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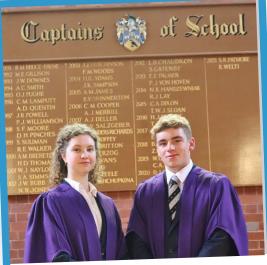
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Ellesmere College Newsletter Michaelmas 2023



In the News...

What everyone has been talking about...



 $\heartsuit \bigcirc \bigtriangledown \bigtriangledown$ Liked by you and 703 others

We are proud to introduce our new Captains of School for 2023-2024 - Oksana and Alex - who have settled in well to Yr 13 and their roles as Head Boy and Head Girl at Ellesmere College. #HeadboyHeadgirl #SixthForm #SchoolCaptains

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. . Liked by you and 432 others Our newly refurbished gym is now up and running (pun intended!) and our student athletes and Academy athletes worked hard to prepare for the season ahead with our Strength & Conditioning Coach and Academy Coaches! #EllesmereCollegeGym #AthletesTraining #LifeAtEllesmere #WorkoutAtEllesmere

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 $\heartsuit \bigcirc \bigtriangledown$ Liked by you and 826 others Ellesmere College Green Te about different animals and went litter picking around t ensure those habitats are w #LifeAtEllesmere #ProtectEnviro #GreenTeamAtEllesmere

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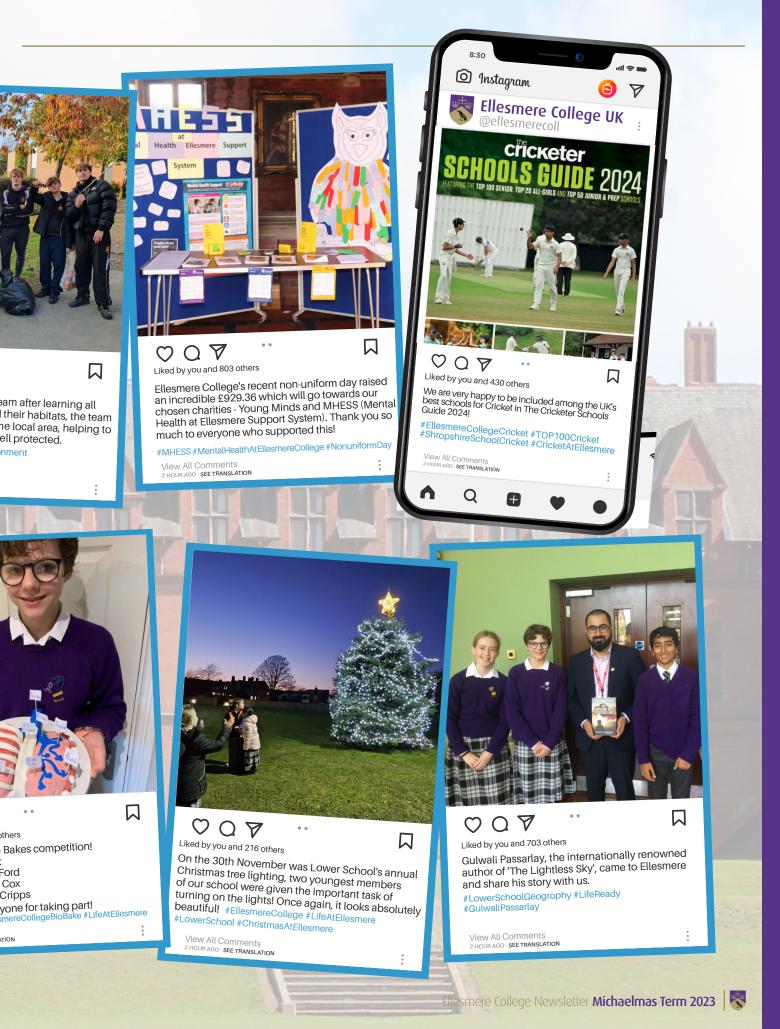
 $\heartsuit \bigcirc \heartsuit$ Liked by you and 519 o Middle School Bio The winners were Key Stage 3 - Eva Key Stage 4 - Lyra Key Stage 5 - Izzy Well done to ever #MiddleSchool #Elles

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Road to Wimbledon-Gwendolyn Klu

Ellesmere College Tennis Academy is proud to celebrate the remarkable achievement of our tennis prodigy, Gwendolyn Klu, who recently made her mark on the prestigious Wimbledon courts. At just 13 years old and a student at Ellesmere College, Gwen showcased her talent in the national finals of the Play Your Way to Wimbledon event, powered by Vodafone, the largest individual mass participation tennis competition in the UK.

