

Ellesmere**news**



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Exam Results 2018

A Level results day this summer saw our Year 13 students celebrating their success, with over 50% of all passes in the top A*A B grades, and an overall 92% pass rate, including quite a number of outstanding performances.

Victor Zhao (Shenyang) secured 4A*s in Computer Science, Mathematics, Further Maths, Physics and an A grade in Chemistry plus an A* in the Extended Project. Wayne Wang (Fushan) achieved 2A* in Mathematics and Physics and 2 A's Further Maths and Chemistry, and also gained an A* for his Extended Project. Victor is now studying Computer Science at Trinity College, Cambridge and Wayne is reading Engineering at Imperial College, London.

Another outstanding performance was seen from Maks Graczyk (Jeziora) with 4A* grades in Computer Science, Mathematics, Further Maths and Physics - maintaining the standard he also achieved an A* in his Extended Project. Maks is now reading Computing at Imperial.

James Jefferies (Welshampton) secured his place at Birmingham University to read Civil Engineering with A*A*A*, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics.

Elinor Haworth (Ellesmere) achieved A* A* A, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics to read Medicine at Cardiff, and Elena Bateman (Cross Lanes) secured her place to read Medicine at East Anglia with A* A A in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics.

These excellent results followed a strong performance in the BTEC Sports Performance and Excellence Diploma with Bethan Edwards (Oswestry), Sam Ellis (Shrewsbury) and Tom Hill (Malpas) achieving a triple distinction in the Extended Diploma, as well as the International Baccalaureate Diploma, where the top performer was Luke Parker of Ellesmere, who achieved an impressive 40 points.



A week later there were further celebrations for our Year 11 students who received their GCSE results. A third of all grades were the top grade and levels of A*/A and 9/8/7. At Ellesmere the international GCSEs continue to be successful with subjects such as English seeing over 50% of grades at 9 to 7, A*/A equivalent.

Rodrigo Anton Garcia (Madrid) swept the board with 4A* grades and 5 level 9's.

Sarala Chatterjee (Ellesmere) achieved 4A*, 2A grades and 2 level 9's, 1 8 and a B.

Charlie-Anne Williams (Ellesmere) gained 4A* 1A and 2 level 9's, 2 8's and a 5

Mimi Quinton (Coalville) secured 3A*, 3 level 9's 4 8's and a 7

Ananya Chezhan (Chirk) achieved 3A*s, 1A, and 3 level 9's plus 2 8's and a 6

Molly Tumelty (Ellesmere) achieved 1A*, 3A grades and 2 level 9's plus 8 and 3 7's

Sam Zakers (Nantwich) gained 3A's, 3B grades, 2 level 9's plus a 7 and a 6

Pupils in year 9 and 10 also completed some early GCSE's and First Certificates in Languages, Finance and Religious Studies with excellent results.

It was a delight to see our students securing impressive grades such as these and it was particularly pleasing to see all who wish to progress to university being able to do so. This is even more impressive when taking into account the wide range of co-curricular activities they participate in. Credit must also go to all our dedicated staff and of course to their parents and guardians for their constant support and encouragement.

Top Computer Science Prize

Success in their Computer Science A-Level has earned two Ellesmere College students a prestigious prize.



Alistair O'Brien

Maks Graczyk and Alistair O'Brien will be rewarded with a trip to Bath and a prize for being among the top 50 highest scores from students across the country in the AQA Computer Science A-Level course.

Maks, who is from Jeziora in Poland, not only achieved an A* in Computer Science but attained the top grade in his Mathematics, Further Maths and Physics A-Levels too. He has now taken up a place at Imperial College in London this term to read Computing.

Alistair's ability in Computer Science was recognised early on which led to him taking this exam a year early in Yr 12. He has just moved into Year 13 and is studying Mathematics, Further Maths and Physics A-Levels.

The pair have been invited to Bath, where internet services company Netcraft is based, to meet the other prize winners and current and recent Computing students from top UK universities.

They will also be given a top of the range Targus laptop rucksack in recognition of their efforts.

