

The Elton Times

Newsletter No 1

19 September 2016



Welcome to the first edition of The Elton Times, a fortnightly bulletin for parents and carers to provide updates and information regarding life at The Elton High School.

It has been a particularly busy start to this academic year, with our move into the new school building accompanied by a number of new staff to the school, new timings to the school day and over 200 new Year 7 students. However, the atmosphere around school has been fantastic – calm and purposeful, with students conducting themselves in an exemplary manner, speaking politely and looking extremely smart. So many teachers have commented on the excellent start made by our students and it is a clear demonstration of their maturity, resilience and ability to adapt to new circumstances.



We are thankful for the support and many kind words that you have offered during these first two weeks of the term. For Elton to continue to develop, it is crucial that we work closely with yourselves – your support and understanding reinforces all of our actions on a daily basis. We may sometimes make mistakes, but our fundamental intention is to provide a first class education for the children so that they are prepared both academically and socially for the demands of the wider world. Communication is so important between home and school. Please continue to sign planners, attend all relevant school events and take a keen interest in your child's education. You can never underestimate how much your support and involvement matters. With regard to school events, this week there are three parental information sessions taking place. Today (Monday) at 5:30pm we have the Year 10 Guidance Evening, followed by the Year 11 event at 6:30pm. Both sessions will provide an overview of key details regarding the GCSE process over forthcoming months. Then on Wednesday (21st) we have the Year 7 Tutor Evening from 4:30pm – 6:30pm, providing you with the opportunity to discuss your child's 'settling in' period from the past two weeks. We look forward to seeing you at these key events.

I look forward to us all working together to build upon this excellent start to the new year. The next edition of this newsletter will be emailed in a fortnight. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of life here at Elton, please do not hesitate to get in touch at wiltonj@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk.

Jonathan Wilton

The Elton High School Safeguarding Team

Our school strives to provide a safe and secure environment where children are provided with appropriate education, support and guidance which promotes personal safety and well-being.

Mrs Johnson
Deputy Headteacher
Designated Officer



Need someone to
talk to?



Sally Edwards
Counsellor



Miss Helme
Assistant Headteacher
Designated Officer Assistant



Mr Aldred (7), Mr Meighan (8), Mrs Gagne (9),
Miss Alexander (10) and Mrs Turbill (11)

We are always here for
you



Miss Ashton
Student Support Leader

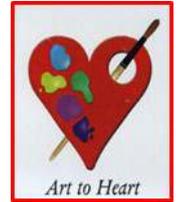


Mrs Alderson,
Mrs Baison and Mr Simpson



AS WE SAY GOODBYE TO THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING, THE BIRTH-PLACE OF ART TO HEART, IT'S THE PERFECT TIME TO REFLECT ON IT'S SUCCESSES SO FAR

Back in 2005, Art to Heart was established as part of the Community aspect of the Arts College Specialism by Mrs Penfold – Director of Visual Arts. It became a registered Charity in 2006 with its own logo designed by competition winner Jenny Jones. Since 2007, Miss Long has been the Coordinator of the scheme. The sheer number of students who have taken up this unique volunteering opportunity is incredible! On average, 190 students (Year 7 & Year 8) volunteer each year - to date, this adds up to 2090 students! Students are also selected from Years 5 & 6 at our link primary schools and collectively, they and Elton High students have creatively and socially enhanced the lives of older people in care and people with disabilities in the community, whilst developing valuable citizenship and communication skills themselves.



We have celebrated a number of achievements including :

- ◆ Campaigning for and winning the public vote to receive £10,000 'People Powered Change' funding from the National Lottery in 2011 to expand the scheme to four additional care homes including Maths Games to link in with our second specialism at the time — Mathematics & Computing.
- ◆ Celebrating our 10th Birthday with a party and exhibition 'These are 10 of My Favourite Things' at The Fusilier Museum, Bury in 2015.
- ◆ Writing two articles which were selected for The School, Students & Teachers Network (SSAT) 'Case Study Portfolio North West' and 'The Leading Change' Magazine.
- ◆ Delivering two Art to Heart presentations at National School conferences (the second of which we were invited to do based on the success of the first.)
- ◆ Delivering on-site Art to Heart training days for other schools to implement the scheme.
- ◆ Three formal exhibitions of artwork created by participants with support from our pupil volunteers; two at Bury Art Gallery (2008 & 2009) and one at The Fusilier Museum, Bury (2015) plus informal displays as part of arts week and open evenings.