This year's competition saw thousands of 14 and under and 18 and under players vying for victory in the qualifying stages, progressing through county and regional finals to reach the pinnacle at Wimbledon's Aorangi Courts. Although Gwen didn't advance to the latter stages, her presence on the iconic courts was an unforgettable experience.

Reflecting on her time at Wimbledon, Gwen expressed her enthusiasm, saying, "I've found it really fun, I think I've played really well. I haven't really played on grass before, and it's been weird as the ball doesn't bounce. It's very special to be at this venue as not a lot of people get this opportunity."



It's a Knock Out 2023



In addition to her Wimbledon journey, we are delighted to announce that Gwen has also emerged victorious in the Tennis Shropshire County Championships - U16s category. A big congratulations to Gwendolyn for this outstanding achievement

The Play Your Way to Wimbledon competition, delivered in partnership by the LTA, The All England Lawn Tennis Club, and Vodafone, aims to inspire the next generation of tennis talent, providing young players with the chance to follow in the footsteps of their heroes and compete on Wimbledon's world-renowned courts. As we continue to foster tennis talent at Ellesmere College, we take immense pride in Gwen's achievements at Wimbledon, paving the way for future successes on and off the court.



- Mr Dale Crawford! What a fantastic way to kick off the new term and welcome all our new starters into the Sixth Form!

the usual fun and games!

Teams from Meynell, Talbot,

Houses battled it out with three-legged football, water

by team challenges set by the Quiz Master and Head of

Sixth Form Christmas Dinner



Boarders Weekend Inflatable Fun

Weekend fun in the sun for our boarders on Terraces!

All our boarders from Year 8 to 13 enjoyed a fun filled day of bouncy castles, basketball, assault courses, and all wrapped up with a delicious BBQ!







Ellesmere College Newsletter Michaelmas Term 2023

Academic

Middle School National Language Challenge

4 students from Year 9 competing in a live National Languages challenge run by @gchq!

@gchq is one of the 3 UK Intelligence and Security Agencies, along with MI5 and the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6).

@gchq protects the UK and its citizens from individuals, groups and countries who wish to do us harm, or damage us financially.
@gchq intelligence keeps our deployed forces safe and helps law-enforcement agencies to prevent terrorist activity and serious organised crime.

This friendly competition with schools from all over the UK combines puzzle-solving, languagelearning and teamwork.



Well done everyone!

Sixth Form Career Conference

A wide variety of employers, post 18 providers, and OE's were on hand to support Year 11 and Sixth Form pupils on exploring the world of work and career routes at Big School Ellesmere College!

Pupils and parents had the opportunity to speak with and learn about the various routes and journeys into specific careers, along with some key advice regarding work placements, enhancing the CV and the importance of research for all careers they are interested in.

Our thanks to the many companies and their representatives who did a brilliant job on Friday and really helped our students in the seeing the many opportunities that exist beyond the school gates!



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Ellesmere Retains World Class School Status with HPL Reaccreditation

Ellesmere College is named one of the best in the world for learning once again! Ellesmere College has been reaccredited as a High Performance Learning (HPL) World Class School and will hold the status for another three years.

The international accreditation aims to deliver educational change, working with schools and teachers to provide a flexible learning framework, building cognitive competences and designed to achieve academic and lifetime success.

Ellesmere was first accredited by the specialist teaching organisation in 2020 and school leaders are delighted they have retained the prestigious title.

Headmaster Brendan Wignall said: "We are delighted to have secured High Performance Learning World Class School Accreditation again and are in elite company with only 38 other schools holding this status globally. The HPL World Class School Award Scheme delivers a flexible teaching and learning framework that systematically builds cognitive competencies leading to academic and lifetime success. It is a programme we have fully embraced, has been hugely successful and something visitors to the College are asking more about because they have seen that we use it and are keen to learn more."