Music and Drama School Places

Four talented music and drama students have just taken up the opportunity of a lifetime at the country's leading music conservatoires and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA).

Jaimie Wakefield from Ellesmere has taken up his place at RADA while Seren Devismes, also of Ellesmere, is studying at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Jakob Fradley, from Market Drayton, will be attending the Junior Conservatoire at the Royal Welsh, and Oswestry born Kizzy Lumley-Edwards has won a place at the Junior Conservatoire at Royal Northern, which they are both combining with their academic studies here.

The success of individuals is also matched by the many outstanding drama and music performances by groups and ensembles throughout the last year, at the end of which College won the Business Education Award for Music 2018.



Kizzy Lumley-Edwards

Gold Award Recipients at St James' Palace



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

This summer sixteen current or recent Ellesmerians attended St James' Palace in London to receive their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award – the culmination of months of hard work and dedication. It was very rewarding to see so many of our students reflecting proudly on what they had achieved.

All those achieving the Gold Award will have completed challenging five day walking or canoeing expeditions in either Snowdonia or down the River Wye, and the variety of skills and volunteering experiences that the group completed to achieve the Award perhaps best sum up what it is to be an Ellesmerian. From working at local care homes, coaching youngsters lower down the College in various sports, taking responsibility within the CCF or helping with guided reading in Lower School, the eclectic mix of individual endeavours all highlight a

common willingness to engage with the local community and 'give back' a little of what the College provides to them. The Gold Award is a worthwhile achievement in its own right, but is also increasingly recognised in the world of work because of the core skills and values that it can develop and enhance.

This year 108 of our students from Years 9 to 13 have taken part in the Award Scheme at all three levels of Bronze, Silver and Gold, with many participants facing exhausting conditions during their assessed summer expeditions this summer. 55 Year 9 Bronze students faced blistering heat and stepped up to the plate demonstrating exemplary team work, strong camp craft and a determination to excel. They walked in temperatures of 30 Degrees and did so with focus. Their exemplary preparation ensured all were safe, protected



from the sun with sun cream and hats and hydrated with regular refuelling stations set up along the route

The Year 10 Silver Award groups also faced record-breaking heat for their challenging expedition. Having excelled in their practice, it was no surprise to see them pushing themselves to achieve on the rocky and hilly terrain that they faced. Good preparation saw them arriving on day one with ample supplies and they demonstrated an excellent knowledge of their routes. Water was supplied along route to help combat the heat and in place of complaining, the teams were jovial and up-beat.

New initiatives this year in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at Ellesmere have seen the introduction of a Young Enterprise group who spent the Lent term developing their business and have since donated their profits to charity. This group is set to grow in numbers and ambition over the coming years and we look forward to seeing them thrive.

Thanks to the tireless planning of Quartermaster Chris Collins we will be offering Bronze and Silver Sailing D of E from this autumn, which will mean we can offer options of walking, canoeing and sailing expeditions for our students. Of course the whole programme would be impossible to run without the dedication of all the staff involved, and this was acknowledged at the highest levels when Mrs Debbie Joynson-Brooke and her husband Frank were given a special award at Buckingham Palace on reaching her retirement, marking 30 years of work with young people on the Award Scheme.

My Model United Nations Journey

Ellesmere College has a long and successful record of participating in international Model United Nations (MUN) conferences, which simulate the actual United Nations proceedings in New York.

Pratham Manchanda, a Lower Sixth student of Politics, Economics and Chemistry, is a particularly enthusiastic and experienced delegate. Here, he reflects on his most recent achievements and outlines some of the many benefits of taking part in this popular extracurricular activity.

"Model United Nations has always appealed to me because of its opportunities to discuss varied topics of global concern and to practise my conflict resolution skills. I was thirteen when I attended my first MUN event, INMUN in Delhi, India. Winning the 'Best Candidate Award' at this event in my home country has spurred me on to participate in UK and overseas events whenever I can combine it with my studies.

