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es 3rd in
inter Cup
ports
mere



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Ellesmere Fencers qualify to represent the West Midlands

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House Singing Competition

'We Will Rock You' was the mood of the night at the Senior School House Singing Competition that was held in Big School! Each of the four Senior School Houses - Meynell, Talbot, Wakeman-Lambart and Woodard - performed their chosen Queen songs, plus a hymn, each in front of a packed house and the panel of four judges: Mr Cliff Davies, Mrs Zoe Fisher, Mrs Rhiann Waddams, and special guest Miss Claire Thompson (Head of Faculty - Drama and Dance), Oswestry School. After much deliberation and feedback on each of the performances, the judges declared the winners of the evening: Meynell House. Wakeman-Lambart came a very respectful second. While the deliberations were ongoing - our very own 'Killer Queens' performed their version of 'Bohemian Rhapsody'... A big thank you to Tony Coupe, Director of Music, for being a fabulous compere, thank you to the band and all the tech & operations & support teams for making it such a fabulous evening!

Meynell



Talbot



Wakeman-Lambart



Woodard



House Photography

Each year students are asked to enter the themed House Photography Competition to earn points for their Competitive House. This year the theme was 'Geography' and the entrants took this very broadly with city and wilderness scapes as well as environmental issues.

Junior House Photography

Well done to all who entered!



1st

Honor Graham Year 10 - Talbot

The judges liked her urban scene depicting an aspect of human geography, with good use of colour and the reflections of the skyscrapers in the water.



2nd

Alex Phillips Year 9 - Meynell

Good use of timing to capture birds in flight in a photo of the coast, highlighting physical geography.



3rd

Carmen Kilgannon Year 10 - Meynell

The judges loved the colour and felt this was an image that could be found in a publication like National Geographic (the exact theme was assumed to be travel and cultures).



Highly Commended



Highly Commended

Jennifer Hooper and Iona Taylor, both Year 10

Awarded Highly Commended for their entries.

Senior House Photography



1st

Kate Butler Year 12 – Wakeman Lambart.

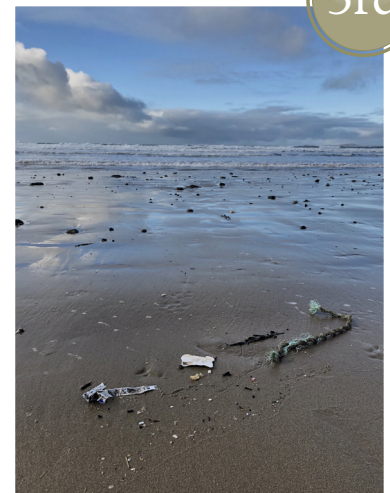
Captured the mood of an environmental protest march.



2nd

Ronan Phillips Year 12 - Meynell

Good composition of rock and a washed up piece of fishing net.



3rd

Sean Barrett Year 12 – Wakeman Lambart

Image of a beach with a simple message about ocean pollution.

Sixth Form Information Evening



We were delighted to welcome Year 11 students and families to our inaugural Sixth Form Information Evening held at the College.

The evening is designed to provide an opportunity for students in Year 11 and their families to meet subject experts for all of the A Level, International Baccalaureate (IB) and BTEC courses on offer at the College, chat to pastoral staff, Prefects and members of the Sixth Form, and see the facilities including the day and boarding houses - St Luke's, St Bede's, St Oswald's and St Hilda's - and Sixth Form study wing.

The evening began with a welcome address from Head of Sixth Form Dr Tom Gareth, who welcomed parents and students and talked through the agenda for the evening, the

journey students follow as they move from Year 11 into the Sixth Form, and the opportunities beyond for universities and careers. This was followed by a short address from the Captains of School - Head Boy, Will Davies, and Head Girl, Charlie-Anne Williams, who chatted about life at Ellesmere, the roles and responsibilities of students as Prefects, and the sporting and co-curricular opportunities at the College through Sixth Form.

Families and students were accompanied by members of the Sixth Form as they attended their chosen subject talks during which student ambassadors also presented and answered questions about the courses, timetabling and life at Ellesmere College.

Dr Gareth said, 'This was a very well attended Sixth Form Evening, and having listened to the feedback from our students, something that our Year 11 pupils and their parents really appreciated and found very useful. The large number of our Sixth Form students who volunteered for the evening also appreciated the opportunity to share their enthusiasm both for their subjects and for life at Ellesmere and they enjoyed the experience. My thanks go to them and all involved in making the evening such a success.'



Mathematics Challenge Success!

Congratulations to our Sixth Form students who recently took part in the Senior Mathematics Challenge, a 90 minute multiple choice competition aimed at the brightest mathematicians in the UK. The challenge encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using mathematical techniques to solve problems. We were delighted that our students taking part achieved 6 Gold, 3 Silver and 6 Bronze awards between them.