Ellesmere College employs the HPL approach through the whole school system - from Lower School to Sixth Form.

Professor Deborah Eyre, Founder and Chair at High Performance Learning, said both staff and students at Ellesmere were 'delightfully committed and enthusiastic'.

She was particularly impressed with the development of the College's collegiate professional community that is wholly focused on making high performance learning a key feature of the College's ethos and vision.

Deborah said the reaccreditation was a 'considerable milestone in the school's quest for continuous improvement'.

The HPL reaccreditation report said: "An incredibly positive feature of the school is the warmth and collegiality that pervades all aspects of the College's work. The success of students and their increasing levels of self-confidence and motivation is palpable. The College recognises that schooling is not just about academic outcomes, important as they are, but the development of young people who can face an increasingly diverse and challenging world. Ellesmere College has made inspirational progress adapting its ways of working to include articulating how teachers teach and why they do the things they do. The outcomes for students, especially those with learning difficulties, are exceptional. One is left in no doubt that the Life Ready mantra is translated into a reality for those students privileged to have the opportunity to be schooled at Ellesmere College."

HPL has proved to be a successful programme which dovetails with any subject or curriculum - helping to achieve academic excellence alongside a broader set of values and attitudes while supporting pupil wellbeing.

Ellesmere College will be officially handed the award at the HPL Annual Conference in March (2024) at the University of Warwick.





Leadership

Best CCF Cadet - Abi-Lou

Many congratulations to Sixth Form Cadet Corporal Abi-Lou F who was presented with the coveted Wooton Cup as Best CCF Cadet on Summer Central Camp this summer.

She also has an impressive list of other achievements to her name through the summer including taking part in the summer expos at Nesscliff, shooting target rifle as part of the College team competing in the Ashburton Cup at Bisley, and completed her The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Gold Award.

It's all about taking the opportunities at Ellesmere College that make our students Life:Ready.

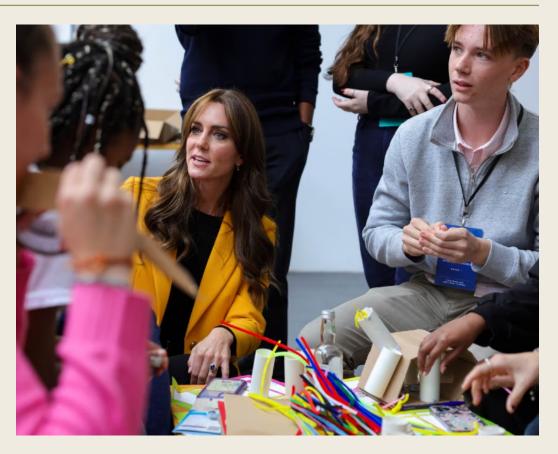


World Mental Health Day

As part of World Mental Health Day, Year 13 student Adam T - who was recently appointed as a Young Ambassador for Action for Children - had the honour of meeting their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Adam, along with other ambassadors, attended the 'Exploring Our #EmotionalWorlds' event, a series of workshops which focuses on the importance of understanding our emotions and building positive relationships.

Adam met the charities Royal Patron - the Princess of Wales - as the group chatted about the mental health challenges their generation faces.



Sixth Form Team Building at Pembrokeshire

On Thursday, 7th September 2023, our new Sixth Form pupils embarked on a visit to the picturesque Pembrokeshire coastline for an expedition aimed at fostering new friendships before the commencement of the new school year.

During the trip, students gained an immersive insight into the global issues being addressed by conservation and sustainability projects in Wales. Activities included coastal walks, providing a unique opportunity for students to engage with and appreciate the natural beauty of the region.

Throughout the expedition, there were ample opportunities for students to look ahead and anticipate what the next two years at Ellesmere have in store for them. This experience not only served as a bonding opportunity but also as an educational journey, aligning with Ellesmere College's commitment to holistic development and an awareness of global issues.











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The Arts Woodard School Choirs

Some of the 30,000 children at Woodard Schools across the UK sang at Shrewsbury Abbey and St Oswald's Chapel at Ellesmere College. The group was based at Ellesmere College for rehearsals from October 6 before performing over the weekend. The idea was to gather singers from across the country to learn choral repertoire, perform in a liturgical context and take lessons back to their respective schools.