I tremendously enjoyed the College trip to Leiden, the Netherlands, in November 2017, and it was nice to see my peers win several awards. Throughout the summer holidays, I signed up independently for three further Model United Nations events:

At VIVMUN 18 in Delhi, I assumed the role of the Executive Moderator/Head Chair of United Nations

Economic and Social Council of Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP).

At Meridian MUN, in Hyderabad, I was appointed Vice President and Co-Chair of the Arab League, demanding from me a completely different set of skills and knowledge.

Finally, at IPUMUN 18, I acted as Vice President and Co-Chair of the Human Rights Council.

These were, however, not the main incentive for me to take part. Rather, I enjoy the intensive research into global foreign policies; meeting fellow Sixth Formers from around the world; debating important issues; forming strategic alliances and reaching workable conclusions just like the real MUN in New York. Taking part in MUN conferences encourages and develops so many skills that are valuable for Sixth Form, university and beyond. I would strongly encourage anyone to consider taking part in future events.

For more information about MUN opportunities please contact: Mrs Christina Westwood (Head of Modern Languages) or Mr Dale Crawford (Teacher of Physics).



Cake for Charity

Since the start of term College has been busy with eager bakers using their creative skills to raise money for good causes.

A Lower School Bake Sale was held at break time on the first non-uniform day in order to raise money for the Macmillan Nurses Charity. With some wonderful contributions from parents the pupils raised an impressive £140 for this worthy cause.

Sixth Form students then set to work in the kitchen and held a European Day of Languages Cake Sale which raised funds for the College's long-standing Monduli Green environmental and educational project in Tanzania which raised £90 from their hungry friends.

Finally, the Ellesmere College Parents' Society held their own Macmillan Coffee Morning, where a raffle added another £136 to the donation to this Important charity which helps to provide specialist cancer nursing services in the community.



Baking from around the world at the European Day of Languages Cake Sale.



The Ellesmere College Parents' Society enjoying a friendly 'cuppa'.



Julia Smith, Brooke Illingworth, Mandy Sihlangu, Luke Evans, Isobel Philbin and Dylan Pritchard.





WWI Battlefields History Trip

The annual History Department Battlefields trip took on a particularly poignant significance this year as 2018 marks the centenary of the armistice at the end of World War I. Is the Great War still something which should be remembered? Two sites in Belgium, close to where we were staying, suggest a positive answer. John Strudwick is buried in the British military cemetery at Essex Farm. He was fourteen when he volunteered and fifteen when he was killed in action in 1916. His mother chose the inscription on his headstone: *Not Gone from Memory or from Love*. Close to this grave Colonel John McCrae was working in a field hospital during the Second Battle of Ypres in 1915 and was inspired to write the poem *In Flanders Fields* which focuses on the powerful image of poppies growing on a battlefield.

Also fighting in the war was Peter Kollwitz. He enlisted in August 1914 and was seventeen when he died during the German attack on the Belgian line near Diksmuide in October 1914. He was the son of Kathe Kollwitz, the distinguished sculptor and artist, whose statues of grieving parents can now be seen at the Vladslo German cemetery. The father's gaze looks down directly at Peter's last resting spot and memorial stone (which also lists nineteen others in the same burial).

As we study history, we naturally learn about the great issues of warfare and the political consequences of military decisions. In the end, though, war affects relationships and is fought by individuals, sometimes no older than those who now visit as battlefield tourists from schools such as ours.

This year Ellesmerians from Years 9 and 10 had the chance to tour many of the sites around Ypres and on the Somme. They learned details of the First World War but also had the opportunity to reflect on their own ambitions and how their future lives might develop.



Sixth Form Art



Eve Davies



Kate Williamson



Josie Wang



Sam Oldham



Netball Winners

Recently Ellesmere hosted the U19 and U16 North Shropshire Netball tournament, where our girls got a real taste of success for the forthcoming season. Well done to both Ellesmere College teams who took part, but especially the U16's who dominated and won all their games to become U16 North Shropshire Champions in an exciting afternoon of netball.



