



### In this issue

College News

OE News

Ellesmere Newsletter

### Upcoming Events

All events have been cancelled until further notice due to Covid-19.

### Update your details

If you have recently moved house or changed your email address, please contact the office on: [external.relations@ellesmere.com](mailto:external.relations@ellesmere.com) so we can ensure your record is accurate.

We hope that this month's e:bulletin finds you and your families safe and well.

As the Michaelmas term draws to an end, we have reflected on what a successful term it has been, despite the restrictions that we have in place to protect our community. It has been a term like no other and indeed a Christmas like no other. But as much as we have missed the wonderful Carol Services, nativity plays and Christmas parties, we are grateful that our students have remained healthy and happy.



We have filmed a selection of carols and readings for our Carol Service which we look forward to sharing with you before Christmas.

We would like to thank all our staff who have made school feel normal for our students - providing stability, safety, consistency, reassurance, routine and seamless learning; from on-line to classroom to co-curricular to the sports field! We would also like to thank our students for being so sensible and responsive to the necessary changes and working so diligently throughout the term. We hope that you all have a wonderful, much deserved break and wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

## College News

### Students excel in UK Maths Challenge



Congratulations to all the students who took part in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge - in somewhat challenging conditions - and received an outstanding set of results with 2 Gold, 2 Silver and 4 Bronze.

We are awaiting two of the students' results from the even more difficult Kangaroo Challenge!

Pictured (L-R): Abraham, Ethan and Isaac front row: Boran.

## Ellesmere faces

Is there a typical Ellesmerian?

Find out here: [Where are they now?](#)

## Ellesmere news

Keep up to date with the College's news via:

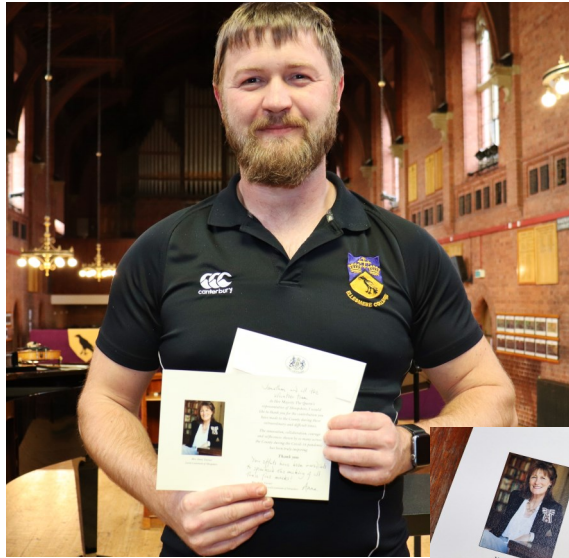
[The College Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

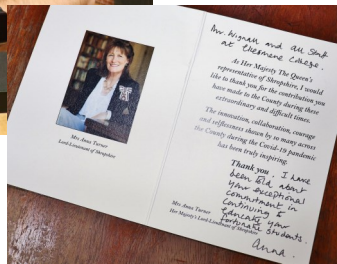
## Praise indeed from Anna Turner, Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire



Teacher of DT, Mr Haycock also received a letter of thanks for his work creating facemasks throughout the Coronavirus pandemic.

What a wonderful surprise and an honour to be recognised by the Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire, Mrs Anna Turner, for the commitment to teaching over the period of the pandemic by our teaching staff here at Ellesmere!

During the last term before the Summer holiday, all our students were seamlessly transitioned to online and virtual learning platforms across all years, allowing them to stay up-to-date with their course work, learning and staying connected through those challenges and unusual times. Thank you to everyone who supported this and made it happen!



## Young golfing champ is ready to shine



Year 4 student, Ethan Harrison, took up golf to work on his focus for other sports and has won a major competition which could give him the opportunity to play golf in California.