Tony Coupe, Director of Music at Ellesmere College, said: "We are very excited to be able to have put on the Voices of Woodard event for children from five Woodard schools in the UK."

"It is the first time we have hosted this event and we are sure it is going to be an educational and engaging weekend. The group will be fused together in a limited amount of rehearsal time before putting on performances to friends, family and the public in historic locations which offer a great opportunity to enhance acoustics and benefit the choir's sound. We are sure they are going to achieve a lot in the short time they will be together and we know the performances will be of a very high standard. It will be a great lesson in learning together and then repeating that in a performance before taking lessons back to their prospective schools."

Children who traveled to Ellesmere College from Sir Robert Woodard Academy in West Sussex, Worksop College in Nottinghamshire, Crompton House C of E School in Oldham, Queen Mary's School in North Yorkshire and The Peterborough School.







House Photo Competition

House Photo Competition results!

Juniors (Years 9-10)

Winner Kiri Kilgannon - Year 9 (Fire)

Runner up Immy Spencer-Blow - Year 9 (Fireworks) Highly commended

Seren Garratt - Year 10 (Grass)



Well done everyone!





Seniors (Years 11-13) Winner Daisy Cooke - Year 11 (Birds) Runner up Neli Pashova - Year 13 (Shadows) Highly commended Cici Noss - Year 11 (Gates)









Charity Concert: Race Against Dementia

After a year of planning involving our good friends Robin and David Mullock, the College was delighted to present a music concert in combination with Sir Jackie Stewart's 'Race Against Dementia' charity on Friday 13th October. With a staggering number of people suffering with dementia around the world, the community of Ellesmere College came together to raise much-needed funds for ongoing research into cures and treatments. In all we raised £2,300.

The concert was designed to be life-affirming, celebratory and also, at times, reflective. The performers, young and young at heart brought energy and joy to Big School and I had to remind myself that we were only in Week 5 of the new academic year – these are all ensembles who have just formed and they were, in the words of Craig Revel-Horwood, A - MA - ZING!

From the orchestra's rendition of 'Uptown Girl' under the direction of Simon Fisher to the Choral Society's 'Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring' by Bach and the Small Furry Animals rocking out to 'American Idiot', it is fair to say this was a diverse programme.



We were joined by the wonderful choir from Adcote School, led by Emma Hope, who performed a range of songs in which the highlight for me was an a-capella arrangement of 'Royals' by Lorde.

Olivia Philbin sang a beautiful Aria from The Marriage of Figaro and Freddy Bullen, who is our new Mullock Music Scholar, gave a very fine performance of Bridge Over troubled Water.

Lower School Choir lit up the stage with broad smiles as they performed 'With a Little Help from My Friends' and this was followed by blazing dance moves as they treated us all to Rick Astley's classic, 'Never Gonna Give You Up'.

Chamber Choir brought great beauty to 'In My Life' by the Beatles to end the first half, and the Chapel Choir's performances of 'The Colours of My Life' and 'Fields of Gold' were sublime.

As we came towards the end of the concert, the raffle was drawn including autographed prizes from Sir Jackie Stewart and a last minute contribution of a signed Small Furry Animals T-shirt. The audience, who were brilliant from the start, joined the performers for a rendition of 'What a Wonderful World' reminding us all that despite the many challenges we face, beauty and kindness are never far away.



Senior School House Play



Sport

Golf Success: Charlie Boys

Congratulations to Year 12 student, Charlie Boys, who has been selected to represent the England Golf regional squads for the 2024 season. Charlie was selected through trials held at Bromsgrove GC in September. He will be receiving coaching at various national centres across the Midlands, along with strength and conditioning sessions with England Golf personal trainers.

In addition to this, Charlie has also been given the opportunity to study for a Diploma In Sporting Excellence (DISE), over 2 years, which will run hand in hand with his BTEC studies at Ellesmere through Loughborough University.





The Ellesmere College Equestrian Team has been achieving outstanding success, showcasing their talent and dedication in recent competitions.

