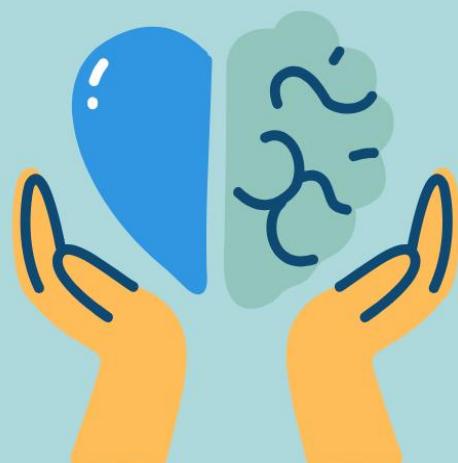
Black Country Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

# REFLEXIONS DROP-IN SESSION



Drop-in with Reflexions is open to all students who want support on any issues which are impacting on mental health in a confidential space.

Every Thursday  
Physical and Sensory Room  
1:30 - 2:15



Join us for...

# GAME & CHILL

Join the Reflexions team for a fun day where children, young people and families can enjoy their favourite board games together – a chance to make friends, connect and share laughs in a relaxed, supportive space.

**Parents to accompany children under 13 years old**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

 **12:00 - 3:00**

 **Here4Youth 1 Castle Street  
Dudley DY1 1LA**



**For additional information or brief sign up form to register your attendance, please email [bchft.reflexions@nhs.net](mailto:bchft.reflexions@nhs.net) or feel free to pop in!**



# Key Dates Spring Term 2026

Date	Event
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	Y10 Mocks
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Y11 Revision Residential (Whitemoor Lakes)
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Y7 Reading Tests
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Y10 Art Coursework Prep Trip
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Y11 Results Release and 15:30 – 18:30 Y11 Parent Consultation Meeting
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	London Matilda Trip (All Day)
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Iceland Trip
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	KS4 Poetry Live Trip
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	Y9/10/11 Intermediate Maths Challenge
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Drama GCSE Theatre Trip (The Woman in Black)
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Y10 Mock Exam Results Release Day
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Y8 Visit to King Edwards Sixth Form Visit
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Y8 Mock Examinations Week
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Y9 Vaccinations and the Valentines Silent Disco
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	February Half Term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Y8 Reading Tests
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Y10 University of Oxford Trip
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Y10 Parent Consultation Meetings
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	GCSE Science Live Trip
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Y11 Mock Examinations Week
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	KS3 Paris Trip
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Performing Arts Concert (Open Mic 3)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Y11 GCSE Business Exam Skills Revision Day Tutor2U Trip
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Birmingham Hippodrome Dance Trip: The Red Shoes (Evening)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Y8 Parent Consultation Meetings
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Reading Ambassadors Book Shop Reward Trip
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Y9 Mock Examinations Week
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Y11 Mock Results Release
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Ellowes 60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	12.00PM: School Closes for Easter Holiday