

# Ellesmere**news**



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Ellesmere College Newsletter  
Lent/Summer 2023





# In the News...

What everyone has been talking about...



Liked by you and 432 others

In celebration of the forthcoming Coronation, the Ellesmere College Parents Society very generously donated King Charles III Coronation badges to all of our pupils!

#Coronation2023  
#EllesmereCollegeParentsSociety  
#ECPS #KingCharlesIII

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Liked by you and 826 others

It was a gorgeous sunny day as we welcomed the St. Mary's CIW School, Overton, Yr 5 students for their first 'Introducing Sport' Session held here at Ellesmere College!

#SportForAll #LearnToPlay #CricketAcademy #Community #ShropshireSchool

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Liked by you and 703 others

Our Lower School Editorial Team are proud to announce the launch of their new newsletter - 'Ellesmere Everywhere!' with proceeds going to Hope House & Ty Gobaith Children's Charity.

#LowerSchool #PrepSchool #HPL #HighPerformanceLearning #Newsletter #teamwork

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Liked by you and 49 others

Our Sixth Form students had a bake sale to raise money for the crisis in Turkey & Syria. Students & staff enjoyed a lovely range of home baked cakes and raised over £200 towards the relief efforts!

#LifeAtEllesmere #TurkeySyriaEarthquake #charity #BakeSale #LifeReady #SixthForm

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Liked by you and 803 others

Another wonderful performance in all school assembly by Kyara H performing 'Allegro Moderato' by Haydn on the piano!

#MusicAtEllesmere #Music #Assembly #HPL

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Liked by you and 289 others

The winter equivalent of the summer saying is "Make igloos while the snow falls"! And our RAF CCF Cadets did exactly that with the fresh snow at Ellesmere College!

#LifeAtEllesmere #CCF #snowfall #igloobuilding #Teamwork #Resilience #Leadership

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Instagram

Ellesmere College UK  
@ellesmerecoll

Yr 10 Geography students collected data and studied changes in the river downstream during their Carding Mill Valley visit.

#GeographyAtEllesmere #FieldTrip #GeographyIB #GeographyALevel

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Liked by you and 519 others

What an 'egg-cellent' finish to the term with an Easter Egg hunt for pupils in Oak and Ash in Lower School with a little help from our Sixth Form Pref-eggs!

#LowerSchool #PrepSchool #EasterBreak #EasterFun #SixthForm

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Liked by you and 216 others

Students give a presentation about the earthquake that occurred in Turkey during Lower School assembly and organised a cake sale event during break time to promote unity and compassion.

#LowerSchool #TurkeyEarthquake #LifeAtEllesmere #Teamwork #Resilience

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# Supporting Mental Health at Ellesmere

We are thrilled to announce that Yr 12 student Adam T has been appointed as a Young Ambassador for Action for Children, focusing on mental health. After a rigorous application process, Adam not only secured the role of Young Ambassador but also earned a position on their board. He recently visited a Children's Service to discuss mental health and sport, showcasing his dedication to the cause.



In addition to Adam's achievement, a group of students attended the Mental Health at Ellesmere Support System (MHESS) Easter event, where they were appointed as MHESS Ambassadors. This demonstrates their commitment to promoting mental health and emotional well-being within our school community. Moreover, we are excited to introduce a new well-being room designed specifically for our students, further prioritizing their mental health. These initiatives collectively contribute to fostering a supportive and nurturing environment for all.



## Speech Day Celebrations 2023



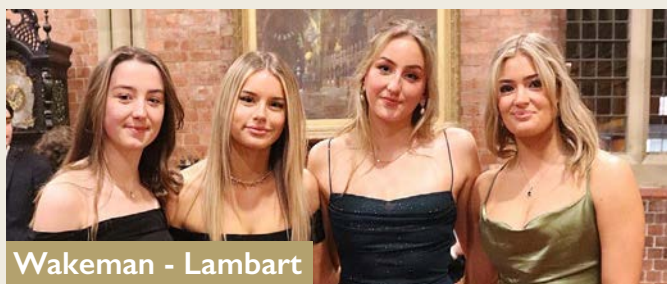
It was wonderful to see so many families, students, staff and Old Ellesmerians joining us for Speech Day celebrations on Terraces – the traditional strawberries and cream, sandwiches and a celebratory glass of fizz in the sunshine!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the afternoon and to say a fond farewell and good luck to our leavers – both staff and students, and to welcome the new year groups moving up in the Michaelmas Term!





