



# 'Ellow 'Ellow

## This week at Ellowes Hall

THEME OF NEXT WEEK: Importance of Reading.

HERO & SONG OF NEXT WEEK: Julia Donaldson & Never

Ending Story by Limahl. CAREER OF THE WEEK: Voice Actor



### Headteacher's Introduction

We are very pleased to confirm that the heating issues have now been fully resolved and that the school has returned to normal operation. We understand the disruption this has caused and are grateful for the patience and understanding shown by our whole community. We have also been informed that the National Grid will be upgrading the local sub-station in the coming weeks. This improvement should ensure that, in the unlikely event of a similar situation in the future, the use of portable heaters will not result in a power failure.

It is a relief to once again focus all of our efforts fully on the teaching and learning of the young people of Ellowes. I am personally very proud of the exemplary way in which our students have conducted themselves throughout this period. Their maturity and resilience have been commendable. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all staff, particularly our dedicated site team, who worked tirelessly — even during the early hours of the morning — to keep us informed and to address issues as they arose.

I appreciated the opportunity to speak with several parents on Tuesday after school, who shared their concerns and constructive suggestions regarding how the recent power and heating difficulties were managed. We have reflected carefully and feel that we have learned a great deal from the experience, which will strengthen our response in the future.

My thanks also go to the staff who provided additional Year 11 intervention sessions throughout the evenings this week. Their commitment to ensuring that students remain supported in the lead-up to examinations is greatly valued. Well done to the many Year 11 students who attended these sessions online and demonstrated such dedication to their studies.

Year 8 students have also completed a demanding week of examinations. They approached this challenge with notable resilience, navigating a wide range of papers across almost all subjects. We thank both students and staff for their hard work and careful preparation. The next examination period will see further Year 11 mock examinations, followed later in the year by assessments for Years 9 and 7.

As you read through this newsletter, you will find much to celebrate: competition winners, students acting as responsible members of the community, charitable initiatives, examples of creativity, a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities, and our first ever Silent Disco — an event enjoyed as much by staff as by students. It was particularly heartening to see students so eager to return to school to take part in such events.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all parents and carers for your continued support, understanding and partnership. Your encouragement and cooperation are invaluable and play a vital role in ensuring that our students remain safe, supported and able to thrive.

### 5787 Positives This Week

#### Monday 23 February (Week B)

Y8 Reading Tests

#### Tuesday 24 February (Week B)

Y10 Oxford University Trip

#### Thursday 26 February (Week B)

Y10 Parent Teacher Meetings, GCSE Science Trip

#### Tutor Groups with the Best Attendance

YEAR 7	7DH – Mr Hamilton	98.33%
YEAR 8	8DBA – Mr Barker	100%
YEAR 9	9SRI – Miss Rigby	97.45%
YEAR 10	10GN – Miss Norton	98.33%
YEAR 11	11JW – Mrs Watson	99.3%

ABSENT PLEASE RING 01384 686600 Option 1

### STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Year 7: Abdul S.

Year 8: Maria O Year 9: Eva-Lilly P.

Year 10: Keira B, Alfie C, Luke F, Sam H, Noah P, Millie R. Year 11: Oscar G.

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!



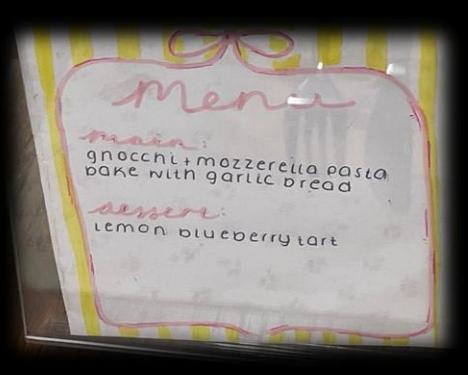
Oscar, Zack and Ianis of Y7 were heroes this week as they came to the aid of a local resident whilst they were on their way home from school. The following message was left by a parent and witness to the incident.

*“Three Y7 boys were super quick to react when an older lady with a walker called for help this afternoon. Her electric garage started to come down before she made it underneath and it caught her on the top of the head and neck essentially pushing down on her and continued to descend; they acted quickly by rushing to help and holding the garage door up forcibly so that it didn’t harm her any further. Another adult and myself saw what happened and then rushed over to support with the garage door which then eventually lifted.”*





Ava Johnson and Leila Jones represented Ellowes at the Rotary Chef District Final. The girls really enjoyed the experience and helped us receive £250 sponsorship from the club as a legacy fund to support participation in future competitions.





