



# 'Ellow 'Ellow

## This week at Ellowes Hall

FRIDAY 27 JUNE 2025



**THEME OF NEXT WEEK:** The Importance of Careers

**ELLOWES HALL OF FAME FOCUS:** The Beatles *A Hard Day's Night* | Sir James Dyson

### Headteacher's Introduction

This week, we have been reflecting philosophically on the nature of happiness and fulfilment at a time of year which lends itself nicely to pause and reflect. Much of that reflection in school has focussed on the fact that much happiness is to be found by pushing the boundaries of what we currently think possible. Our Ellowes Hero of the Week, Rosie Jones, has spoken movingly on the joy she has found in using her comedy to encourage people to see beyond disability, as she herself increasingly cast off any perceived limitations to pursue a career on stage and screen. For others, happiness lies in discovering a much wider world. This week has seen 30 students travel across the Atlantic to New York, where they have been exposed to a culture which can feel so familiar from its ubiquity in film but which is actually all the more thrilling to experience in person.

Next week, our Year 10s will all get their own opportunity to explore the limitlessness of their own ambition while undertaking Work Experience. This is always such an important opportunity, allowing students to take another step in securing their own futures and we wish them really well. I know that they will also, in their conduct and enthusiasm, represent the school and our values with great distinction.

Next week also will see some big milestones for our Year 11 leavers – and I am really looking forward to welcoming lots of parents and carers into school on Wednesday for their formal moment of Graduation before the joys of that evening's Prom. At the same time, we welcome our incoming Year 6 into 7 students next week, making it a great week of "hellos" and "goodbyes"!

**3,396 Positives This Week**

# STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Year 7: Gabryel M

Year 8: Owen J

Year 9: Jiya K S

Year 10: Lottie H



### YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK

**Frozen School Production** ([Tickets available here](#))

#### Monday 30 June

Primary Transition Day 1

16.00/16.45: Primary Transition Parents' & Carers' Evening

#### Tuesday 1 July

Primary Transition Day 2

#### Wednesday 2 July

09.00: Year 11 Graduation (**School closed to Years 7-9 until 11.15**)

18.00-23.00: Year 11 Prom, Wolverhampton Grand

#### Thursday 3 July

KS3 Eden Project Trip

#### Friday 3 July

Sports' Day at The Dell Theatre

### Year 11 Graduation 2025, Wednesday 2 July

A reminder that school will begin at **11.15** for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 on **Wednesday 2 July** to enable all staff and Year 11 parents to celebrate students' success in completing Year 11. A reminder for parents/carers of Years 7-9 students who require their child in school for childcare reasons from 08.45 that day to contact Mr A Di Bernardo by Friday 27 June.



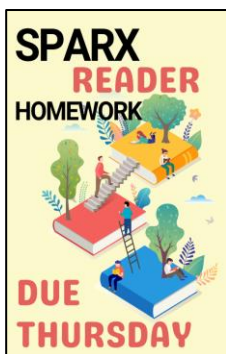
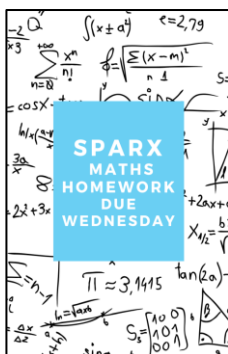
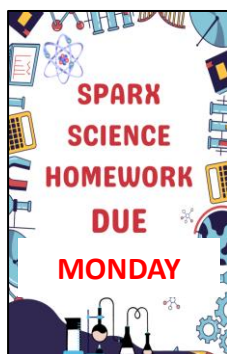
## Tutor Groups with the Best Attendance This Week...