World Academy of Sport visit

The College was recently honoured to welcome two former Olympians to the school – Joslyn Hoyte-Smith (Chair of GB Olympians) and Shirley Addison – to meet students and view our facilities as part of our World Academy of Sport (WAoS) re-accreditation, which recognises our success in supporting elite athletes through both their training and education.





Hockey Champions

This Septemer we enjoyed an outstanding day of hockey by the U18 girls who for the first time in a number of years became champions of the Wrekin 7s hockey tournament.

A nervous start and a little naivety when defending resulted in a loss in their opening game. A team talk, some small changes to tactics and the correcting of mistakes made all the difference in their next two games, comfortably beating Shrewsbury School 2-0 and Rydal Penrhos 4-0. Ellesmere qualified for the semi final as runners up, and were improving all the time. The effort level from every player was second to none; they took on board and played to every change in tactic and all advice given. In the semi final they beat Newcastle under Lyme 1-0 and passed through into the final. A last minute goal by Stafford Grammar in the other semi final knocked out reigning champions Denstone College.

In the final and against the run of play Ellesmere fell behind when the talented Stafford centre forward pounced on a loose ball and placed it out of reach of the Ellesmere goalkeeper Verity Buglass. Ellesmere kept calm, dug deep and got themselves back into the game. Dominating possession it was just a matter time before Ellen Dawson smashed the

ball into the goal at the back post. At 1-1 Ellesmere were on the up, Stafford desperately tried to muster a counter but fatigue had set in. The game ended 1-1, therefore the winner would be decided by penalty strokes.

The recent training session on penalty strokes was to come in handy. Ellesmere won 4-3; Verity Buglass saved two and Sophie Ward, Alice Parton, Kezzie Hutchings and Ellen Dawson each scored their penalty stroke. Nerves of steel, girls!

Team

Lavinia Mottershead
 Charlie Williams
 Verity Buglass
 Paula Lotze
 Sophie Ward

Kezzie Hutchings
 Georgia Dawson
 Ellen Dawson
 Camilla Broster
 Alice Parton



Former Liverpool Player Inspires Football Academy

Our College Football Academy recently welcomed former Liverpool player and current Warrington Town centre half David Raven to the academy for the afternoon to share his experiences and knowledge with the players.

David spent the first hour of the session talking about his time in the game and taking questions from the players. He talked with passion about how he developed over the years - from school boy to Liverpool FC – his love for the game, the ups and downs, and how he managed to keep focused on his own goals in the game.

Following a Q&A David delivered a fantastic session for the players out on the field, coaching them through the training sessions he is involved in each day and passing on his knowledge of the game.

Mick Brennan, Director of the Academy, said, "It was another great experience for the players. David was so inspirational, one of the best we've had with his true passion for the game and honest talking to the lads. I think many could really relate to him and took on board his advice; there was total silence in that room as he was talking and each and every player was fully focused on what he said. Last week we delivered an induction session to the players talking about many of the points David raised: the ups and downs, the ladder you have to climb, the opportunities and giving 100% – his reiteration of this was key to the Academy players. A massive thank you to David for coming in and I'm sure we will see so much more from him over the coming season."



Tennis Wales Win... with a little help from Ellesmere

This September Aditi Chezhan (Year 9) was selected to represent Wales in the Four Nations Tournament played in Belfast. Wales won, beating teams from Scotland, England and Ireland. Aditi has also become the first Ellesmere College student to gain a Tennis Europe ranking.

The future for tennis at the College looks very rosy. There are now six year 9's accessing the Elite Programme, a focused group of young aspiring tennis players who have made the decision to wrap their academic progress with as much tennis as possible. Each week Elite players have the opportunity to attend six hours of squad training, two strength and conditioning sessions, plus as many hours of individual coaching and match practice as they can fit into their timetable.

There are twenty players on programmes, currently all playing to a high standard. Life has been made a little easier for them with the introduction of an LTA Competitions schedule with twelve tournaments being held at the College during weekends this winter. Players from around the country come here to compete offering our students varied and high standard matchplay.