At the NSEA Championships, the team demonstrated their prowess: In the 90cm category, Team I, comprising Tilly Leonard, Beau Williams, Bella Spencer-Blow, and Immy Spencer-Blow, secured a remarkable Ist place. Charlie Stockton displayed individual excellence, securing the 9th position in the 70cm category.

A special mention goes to Jake Stockton, who, despite individually qualifying for the 90cm, generously gave up his team place to allow another squad member to participate, emphasizing sportsmanship and teamwork.

The National Plate Championships witnessed further triumphs:

Immy Spencer-Blow claimed the Individual 1st position in the 1.10 Plate category, with Jake Stockton securing an impressive 4th place.

Tilly Leonard achieved an outstanding 3rd place individually in the 90cm Plate category.

The 80cm Plate category saw Team I, composed of Jake Stockton, Charlie Stockton, and Freddie Spencer-Blow, clinching I st place.

Freddie Spencer-Blow secured the 5th position individually in the 70cm Plate category.

Additionally, at SouthView Equestrian Centre on Sunday, 17th September, seven riders from the Ellesmere College Equestrian Team participated, all returning with medals and qualifying times for the National Schools Equestrian Association Championships and the Plate Championships in October. Amongst 158 competitors, notable achievements include:

Individual 3rd for Charlie Stockton and 8th for Freddie Spencer-Blow in the 70cm class.

Team 4th in the 80cm class, qualifying for the Plate Championships (Charlie Stockton, Jake Stockton, and Freddie Spencer-Blow).

Team 1st in the 90cm class (Bella Spencer-Blow, Jake Stockton, Tilly Leonard, Beau Williams), with Beau Williams securing an additional Individual 1st position.

In the Im class, Team I (Immy Spencer-Blow, Bella Spencer-Blow, Beau Williams) claimed the top spot, while Beau Williams earned an individual 4th place.

In the 1.10 class, an individual category, Beau Williams secured 1st place in the Horse section, and Immy Spencer-Blow claimed 3rd place in the Pony section.

Congratulations to all the riders for their remarkable achievements, and a special thank you to the parents and supporting staff for their unwavering support. The Ellesmere College Equestrian Team continues to shine brightly in the world of horse riding and competitions.













Shropshire Students Shooting For The Stars With Sport Success

A group of students from Ellesmere College impressed both individually and team at the West Midlands and North West Championships.

The senior competition saw an Ellesmere College team made up of students Fra Gilmore, Christopher Astbury and Oliver Loud take first place.

It means this team goes through to the national finals - but each of these stude also qualify for the individual finals after impressive performances on their own

Francine has been ranked ninth for shooting nationally in her category while Christopher and Oliver have been ranked 19th and 23rd respectively out of m than 100 competitors.

A team of fellow Ellesmere College students Bea Taylor, Joshua Norris and Harry Taylor also took third place in the same competition last month (NOV).

The students, who are between Year 11 and 13 at Ellesmere College, complete their studies alongside a training schedule of two to three days a week in the school's Shooting Academy facilities.

Academy Coach Tom Rylands said he was very impressed with the efforts of all the students.

He said: "We have some incredible talent in the Shooting Academy right now and is am very pleased to see all of these students be recognised for all the hard work the are doing.

"They all richly deserve this success thanks to a fantastic attitude to both their academic studies and their sport.

"We will now put in many hours to give these students the best chance of success at the finals and what I know will be a long international shooting path ahead of them."

The students will now take part in the national final of the British Shooting Schools Pistol Championships in February.

For more information, please visit Ellesmere College Shooting Academy.

Swimming Success: Oscar Dodds

After earning his selection at the British Championships in April, Oscar Dodds made his way out to Trinidad & Tobago with Team Jersey for the 2023 edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games.

In the 100 Back, Oscar qualified for the final with a strong 58.05 PB, finishing 5th.

Competing in the 400 IM, Oscar finished 7th in the final with a time of 4.31.31.

Oscar continued his impressive performance in the 200m Backstroke, securing 5th place with a time of 2.04.97.

In the 200 IM, Oscar finished 15th with a time of 2.11.04. Additionally, he contributed to Jersey's 8th place in the 4×100 mixed medley relay with a strong backstroke leg.

That is Commonwealth Youth Games done and dusted for Oscar. A huge congratulations for his performances over the past 4 days. We are all proud of you at the ECSA.