In addition, Year 12 student Jojo Kang received a Certificate of Distinction for obtaining one of the highest scores in the UK in the Mathematics Olympiad for Girls. This is a 2½ hour paper consisting of five challenging problems requiring full written solutions.

Students at Ellesmere start taking part in the British Mathematics Challenges from the age of 11, with Intermediate and Junior competitions taking place nationwide.



British Biology Olympiad



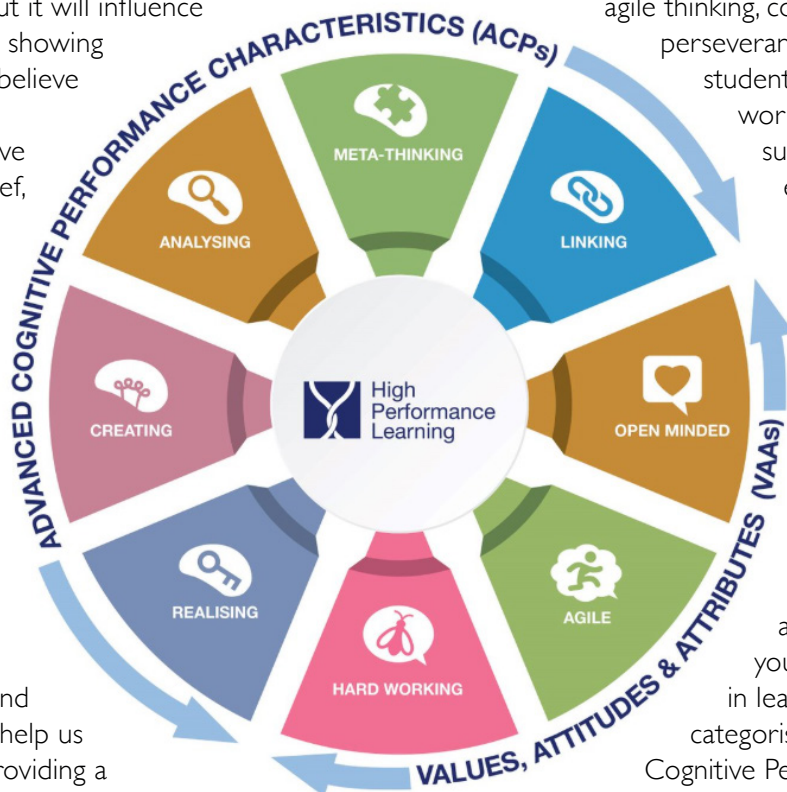
Year 12 Biology students, Kezia Hutchings and Dorian Puzovic, were among 9520 students from 668 schools worldwide who took part in the British Biology Olympiad 2020, an on-line competition consisting of two 45 minute papers challenging students' knowledge of Biology.

We are delighted that Kezia achieved a Commendation and Dorian received a Silver. Well done both of you and we look forward to the competition again in Year 13.

High Performance Learning

Ellesmere College is now one of the community of schools across the world that has adopted the High Performance Learning approach. This doesn't change what we teach but it will influence the approach we take to showing pupils how to learn. We believe that every child has the potential to be an effective learner and with self-belief, and a good toolbox to draw from, they can achieve greater success at their learning, and become confident about learning for life. High Performance Learning (HPL) is a framework of teaching developed from research into how children learn. It reflects what is known about advanced thinking skills and learning behaviours that help us to build 'better brains', providing a style of learning that removes barriers to achievement, by giving children an opportunity to develop in their own time. This reflects our long-held belief that there is 'room at the top' for more students than traditional approaches suggest.

As a High Performance Learning School, we develop an evidence-based set of HPL skills and attitudes. From confidence, collaboration and risk-taking to agile thinking, concern for society and perseverance – we ensure our students are prepared for study, work and life. At Ellesmere, success is not limited to exam results; it is about achieving academic excellence alongside a much wider set of values and attitudes that sit at the heart of our ethos, as well as supporting the happiness and well-being of every pupil. HPL identifies key characteristics and attributes that prepare young people to succeed in learning and in life, and categorises these into Advanced Cognitive Performance characteristics and Values, Attitudes, Attributes.



More information can be found on our website:
www.ellesmere.com/about-us/high-performance-learning-hpl

Year 13 student travels to Malaysia for Entrepreneurship Bootcamp



During the Christmas break, Year 13 IB student, Iwo Hachulski, participated in the Global Entrepreneurship Bootcamp (GEB) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The event is open to individuals by invitation only and participants apply by submitting a personal statement detailing their interests, achievements and ambitions, along with 250 words explaining why they would like to take part in the GEB.

In September Iwo was delighted to receive a letter from the GEB organisers offering him a place at their 2019 Bootcamp. The next challenge he had was to seek sponsorship for the \$500 registration fee plus return flights to Malaysia. Iwo approached the College's Deputy Head – External Relations, Mr Stephen Mullock, to explore options and ideas for fundraising. Iwo was offered full sponsorship by The Ellesmerian Club, covering costs of the camp, accommodation, food and travel.

