



FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER 2025



'Ellow 'Ellow

This week at Ellowes Hall

**THEME OF NEXT WEEK:** End of Half Term Rewards' Week**ELLOWES HALL OF FAME FOCUS:** Mary Seacole / Pharrell Williams: *Happy***CAREER OF THE WEEK:** Mechanical Engineer

Headteacher's Introduction

The overwhelming highlight for us in school this week has undoubtedly been our annual Black History Month Panel, which was streamed live from the Theatre to every other classroom in school. This year's panel included speakers from an impressive and eclectic range of backgrounds. These individuals, who typified the resilience, ingenuity and creativity of the Black British community, were generous with their time. They answered students' thoughtful questions with sincere openness.

Whilst the panellists always come from a range of different backgrounds, there was a common message from all of them. They all became the liveliest when answering a question about their experiences of school life. Comparing adult life to a run whose starting shot rings out on the day a student leaves Year 11, DJ Ken Mclean told our

for that moment. Others reflected that if they had had their time in school again, they would answer more questions; engage more fully in learning, and grab hold of every opportunity to lead and experience things outside of the classroom.

Although their optimism naturally offered encouragement and inspiration to our students from the Black community, their message was one for all of us – regardless of background. Life is a journey with its ups and downs, our job is to seek personal self-fulfilment through hard work, resilience and by seeking in small acts of kindness, ways to make our world a happier place.

Next week will see us celebrate and reward those who have done this exceptionally well. I would like to particularly encourage the 408 students in school who have yet to have a single day off and urge them to keeping their streak up in the final week of this first Half Term.

WEEK B

Monday 20 October**Year 11 After-School Intervention: Maths****Tuesday 21 October**

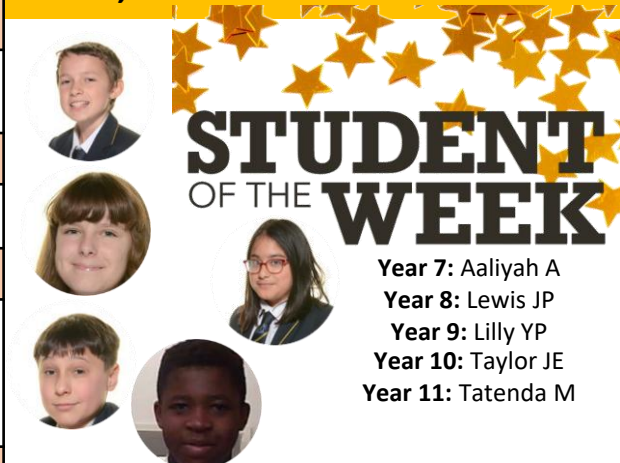
Year 7 X Band Birmingham Thinktank Museum Trip

Year 11 After-School Intervention: History/Geography**Wednesday 22 October****Thursday 23 October**

Year 7 Y Band Birmingham Thinktank Museum Trip

Year 11 After-School Intervention: H&SC; Design; Food; Art; GCSE Business; Computer Science

18.00 – 20.00: Halloween Disco

Friday 24 October**15.15: School Closes to All Students for October Half Term****7,247 Positives This Week****Year 7:** Aaliyah A**Year 8:** Lewis JP**Year 9:** Lilly YP**Year 10:** Taylor JE**Year 11:** Tatenda M

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!



Halloween Disco Thursday 23rd Oct

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Fancy Dress/ Pumpkin Carving Competition. Other stalls that include face painting, mummy race, apple bobbing, glow sticks, sweets, chocolate, crisps, pop (no hot food)

Tickets available before school @ £2 and can be purchased by reception from Mon 20th – Wed 22nd or via ParentPay. Entry via payment and consent form only

Tutor Groups with the Best Attendance This Week...

YEAR 7	7OM – Mrs McEvoy	98.3%
YEAR 8	8JG – Dr J Green	97.4%
YEAR 9	9LM – Mr Martin	96.9%
YEAR 10	10GEV – Mr G Evans	98.1%
YEAR 11	11JW – Mrs Watson	99.6%