YEAR 7	7DBA – Mr Barker	97.1%
YEAR 8	8CKI – Mrs Kimber	94.2%
YEAR 9	9GEV – Mr G Evans	93%
YEAR 10	10RCH – Mrs Watson	98.9%



	Sparx Reader	Sparx Maths	Sparx Science
YR 7	Dakshdeep K	TBC	Sparx Science records scores slightly differently.
YR 8	Amelia W	TBC	
YR 9	Bailey E	TBC	
YR 10		TBC	
YR 11			

**Don't forget... students needing support with their Sparx, or simply a place to go to complete it, can attend Mrs Tennant's Bright Sparx Club every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings, 08:00-08:30, in V7 – or use V7 any weekday lunchtime to ensure they meet these deadlines.**



**Please help us to help you...!**

Please be reminded that Absence Text Messages are sent out to parents/carers who have not notified us of a child's absence before 09.15. Kindly contact us before 09.15 on days of absence.



Beautiful work produced based on Natural Forms by Amelie (Y8)






Dear Hearing World  
Raymond Antrobus  
(this is an extract from his 2019  
Poem of the same name)



I call you out for refusing to acknowledge  
sign language in classrooms, for assessing  
deaf students on what they can't say  
instead of what they can, we did not ask to be a part  
of the hearing world, I can't hear my joints crack  
but I can feel them. I am sick of sounding out your rules -  
you tell me I breathe too loud and it's rude to make noise  
when I eat, sent me to speech therapists, said I was speaking  
a language of holes, I was pronouncing what I heard  
but your judgment made my syllables disappear,  
your magic master trick hearing world - drowning out the quiet,  
bursting all speech bubbles in my graphic childhood,  
you are glad to benefit from audio supremacy,  
I tried, hearing people, I tried to love you, but you laughed  
at my deaf grammar, I used commas not full stops because  
everything I said kept running away,  
I mulled over long paragraphs because I didn't know  
what a natural break sounded like, you erased  
what could have always been poetry

About the Poet



Award-winning British-Jamaican writer/poet Raymond Antrobus was first diagnosed as deaf at the age of seven. He discovered he had missing sounds - bird calls, whistles, kettles, alarms. Educators thought he was slow and disruptive; some friends didn't even believe he was deaf at all.

POETRY BY  
HEART

Choose a poem

Learn it by heart

Perform it out loud

Despite the failings of the hearing world in his early years he went on to become a teacher and prolific writer. He was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in the 2021 New Year Honours for services to literature.



About the Poet

Antrobus speaks about his early experiences with deafness and his love of literature.

"My dad had a really deep voice, so I never struggled hearing him. His presence was a huge thing for me - being able to lie on his chest and feel his vibrations as he would read the story, there was a dimension of comfort and closeness in that. My parents would often read to me. My mum would read a William Blake poem and we'd talk about it. My dad would read poems to me by Linton Kwesi Johnson. He put a poem called The Song of the Banana Man by Evan Jones on my bedroom wall and my mum put William Blake's London on my wall. They both had a passion for poetry."

Aa	Bb	Cc	Dd	Ee
Hh	Ii	Jj	Kk	Ll
Oo	Pp	Qq	Rr	Ss
Vv	Ww	Xx	Yy	Zz

Word of the Week

**Acknowledge**

1. acceptance of the truth or existence of something.
2. recognition of the importance or quality of something.



**Explore the poem**

This is a powerful, heartfelt poem — raw and striking. It captures so much of the frustration and pain of navigating a world that doesn't accommodate or truly see deafness and sign language as valid ways of being and communicating. The imagery of "sounding out your rules," "language of holes," and "bursting all speech bubbles in my graphic childhood" are exploring themes of communication, identity, and the politics of language. What lines resonate with you? How does this make you feel about the challenges faced by the poet?



# ELLOW 'ELLOW SPORTS SECTION



It would be fantastic to see even more students attend our extra-curricular sports programme, an area we are keen to develop even further. Please speak to a member of the PE department for more information.

## NATIONAL SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK!!!

This week we have celebrated national school sports week at a whole new level, offering our students even more opportunity through sport and physical activity.

### Impact Report:

Daily Mile = 706 students

Lunch Time Competitions = 196  
Students

Extra-Curricular = 52

PE Lessons = 750 students

Opportunities = 19

**TOTAL Students Involved =  
1,704**

**WE CANT WAIT TO DO EVEN  
MORE NEXT YEAR!**



Congrats to Luke D,  
who collected a  
medal for success in  
a shot put  
competition against  
other UK Cadet  
branches!