The sixth edition of the GEB brought together more than 160 young and innovative intellectuals from more than 35 different countries along with 13 mentors and speakers from renowned institutions around the globe.

The opening session was followed by the unique team formation session where participants got the chance to pitch their ideas. Renowned for its diversified network and mentorship, GEB had both multiple networking and teamwork sessions with mentors scheduled over the course of four days.

16 different business ideas were pitched at the Bootcamp and these solutions were evaluated by the panel of judges. The winning idea of the Bootcamp was the project to which Iwo contributed - Meal Minion.

Meal Minion is a 360-degree restaurant management platform. It provides a well-integrated and user-friendly system that aids in the day to day operations of a restaurant. It is achieved through the use of state-of-the-art

point of sales software, data analytics, accounting, dynamic inventory management, and payroll services. Furthermore, the team wanted to introduce restaurants to the web sphere without hurting their bank accounts or having to rely on high commission 3rd party food delivery services. This is accomplished by Meal Minion's proprietary online and social ordering plugins as well as white label restaurant mobile applications.



"Working as a part of the Meal Minion Team - an ambitious, international crew was a great experience and I am extremely pleased to say that we finished the event with a victory. Hence the time has come to thank all my fellow team members - especially the Founder of Meal Minion - Daium Butt alongside Yashwi Solanki, Hijab Ali and Adnan Azeem. It was a marvellous way to finish the great year of 2019 and head start 2020 while awaiting for even more stunning opportunities!" Iwo concluded. "I would also like to thank The Ellesmerian Club for making it possible for me to attend the GEB. Without their support I would never have been able to attend."



Ellesmere College Hosts School Games Finals for Local Primary Schools!

Ellesmere College was proud to host the North Shropshire School Games Finals last term, where a number of local primary schools competed against each other across three sports on three consecutive days for a place in the County Finals!

School Games is a government-led programme with more than 17,500 registered schools - including Ellesmere College. Their mission is to keep competitive sport at the heart of schools and to provide more young people with the opportunity to compete and succeed in a variety of sports. The first day of competition saw five local schools compete in the Netball tournament. After an impressive set of performances, Cheswardine Primary School came out on top with the most victories and secured their place in the County Finals!

The following day, the Hockey tournament took place on the Ellesmere College Astroturf with an implemented knockout system and saw two finalists qualify. Oswestry and Addmore schools made it to the final - but it was Oswestry that was victorious! Addmore have still qualified and will be playing again.

The final day of competition focused on indoor Athletics, and featured a variety of activities such as long jump and relay races. Each school's team was divided into three groups: Boys, Girls and 'Sports Ability' - an initiative that increases the opportunities and extends provisions for people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). Hodnet and Bryn Offa were the two strongest teams, but it was Longlands that came out on top in the Sports Ability group!

Throughout the three days, Ellesmere College and local secondary school students were directly involved in the managing and officiating of competitions, and were essential in the smooth-running of activities and helped provide a wonderful experience for all young people involved!



Arts Award Students Strike Gold for Charity!



Gold Arts Award students Amy Storey-Gibbons, Year 11, and Mariella Steele, Year 12, were delighted to be able to present a cheque for £126 to Lynsey Kilvert from Hope House & Tŷ Gobaith following the CRE8 performance at the College.

The CRE8 Arts Showcase evening celebrates creativity across a full range of the Arts disciplines at Ellesmere where students can perform any type of material that helps them to develop their confidence as young performers. Amy and Mariella organised, directed and produced the event as part of their Arts Award Gold Leadership element and managed the whole

event with support from the Ellesmere Arts Centre Technical Team, Music Department and other College departments. Performances were delivered by all ages of students from the Lower School to Sixth Form! The Lower School Dance Club performed a lively version of 'Warriors of the Earth', and other Lower School students demonstrated their talents and confidences with performances including piano, singing, cello, acting and individual dance recitals.

The Senior School bought a mix of performances from well known productions including 'I Know Him So Well', and from classical flute - Flute-Konzert in D major, 1st and 2nd movement by Stamitz - to the modern charts - 'Make You Feel My Love' by Adele! All in all a wonderful evening of entertainment!

All proceeds and donations from the evening went to Hope House Children's Hospice in Oswestry - a charity supporting over 750 local families who are either caring for a terminally ill child or who's child has sadly passed away. Visit: www.hopehouse.org.uk



Symphony of Success

Ellesmere Students Win at Oswestry Youth Music Festival

Ellesmere College have once again dominated at the annual Oswestry Youth Music Festival 2020.

They took a total number of 22 first places, 24 second places and 11 third places at the festival with five students reaching the finals on the Sunday. The event is organised by Oswestry Town Council to showcase the best young musicians across Shropshire, Cheshire, Wrexham and North and Mid Wales.