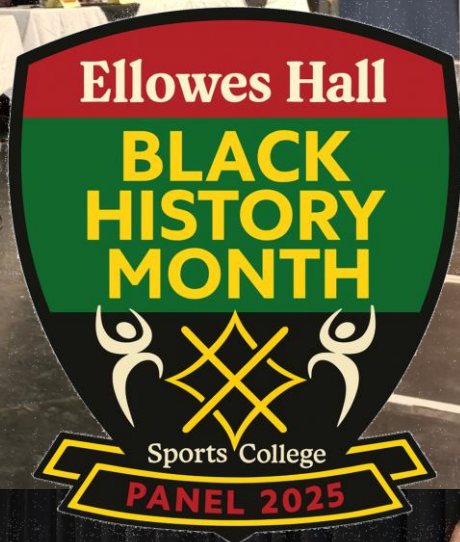


	Sparx Reader	Sparx Maths	Sparx Science
7	Rosie G	William B	Sparx Science records scores slightly differently, but well done to all who completed this week's!
8	Olivia W-C	Dakshdeep K	
9	Joshua C	Frankie F	
10	Stanley E	Alfie DS	
11	Joshua R	Benjamin LH	

Don't forget... students needing support with their Sparx, or simply a place to go to complete it, can attend Mrs P Jones' Bright Sparx Club every Tuesday After School at 4pm.

Congratulations to Ava, Orla, Ren and Leila who are through to the next stage of the Springboard and/or Rotary Young Chef competitions. Year 10 Food students have been cooking up a storm this week...!





We were thrilled this week to host a wide range of guests for our annual **Black History Month Panel**, which took place in front of a live audience of over 300 specially-selected students and streamed live into every classroom in school. This year's lineup included a DJ; lawyer and fireman, as well as individuals working for Jaguar Land Rover; the National Highways Agency, and the Grace Foundation – as well as our very own Mr Hamilton. Students were inspired by a range of messages around the importance of celebrating diversity, as well as finding enthusiasm, resilience and a desire to excel buried deep within them all.



Ellovate Update

Our amazing Year 11 students at **Ellovate** have spent the past year doing real jobs in real workplaces—and they've absolutely smashed it!

Every week, they've been out and about learning new skills, meeting new people, and showing everyone what they're made of. From fixing cars to helping in nurseries, working in shops to supporting care homes—our students have done it all! We've seen students grow in confidence, learn how to work as a team, and take on real responsibilities. A big shout-out to all the local businesses who welcomed our students—you've made a huge difference!



ELLOWES WEEKLY

PE ROUND UP...

KS3 RUGBY GO UNDERFEATED!!!

On Wednesday it was time to reintroduce competitive Rugby where our combined Year 8 and Year 9 team entered Dudley Kingswinford's Touch Rugby Tournament.

The first competitive Rugby fixture of the year was a huge success where we played four games, going undefeated and not conceding a single try throughout the tournament.

Player of the tournament - Louie W-T



If there are any companies or individuals willing to sponsor a new Rugby Kit please get in touch with Mr J Evans.

**NO AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS
ON NEXT WEEK!**

**KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR OUR
NEW EXTRA-CURRICULAR
TIMETABLE READY FOR AFTER
HALF TERM!**



Year 8 Netball evenly matched

Year 8 Netball travelled to Wombourne on Tuesday to compete in the League.

A very close game that resulted in a 5-5 draw. Despite the result, there were lots of brilliant movement on show and fantastic team work.

Player of the Match: Hope C-B

NEXT WEEKS NEWS:

- Year 8 & 9 host Dudley Sport Rugby Tournament
- Year 11 host Dormston in a Friendly
- Senior Sports prefects spectate a pro Basketball Fixture

Football Results:

**Year 8:
10-0 WIN Vs St James**

Our Year 7s are continuing to drive this whole-school community project. Please bring your Harvest donations into our Reception. Every single one is gratefully received!



SHOPPING LIST

BLACK COUNTRY FOODBANK HELPS VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN CRISIS THROUGH THE PROVISION OF AN EMERGENCY FOOD AND TOILETRY PARCEL, WHILE A LONGER-TERM SOLUTION IS DEVELOPED

PLEASE SUPPORT US BY DONATING ITEMS FROM OUR SHOPPING LIST

- CARTONS OF UHT MILK
- TEA BAGS BOX OF 40'S
- SMALL JARS OF COFFEE
- CARTONS OF LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE
- CORDIAL/SQUASH
- TINNED POTATOES/MASH
- TINNED CHOPPED TOMATOES
- TINNED VEGETABLES
- TINNED FISH
- TINNED SOUP
- TINNED READY MEALS (MEATBALLS/MACARONI CHEESE/CHILLI)
- TINNED MEAT
- TINNED FRAY BENTOS PIES
- BREAKFAST CEREAL
- PASTA SAUCE
- SAVOURY RICE
- INSTANT NOODLES
- TINNED FRUIT
- TINNED CUSTARD/RICE PUDDING
- BARS OF SOAP
- SHOWER GEL
- TOILET ROLL
- ROLL ON DEODORANT
- SHAMPOO



PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO RECEIVE A WEEKLY REMINDER OF OUR SHORTAGES LIST ON YOUR SHOPPING DAY

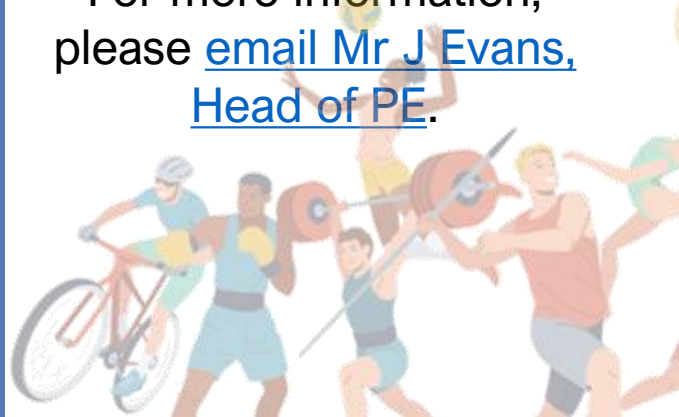


Enrichment Activities – Autumn Term 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School	Breakfast in the Diner 8.00 – 8.40am				
11:15		Equality Ambassadors in E3 from 08:20 (BH)		Break Time Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	
		Break Time Thrive Grace Foundation (ES)	Break Time Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	Break Time Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	
Lunch Time Clubs & Activities	The Library open to all every lunch time				
	Y7 Football in PE	Y11 Football in PE	Y10 Football in PE	Y8 Football in PE	Y9 Football in PE
	Choir in X1 (WJ)	Chamber Choir in X1 (WJ)	Drama Games Club in X4 (EH)	Beginners Guitar in X1 (WJ)	KS4 Dance Club 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 X4 (EH) PE Kit Needed
	Textiles Club in D7 (TJ)	Digital Ambassadors in V3 (OM) KS3 programming club in V3 (DJ)		Nurture in SEND (MS/SW)	
	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)	
		Chess in S2 (DH)			
After School Clubs Activities		Bright Sparx in V2 (PJ)	Lego Club 15:15 – 16:15 – Grace Foundation Rooms (VR)	Jujitsu 16:15 – 17:15 Sports Hall See Miss Harris due to a cost	Advanced Guitar Club 15:15 – 16:00 in X1
		Climbing Club 15:15 – 16:15 (from 23 rd Sept)	Orchestra 15:15 – 16:00 in X1	Eco Ambassadors 15:15 – 16:15 in D4 (JMI)	
		Netball Y7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JOP)	Basketball (Y7 – 11) 15:15 – 16:15 in Sports Hall	Boys Football 7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JEV/LM/RG)	
		Badminton Y7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (RG)	Y9 Dance Club in X3 (RG)	Girls Football 7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JW)	
		Rugby Y7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JEV)		Trampolining 7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (LK)	
		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)			

Monday  BTEC Sport Intervention V4 (10-11) 9E / RG / LM / 9W	Tuesday Netball (7-11) 9P Rugby (7-11) 9E Badminton (7-11) RG
Wednesday Basketball (7-11) Black Country Basketball	Thursday Boys Football (7-11) 9E / LM / RG Girls Football (7-11) 9W Trampolining (7-11) LK
Friday No Clubs! 	Notes Line up outside the Sports Hall Full PE Kit Fixtures take priority over training!

Fancy trying a new sport? Why not be a part of one of our new partner clubs based here on school grounds. This opportunity isn't just for our students, put young people in the wider community also. For more information, please [email Mr J Evans, Head of PE.](#)





Wednesday afternoon saw our first group of Year 7s visit Gornal library to create their memberships, check out books and really strengthen our culture for reading. They had an informative presentation from library staff and were enthusiastic about using the library in the future. We are so lucky to be able to use such fantastic facilities that are literally just down the road and we can't wait to take the next group to visit! Library staff also commented on how well behaved they were and were a credit to Ellowes. What a wonderful afternoon!



WHAT IS POETRY BY HEART?

Choose a poem
Learn it by heart
Perform it out loud



- It's seriously good fun.
- Practise your oracy skills.
- Boost your confidence.
- Enjoy and explore great poems.
- Develop your memory skills.
- Learn how poems work.
- Join in with others.
- Certificate.
- And a chance of being selected to perform at Shakespeare's Globe, London on 1st July 2026

POETRY

We are launching the Poetry by Heart competition week beginning 20th October..

Poetry Ambassadors will be round with posters over the next few weeks encouraging participants to sign up.

There will be bespoke lessons for Year 7 to find out what Poetry by Heart is all about.



POETRY

For further information you can find Miss Britten-Jeavons in E2.

