Ellesmere News

Ellesmere College Newsletter | SUMMER 2025



Outstanding ESB Success

PAGE 8



Student Attends UN Conference

PAGE 8



Fabulous Fun with Fantastic Mr Fox

PAGE 12



Music Tour to Amsterdam

PAGE 13

In the News....



Snowdon Run 2025

Snowdon Run 2025 saw Ellesmere College staff and students tackle the 71.5-mile relay, starting at 4:00am and reaching Pen-y-Pass despite bad weather stopping the ascent. First held in 1999, it returned this year supporting Pancreatic Cancer UK. Well done to all involved!

AMDA

Arts Award students enjoyed a dynamic workshop with international director Eugenio Contenti, gaining hands-on experience in acting, dance, and theatre. He also introduced AMDA College and shared exciting insights into global performing arts training.





Annie British Champion

Congratulations to Annie on winning the British Open Air Gun Championship at Bisley!

After qualifying 3rd, she secured victory with a brilliant double 10X in the final.



Chess Comp

Ellesmere College hosted the Year 7-8 Chess National Qualifier, welcoming 10 teams from different schools for an exciting day of competition. It was a fantastic experience for all involved.

Holly and Daisy Maiden Cricket

Congratulations to sisters Daisy and Holly, who have been named Brand Ambassadors for **@maiden.cricket** – a company dedicated to empowering women in cricket.





Lower School Dance Show

The stage came alive with IGNITE – a thrilling evening of dance, movement, and music!

From powerful contemporary pieces to high-energy group routines, every performer wowed the audience with creativity and passion.

Midwinter Concert

On Saturday 1st February, our Midwinter Concert filled Big School with music, joy, and community spirit. Highlights included performances from our choirs, soloists, and the Porthywaen Silver Band, all in support of Age UK North Shropshire. A magical evening for a great cause!



Fleur shines on the International Stage

Fleur impressed at the prestigious FEI event at Addington, placing 4th in the Junior Individual Test and 7th in the Team Test.

What an incredible achievement on the international stage – huge congratulations, Fleur! Your dedication, talent, and hard work have truly paid off, and this milestone is a testament to your commitment and passion. We're all so proud of you and can't wait to see what you accomplish next. Keep shining, keep striving, and know that we're cheering you on every step of the way!





Swimming Gala

Years 3 to 6 enjoyed a fantastic morning of racing and fun at this year's Swimming Gala.

With sunshine, cheers, and great sportsmanship, our young swimmers gave it their all.

Year 9 STEM Challenge

Our Year 8 students took on the STEM Challenge, designing and building their own eFormula 1 cars!

They explored speed, strength, and creativity – developing unique vehicle models and brand names along the way.

Congratulations to the winning team: Ellie, Eddie, Jayden, and Kady!

Special mention to Jasper, Ethan, and Gethin for their outstanding performance!



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Headmasters Message...

The second half of the academic year has been filled with much to celebrate. As always, our pupils and staff have engaged in a myriad of activities and stepped forward to embrace opportunities for new experiences, and challenges. I am delighted to be able to record that we are the first UK Boarding school to partner up with the Ukraine Together project with PIPL Lyceum Lviv. As part of this collaboration students have taken part in a joint Public Speaking Event and established pen pal connections with students in Ukraine. This collaboration will continue despite the complexity of the context.







It has been a pleasure to see our productions go from strength to strength with a large and joyous cast and backstage crew putting on the lower school play 'Fantastic Mr Fox' and the comedic precision in the senior play 'The Addams Family' was a real treat. Few could surpass the energy levels witnessed in the dance showcase 'Ignite'.

Ellesmere musicians swept the board at the Oswestry Music Festival with the breadth of classes entered and won increasing year on year. Pupils have rehearsed all year to get to the winning standard on display, and the outcome of their hard work was evident at the end of year concerts by senior pupils, as we said our farewells to our final year students, and enjoyed the emerging talent already reaching a high standard in Lower School.