# Senior School House Dinners

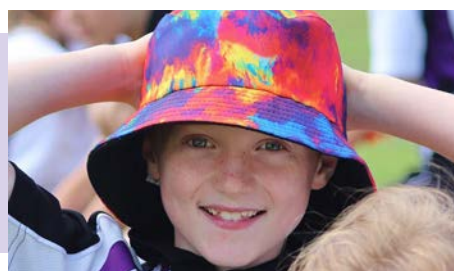


# Lower School Sports Day



Always one of our most anticipated events in the Ellesmere College Summer calendar is the Lower School Sports Day, and this year was an absolute winner!

We had a wonderful afternoon of big smiles, teamwork, sportsmanship, overcoming obstacles, determination, resilience and as always an enthusiastic crowd to cheer them on!





# Biology Olympiad Medal Winners

In an impressive showing at the British Biology Olympiad, our year 13 students have excelled, earning well-deserved certificates. Notably, Cal Adlard's exceptional performance secured them a coveted Gold certificate, placing them in the top 5% of participants. Aditi Chezhan achieved a Silver certificate, while Davit Chankseliani and Amanda Bani both received Bronze certificates. These outstanding results highlight the dedication and aptitude of our students, supported by our exceptional biology faculty. Congratulations to Cal, Aditi, Davit, Amanda, and all participants for their remarkable achievements, showcasing their talent and passion for biology on a global stage.

**Cal Adlard – Gold**  
**Aditi Chezhan – Silver**  
**Davit Chankseliani – Bronze**  
**Amanda Bani – Bronze**



# HPL Conference at Warwick University

Ellesmere College students were honoured to be invited once again to this years annual High Performance Learning(HPL) conference at the University of Warwick.

Our Yr 9 pupil George G, and Sixth Formers Marie, Melanie and Neli did a formidable job presenting their personal HPL journeys to a discerning international audience at the prestigious 4th annual HPL conference. The students talked eloquently about the ACPs they have developed by research into ancient civilisations, the ways in which they have embedded VAAs in theatre studies, and the notable differences HPL highlights between the UK and Eastern European education systems. They made a strong case for HPL as part of a holistic education that ensures students proactively enjoy academic challenge and are 'Life:Ready'.

Well done to all the students who presented and to the HPL Staff at Ellesmere College for your support.







# Sixth Form Information Evening

The Evening provided the perfect opportunity for prospective students and their parents to view the facilities and talk through with staff everything relating to taking up a Sixth Form place at the College, with current students acting as Subject Ambassadors.

It is aimed at giving future students and their families as much detail as possible about the benefits of choosing Ellesmere College for their academic and personal journey.

Brendan Wignall, Headmaster of Ellesmere College, said: "We are rightly proud of our facilities, and our academic success. The broad range of curricular opportunities and world class sporting achievements hold their own with the best, which is why it's important to showcase this through our information events to future students."

"The Sixth Form Information Evening is a marvellous opportunity for prospective students and families to learn more about us and talk with our staff in an informal setting about the College and the courses available to them which includes a broad range of A Levels, BTEC and International Baccalaureate."



# World Book Day

We had some wonderfully creative costumes celebrating World Book Day here at Ellesmere College in Lower School with the KS2 children getting inspired by their favourite authors, stories and allowing their imaginations to take flight!

From Harry Potter to a Joke Book, Oompa-Loompas to Little Red Riding Hood, The Fantastic Mr. Fox to Where's Wally... the students had a wonderful day – and we even got a mention on the BBC World Book Day Live Lesson.