Aditi (fourth from right) celebrating with the Welsh team





Rugby: OEs v 1st XV

The annual OE v 1st XV match took place on a bright and sunny autumn afternoon and, as always, was played in great spirit. The Firsts took a comfortable win, demonstrating how quickly you can lose your fitness over the summer months when weekly training is replaced by holidays in sunny climates and celebratory beers!



The Headmaster and School Council cordially invite you to:

Remembrance Day Service

Sunday 11 November at 10:45am
in the Chapel of St Oswald, Ellesmere College

Followed by the Old Ellesmerian Luncheon – partners and friends welcome too



Community Carol Service

Thursday 26 November at 7:30pm
in the Chapel of St Oswald, Ellesmere College

Followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies in the Big School Hall



To book your place at the luncheon or the Carol Service:

Please contact External Relations on 01691 626541 or external.relations@ellesmere.com



OE News

The Edge Lecture Series

The EDGE talks are well underway again for this term, opened by a young OE, Robert Blach, who left the College after successfully completing the International Baccalaureate in 2015. Robert decided to take a year out before heading to university in order to get involved with a lung research project at Hanover Medical School in Germany. Since then he has started a unique, bilingual medical degree at the University of Southampton and is currently in his third year of studying. Robert has recently joined a German medical doctorate programme in Orthopaedic Surgery and is also an active member of political and student committees, both in the UK and Germany.

Robert gave students an insight into what the British medical degree involves and talked to them about entrepreneurial, political and social opportunities that exist for students. He also spoke to them about the importance of an international exchange within medicine and what the future might look like.



Robert with fellow OE Felix Tighe

Future lectures include:

Wednesday 10th October
Dr Anton Garrett – Science v Religion

Wednesday 14th November
Natalie Lloyd – Entrepreneurship – Creating the dream and running with it

Wednesday 6th February
Francesca Trotman – Plastics and the Planet – Your part in killing the oceans

London CITY Drinks gets off to a flying start

This is always a fun night to meet up with fellow OEs, old and young. The first gathering of the year will take place on Thursday 18th October at 6.30pm at The Antelope in Eaton Terrace, Belgravia with special guest, Mr Martin Clewlow. Recent graduates who attend will be treated to a complimentary glass of bubbles!

Future dates are:

Thursday 7th February 2019
Thursday 13th June 2019

OEs Pay their respects

The final, Old Ellesmerians' trip to the battlefields to honour the fallen of the College took place over the summer. Some of the OEs have been on all five battlefield trips. However, even more amazing is that Kenichi Kikuchi has travelled from Tokyo for every one of the visits.

Arriving at the stunning Tyne Cot War Memorial, Keni was given the honour of holding the banner of St Oswald through the service, led by our own OE, Rev'd Phil Conway. Kenichi still manages to fit into his old House blazer too – the best dressed OE on the trip.

The group visited the grave of Captain Edwin Scott Bamford, ancestor of the Bamfords, an Ellesmerian family that some of you may be familiar with. This visit has been inspired by descendant and family historian Sarah Hartley.

During the service at the Menin Gate, Brigadier Peter Gilbert, Ellesmerian Club President and Paul Russell, Alumni Officer, laid a wreath on behalf of the Ellesmerian Club. On our way home there was a quick detour to call into Diksmuide for coffee and a look at this lovely town, which is generously twinned with Ellesmere!



Kenichi Kikuchi



Alex hits the heights



Congratulations to Year 12 student Alex Selby who set a new record for Ellesmere College in the Welsh 3000s challenge, which he undertook in May 2018 alongside other cadets from the College's CCF Division.

The Welsh 3000s comprises 15 Welsh mountains with a height of 3,000 feet or more, clustered in three ranges. Alexander's challenge was to reach all summits within 24 hours, a feat he accomplished in 17 hours and 46 minutes.

Alex was awarded a special tie for this outstanding achievement – probably the rarest tie worn in College.

Alex said, "When I reached the summit of the last of the 15 peaks, I was able to see a spectacular sunset on one side of the mountain and the moon rising on the other side. The challenge was gruelling but ultimately a lot of fun, as the sense of achievement was second to none."