Moving through from spring to summer we saw our annual round of trips offered to pupils by our dedicated teaching staff which has seen our geographers off to Iceland, our choristers to Amsterdam, Spanish language enthusiasts to Madrid and senior pupils taking up the opportunity for a cross-curricular trip to the battlefields of the first World War. As the Lent term came to an end, we saw our cadets off to Easter Camp, then at the end of the final term to Summer Camp, where they will learn new skills and be able to demonstrate their tremendous teamwork and resilience. Whilst many will be on their summer holidays by mid-July a team of intrepid staff and pupils in Senior School will travel to South Africa to experience the wonders of Soweto, the Dinokeng Game Reserve and learn about wildlife conservation. A lot in that experience that feeds the mission to support our learners to become 'Life Ready'







As the longer days brought better weather, we have enjoyed a great deal of sport with strong performances across the academies; a UK independent schools champion winner in Charlie Boys, and our team placing Ellesmere's golf 3rd in the UK rankings. Our boys Tennis becoming the LTA Midlands champions, being Top 4 in the UK, and a British Junior Women's Air Pistol Champion in Annie Williams. These achievements are accompanied by many tournament wins across our team sports. Our end of year Sports Day was blessed with good weather and most importantly all in good spirits with pupils supporting each other to give of their best and enjoy taking part. A community as strong as the number of members that look out for others, and lower school pupils demonstrated that vital component was in good health as they willed each other on. At the same time senior school pupils were still on expos and the images coming into school, shared on our social media, gave an insight into our Gold Duke of Edinburgh candidates canoeing, our cadets out and about with Army, Navy and RAF, Arts Award providing a great day of activity for Ellesmere Primary School pupils and music on the terraces, and even I was able to take a moment and bash some metal as I joined our environmental group being shown by master blacksmith how to forge metal flowers – their output was far more respectable than mine but nevertheless, it was most therapeutic.

I was asked the question, what are the highlights for this term? It is impossible to choose one. What is notable is the diverse range of events and activities term after term. Reflecting on the diversity, there is one common theme – collaboration – even the individual winner has been part of a team, worked with others, supported and been supported. The highlight for me is seeing each moment of achievement, whether individual or group, being shared, and the support of others to achieve acknowledged. This speaks volumes of the character of our pupils, our staff, and our community.

I wish you all a very lovely summer.

Mrs Vicky Pritt-Roberts
Headmaster













Easter Celebrations Full of Fun and Magic!



Just before the Easter break, Ash, Elm, and Oak classes enjoyed a fantastic Easter Magic Show filled with wonder, laughter, and surprises that captivated the children from start to finish.

Meanwhile, our Year 6 students had an egg-citing time at the Easter Bingo last Thursday! The room buzzed with laughter and cheers as students eagerly marked their bingo cards. A big thank you to our Prefect Team, who added extra magic by dressing up as a bunny and Billy the Bear, delighting everyone and making the afternoon truly special.











Cross Country















Health Fair 2025: Empowering Our Community











Students and staff came together for a lively Health Fair filled with expert talks and hands-on activities on safety, mental health, nutrition, and fitness.

West Mercia Police shared vital tips on staying safe on nights out, while Jane Trowbridge, High Sheriff of Shropshire, inspired with her "Students Helping Students" initiative.

Thanks to all who made the event meaningful and memorable!

House Dinner













Celebrating Outstanding ESB Success!

Congratulations to all our Year 10 students for their fantastic ESB results! Every student achieved Merit, Merit Plus, or Distinction in their Grade 5 English Speaking Board exams, with over a quarter earning Distinction – the highest grade.

Equally impressive, 100% of our Year 12 students earned Merit or above in their Grade 8 ESB qualifications, with 83% achieving Distinction. This achievement means every Year 12 student has secured at least 27 UCAS points through their dedication and communication skills.

A huge thank-you to our English Team for their exceptional support – a true team effort!