# Viva Voce Festival of Spoken English

Students from a number of Shropshire schools have battled it out in a bid to have the last word at the first spoken English festival to be hosted at Ellesmere College.

Natt Kritchanarat joined students from Lakelands Academy, Ellesmere, and the Corbet School, Baschurch, to take the winning spot in one of the three areas of the inaugural Viva Voce Spoken English Festival.

The festival, which was held in the Arts Centre at Ellesmere College, was a huge success and there are now plans to expand the event next year with more schools taking part.

Daniel Bottom, Head of English at Ellesmere College, said: "We are absolutely delighted with the way the inaugural Viva Voce Festival went and congratulations go to all those students who took part – the competition was keenly contested.

"There were three categories: The Grigoros Award for Poetry Recitation, The Bittmann Award for Dramatic Reading and The Chankseliani Award for Presenting, and the judging was led by Mr Jack Swanston, Head of Higher Education and Careers at Repton School.

"The students demonstrated considerable confidence, precision and agility as they delivered their pieces, all within a four-minute time limit and to an extremely high standard.

"The Viva Voce Festival was the culmination of a lot of hard work and in order to help students prepare, they all took part in spoken English workshops on May 16th, again held at Ellesmere College. These sessions were planned and delivered by our Year 12 International Baccalaureate (IB) students.

"The titles of the three Viva Voce categories are recognition for three of our Year 13 IB students whose passion for spoken English and oracy led to the Viva Voce programme itself.

"All three, Emma Bittmann, Iris Grigoros and Davit Chankseliani represented Ellesmere College in public speaking competitions and all three won – a tremendous achievement.

"We are already looking forward to next year and building on the success of this year's festival. The 2024 Viva Voce programme, including workshops and competition, will be expanded with more local schools taking part."



# Duke of Edinburgh Canoeing

As well as testing our students academic skills and attributes with exams in the summer term, we also challenge them outside the classroom – building other key life skills such as resilience, teamwork, leadership, initiative and determination with cocurricular activities including The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

In preparation for their final assessed Expo at the end of the Summer term, this team of 19 Yr 12 students took part in a practice canoeing weekend to ensure they were well prepared for it! Their resilience and teamwork shone through some tough and challenging conditions but they did it... roll on final Assessed Expo Week!







# CCF Presentations

Our annual recognition of the service and achievements of our CCF Cadets from all three contingents was celebrated in the Arts Centre with presentations by Lt Col. Martin Clewlow to all the Year 13 leavers.

Ties and medals were awarded to all the students in the contingents with their associated ranks, and trophies awarded to best cadets for each of the CCF contingents as well as overall Best CCF Cadet – Maxwell B!

Many congratulations to everyone who received their awards and may your experiences, leadership, teamwork and resilience skills help guide you on the next stage of your life journey!

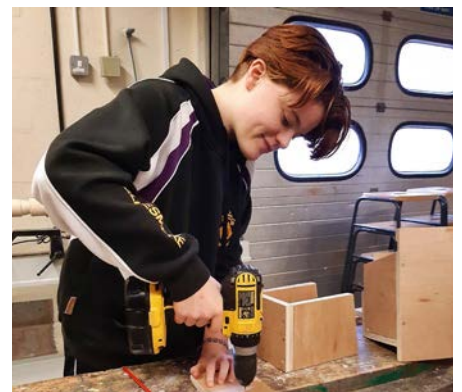


# Green Team: Step into Spring

Our Green Team have come out of hibernation and sprung into spring with enthusiasm!

They've been digging, weeding, and tidying the gardens around the greenhouse, and planting out seedlings!

It really encourages a diversity of animals and birds into the garden and the students appreciate and learn about nature, conservation and sustainability.





# GCSE Dance Launched New Term

Ellesmere College is proud to announce the launch of its new GCSE Dance program starting in September 2023. The introduction of this course expands the school's diverse arts offerings, providing more students with the opportunity to engage in dance and work towards a qualification. Taster sessions for the GCSE Dance program we are held during the summer term, allowing young students aged nine to 13 to experience and explore this exciting new course.