An amazing night had by all students and staff at the first ever Silent Disco on Thursday. We were entertained by a DJ from one of Europe's biggest suppliers in Silent Disco Entertainment. Although we had a choice of three channels the students seem to stick to the green channel.

Can't wait for the next one!



Silent Disco



Silent Disco





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



Before School	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast in the Diner 8.00 – 8.40am					
11:15		Equality Ambassadors in E3 from 08:20 (BH)			
Lunch Time Clubs & Activities		Break Time Thrive Grace Foundation (ES)	Break Time Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	Break Time Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	
		The Library open to all every lunch time			
	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	<b>VOLUNTEER</b> 	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)			
		Rugby Y7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JEV)	Y7, 8 (X4) & 9 (X3) Dance Club (RG/EH)	Girls Football 7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JW)	
		Musical Theatre Club in X4 (EH)		Parallel Club 15:15 – 15:45 in M10 (AR)	
		Film Club 15:15 – 16:15 – Grace Foundation Rooms (ES)			



Charlotte Stevens 10MAH, attended the Audacity Dance Championships at the weekend. Her team White Ash came 2nd, and she came 4th with her duet partner in their knockout round.

**U14 girls** are on a winning streak **beating Pegasus 12-4.**

The girls fought for the win and showed excellent sportsmanship. Players player - Kyra C  
Miss Parker's player - Aaliyah S-J



## **Amazing Artwork!**

Completed at home by student Isabelle Roberts in Year 7 during online learning

Based on Pop Art and the Artist Andy Warhol, in which we are currently studying in Art.





# Welcome to POETRY BY HEART

Choose a poem  
Learn it by heart  
Perform it out loud



# Welcome to POETRY BY HEART

Choose a poem  
Learn it by heart  
Perform it out loud

POETRY POETRY

**We have 3 Year 7 Poetry by Heart Superstars for February!!!**  
**Faith C**  
**Freya B**  
**Aaliyah A**

POETRY POETRY

Here is a snippet from each poem!

You may tell, the wonders of snow,  
And the colours of the leaves,  
But spring was made for me.  
Have your trees and snowy days,  
and swelter on the sand,  
to each his own and to own his each,  
yes, spring is for me. By Aaliyah A



Families help us learn and grow,  
They cheer us on and help us know  
That when the world feels rough or strange,  
Their care is something that won't change. By Freya B

POETRY POETRY

We have all read a story,  
At least once in our lives,  
Which ones were your favourites,  
Or made you jump in surprise,  
With places haunted with ghosts and ghouls,  
Or a prankster jumping out and shouting April fools,  
By Faith C



**Remember!** If you want to be a Poetry by Heart **superstar** bring your poem to **Miss Britten-Jeavons** in E2. It can be a **topic of your choosing**, or you can **relate it to our tutor theme of the week**.

POETRY POETRY

# Jujutsu Self-Defence 3 –Weeks remaining

*With 6<sup>th</sup> Dan instructor Shihan Robert Tiene, with over 40 years of experience and part of Taijutsu Kai Schools of Jujutsu.*

**LIMITED  
SPACES  
BOOK NOW!**



**New Dates:  
23rd February, 02nd & 09th March**

**When:** Monday's 3.30pm

**Where:** Sports Hall

**For who:** All Year groups

**Cost:** £21 for all 3 dates

**Speak to Mrs Harris for more info.**

**An opportunity not to be missed!**

We had a busy Jujutsu class on Monday after school. Students learnt new self defence techniques along with some Japanese terminology.

We still have spaces available if you would like to come and have a try. See poster for further details.



**JUJUTSU**

Hi, my name is Lance Corporal Newman and I'm raising money for the great Tommy sleep out. The Great Tommy Sleep Out is an annual March campaign by [Royal British Veterans Enterprise \(RBVE\)](#) where people spend a night outdoors to raise funds and awareness for homeless veterans in the UK.

Returning in March 2026 for its sixth year, participants (individuals, families, groups) sleep in gardens, balconies, or outdoors to raise as much money as possible to support the veterans with housing and mental health services. Last year I took part in this amazing fund-raising opportunity, and I will be doing it again this year, and would really appreciate some help this year to raise even more money. Here is the link to donate on my page

<https://socialsync.app/fundraiser/cr-qo4knxpz57yo6>

Thank you all for your time and money if you donate. Layton Newman.





# Meet The Author

## at Dudley Library

Meet B Wheeler, author of *How NOT to Kiss a Prince*, a fun sapphic romantic comedy. Get creative by making bookmarks, badges, or keyrings inspired by the book, or try your hand at writing your own short story. This FREE event is perfect for ages 12–16, and copies of the book will be available to buy on the day.