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Global

Hockey Success - Elisa Griesbach

Some fantastic photos of Year 11 student, Elisa Griesbach, who has recently been in Germany training with the German National U16 Hockey squad.

This followed her performance within her Hamburg team in the National Hockey Championships last month. Although her team lost on penalties, to the eventual winners, Dusseldorf, Elisa's performance in those final games was noted by selectors and she was invited to attend national squad training.



A huge congratulations to Elisa!!

WT100 Tennis at Shrewsbury Club

In November, we saw Ellesmere pupils and staff turn out to run the Family Fun Day at the Shrewsbury Club.

A busy event saw departments running sessions such as Play in a Day! with English students immersed in the world of Roald Dahl's epic tales, with scene creating in Play-dough, whilst In the Limelight saw media students be on hand to direct some photo shoots in our Media Centre!

Well done to all departments and the staff involved in ensuring the many visitors had a great experience.











Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival

Students and teachers at Ellesmere College came together to celebrate the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival!

This celebration not only fills our hearts with joy but also allows us to share the beauty of Chinese culture with our global Ellesmere family.

We got together, shared delicious mooncakes, sipped on green tea, and embraced the rich traditions of this beautiful festival.

Happy Mid-Autumn Festival, everyone! 祝大家中秋节快乐!











Old Ellesmerians Michaelmas Reunited

On Thursday, 19th October, the Antelope pub, Belgravia, London, played host to a lively OE City Drinks event.







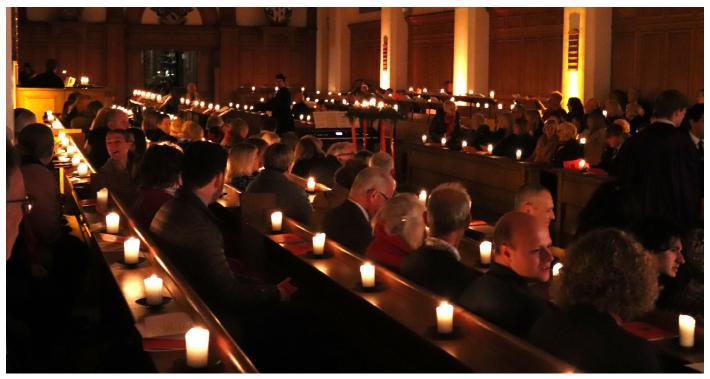


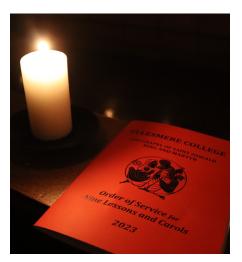
Community Carol Service 2023

On November 30th, Ellesmere College Chapel hosted a delightful Community Carol Service that drew a large crowd. The event was a beautiful spectacle, featuring a captivating choir performance that filled the chapel with enchanting melodies.

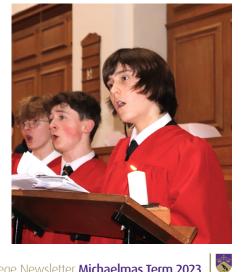
The event was a wonderful kickoff to the holiday season, bringing people together in the spirit of unity and shared happiness.











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OE 23 Leavers Hockey Team VS 1ST XI Team



On Saturday, September 9th, at 2 pm, the highly anticipated match between the OE Hockey 23 Leavers team and the 1st XI team took place, creating an atmosphere of excitement and camaraderie. It was a glorious day for the spirited competition, with both teams showcasing remarkable skills and sportsmanship. In a display of excellent teamwork and determination, the OE Hockey team emerged victorious with a final score of 4-1. Congratulations to all the players for their outstanding performance and for making the match a memorable event for everyone involved.







Remembrance Day

Remembrance is an important moment in every year at Ellesmere. Bringing together the whole community in a collective act of remembrance allows us time to reflect on those who have given their lives fighting for their country.

The regular OE Club visit to the Battlefields results in more names being added to the College War Memorial each year and reminding us of the huge sacrifice made by members of this community.

The Remembrance Day Service included music by Barker, Fauré and Mozart. The last post was played beautifully by Henry Hughes in Year 8 following the reading of the names of the fallen.







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