Nine-year-old Ethan, who joined Ellesmere in September for its sporting opportunities, played his first golf competition with his boxing coach - World Champion Super Flyweight Boxer Paul Butler - because it was the only adult he knew who played golf. Despite only taking up the sport 12 months ago, Ethan and Paul won the Pryors Hayes Adult Junior Pair Series 2020 and Ethan has since been picked for the European Junior Golf Tour Championship.

His mum, Caroline, said: "Ethan started having lessons with ex professional Roger Shutt last year to help him relax and focus. Roger runs the Pryors Hayes tournament and suggested that Ethan take part, but

neither me nor his dad play and he needed an adult to play with him. The only person I knew who played golf as a hobby was his boxing coach, Paul."

[Read More...](#)

### Festive greetings to all Old Ellesmerians



The Michaelmas term ended on Friday (4th December), and brings a conclusion to a year which was so different for College, its pupils and our Club. The pandemic has sprung so many changes on everybody it is almost difficult to remember “normality”. Life at the College has probably been disrupted even more than after the fire of 1966 – that led to a Bedford Van doing more miles in reverse than forwards shuttling meals to the temporary dining room located where Nanki Block is now!

As far as the Club goes, it is fair to say Covid stopped play! A recent further reminder of this was the missing Carol Service so beloved by both OEs and the local community.

The Club have continued to help support the College where we can and, as I said in my last letter to you, a number of projects were completed during the year.

Talking of this letter, I would like to thank everyone for their generous good wishes and supportive comments following its publication in the e:bulletin and on Facebook. I hope that I can live up to them all!

It is time to look forward and hopefully there is a light at the end of this somewhat dark tunnel. I am sure we will be able to hold some Club events in 2021 and start to rebuild an active programme with a mixture of traditional and new gatherings. If anyone has any suggestions please do not hesitate to get in touch with me either directly ([r.j.thurgood@btinternet.com](mailto:r.j.thurgood@btinternet.com)) or via [Olivia](#) at the College. We will of course publish details as soon as they become fixed, so please put them in your diary as they are announced!

My thanks to the Executive and other members of our community for their help in all the various Club activities and in particular to Olivia Beckett who provides such tireless support between Club and College.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to one and all!

Richard Thurgood  
Chairman

### Young OE interviews football legend



One of our newest Old Ellesmerians, Jake Redshaw, was recently asked to interview Phil Neville, Ladies' England Football Team Manager and one of the founders of University Academy 92.

Jake is a first year Media and Communications student at the university.

The interview can be watched via YouTube [HERE](#)

## OE Entrepreneur takes the plastic out of parenting



Former Ellesmere student, Guy Fennell (Talbot 94-02), and his wife Abi have had an incredibly busy year building a progressive new business through lockdown whilst welcoming their first child, Ezra, to their family.

With their new business **Pura**, they are on a mission to provide eco-friendly baby care using only anti-allergy, organic ingredients and sustainable, biodegradable materials. With an ingenious subscription service for baby wipes and nappies, the business is sure to go from strength to strength.

Both Guy and Abi were already running their own businesses, which include wholesale FMCG company Brand Ambassadors International, and clothing retail business Abi Fisher Clothing. Although they admit that starting a new business during lockdown wasn't ideal, they had spent three years researching and developing their first products and didn't want to delay it any longer. In the first week after its launch in June the website received more than 85,000 hits, with over 22,000 orders placed. Within a month customer orders had doubled, and by August, wipes subscriptions were up by 55% compared with July.

An excellent feature on Guy and Abi's new business was recently included in Forbes and can be read [HERE](#)

## Michaelmas Newsletter



The Michaelmas 2020 newsletter is now available on our website and can be accessed [HERE](#), we hope you like it!

If you have a story that you would like to be included in our next newsletter then please get in touch:

[olivia.beckett@ellesmere.com](mailto:olivia.beckett@ellesmere.com)

This is an Ellesmere College internal email. You can assist with the growth of Ellesmere Connect by visiting <http://ellesmereconnect.com>