This year's week-long festival saw competitions take place at the Hermon Chapel, Christchurch and Holy Trinity Church in the town. The festival has been running for over 40 years and competitions cover a full range of vocal, instrumental and ensemble music. Many past winners have gone on to successful musical careers.



Tony Coupe, Director of Music at Ellesmere College, said: "We have had tremendous success at the Oswestry Youth Music Festival, in terms of overall prizes in recent years. It reflects the hard work and dedication of our students and staff in always striving for the highest possible standards. We congratulate them all on another hugely successful festival."

"The festival not only enables students to perform at a prestigious event but also to listen to others and obtain valuable feedback that will support their musical development. This year's results reinforce Ellesmere College's reputation as a first class school for music. Our thanks go to Sue Turner and the Town Council for organising another successful festival."

"Congratulations to Josh Norris, Freddie Heasmer-Jones, Noah Fisher, Emily Ashley and Jack Arrowsmith who all reached the finals on Sunday, and to Harry Fradley (Old Ellesmerian) for winning the Oswestry Town Council Cup in the Senior Finals."



'Lights, Camera, Action!'

A group of Year 10 students visited Wrexham Glyndŵr University for a creative media taster day where they were given the chance to sample some of the technology on hand for students studying creative media courses at the University - and to use it to make their own productions.

The group were given an introduction to the world of visual effects by lecturer Steve Jarvis, who showed them how television and film productions are being transformed through the use of technology. They were also given the opportunity to use Glyndŵr's BBC-standard television production suite under the guidance of lecturer Steffan Owens, who helped the pupils film and edit interviews with their teachers to demonstrate the use of the facility's cameras, production desk and more.

Karen McGowan, Wrexham Glyndŵr University Recruitment and Liaison Officer, added: "Students on Wrexham Glyndŵr University's creative media courses get to use some of the latest technology on their courses - with new degrees, such as our recent BSc in Visual Effects, being added all the time. This visit was a chance for Ellesmere College's media students to get a taste of some of those experiences themselves - and to hear more about some of the ways our students get to use their studies in careers in film, television and more."

"It was a packed morning of activities, and the first visit by students from Ellesmere College to the university. We hope they had a great day, and we look forward to working with the College in the coming months to help develop their pupils' interest in studying towards a career in the creative industries."



Margaret Hutchings, Head of Media Studies added: "We were really grateful to the Glyndŵr teaching staff, who really inspired our students to think about the career possibilities offered by the creative industries, and who made the workshops fun and informative. It was an invaluable experience for them to experience the excellent production facilities offered by the university, and it has certainly given them an insight into the possibilities for higher level study in this sector."





Little Shop of Horrors

Senior School Production – Little Shop of Horrors

This term our Senior School thespians took on Howard Ashman's 'Little Shop of Horrors'. The performance was filled with awe inspiring talent and hilarity and was given rave reviews by the staff, parents and students who went along to watch one of their four performances, including a performance to Ellesmere Primary School.



ABRSM Awards

Congratulations to all our recent recipients of the ABRSM Awards, with noteworthy results from Sophie Ward who not only gained a Merit in her Grade 7 Singing, but was also awarded as an ARSM 'Associate of the Royal Schools of Music' Level 4 Diploma for flute with a Distinction.

NAME	SUBJECT	LEVEL	ACHIEVEMENT
Rhian-Carys Jones	Singing	Grade 8	Distinction
Emily Ashley	Singing	Grade 8	Distinction
Grace Warren	Singing	Grade 6	Merit
Patrick Hey	Acoustic Guitar	Grade 6	Merit
Alex Herbert-Adams	Theory	Grade 5	Merit
Huw Lloyd	Piano	Grade 1	Merit



Well done everyone on your fantastic achievements!



Hockey Goalkeeper Scores National Dream Goal!

A Year 11 student, Harry Lloyd-Brown, who currently plays first and second team hockey at his club in Chester, has been selected to continue his goalkeeping training with England Hockey, and will now train in their established U17 Performance Centre in Manchester even though he is still only 15 years old.



As part of England Hockey's 'Player Pathway' programme, Harry will now enter an environment that allows all young players to realise their potential through a rigorous programme of intense training and competition, coupled with the highest level of coaching for U17 players. Last year, the U17 team was unbeaten in all games, and conquered many other national teams of a higher age - a true testament to the Performance Centre's quality of training and competition.

Harry now aims to be selected for the Futures Cup squad for this summer, a competition which would place him against the best young players in the country, and would allow him to challenge a place in the U18 England Team at the end of the year.

Harry said, "I am more determined than ever to perform at my best, and I'm doing as much as I can to be selected for the Pennine Puma's team. I am very thankful to Mr Taylor and all the other coaches that have been pushing me through the training, and motivating me to be the best keeper I can be!"

Harry also belongs to Ellesmere's Sports Leaders programme, and helps to coach the junior hockey players at the College by planning and preparing sessions, developing their communication skills and acting as a role model through the medium of sport. In addition, Harry has been finding the time to fit productive sessions in the gym and on the pitch in order to achieve his full potential!