**When:** Thursday 19th February

**Time:** 2.30pm

Telephone **01384 815560** to book your place or simply come along on the day.

[f](#) [X](#) @DudleyLibraries

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**BETTER**   
Dudley  
Metropolitan Borough Council

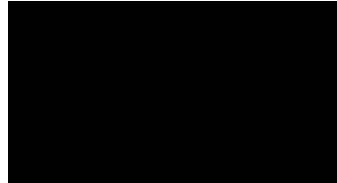
# Sparx

## 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



**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

**LOVE TO LEARN CHECK LIST**

**STAFF SIGNATURE & DATE**

**DRAMA LOVE TO LEARN CHALLENGES.**

**STAFF SIGNATURE & DATE**

1. Complete a 2 week task	Staff Signature
2. Successfully complete 10 literacy tasks	
3. Complete a science body challenge	
4. Attend a PE club 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. Visit any local historical site	
<b>BONUS CHALLENGE:</b> Complete any extra challenge	

**STAFF SIGNATURE & DATE**

Create a poster of the Physical Skills and their definitions.

Design a costume for a new action movie.

Attend a Drama Club for a half term.

Get involved in a Performing Arts showcase (Performing or Backstage).

Surprise your classmate with a dramatic performance (you're the star).

Design a new set for your favourite TV show or film.

**HOME CHALLENGE:**  
Watch a piece of theatre and get a photo or sketch done with a cast member.

**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

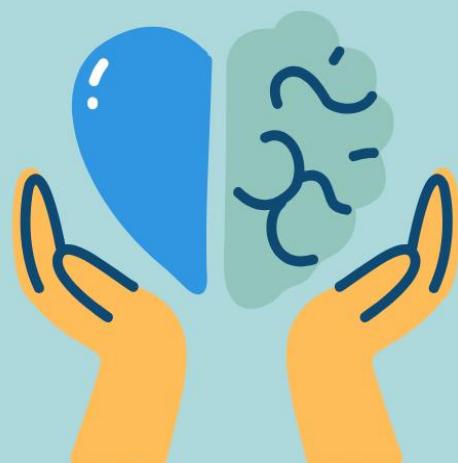
Black Country Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

# 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!**



# Respect is Required

@ROUTES Youth Advice Hub Merry Hill  
for all aged 13-17

ACCEPT



DECLINE

ROUTES are dropping sessions that get straight to the point about respect, boundaries, and what healthy relationships actually look like ... a call-out-the-red-flags and upgrade-your-standards kind of session



Pick one date from each session

## Session 1 - Stereotypes, gender roles and conflict

17<sup>th</sup> February 3:30pm-5:30pm or 21<sup>st</sup> February 1pm-3pm

## Session 2 - Understanding & recognising domestic abuse

24<sup>th</sup> February 4:30pm-6pm or 28<sup>th</sup> February 1pm-3pm

## Session 3 - The law and seeking help

3<sup>rd</sup> March 4:30pm-6pm or 7<sup>th</sup> March 1pm-3pm

Contact us to register your interest!

[routesdudley@cranstoun.org.uk](mailto:routesdudley@cranstoun.org.uk) | 01384 880687



# CBT Support for Young People with **Reflexions!**



## Anxiety Management Group

### What is the group about?

- To help young people understand the cycle of worry, become familiar with CBT and establish goals.
- Learn about anxiety and how this can be managed.
- To understand how worrying can affect us.
- To be able to identify and manage the different types of worry.
- To learn and embed evidence based CBT strategies for when we feel worried.
- Provide relaxation, distraction activities and problem solving techniques.
- Provide staying well session and therapeutic ending.

### Group Details

• Cranstoun ROUTES (Merry Hill)

⌚ Wednesdays, 12-1pm  
📅 6 weekly sessions

**Parent Group 1:30pm -2:30pm**

Sessions will begin on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### Who may Benefit?

Young people who:

- Worry often or feel overwhelmed
- Avoid things due to anxiety
- Would benefit from group coping skills

### How to Refer

1. Speak to your school's Mental Health Lead as a first step to discuss a referral to Reflexions.
2. Once referral has been discussed and submitted, an assessment will be arranged, parents will be contacted.
3. All assessments will take place outside school at Routes Cranstoun (Merry Hill)
4. Once an assessment has been completed and deemed suitable - group details will be shared.

### Parent & Carer Support

Parent & Carer drop-in is available at Cranstoun ROUTES (Merry Hill)  
Wednesdays, 2:45-5pm

This offers:

- Guidance on supporting their young person
- A space to ask questions
- Signposting to further services



# 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