In the meantime, keep checking [Ellow Ellow](#) and the screens for updates on any meetings.

We are each other's harvest; we are each other's business; we are each other's magnitude and bond. (Gwendolyn Brooks)

Poem of the Week 15th October

We Real Cool (1960)

The Pool Players.
Seven at the Golden Shovel.

We real cool. We
Left school. We

Lurk late. We
Strike straight. We

Sing sin. We
Thin gin. We

Jazz June. We
Die soon.

Gwendolyn Brooks was born in Topeka, Kansas, in 1917. She became the first black author to win the prestigious Pulitzer Prize for her writing and the first black woman to hold the position of poetry consultant to the Library of Congress. As Poet Laureate of the State of Illinois, Brooks encouraged many aspiring poets, often funding prizes herself.

POETRY BY HEART

Choose a poem
Learn it by heart
Perform it out loud

ABOUT THE POEM

Teenagers in a pool hall:
Gwendolyn wanted to explore the boys' thoughts and ideas about themselves and the world, and she certainly packs a lot of information about the boys' moods and attitudes into this tiny poem! How would you describe the boys' feelings? There are only 32 words here, so you'll have to pay attention to every single one.



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.

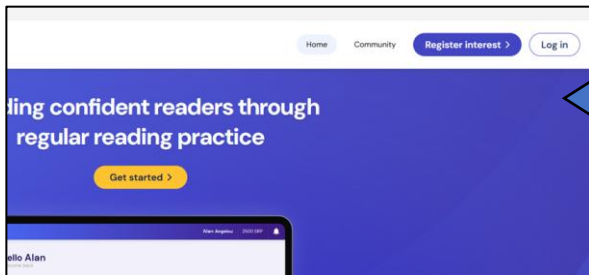
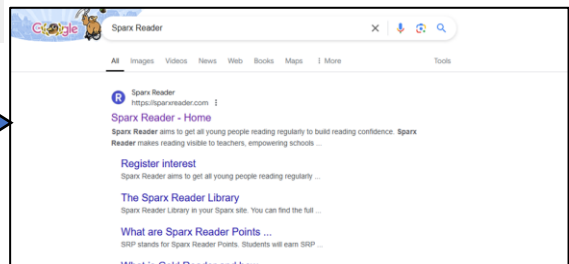
- Monday: Sparx Science
- Wednesday: Sparx Maths
- Thursday: Sparx Reader

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

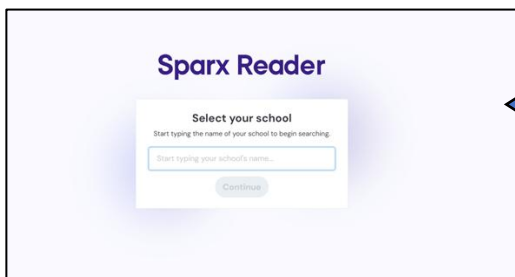


Subject	Homework set	Homework due in	Detention Night
Maths	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday
English	Thursday	Thursday	Friday
Science	Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday

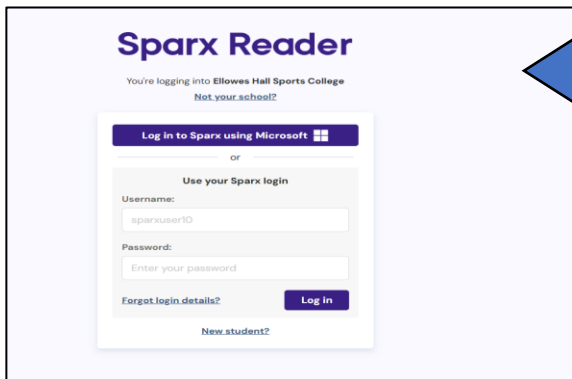
If accessing via Google, students will need to type Sparx Science/ Sparx Maths/ Sparx Reader into Google and select the first search result that appears.



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 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

**ELLOWS 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 **8th December**
Spring term: w/c **16th March**
Summer term: w/c **22nd June**

PE LOVE TO LEARN CHECK LIST

Complete a PE task and have your teacher sign it off in PE

1. Complete a 20 minute workout
2. Successfully complete 10 lunges
3. Complete a 5 minute body weight circuit
4. Perform a PE task for one half term
5. Demonstrate a 10 second sit-up
6. Attend a PE Day this academic year
7. Perform a PE task as a special guest
8. Visit any sports facilities in the school