Game, Set & Match! Aditi Chezhan wins Sporting Award



Rising tennis star Aditi Chezhan, has been awarded a prestigious award marking her outstanding sporting achievements.

Aditi is a member of the Ellesmere College Tennis Academy and is already an established part of the Welsh National Junior Squad with a list of impressive performances to her name.

She received the Shropshire Schools' Sports & Athletics Association "John Beswick International Award" at a presentation evening held at the Shirehall in Shrewsbury after being nominated by Stephen Welti, Senior Performance Coach and Director of Tennis at College.

"Aditi has made exceptional progress, she has a tremendous work ethic and is a very talented tennis player with high hopes for the future. I didn't hesitate to nominate her for the award and was delighted when she won it," he said.

"As a World Academy of Sport accredited educational facility, our Tennis Academy is one of the top centres for young players in the country and we have developed a strong pool of talent which is maintaining Ellesmere College's highly respected reputation in the sports arena."

Aditi moved from St Gerrard's School, Bangor to Ellesmere College more than

two years ago in order to focus on her tennis and became the first Ellesmere College student to gain a Tennis Europe ranking.

In October, she helped Team Wales retain the Junior Home Nations Tennis Championship - the first time Wales successfully defended the title in the competition's history - winning praise from the Welsh coach who said she was the most improved player of 2019.

Earlier last year she was part of the College's successful Year 7 & 8 team which reached their highest ever place in the national finals of the Lawn Tennis Association Senior Students Competition when they were named third best team in the country.

The "John Beswick International Awards", held earlier this month, recognise talented youngsters who have represented their country at sport during the preceding year and who attend an affiliated school or college in Shropshire.

Last year the award was won by Olympic hopeful and Ellesmere College Titan swimmer Freya Anderson.



Riding High: Ellesmere Equestrian Team

The Ellesmere College Equestrian team had a great weekend at the Southview Equestrian Centre for the NSEA National Dressage Qualifiers and NSEA Hickstead Elite Showjumping Qualifiers.



The Showjumping Classes were a qualifier for the Hurst College National Schools Championships at Hickstead later in the year and we are delighted that in the 1.10m class Harriet Otter (Year 11) and Annie took a faultless round and came first! Our Year 5 entry, Immy Spencer-Blow, once again showed her maturity and confidence and took 2nd & 3rd places.

The top two places qualify so both Harriet and Immy have qualified and will jump at Hickstead on 1st August.

In the Dressage Arena, the Ellesmere Dressage team put up a strong front as individual entries with both our Year 10 entries qualifying for the NSEA Plate Championships in October:

Anna Maughan	Year 10	5th in the Preliminary dressage
Tabitha Leonard	Year 10	7th the Novice dressage
Emily Curzon	Year 9	A confident showing on a young horse!

Congratulations once again to all the members of the Equestrian Team, a fantastic show with an impressive set of results!

Freya Anderson strikes Gold in Edinburgh



In an exciting weekend of Olympic preparation at the Edinburgh International Swim Meet, Ellesmere Titan Freya Anderson once again proved her worth on the GB Team with outstanding performances over the three day event.

In the 200m Freestyle she equalled the meet record of 1:58.04, won the 100m freestyle in a PB of 53.93 - one second ahead of second place, and in the 50m freestyle dropped under the 25-second barrier for the first time in her career after clocking 24.88 (clear of Edinburgh University's Lucy Hope and Loughborough University's Emily Barclay).

For more information, visit:

www.swimming.org/sport/edinburgh-meet-day-one/



Pratham Continues MUN Success with UAMUNC Conference

Pratham Manchanda, a Year 13 student of Politics, Economics and Chemistry, has added to his long and successful record of Model United Nations (MUN) conferences with his participation in the 2019 United Ambassadors Model United Nations Conference (UAMUNC).

United Ambassadors is a worldwide educational organisation who arrange conferences, and are directly associated with the United Nations; they organise two annual conferences - New York and Geneva. The conferences utilise the same procedures that occur in real United Nations conferences, and feature real UN Ambassadors as guest speakers. In addition, delegations from countries across the world such as Ghana, Pakistan, South Africa, Dubai, etc, present at the conferences. As part of the academic team, Pratham was appointed the position of "Secretary of GA 3", and his role involved ensuring that the committee were following legitimate procedures and were being properly moderated.

Pratham found out about UAMUNC via a group that promotes MUN conferences on-line, and in order to be appointed to the role, he had to go through several rounds of online interviews where he was competing with thousands of other applicants.

Reflecting on the experience, Pratham said: "To achieve this position, I had to have a lot of MUN experience and had to possess a lot of knowledge about the UN in general. However, even after four years of MUNs, I was pretty new in terms of procedure and we all had to be trained online to make sure everything occurred as closely as possible to how it does in the UN."

"Model United Nations has always appealed to me because of its opportunities to discuss varied topics of global concern. I enjoy the intensive research into other countries' foreign policies and meeting fellow, likeminded Sixth Form students from all over the world."