Ellesmere Student Attends UN Conference in Thailand

Ellesmere College Year 12 student Natt, recently joined the 12th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in Bangkok as a youth delegate.

She met UN experts, showcased her research on chemical engineering and microplastics, and attended workshops on global sustainability.

"This experience pushed me out of my comfort zone and showed me how science and policy must work together to achieve real change," said Natt.

Originally from Thailand, Natt has excelled academically since joining Ellesmere in 2021 and is now studying Physics, Chemistry and Further Maths at A level.









Sixth Form Information Evening Success

We were delighted to welcome so many families to our Sixth Form Information Evening!

Guests enjoyed speaking with students, tutors, and the Head of Sixth Form, while learning about the vibrant life at Ellesmere – from academics to arts, sport, and cocurricular opportunities.

A fantastic evening all round!















STEM in Action!

On Monday 2nd June, our Year 10 students embraced engineering and technology by designing and building their own ball launchers. Through creativity, teamwork, and hands-on problem-solving, they tested their inventions to see which launched the furthest and most accurately.

CCF Easter & Summer Camps – Challenge, Adventure & Achievement

This term, cadets took on exciting challenges across two unforgettable camps.

At Easter, twelve students headed to the Scottish Highlands for the 50th annual camp, climbing peaks like Suilven and An Teallach, and completing a demanding multi-day expedition – building resilience, leadership, and teamwork.

This summer, Army cadets honed tactical skills, while RAF cadets trained at Cosford. Congratulations to Josh for achieving a national-level shooting score of 15!























CCF Celebration and Cadet Achievements





This term, we celebrated the commitment, growth, and leadership of our 2025 cadet leavers, marking the end of their time in the CCF at Ellesmere and the beginning of lives shaped by discipline, service, and character.

It was also a term of exceptional achievement for our A Company Year 11 cadets, with six earning their prestigious three-star badges and three reaching the highest College CCF award – four stars.

A huge well done to all our cadets for their dedication, leadership, and the example they've set.

Ellesmere Students Shine Through Duke of Edinburgh Award

Ellesmere College students have dedicated over 2,500 hours to community service through the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) programme, giving the school the highest participation rate in Shropshire.

DofE manager Jenna Underhill highlights how students gain valuable skills like teamwork, navigation, and leadership, often overcoming new challenges to build confidence and independence.

Their volunteering efforts—ranging from litter picking to fundraising and Combined Cadet Force duties – were celebrated during DofE Volunteers' Week, with an estimated community value of over £16,000.

All Year 9 students begin the Bronze Award, progressing through Silver and Gold in later years as part of Ellesmere's extracurricular programme.

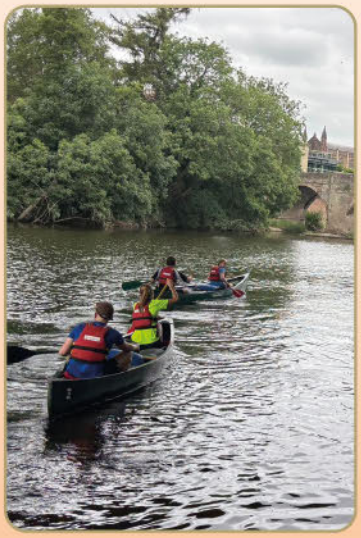
Ruth Marvel OBE, CEO of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, praised the students' commitment, noting how volunteering transforms lives and communities.











A Spooktacular Success – The Addams Family

This term's Senior School production of The Addams Family was a roaring success, delighting audiences with its spooky charm, outstanding performances, and impressive set design.

Congratulations to our talented cast and crew for bringing the eerie world of the Addams family to life with such energy and creativity.

A huge thank you to all staff and students involved – what a fantastic show!








Fabulous Fun with Fantastic Mr. Fox!

Years 7 and 8 wowed audiences with their lively production of Fantastic Mr. Fox. After weeks of preparation, their hard work paid off with two unforgettable performances full of humour, energy, and charm.

