

Happy New Year



FRIDAY 9th January 2026

'Ellow 'Ellow

This week at Ellowes Hall

THEME OF NEXT WEEK: What is the impact of social media?

HERO & SONG OF NEXT WEEK: Michelle Obama / *I Heard it through the Grapevine* by Marvin Gaye **CAREER OF THE WEEK:** Social Media Specialist



Headteacher's Introduction

I would like to welcome everyone back and hope you all had a fantastic break. It is always difficult for everyone to find the motivation at the start of January, but we were so pleased to see so many getting straight back into their learning even as other schools were shutting their doors on Tuesday due to the weather. Our Y10 students have made an impressive start to their mock examinations this week and the support of their parents/carers is much appreciated.

As we embrace a New Year, we do so collectively looking back briefly on a jam packed month of events such as; Awards' Evening; Christmas Jumper Day; Christmas Market; Community Christmas Lunch; Performing Arts Christmas Concert, and our end of term pantomime.

We would also like to thank Y11 for their amazing conduct throughout the mock examinations at the start of December. We hope that there will be many happy students when we have our results morning next week, and we look forward to seeing you all at the Parent Teacher Consultation meetings

Monday 12 January (Week A)

Year 7 Reading Tests completed in English lessons

Year 10 Mock Exams: Computer Science / French / DT / Business

Tuesday 13 January (Week A)

Year 10 Mock Exams: Biology

Year 11 Public Examination: BTEC Travel & Tourism

Wednesday 14 January (Week A)

Year 10 Mock Exams: Art (all day)

Year 11 Public Examination: BTEC Child Development

Thursday 15 January (Week A)

Year 11 Mock Exam Results Release

Year 11 Parents Evening

Friday 16 January (Week A)

Year 7 Social Media Assembly during lesson one

on 15th January. Please can I ask that you take advantage of this excellent opportunity to sit down with your children and their teachers looking at how and where to make progress to attain above and beyond their target grades in the Summer Examinations.

With every year group now having the opportunity to be tested on their understanding and progress through mock exams in addition to various forms of assessment we have a week of examinations for Y8 in the week before half-term (9th – 13th February). We hope that the majority of students make every attempt to revise and prepare for these exams and along with the resources provided by staff students can use a variety of other external resources such as Sparx, Carousel Learning and Classroom 42. We would also like to remind Y11 that their second and final round of mock examinations will take place during the week of 2nd – 6th March.

Finally, I would just like to wish you all a happy new year and one that brings all our children the success that they deserve.

4864 Positives This Week



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 This Week...

YEAR 7	7OM – Mrs McEvoy	94.6%
YEAR 8	8DBA – Mr Barker	96.8%
YEAR 9	9SRI – Ms Rigby	97.0%
YEAR 10	10EP – Miss Perry	99.4%
YEAR 11	11JW – Mrs Watson	93.8%



Performing Arts Christmas Showcase 2025



In the final week of term, our Performing Arts faculty proudly hosted the annual Winter Showcase - a celebration of creativity and talent across all year groups. The evening featured an impressive variety of performances, from heartfelt Year 7 vocal solos to dynamic choreographed dance pieces by our Year 11 students.

The showcase truly reflected the dedication and passion of our performing arts students, demonstrated through both the diversity and the exceptional quality of the acts. It was a wonderful opportunity to share these achievements with parents and families, and to enjoy refreshments together after the performances.

A huge thank you to the Performing Arts team for their hard work in organising this memorable event, and to the students whose commitment made it such a success.

Welcome to our new staff

Mr Panchal – our new Lead Practitioner of Maths and previously Subject Leader of Maths at Wolverley CofE Secondary School.

“I love maths, teaching, Warhammer, music and digestive biscuits!”



Miss Horne - our new Lead Practitioner of Science and previously second in department at Beacon Hill Academy.



Keep Growing

Congratulations to Eva B who has donated 11 inches of her hair to the Little Princess Trust. The charity accepts hair donations to make real hair wigs for children and young people who have lost their hair. She also managed to raise an amazing £180 for the charity – well done Eva.



Little
Princess
Trust



Request a Wig



Donate Hair



Donate Money

Year 10 Work Experience

We would like to remind all Year 10 students and parents that work experience placements should have been secured. If not, please try your best to confirm one as soon as possible so that we can start the risk assessments. Work experience week is Monday 6th July to Friday 10th July 2026. If you need a new form, please contact:

Mrs Toro-Pearce, Careers Leader –
atoropearce@ellowes.dudley.sch.uk

Miss Webb, Work Experience Coordinator –
twebb@ellowes.dudley.sch.uk



Year 11 Destinations

All Year 11 students have had a careers guidance meeting with a Careers Adviser and should have applied to colleges and/or apprenticeship providers. If not, we recommend the following actions:

- Apply online if you know what to apply for
- Attend college open days – these are advertised on their websites
- If unsure of what to apply for, contact Mrs Toro-Pearce, our Careers Leader, for access to your action plan and guidance



Our Poem of the week for January is by one of our very own Poetry Superstars Faith C Year 7



Remember What You Have

Remember what you have,
A house and a bed,
A brother, sister, family
And food to stay fed.



Remember what you have,
Others may not be so lucky,
Wondering when they will have food in there tummy,
Remembering when they used to be happy.



Remember what you have,
And do not forget,
Who is around you,
Including your pet(s).

Faith's beautiful poem focuses on being thankful and grateful for what we have!

Remember what you have,
Whose promised tomorrow?
You have this life to live,
Don't end it in sorrow.



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.





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)				
		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						
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 (AT/SPR)		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) Barcelona Training on Astros (RG)		Basketball (Y7 – 10) 15:15 – 16:15 in Sports Hall	Badminton Y7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (LM)		
	Rugby Y7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JEV) Musical Theatre Club in X4 (EH)		Y7, 8 (X4) & 9 (X3) Dance Club (RG/EH)	Girls Football 7 – 11 15:15 – 16:15 (JW)		
	Film Club 15:15 – 16:15 – Grace Foundation Rooms (ES)			Parallel Club 15:15 – 15:45 in M10 (AR)		
						
						
						

Jujutsu Self-Defence 5-Week Course

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



Begins: Monday 12th January – Monday 09th February

When: Monday's 3.30pm

Where: Sports Hall

For who: All Year groups

Cost: £28 for the full course
(first class is free)

NSJU

Speak to Mrs Harris for more info.

Learn the enriching martial art of Jujutsu with:
Taijutsu Kai Schools of Jujutsu



Key Dates Spring Term 2026

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