Pratham has now been a part of 40 MUN conferences both as a delegate and a chair in a number of countries. This has provided him with significant development in public speaking, leadership skills, negotiation and organisational skills, alongside a direct experience in diplomacy, all of which has been a great boost to his confidence. His positive reputation within the MUN circuit could lead to more potential involvement in events organised by the UA and their partnered organisations.



Going Dutch! A perspective on universities in the Netherlands

With its affordable living costs, global outlook, excellent transport links and renowned universities, the Netherlands remains an attractive destination for undergraduate studies. Two Upper Sixth students recently travelled to the Netherlands to take part in university open days.

A level Student Patrick Crowe, who plans to read Linguistics, visited Amsterdam University and Leiden University. He said: "Not only is Leiden one of the highest-ranked Dutch universities, but one of the modules offered as part of the Linguistics degree is called 'descriptive Linguistics' which is an area I am extremely interested in, so I have applied for this course. Leiden is a very pretty and cosmopolitan city with a global outlook. I plan to find a suitable flat to share with likeminded students, as campus accommodation in Leiden is quite rare, so in addition to my course taught in English, I may even learn Dutch as part of the university experience. I look forward to experiencing another country and culture not too far away from home."

Meanwhile, IB student and Prefect, Paula Lotze, attended a university experience day offered by Maastricht University's

faculty of Business and Economics. She said: "Maastricht is ideally located in Southern Holland, with good transport links to Belgium, Germany and the North-East of France. It was therefore not surprising that the 30 fellow applicants I spent the day with hailed from Germany, Luxemburg, Belgium, Spain and France as well as from the Netherlands. Faculty staff at Maastricht were international, too, and enjoyed showing us the impressive university facilities and the city of Maastricht. I enjoyed attending several tutorials where we conducted economic research in small groups for presentation to a larger audience in the afternoon. We also debated the economic impact of the latest political developments on the European and global landscape. This experience gave me a great insight into student life and I would recommend these university experience days to all other young economists interested in global perspectives."

Head of Sixth Form, Dr Tom Gareth, commented: "It is wonderful to see our students looking at the wider opportunities available to them once they leave our Sixth Form. They are role models for a bright future."





Students welcome in 'Year of the Rat'



Students recently marked the start to the Year of the Rat in a traditional Chinese New Year celebration organised by the College's teacher of Chinese, Lucy Ding.

Two types of lucky dumplings were freshly prepared in St Oswald's - one of the Sixth Form boarding house kitchens – and enjoyed by all visitors. These classic Chinese New year delicacies have a history of more than 1,800 years, and the dumplings – 饺子 Jiǎozi – are traditionally eaten on Chinese New Year's Eve. Ms Ding's students also enjoyed giving calligraphy lessons to their British and international friends, with plenty of wishes of “福 (fu)” (blessing; happiness; good luck and good fortune) being exchanged.

A Level student Anton Versele, who was invited to the celebrations, said: “I received a warm welcome and enjoyed seeing how my name is written in Chinese characters.” GCSE student Nancy Chen, who hails from the port city of Dalian on the Liaodong Peninsula, said: “Thanks to the Chinese New Year celebrations organised by Ms Ding, I felt very much at home in Ellesmere on this important day in the Chinese calendar. Although I could not travel home for the celebrations, I enjoyed seeing in the Year of the Rat surrounded by fellow students and teachers. I think we really brought the spirit of Chinese New Year to Ellesmere.”

Ellesmere students celebrate Polish Independence at Embassy

A recent visit to the Polish Embassy in London marked the end of a prestigious project conducted by Ellesmere College students into Polish culture, Polish traditions and the contributions to British life made by members of Polish heritage. Initiated as part of a series of events and celebrations to mark the centennial of Poland regaining its independence in 1918, one aspect of the project explored the history of Polish migration to the UK. Before embarking on their trip to London, students had visited the local village of Penley. Here, retired Ellesmere College colleague Debra Joynson-Brooke and her husband Frank showed them around the site of the former U.S. military hospital that, once given to the Polish community in 1946, was home to some 2,000 patients and staff but closed in 2002.

On the trip to London, Year 13 IB student Iwo Hachulski and Year 11 student Kit Lewers were chosen to present the finding of the Ellesmere research group during a formal reception to diplomats and invited guests at the Polish Embassy in Marylebone. For Iwo and Kit, who are both planning careers in diplomacy, this was an excellent opportunity to make valuable contacts. Iwo said: “Kit and I enjoyed disseminating our research to embassy staff and invited guests including students from other UK schools. The contribution made by the Polish population in the UK is extraordinary and was celebrated at this event.”

Project Facilitator Melody Reynolds added: “We were proud to be involved in such a memorable and significant project and hope other students at Ellesmere College will follow Iwo's and Kit's lead and become involved in similar cultural projects in the future.”