Congrats to  
**Amelia R**, who  
continues to  
compete at a  
level much higher  
than her age, and  
continues to  
smash PBs!



**KS3 Sports Leaders: Year 7**  
had fantastic feedback after  
helping to lead Milking Bank  
Primary's Sports Day. **Year 8**  
did a fantastic job leading the  
Black Country Games on  
Thursday.

**Year 9's / 10's** represented  
the school to reach the final  
stages of the Black Country  
Games Handball Finals on  
Thursday!













Please be reminded that we have been notified by our NHS School Nurse Service Manager that, in line with updated guidance from the Department of Health, parents/carers are requested to keep schools informed of any updated Careplans. If your child or young person has a Careplan, please notify the school as soon as possible if any updates or changes are required. When changes are identified, schools will inform the School Nurse, who will then contact you directly to update the Careplan.



## Enrichment Activities – March 2025 Spring Term



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Breakfast in the Diner 8.00–8.40am				
	Bright Sparx Club 08:00–08:30 in V7 (Not Friday)				
	School Production every lunchtime (rehearsal of selected scenes, see the production rehearsal schedule)				
Lunch Time Clubs & Activities	Y7 Football & Y11 Badminton in PE	Y11 Football & Y10 Badminton in PE	Y10 Football & Y9 Badminton in PE	Y8 Football & Y7 Badminton in PE	Y9 Football & Y8 Badminton in PE
	Keyboard Club in X1 (WJ)	Chess in S2 (DH)	Warhammer Club in D7 (CNS) KS3 Art Club in D2 (HHA)	Beginners Guitar in X1 (WJ) Dance in X3 (RG)	Choir in X1 (WJ) Dance in X3 (RG)
	Sparx in V7 (DH)	Thrive In Grace Foundation (ES)	Digital Ambassadors in V3 (OM) KS3 programming club in V3 (DJ)	Sparx in V5 (AT)	Sparx in V7 (AT)
	Enough - invite only (VR/MS) In Grace Foundation	History Film Club in D5 (JHo)	 Working Wednesdays (Careers and Health Ambassadors) in V6 (ATP/SR)	Warhammer Club in D7 (CNS)	Sparx in V7 (AT)
	Attenborough Club in S3 (CKI)		 Drop in Grace Foundation (ES)	Nurture in E7 (MS)	
	School Production (rehearsal of selected scenes, see the production rehearsal schedule) 15:15 – 16:30 every day..				
After School Clubs & Activities	Tennis (invite only) 15:15 – 16:15 (JE)	Year 7 Science Club 15:15 – 16:00 In S5	Lego Club 15:15 – 16:00 – Grace Foundation Rooms (VR)	Baking Club – All Years 15:15 – 16:00	
		Year 8 / 9 STEM Club 15:15 – 16:00 In S6 (RM)	Girls Gymnastics (all years) 15:15 – 16:15 in Sports Hall	Eco Ambassadors 15:15 – 16:15 in D4 (JMI)	
		Parallel Club 15:15 – 15:45 in M10 (AR)	Y7 – 10 Martial Arts 15:15 – 16:15 (In Power Academy Coaches)	Guitar Club 15:15 – 16:00 in X1	
		KS3 DT Club 15:15 – 16:15 in D3 (DB) Warhammer Club 15:15 – 16:15 in D7		Y7 – 10 Touch Rugby 15:15 – 16:15 (JEV)	
		Y7 – 10 Girls Netball 15:15 – 16:15 (JOP)		Y7 – 10 Girls Football 15:15 – 16:15 (JW, RGR)	
		Y7 – 10 Boys Football 15:15 – 16:15 (JEV, RGR, LM, IS)		Y7 – 10 Basketball 15:15 – 16:15 (IS)	

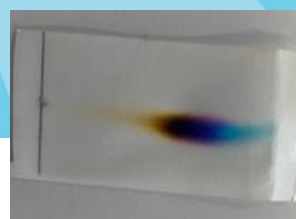


**Year 10** have been learning about plastic pollution and making a biodegradable plastic from the protein molecules in milk. Here is the plastic they made.