From imaginative costumes to vibrant sets and brilliant acting, the show was a true celebration of creativity and teamwork.

What a Fox-tastic performance!








Ellesmere College Choir Tours Amsterdam

Our College Choir recently returned from a fantastic six-day tour of Amsterdam, filled with music, culture, and unforgettable experiences.

Highlights included performances at the English Reformed Church and Westerkerk, a visit to the iconic Keukenhof Gardens, a graffiti workshop at the STRAAT Museum, and time spent exploring the Rijksmuseum and Concertgebouw.

The tour ended with a fun day at Duinrell Theme Park and a celebratory group dinner. Throughout the trip, pupils performed with passion and represented Ellesmere with pride, joy, and true musical spirit.













Ellesmere Students Shine at Oswestry Youth Music Festival

Over 100 Ellesmere College musicians, aged 8 to 18, took part in the 48th Oswestry Youth Music Festival, competing against performers from across the UK and Norway.

The College secured 68 top-three places, including 25 firsts, 23 seconds, and 20 thirds. Many students performed before an audience for the first time.

Director of Music Tony Coupe praised their confidence, skill, and joy throughout the event.













Ellesmere College Golf – From Rising Stars to National Success

Charlie, recent winner of the Independent School Golf Association Tournament (ISGA), is setting his sights on a professional career. Introduced to golf at age four, Charlie has flourished at Ellesmere under the guidance of PGA Advanced Pro Rob Ashbrook and now trains regularly with England's team. Named Shropshire and Herefordshire Junior Captain for 2025, he plans to compete across Europe before turning professional.

Alongside Charlie, our School Golf Team – including Shinil and Matthew – finished an impressive 5th overall in a highly competitive national team event. Their strong performances have propelled Ellesmere to 3rd place in the UK Independent School Golf rankings, reflecting the academy's dedication to nurturing talent through elite coaching, perseverance, and teamwork.

We are proud of all our golfers for their achievements on and off the course, exemplifying the excellence and spirit of Ellesmere College.





Ellesmere Tennis Academy Scores Big This Summer!

All four Ellesmere tennis teams qualified for the LTA Regional Finals after county wins.

VV won Shropshire's 'Play Your Way to Wimbledon' and will compete at Wimbledon. Alfie reached the final of a national men's event.

Our Senior boys won their respective competitions and as so are now ranked in the Top 4 in the UK at the LTA schools competition, with the girls finishing impressively in the top 8.

Congrats to Krish and Poppy for standout individual successes.

We're incredibly proud of all our players and look forward to more success this autumn!











Inaugural Under-11 Netball Festival at Ellesmere

On 3rd May, Ellesmere proudly hosted its first Under-11 Netball Festival, welcoming eight teams for a day full of fun, competition, and teamwork.

Former Ellesmere student and Manchester Thunder player Ella Maltby inspired participants with a shooting drill and skills session, making the day even more special.

Congratulations to ND Lightning for winning the tournament and Ellesmere Ravens for a strong second place.

Thanks to all players, coaches, volunteers, and supporters for making the festival a fantastic success. We can't wait to do it again next year!



























Lower School Sports Day

Sunshine, smiles and spirited competition, Lower School Sports Day was a blast!!

Year 9 Model United Nations – Debating Global Food Security

Year 9 students took on the roles of world leaders to debate the critical issue of global food security. Working in teams across four rooms chaired by senior students, they showed impressive diplomacy and leadership.

Congratulations to Best Delegates Pippa, Nat, Eva, and Zac, and to Rwanda and the United States for sharing Best Country Delegation.

A fantastic morning of global thinking – well done to all!