The EDGE Lecture Series – Charlie Adlard



Internationally renowned artist, Charlie Adlard, came in to College to talk to some of our Sixth Form students about his career and experiences in becoming a professional illustrator.

In an interview with Head Boy, Will Davies, Charlie told the audience how important creative subjects are to both education and in the business world. He answered many questions relating to a career in the world of Art and how he sought opportunities in a very competitive field of work.

Charlie was a budding artist from a very young age, he recalls drawing comic strips from as young as six years old and was drawing and sketching at every opportunity. He studied Art at College and lived in London for a while, seeking work, before returning to his home town of Shrewsbury.

Charlie is most well known for being the penciller on the Walking Dead since 2004; his other notable works include Savage, the X Files and the 2000AD series, including Judge Dredd, and Armitage. He is a regular supporter of Ellesmere College and has previously featured unseen artwork, life drawing sketches and original pieces from published works at the College's National Art Exhibition.

"I've been involved in Art as Education more in the last few years, due to my role as UK Comics Laureate, and have become increasingly aware of the importance of such things. I hope, in some small way, my contribution will help

someone achieve their dreams, just like I did. Teenagers need to know the opportunities available to them, the careers that can be made and how much job satisfaction can be had out of a life in the arts world as well."

Designed as just one element of Ellesmere's Leadership and Entrepreneurship programme, The Edge lectures are designed to give our students a helping hand when entering the world of university and work. By connecting to the 5,000+ Old Ellesmerians worldwide, the younger generation can gain from their expertise and experience, creating mentoring and work experience opportunities in many professional fields.

Offered to all Sixth Form and Year 11 students, the programme has proven to be very successful since it started in 2012. Students have had the opportunity to see and speak to OEs and parents of many professions including doctors, lawyers, architects, engineers, military, entrepreneurs and many more.

If you would be interested in attending a lecture or might be keen to offer a talk on your career or business, please contact Olivia Beckett: olivia.beckett@ellesmere.com
Tel: 01691 626541.

Sir Bill Beaumont returns to Ellesmere College for Centenary Match



World Rugby Chairman, sporting celebrity and former Ellesmere College student, Sir Bill Beaumont, Rugby World Cup referee Luke Pearce, and Judith Phelps, Chairman of the Shropshire RFU, were welcomed to the College for a special Centenary rugby match.

Bill was a special guest and Luke officiated the inaugural North Midlands Rugby Football Union's (NMRFU) Centenary School's Challenge Cup between Ellesmere College 1st XV and Wrekin College 1st XV with Abraham Darby 1st XV, which was held as part of the NMRFU's centenary celebrations - 1920-2020. The home team were victorious in the game with a score of 35-0. Bill learned to play rugby while at Ellesmere College and went on to become Captain of the England Rugby Union Team, earning 34 caps, Chairman of the International Rugby Board and Chairman of the Rugby Football Union. He has been Chairman of World Rugby since 2016.

Ian Beer, who was the Headmaster at Ellesmere College when Bill studied at the school, also attended the match and caught up with Bill and a large number of returning OE's after the match in Big School, where the Centenary Cup was presented to the Ellesmere College 1st XV team by Bill.

Bill said: "It was a pleasure to return to Ellesmere today and watch the 2019 1st XV team play. I was lucky enough to play at this school and then go on to play for England, Captain England and the British Lions and then become Chairman of the RFU. I'm still involved in rugby today, and it's because of the people - the people make this game what it is - and I'm proud and honoured to be a part of it."



Brendan Wignall, Headmaster of Ellesmere College said: "It was an honour to host the inaugural North Midlands RFU Centenary School's Challenge Cup, welcome Bill back to the school and to watch Luke, a World Cup referee, in action, officiating the game. It was a brilliant match and a wonderful day, with lots of supporters cheering on the teams. Congratulations to all the players who represented their schools so well.

"It's a great time for rugby, with England making the final of the Rugby World Cup last autumn, and we're extremely proud of all our rugby players at Ellesmere College - both past and present - who have, and continue to, reach their potential to play on the national and world stage."

Catherine Wignall celebrates Hollywood movie debut

We would like to congratulate Catherine Wignall (Meynell 2000-2009) on the release of her debut Hollywood movie, *Crawlers*, which was shown on Disney's Hulu Channel on Friday 6th March.

Catherine has recently completed a Master of Fine Art course in Screenwriting at UCLA Film School after she was awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship alongside a Fellowship from UCLA in recognition of her potential.

While she was studying, Catherine started to meet with many production companies, including NBC, HBO and Netflix, to name a few. In a meeting that took place in her final semester, she pitched a script to an Executive at Blumhouse. The script was called *ChristMASS INVASION* and was a comedy horror alien invasion Christmas movie that she was writing for fun. Blumhouse were blown over with the script which, after a few adjustments made by Catherine, they have gone on to make into a St Patrick's Day holiday horror movie renamed '*Crawlers*'. Please click here to see the trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8KOQE_Ybxc

Nine months after graduating, with Catherine's first Hollywood movie due to be released and several projects bubbling away in the background, we can't wait to see what she achieves next!