# SCIENCE Spotlight



**Year 7** have been investigating a crime using chromatography. They have been testing ink samples to see who wrote the note when a sandwich was 'stolen'. Here is the chromatogram from the random note.



# CAMBODIA

## 2027

EXCITING  
OPPORTUNITY

We are excited to offer 12 current Year 7 and 8 students, a life-changing opportunity to explore 13 nights in Cambodia in July 2027!

We are partnering with World Challenge to offer this trip. It's an opportunity for learners to challenge themselves, step out of their comfort zone, whilst enjoying all the beauty this country has to offer.

Some of the activities include:

- Trekking through the Kulen Mountains
- Embracing a remote Elephant Conservation Project.
- Immersing in the culture and learn new skills.
- Discovering Angkor Wat

The cost of this trip is £4595. We appreciate that this is a lot of money, which is why we are launching the trip now. *"This is more than a traditional school residential - it is an opportunity to experience a brand new culture for an extended period of time and given the considerable cost involved, signing up also means committing to extensive fundraising over the next two years"*

World Challenge will also share ideas and resources on how a large amount of students have raised the full amount for the trip.

*You will be invited along to a 45 minute virtual presentation by World Challenge. This will be held online on Tuesday 10th June @ 6pm to go through the itinerary and answer all your questions.*

*(The link to this presentation will be emailed to all parents of Y7 and 8 students closer to the date).*





## How to log into Sparx to complete homework from home

Weekly homework will be set on the following days and then due on the same day the following week.

- Tuesday: Sparx Science
- Wednesday: Sparx Maths
- Thursday: Sparx Reader

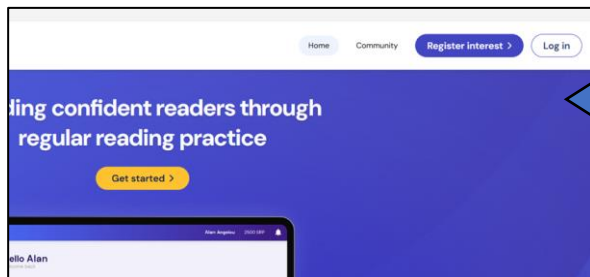
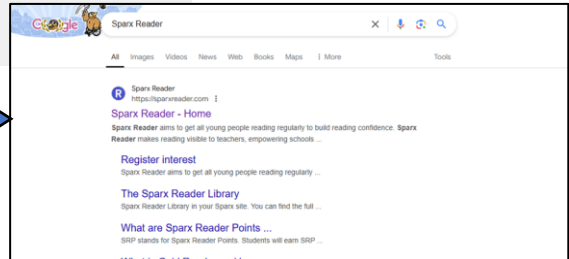
Students can log into Sparx through either [the link on their Arbor page](#) or through a search engine such as Google.

# Sparx

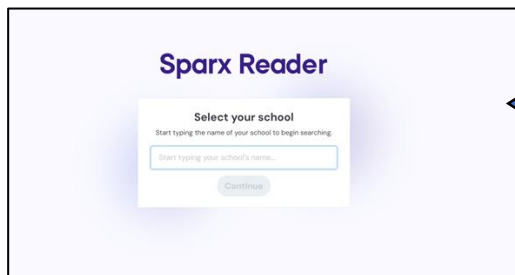
## Parent/Carer Guide



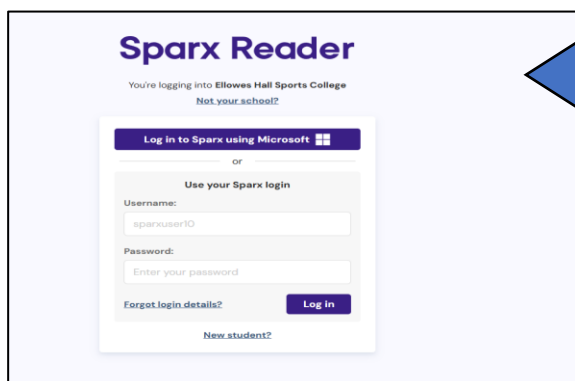
If accessing via Google, students will need to type Sparx Science/ Sparx Maths/ Sparx Reader into Google and select the first search result that appears.



