



ELMWOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015 – NO. 105

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WEAR IT PINK DAY



We supported the Wear it Pink campaign on Friday 16th October (one week ahead of the official date due to school closure on 23rd October). Pupils and staff were invited to come to school in non-uniform and contribute £1 towards this worthwhile breast cancer charity. In addition staff took part in a sweepstake competition with the winner receiving £21 and the remainder going to the Charity. Well done to Julie Burnell, Cleaner, who was the lucky recipient of the cash. In total £76 was raised for this worthwhile cause so a big thank you to everyone who contributed to this fundraiser.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE APPEAL

As you may recall we have organised a Christmas Fayre fundraising event for Thursday 10th December starting at 10.00 am.

If you have any items that you are able to send in that we could sell at our sale, we would be very grateful.

We will be having a raffle, bottle tombola and white elephant stall so any goods that may be suitable will be a great help.

A big thank you to Sainsburys who have donated a number of items via Emily Carter which are much appreciated.

We look forward to hopefully seeing you on the 10th and thank you in advance for your support.

MORE FUNDRAISING FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 13th November staff and pupils helped to raise money for the BBC Children in Need appeal. Non-uniform was permissible for a £1 donation and a variety of cakes were made in food technology for sale around School. A big thank you to everyone who took part and helped to raise £82.79 (this includes a generous £6 donation from Jordan Williams in Year 10). Mr Damms looked the part in his Pudsey Onesie!

VISITS TO GERMAN MARKET

All students will be having the opportunity to visit the German Market in Birmingham as part of their out and about lessons. These will take place from w/c 7th December to Thursday 17th with Mr Holmes and Mr Whittaker. These trips are always popular with our young people who enjoy the delicious food and the various attractions on offer. If pupils would like to bring money to spend we would recommend £5 as a suitable amount.

STAFFING NEWS

Emma Gathercole, who has worked as a teaching assistant in nurture since February 2014 decided to accept a new challenge and left Elmwood on Wednesday 11th November. We were sad to see Emma go but wish her every success for the future.

Interviews took place on Monday 16th November for the Teaching Assistant vacancy. Six candidates were interviewed and after a very close decision, Simon Wood was the successful applicant. Simon came and spent three days voluntary in School working in all three bases and it is hoped that he will be joining the team in the very near future.

On Tuesday 3rd November interviews took place for the Cleaner vacancy and Glenda Johnson was the successful candidate. We look forward to welcoming Glenda to the team.

HALLOWEEN FUN IN NURTURE



What a fabulous time pupils had on Monday 19th October when Ms Lloyd organised a Halloween party. The community room looked amazing thanks to Di Cadman and Jade Lunt who transformed it into a very spooky zone. Students and staff looked the part and took

part in lots of fun activities such as bobbing apples, marshmallow hunting and dressing as a mummy amongst others (a selection of photographs are on the School website). Pupils also enjoyed an outdoor assault course fit for zombies! Thank you to all parents and carers that were able to provide edible goodies or competition



prizes, these were very gratefully received. Winners of the competitions were Bethany Read (fancy dress), Nathan Davis-Sealey and Callum Groom (mummies), Levi Dingley (flour marshmallows) and J'Ermiel (apple bobbing). A big thank you also to Alan from the local allotment who kindly delivered some home grown pumpkins to School.



REMI NDERS

Please note that students will be leaving at 12.30 pm on Friday 18th December when School closes for the Christmas break. Students return on Tuesday 5th January (Monday 4th January is a training day).

CHRISTMAS PARTY AT DUDLEY ZOO

Students in Year 7 have been given the opportunity to go along to Dudley Zoo on Monday 30th November for the Mad Hatter's Christmas Party. Pupils are treated to a hot lunch, a Christmas Show and a Santa Visit as part of the day and should have a lovely time.

HAPPY PUPILS



Marcus and Charlie in Year 11 were not only happy to be out on a nature walk in Sutton Park but also celebrating the last day of term! What a lovely day to be out and about. Marcus and Lee have also enjoyed the abundance of conkers around the School grounds and like many other students enjoyed playing conkers—you are never too old to play apparently!!! Lessons in out and about are always popular but it looks like the Year 9 students were worn out following their bike ride.



PHOTOGRAPH ORDERS

Thank you to all parents and carers who chose to purchase their recent Child's School photograph taken by Tempest Photographers. As a result of these orders we have received £42.08 in commission which will help boost School Fund (which is used to benefit pupils).

ATTENDANCE STARS!

Well done to the following pupils who all achieved 100% for the Autumn first half term: -

- JAMIE ASHFORD
- THOMAS CARTER
- SOPHIE CLEWLEY
- GEORGE COCKING
- TYRONE PEAKMAN
- SIMON FARRINGTON
- CIARAN LAWRENCE
- LUKE MORGAN-FRYER
- CYTHIAN OGUNBODEDE
- LEE PRICE
- BETHANY READ
- MARCUS ROSE
- REECE RUDD

All were congratulated in an assembly and given certificates for this achievement. Very well done to all, keep up the good work.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

From the 2nd November to 11th November we raised funds for the Royal British Legion through their annual poppy appeal.

A big thank you to Marcus Rose in Year 11 who did a fantastic job of selling poppies. Also well done to both Steven Clark and Kieran Newton in Year 10 who stood in when Marcus was not available.

If the weight of the collection box is anything to go by they have done very well!

SHE CAME BACK!



As promised when she left on 20.11.14, Jayne Fairley, who was one of the Family Welfare Officers, returned to

School for a quick visit. Jayne was visiting the area in her capacity as a Psychic when she held a Psychic night in Aldridge on 19.11.15. Jayne enjoyed catching up with staff and hopes to return in the New Year.

ARMISTICE DAY RESPECT



On Wednesday 11th November Ms Shaw organised for members from the Staffordshire Regiment to come along with family members and enjoy a meal prepared and served by students. The Elms



Restaurant was up to its usual high standards and the meal was a great success. As well as enjoying the meal, members from the Regiment then congregated with the whole School, including visitors, when they observed the 2 minutes silence and the sounding of the Last Post. All pupils behaved impeccably and many went and shook hands with the Soldiers after the event. The School was also presented with a copy of Nick Power's latest book (one of the Soldiers) entitled 'It puts muscles on your



eyebrows', which will make an interesting read. Mr Singh from the Regiment hand delivered a thank you to School on 17.11.15 when he reiterated what a fantastic day had been had and further praised the young people stating that they were attentive, polite and a credit to the School. In his opinion Elmwood is a flagship School and he could not speak highly enough of the reception that they had received. Ms Shaw also received a letter from Mr & Mrs Mason who also attended and wanted their warmest thanks being passed on to the staff, boys and girls for their generous hospitality. They also said how touching it was to see the concern shown for their disabled friend and through the help and thoughtfulness of the young people she was able to walk further than she thought possible. Very well done to all our young people who made this a very special event. More photographs are available on the School Website.

YEAR 10 VISIT THE SKILLS SHOW, BIRMINGHAM



On Thursday 19th November Mr Holmes and Ms Mayo accompanied Year 10 students to the Skills Show in Birmingham. Students were able to pick up information from a number of Organisations as well as having some hands on experiences with equipment on display. The day was very successful and students came back with lots of ideas for the future.