"Walking into meeting rooms with production companies or onto film lots, surrounded by the history of the film industry, is surreal every time. I was nine years old when I decided I wanted to work in Hollywood and here I am. I did it. It feels like a dream." Said Catherine "I'm nervous, but excited to take this first step onto the Hollywood ladder. I am incredibly fortunate and grateful for my good luck, and hope that this is only the first script of many."



From Ellesmere to the USA: Football success for Sarangapany

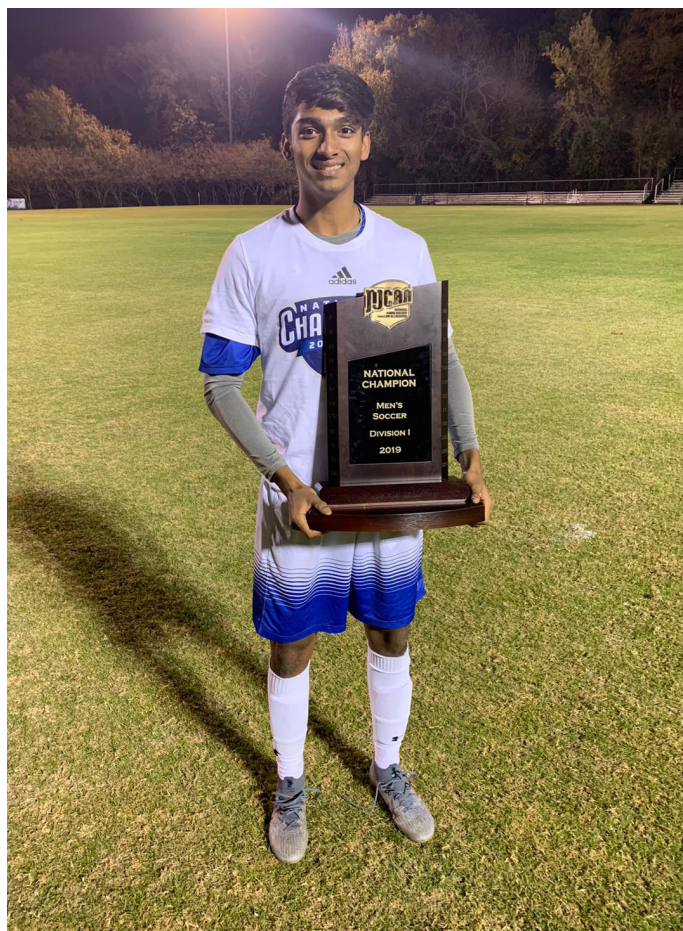
2019 was a great year for Ellesmere College student Sarangapany Pagadala as he gained a fabulous set of A level results in Maths, Economics and Business, and achieved a scholarship to a university in the USA.

Sarangapany joined the Ellesmere College Football Academy in 2017 with International House Manchester (IHM), moving from his home country of India to pursue his dream. Working incredibly hard in every session, his commitment led to him being one of the Academy's strongest players. He has always clearly understood that his coaches' feedback plus what he learnt from his teammates, was making him a better player.

During his time at IHM Sarangapany won a number of awards for his performance and effort. He was awarded "Player of the Month" as well as an end of season award. In short, he was a key member of the squad for two years.

Whilst with IHM, Sarangapany attended a trial day with "Soccer Assist", an organisation dedicated to providing players opportunities to study and play soccer for a US college or university whilst receiving a scholarship. This particularly suited Sarangapany, being both a good A level student and committed to his football. After working with Tyrelle from "Soccer Assist" he soon received a number of offers from good US universities.

Sarangapany has recently finished his first semester with Monroe College and has had a really successful start to his time in the USA. With 36 players on the roster at the college, he has featured in the first team and was one of the 24 squad members selected to travel to Tyler in Texas for the NJCAA National Championship Tournament. With a fantastic unbeaten record, Sarangapany and his team brought home the title for Monroe College for the first time in the team's history, a fantastic achievement.



Everyone at IHM and Ellesmere College wishes Sarangapany well for the next semester, when he will be returning to Monroe College to continue his winning ways. He will then possibly look to transfer in the new term for further football experience and development.

Mick Brennan, IHM Director of football said, "This is just a fantastic success story for Saranga. He was always one of the stand out players on the IHM Ellesmere programme with his determination, drive and commitment. He was one of those players that just knew he could achieve, and as a coach you just want to help a player with drive and attitude like that as much as you can. I'm delighted with the progress he's made; it was a tough move to go to the US and I know from talking with him right at the start it wasn't always easy. However, Saranga has the commitment to push on through and work hard. Winning the Championship is something he will always remember and something that he really deserves. He's a shining example of how having the right attitude drive and commitment, as well as skills can take a player a long way."



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