Once they have clicked on either the link on Arbor or the search result on Google they need to click the white log in icon in the top right corner and then select student log in.



They will then be asked to select their school, which will appear as they start typing in Ellowes Hall Sports College



They can then click the purple box that says 'log in to Sparx using Microsoft' and then use their school email and password to log in. Their password is the same password that they use to log into any computer in school.

Any homework students have been set will appear. Students can continue to read on Sparx Reader even after their homework has been completed, and we would encourage them to, especially if they are really enjoying the book they have chosen.



# Key Dates Summer Term 2025

Date	Event
Monday 28 – Wednesday 30 April	Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
Thursday 1 May	Junior UKMT Challenge
Thursday 1 May, 15.30 – 18.30	Year 9 Parents' & Carers' Meeting
Thursday 1 May	Year 11 Dance Showcase
Friday 2 May	Year 8 HPV Vaccine
Monday 5 May	May Bank Holiday – School Closed
Wednesday 7 May, 18.00 – 18.45	Ellowes VE Day80 Memorial Garden Opening Ceremony
Monday 12 May	Year 8 Walk The Length of the UK Challenge
Friday 16 May	Year 10 Triathlon Challenge
Monday 2 – Friday 6 June	Year 7 KS3 Major Milestone Assessment Week
Monday 2 & Tuesday 3 June	Year 10 GCSE History Globe Theatre Visit
Monday 9 – Wednesday 11 June	Year 10 GCSE English Speaking & Listening Exams
Monday 9 June	Year 7 Twycross Zoo Rewards' Visit
Wednesday 11 June	Year 8 HPV Catch-Up Vaccine
Thursday 12 – Friday 20 June	Year 10 Exam Week
Wednesday 18 June	Year 7 Science Big Bang NEC Visit
Thursday 19 June	Year 8 Rewards' Visit
Friday 20 June	Lakeside PE Trip
Friday 20 June, 16.30 – 19.30	10 Years of Invictus Summer Celebration at Kinver High School
Monday 23 – Friday 27 June	New York Visit
Friday 27 June	Year 9 Wolverhampton University SciFest Visit
Monday 30 June – Friday 4 July	Year 10 Work Experience Week
Monday 30 June & Tuesday 1 July	Primary Transition Days
Wednesday 2 July	09.00 – 10.30 Year 11 Graduation Ceremony (in school) 18.00 – 23.00: Year 11 Prom, Grand Station Hotel Wolverhampton
Monday 30 June – Friday 4 July	<i>Frozen</i> School Production
Thursday 3 July – Friday 4 July	KS3 Eden Project Visit
Friday 4 July	Sports' Day at The Dell Stadium, Brierly Hill
Thursday 8 July	Year 10 Rewards' Visit
Thursday 10 July	Year 9 Rewards' Visit
Thursday 10 July, 15.30 – 18.30	Year 10 Parents' & Carers' Meeting
Friday 18 July	Term Finishes At 12pm