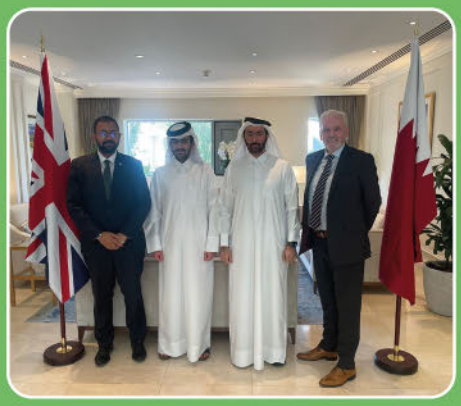
Ellesmere College announces new partnership school in Doha

Ellesmere College International is proud to announce a new partnership with the Education Avenue Group to open Ellesmere College Doha in September 2026.

Supported by British Ambassador Neerav Patel and his team, this exciting collaboration will bring Ellesmere's holistic, high-quality education to Qatar, offering innovative programmes in a world-class learning environment.

This marks a further step in expanding Ellesmere's global reach and building lasting international educational ties.

We look forward to welcoming our first students in Doha in September 2026!





Celebrating the Year of the Snake with Dumplings!

Students from Chinese classes, the Chinese Club, and others interested in Chinese culture came together to celebrate the Year of the Snake with a fun dumpling-making event.



Ukraine Together: Global Connections

Four Newspaper Club students interviewed peers from Ukraine about life and hobbies, and are now writing articles to share their stories.

Meanwhile, three Year 12 students spoke on important topics in a Ukraine Together public speaking event, demonstrating empathy and global awareness.

Well done to all for representing Ellesmere with confidence!






World Record Swimmer Hector Pardoe Returns to Ellesmere College

Olympian and world record holder Hector Pardoe, 23, has returned to Ellesmere College to reflect on his journey and inspire the next generation of swimmers.

During his visit, Hector donated a signed Team GB shirt to the school's Hall of Fame, took part in a Q&A, and spoke warmly about his time at the College, saying: *"My success in swimming started at Ellesmere."*

Pardoe trained at Ellesmere from age 11 to 18 before moving to France, later returning to the UK to study at Loughborough University. He competed in the Tokyo and Paris Olympics, finishing sixth in the 10k marathon in Paris, and broke the world record for the fastest swim across Lake Windermere in 2023.

He also claimed bronze at the 2024 World Championships in Doha – the first British man to win a global open water medal since 2008.

"Ellesmere gave me the structure and support to balance sport and academics," said Pardoe. *"I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunities I had."*







Old Ellesmerian Spotlight – Lewis Reardon



We are thrilled to share the exciting news that Lewis Reardon, a talented former student of Ellesmere College, has received an *unconditional offer* to study Vocal Studies and Opera at the prestigious Sydney Conservatorium of Music. He will begin this remarkable journey in Australia this July, before returning to the UK to complete his degree.

Lewis's musical journey with Ellesmere began in the summer of 2021, when he visited the College to take his ABRSM singing exams. It was during this visit that his exceptional vocal talent caught the attention of Mr Coupe, thanks to a conversation with Lewis's singing teacher. Upon hearing Lewis perform, Mr Coupe knew immediately that Ellesmere had to do something to nurture and support this extraordinary gift.

In September 2021, Lewis officially joined Ellesmere on a **Music Scholarship**, becoming the recipient of the **Mullock Arts Scholarship** – an award that was funded by Robyn and David Mullock and a distinction reserved for students who demonstrate outstanding musical potential. Lewis joined an impressive list of previous Mullock scholars. From that moment on, Lewis embraced every opportunity to perform, becoming a familiar and inspiring presence at College concerts and events.

Lewis's mum credits Ellesmere for helping to build his confidence and shape his career path, with heartfelt thanks to **Mr Coupe** and **Ms Ellis** for their unwavering support and guidance throughout his time at the College.

We are incredibly proud of Lewis and all that he has achieved. His journey is a testament to the power of nurturing talent and the transformative impact of a supportive school environment.

Congratulations, Lewis! We can't wait to see where your voice takes you next.





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Bespoke Tours are available throughout each term, book yours today!

OPEN MORNING

Saturday 11th October 2025
from 10am to 1pm
(last tour at 12pm)

Scan the QR code to get in touch

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