Under the guidance of Rachel Schubert, Director of Drama, Ellesmere College's dance programs have gained popularity, offering various opportunities for students of all ages. From performing and leading sessions to choreographing and co-directing, students can actively participate in the world of dance. Private dance lessons in contemporary, ballet, jazz, and tap are also available for children aged three to 13.

In addition, the school hosts the Junior Dance Club during lunchtimes, and leadership roles are available for senior students, allowing them to work with the Junior Dance Club and Ellesmere Primary School, leading dance sessions with peers or younger students.

Music and drama students at Ellesmere College have also excelled in their London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), and Trinity College London exams.



## Tabor Academy



Ellesmere - an Artsmark Platinum Award school - is the only UK partner school of Tabor Academy in Boston, a partnership which has been hugely beneficial to students from both schools with a drama exchange trip every two years.

In March 2023, the students from Tabor Academy in Boston, Massachusetts arrived for a thrilling drama exchange with our own drama students! They performed the classic John Buchan thriller 'The 39 Steps' abridged and adapted for stage and made famous in the Alfred Hitchcock film production of the same name.





# Middle School Play: DNA

Middle School students put on a thought provoking and chilling production of DNA in the summer term. The play, by Dennis Kelly, is a fantastic piece of writing that students study as their set text for GCSE Drama. What's a fabulous performance!



# Oswestry Youth Music Festival 2023

## Ellesmere Top of the Charts at Oswestry Youth Music Festival 2023

Current and former Ellesmere College students struck the right chord with judges in another strong showing at Oswestry Youth Music Festival.

The festival, which has been running for more than 40 years, saw Ellesmere College collect 20 first places (22 if including Old Ellesmerians!) and a total of 40 seconds and thirds making them the most successful school at this year's festival!

It was held at three venues in the town between March 1 and 5 and attracted more than 450 entrants across more than 80 classes, including woodwind, string, piano, brass, instrumental, percussion, vocal, choir and band. Tony Coupe, Director of Music at Ellesmere College, expressed his congratulations to all the students who participated in this year's festival and thanked everyone for their support throughout the five days of competition. A highlight of the festival was the success of the rock band program, with the 6th Form Band securing first place in their performance at the Hermon Chapel.

Notable performances included Molly Fry, a Walker Music Scholar, who won the Under 21 Woodwind Class with her beautiful clarinet program. Molly also showcasing her Gershwin set at the Five Choirs Concert at Ellesmere College on April 21st.

Other impressive performances came from Isobel Philbin, Kit Fisher, and Kizzy Lumley-Edwards, who showcased their talents in various categories.

Ellesmere College continues to foster musical excellence and a love for performance, providing a nurturing environment for the holistic development of musicians.





# Cricket

As the summer term unfolds, Ellesmere College Cricket is in full swing, and the campus grounds are abuzz with the sounds of cricket matches and enthusiastic cheers. The cricket season has brought an array of thrilling games, with teams competing in various age groups, from juniors to seniors, showcasing the students' passion for the sport,

As the sun shines brightly on the cricket grounds, students at Ellesmere College continue to cherish the joy of cricket, embodying the true essence of sportsmanship and teamwork.



## Cross Country: What a Fun Run!



Under a threatening sky, the Ellesmere College Lower School and Senior School's Cross Country competition took place, and we truly saw and felt the spirit of Ellesmere College - teamwork, sportsmanship, resilience, determination, and some wonderful support from everyone regardless of House or ability.







# Swimming Academy Success

## Ellesmere College Swimming Academy Makes a Splash in the 2022-2023 Season!

The Ellesmere College Swimming Academy (ECSA) has once again excelled in the sporting world. There have been national squad selections at all levels of the National Programme pyramid, from academy members in Lower School right through to upper sixth.

The ECSA has also had members represent their nations internationally:

James Raw in Luxembourg (Wales), Oscar Dodds in Sweden (England), Olivia Hunter and Holly Lamb in Dubai (England). Oscar Dodds has also been selected to compete for Jersey in the Commonwealth Youth Games in Trinidad & Tobago.