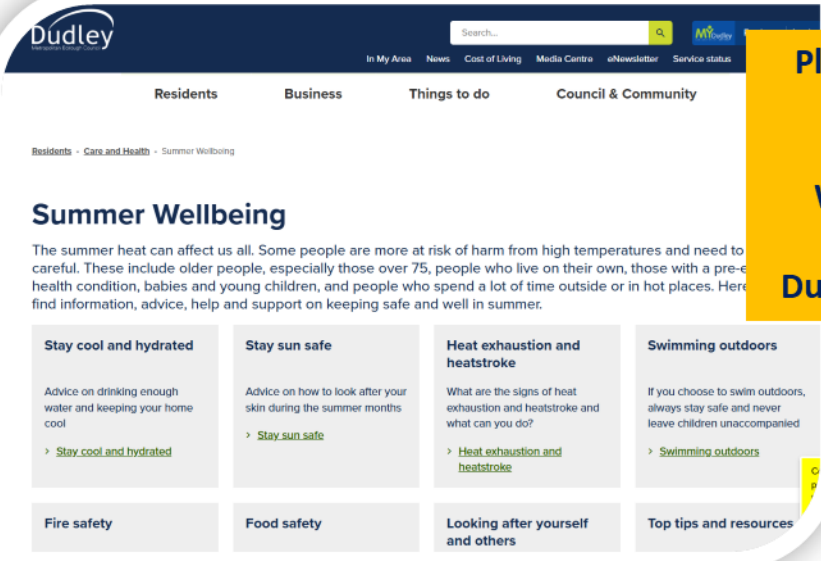
## Unheard Voices

SEND carers support group


WE ARE A SEND SUPPORT GROUP RUN BY PARENTS AND CARERS. THE SUPPORT GROUP WILL BE A SAFE SPACE WHERE YOU CAN COME FOR A CUPPA AND HAVE A TALK, RANT, ASK FOR HELP OR EVEN CRY IF YOU WANT TO. COME ALONG TO OUR FRIENDLY CARERS SUPPORT GROUP.

FRIDAY 10:30 - 12:00  
JUBILEE HALL, LADIES WALK, SEDGLEY,  
DUDLEY DY9 3UA

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT EMAIL  
UNHEARDVOICES13@YAHOO.COM



Please click here for Summer Wellbeing tips from Dudley MBC



## Water Bottles During Warm Weather

During the warmer months, we would appreciate your support in ensuring students bring water bottles to school. We are attempting to reduce the amount of wasted plastic for environmental reasons, and are currently going through an extremely high number of disposable cups. Please support our efforts to ensure your young people are kept hydrated during hot weather by sending them into school with a water bottle.

# 10

## INVICTUS

Celebrating 10 Years of Invictus

Congratulations to our fabulous cast of *Frozen*, who appeared at last week's 10 Years of Invictus Summer Celebration...





# Ellowes Hall Book Bank



*Can you help?*

Are you having a clear out? Do you have any suitable teen books lying about at home? Why not donate them to the Ellowes Hall library?

Please drop them off in reception or ask your child to drop them off in Mrs Jones' office.  
Each donation will be entered in to a termly prize draw.



## End of Day Parking on Stickley Lane

We have received a couple of queries from residents on Stickley Lane asking us to remind parents and carers collecting students at the end of the school day to park as courteously as possible, without blocking resident access to private driveways. Your support in maintaining the support of our immediate local community is very much appreciated.





Thank you to everyone that supported the Cake Sale which raised an amazing £53.83 for Mrs Rose charity skydive jump raising funds for Tough Enough to Care. Thank you, Mrs Pitt, for organising this. If anybody would more information about this local charity that supports adults' mental health, please contact Mrs V Rose in the Grace Foundation.

# SCHOOL MUFTI DAYS

17TH AND 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY

£1 DONATION TO MARY STEVENS HOSPICE

We need your nomination to win £1,000 for our School Library. [Please click here to help us!](#)

Does your school library need books? You could win £1,000 of National Book Tokens to fill your shelves with new books, plus £300 to improve the library space and encourage reading for pleasure for years to come.

[View in browser](#)



A gift beyond words

**WIN £1,000**  
FOR YOUR SCHOOL'S LIBRARY

In association with

**Read for Good**



**Your school needs you!**

Our big schools prize has returned this summer, in association with our longstanding charity partner, Read for Good.

We're offering five schools the chance to win £1,000 in National Book Tokens and fill their shelves with new books, as well as £300 in cash to create a fun and welcoming library space for all!

**An Ellowes Hall Production  
by special arrangement with Disney  
and Music Theatre International**

**Monday 30th June to Friday 4th July 7pm**



[Tickets available from seaty.co.uk](http://seaty.co.uk)

**Music and Lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez  
Book by Chris Buck and Jennifer Lee**

**This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International  
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI  
[www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)**