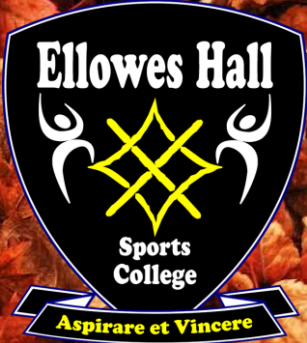
REWARD CHALLENGE:
Watch a video with your performance and get a photo of your teacher with a reward certificate

DRAMA LOVE TO LEARN CHALLENGES

Staff Signature & Date

1. Create a Poster of the Physical Skills and their definitions
2. Design a costume for a new action movie
3. Attend a Drama Club for a half term
4. Get involved in a Performing Arts showcase (afternoon or weekend)
5. Keep your own knowledge of Drama Skills and their definitions
6. Design a new set for your favourite TV show or film
7. Drama Challenge: Watch a drama and get a photo of your teacher with a reward certificate

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!



Key Dates Autumn Term 2025

Date	Event
Thursday 18 September	15.30 – 17.00: Careers Convention, Wellbeing Café 17.00 – 17.30: Year 11 Parents' Information Evening
Friday 19 September	BTEC Sport Wolverhampton University Taster Day
Tuesday 23 September	Year 9 Walsall Art Gallery Trip
Wednesday 24 & Friday 26 September	Year 11 Geography Birmingham City Centre Fieldwork Trip
Thursday 25 September	13.30: Students dismissed for Open Evening preparation 16.00 – 19.00: Ellowes Hall Open Evening for Year 7 September 2026 Entry
Friday 26 September	Macmillan Community Coffee Morning
Monday 29 September – Thurs 2 October	09.15 – 10.00: Open Mornings for Year 7 September 2026 Entry
Monday 29 September – Thurs 2 October	KS4 Cornwall Art Trip
Tuesday 7 October – Friday 10 October	KS4 Poland Trip
Thursday 9 October	15.30 – 16.30: Year 7 Parents/Carers Form Tutor Drop-In Sessions
Thursday 16 October	Performing Arts Department Open Mic Night
Tuesday 21 October	Year 7 X Band Birmingham Think Tank Trip
Thursday 23 October	Year 7 Y Band Birmingham Think Tank Trip Halloween Disco
Friday 24 October	Flu Vaccinations (Year 11 & Catch-Ups)
Monday 27 – Friday 31 October	October Half Term
Monday 3 November	08.45: Student Return to School
Friday 7 November	Flu Vaccinations (Catch-Ups)
Wednesday 12 November	INSET Day (School Closed to All Students)
Wednesday 19 – Friday 21 November	Year 7 Whitemoor Lakes Trip
Thursday 27 November	15.30 – 18.30: Year 7 Parents' & Carers' Evening
Monday 1 – Friday 12 December	Year 11 Mock Exams
Thursday 4 December	Awards' Evening
Monday 8 December	KS3 Love to Learn Homework Check-In 1
Thursday 11 December	Birmingham Royal Ballet <i>Nutcracker</i> Trip
Thursday 11 December	Christmas Market
Friday 12 December	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 16 December	Year 7 Christmas Carol Service
Wednesday 17 December	Community Christmas Lunch
Thursday 18 December	Performing Arts Department Christmas Concert
Friday 19 December	12.00PM: School Closes for Christmas Holiday



BLACK COUNTRY BASKETBALL CLUB

Thanks to our partnership with Black Country Basketball Club, we are thrilled to share their generous gift of free Family Season Tickets for our students. Please use the QR Code below to access more information...



FREE FAMILY SEASON TICKETS FOR ELLOWES STUDENTS

BLACK COUNTRY BASKETBALL CLUB



DISCOUNT CODE: ELLOWESFAMILY



Amazing work by our Year 8 Litter Pickers, giving back to our local community and growing as a year group!



HALLOWEEN OPEN HOUSE!

A member of our community is hosting a Halloween display at 106 Ellowes Road, 16.00-21.00 on 31st October. Donations received will be shared with the School Charity of the Year for 2025, The Mary Stevens Hospice.

**OCTOBER
HALF TERM
CLUBS**

27TH OCTOBER - 30TH OCTOBER

Strike Youth
UNITE PLAY LEAD



**BOOK HERE!
INCLUDES FREE
DUDLEY ZOO TRIP**

**£25 FOR THE
WHOLE 4 DAYS**

**MONDAY 9-3 SPORT AND ARTS
TUESDAY 9-3 SPORT AND ARTS
WEDNESDAY 9-3 SPORT AND ARTS
THURSDAY ZOO TRIP**

**ELLOWES HALL - ALL AGES
ST JAMES SCHOOL - ST JAMES STUDENTS
ONLY**

STRIKE YOUTH CIC