The ECSA had 7 athletes and Coach Danny selected to represent the West Midlands in the English Schools Swimming Association National Championships.

Domestically, we had strong showings at the City of Sunderland New Year meet and the British Championships. In the Regional Championships, ECSA athletes clinched an impressive 23 Gold, 13 Silver, and 13 Bronze medals.

Balancing academics and swimming remain a priority at Ellesmere, our student-athlete centered approach gives everyone the opportunity to succeed both in and out of the pool, whilst gaining experiences that will last a lifetime.

With end-of-season competitions approaching, we're eager to witness our students' continued success in and out of the pool!



## Shooting Award

**Two Ellesmere College students have been presented with awards to recognise their achievements on the international sporting stage.**

17-year-old Francine Gilmore and 18-year-old Anna Maughan have been handed the John Beswick International Award by the Shropshire Schools Sports Association among 57 Shropshire school children who had competed internationally.

Anna said: "Shooting for England has allowed me to reach another level within my sport, meeting new athletes and traveling to a range of new places along my journey. My future goals will involve heading off to Liverpool John Moores University to study sport psychology to enable me further understanding into not only my own sport but others too."

Francine said: "I love shooting, for England especially, as the experiences can come into other aspects of my life. I would like to keep shooting for England as much as possible and hopefully get selected for another GB team soon."

Ellesmere College Shooting Academy Coach Tom Rylands said "Both pupils have demonstrated a fantastic commitment to the sport and have won medals against tough international competition. To know they are being supported by those in their home county, I am sure is a welcome comfort to help them push on and continue to reach the great heights that I am sure they both can."





# Chinese New Year

It was wonderful to see so many students taking part in the celebrations for the new lunar year at our Chinese New Year festival in St. Luke's House!

The students and staff enjoyed making special dumplings and writing calligraphy to wish their friends Happy New Year and Happy Year of the Rabbit!

Xīn Nián Kuài Lè 新年快乐

Gōng Xǐ Fā Cái 恭喜发财

Wishing everyone a prosperous new year!



# Barcelona Chapel Choir Tour



## Ellesmere College Musicians and the Chapel Choir return triumphant from their tour of Barcelona!

Students and staff from Ellesmere College recently spent five days touring the city and performing in iconic and world-class venues - including the UNESCO World Heritage site La Sagrada Familia, as well as the Catalan Music Palace and Barcelona Cathedral.

Tony Coupe, Director of Music at Ellesmere College, said: "The Music Tour to Barcelona will always hold happy and special memories of spending time with a remarkable, talented, funny, resilient and special group of people."







# Student Delegation Shines at Model United Nations (MUN) Conference

A delegation of eleven Sixth Form and Middle School students from Ellesmere College recently participated in the inaugural Model United Nations conference held at Stonyhurst, Lancashire.

Fleur Willson, Consul-General Spain and Consular Regional Director (Europe South) at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office delivered the keynote speech and championed diplomacy and conflict resolution skills and warmly encouraged her audience to consider careers in the Civil Service.

She went on to describe the theme and spirit of the MUN 2023 Conference: "In today's world, amidst global uncertainty, it is more important than ever for the future generation of problem solvers to step forward. The Stonyhurst MUN conference aims to provide stimulating conversation, profound debate and relevant dialogue, all aimed at creating a better world. We are a diverse student body of all backgrounds and nations representing countries from around the globe. We will be coming together to discuss, problem solve, and propose action towards a more inclusive and tolerant future for all.

The main objective of the Stonyhurst MUN conference is to simulate the United Nations in a way that will allow students to discuss and think critically about world issues, raise awareness about imminent world issues and sharpen their debating skills in a friendly and inviting environment. Our aim is to provide every delegate with the opportunity to experience the world of politics and their complex yet riveting issues."

"At Model UN, you broaden your horizons. By learning and networking, you can be part of the UN's efforts to establish peace, secure human rights and enable all people to live in dignity". **Secretary-General António Guterres**

Our students, who represented Iran and Japan in several committees, then joined delegates from eight other leading UK schools to debate a range of pertinent issues related to sustainability. Among the many highlights of the day, our youngest delegate Barney Smith was considered 'best delegate for elocution and diction' in his committee. Meanwhile, Sixth Form delegates Bennet Schumann and Oksana Trefanenko secured 'highly commended' accolades as delegates for Iran in the Health and Ethics committees.





# 5 Choir Concert

On the Friday evening our wonderfully talented students took to the stage to showcase their incredible vocal and instrumental skills, also joined by the Community Choir and led by Tony Coupe, Director of Music for Ellesmere College

Choirs across the school, ensembles and soloists, as well as our fabulous rock bands impressed a packed Big School, and as well as a joyous occasion it was also the chance to say goodbye to our musical Year 13 leavers, who we wish all the very best for their future endeavours!

Thank you to everyone who took part, supported and accompanied - including Kevin Whitely, Gaenor Ellis and Simon Fisher - what a wonderful evening!





# City Drink

On Thursday, June 8th, the Antelope pub, Belgravia, London, played host to a lively OE City Drinks event.

This highly anticipated gathering saw a fantastic turnout of enthusiastic Old Ellesmerians, all eager to reconnect and reminisce. Laughter filled the air as attendees engaged in heartwarming catch-ups, making the evening a resounding success.

It was wonderful to see so many 'old' faces and lots of new one too, and we look forward to seeing more at the next OE event in October 2023.





# Jeminah Choi-ITF Ranked Tennis Star Wins Scholar to Ohio University!

**Ellesmere College Tennis Academy Star-Jeminah Choi- will be setting off for an American University with a scholar to Ohio Tiffin University.**

Jemimah, who plays tennis for Wales and perfected her game at Ellesmere College Tennis Academy, will do a foundation placement year before deciding what type of sport management to specialise in - but she will also be hoping to make strides in her tennis career too.

Jemimah has helped out with social tennis nights teaching both staff and parents at Ellesmere College. Head of the Academy Stephen Welti said she will be greatly missed.

"Jemimah has spent two years on the tennis programme here at Ellesmere after joining us from Wrexham Tennis Centre," he said.

"She made an impact here as soon as she joined - she added depth to our team and was already a good player, but she is infinitely better now.

"If she gets the exposure to competitions in the American University system, which she should do, then Jemimah could pick up world ranking points and go very far.

"She has been popular amongst the staff here who are learning to play tennis and the entire Tennis Academy, she has made a great impact on a lot of people.

"Others will do the BTEC course now because of the way Jemimah did it and she has also promoted a very professional approach to training at elite level, younger players watch Jemimah train and want to do what she does.

"She will be sorely missed."

Jemimah is expecting good results for her BTEC in sport this summer but will be able to go to Tiffin University no matter what they are. She was found the place by Tennis Smart, a company which specialises in finding placements at universities for tennis players.

Before she leaves, peers, teachers and friends gathered to present Jemimah with a card and gift for her future in America and to thank her for her contribution to social tennis this year.





# OE Club: Coronation Lunch

On the 3rd of June, the 'Coronation Lunch' was held, bringing together a delightful blend of familiar and new faces among the Old Ellesmerian community. We were glad to see some fresh graduates from various batches attend the event, reminiscing about cherished memories and forging new connections.

During this special occasion, the OE Club proudly announced the appointment of Mr. Paul Russell as the new president. Following the lunch, a touching Tree Dedication ceremony took place, honoring the memory of Tom (Gerald) Latham, the past president of the OE Club (1999-2000) and a distinguished alumnus of Talbot House (1944-51).

The 'Coronation Lunch' was a resounding success, and we are looking forward to the future reunion.







# Ellesmere

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**Book your Autumn 2023 Tour:**

- Lower School (Yrs 3-8) September 18-22
- Middle School (Yrs 9-11) September 25-29
- Sixth Form (Yrs 12-13) October 2-6



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