As Art to Heart embraces it's new home in the new school building we look forward to recruiting more eager volunteers and developing the scheme further. We will be promoting initiatives such as providing the opportunity for older participants and students to display artwork in our new school gallery, inviting participants to visit our new school as part of an art/ reminiscence session about their own school lives and hosting a Summer Tea Party for our older participants....Watch this space! Thanks to students for their involvement and staff for their continuing support. Here's to the future of Art to Heart!



Maths At Home

What can you do in the home to help develop and improve your child's mathematics? Don't worry! You do not have to be a mathematician to do this! In this regular feature are some everyday things that you can do together with your child, which will really make a difference. Studies show that the more parents involve children with day-to-day maths, the better they achieve.

This week's tip: **Shopping at the Supermarket**

There is a lot of maths that can be discussed when shopping...

- Adding the cost of two or more products
- Estimating the cost of the final grocery bill
- Working out discounts
- Which product offers the best value?
- Which pack size offers the best value?
- If you are paying in cash, let your child choose the right notes and coins, and don't forget to get them to check the change!



Look out for more tips in the next edition of The Elton Times.

Math-Magician's Challenge

Cutting the pie

With one straight cut you can slice a pie into two pieces. A second cut that crosses the first one will produce four pieces, and a third cut can produce as many as seven pieces. What is the largest number of pieces that you can get with six straight cuts?

Email your answer to Mr Wilson at wilsond@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk

The first three correct answers will receive prizes.



ROAD SAFETY

We would ask all parents to take care when dropping off and picking up children in cars. It has been brought to our attention that children are trying to cross the road and finding it difficult due to cars pulling out with no regard for crossing children.



Also, if you drop your child off higher up Walshaw Road, please ensure that they can see traffic approaching from both directions.



Attendance and punctuality at the Elton High School

We have an excellent scheme to reward students who achieve high standards of attendance (above 96.5%) and excellent standards of punctuality (100%).

Our target for 2016-2017 is to achieve 96.5% across the whole school. Each student can make a significant contribution to achieving this goal and in doing so he/she will also maximise his/her own academic attainment and progress.

It is not a coincidence that the students who do best at GCSE are the students who achieve consistently excellent attendance. Our Year 11 2015-2016 are testament to this. Seven students within this cohort achieved five years at 100% attendance and there are nine students in the current Year 10 who are following in their footsteps.



How can I support my child?

Please make sure that your child has a good routine, is on time to school each day and attends regularly. We would also remind you that absences during term time can only be granted in very exceptional circumstances. Furthermore we are unable to authorise holidays during term time.

If I have a concern about attendance who should I contact?

Please contact school and talk to Mrs Marsden or Mrs Alderson if you have concerns. Email aldersond@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk / marsdenj@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk or telephone 0161 763 1434

Please look at the attached poster which highlights the impact of attendance.

**Our target for
2016-2017 is
96.5%**

190 SCHOOL DAYS EACH YEAR 190 days for your child's education.	10 days absence					
	180 DAYS OF EDUCATION	19 days absence	29 days absence			
		170 DAYS OF EDUCATION		Half a term missed		
			161 DAYS OF EDUCATION		38 days absence	
		152 DAYS OF EDUCATION		47 days absence		
				143 DAYS OF EDUCATION		
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	
GOOD Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.		WORRYING Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress.		SERIOUS CONCERN Limited chance of success and progress for your child.		

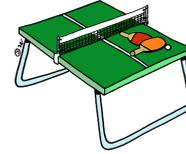
Music Department

Mr Woolliscroft, our new Music teacher, will be offering free guitar taster sessions for any pupils interested in learning to play the acoustic/electric/bass guitar. Any students interested must come and see either Mr Woolliscroft or Mrs Stopford in the Music area.



Extra Curricular Activities Sept-Oct 2016 -17

Netball matches start this week for Years 9 and 10 and Senior hockey matches start at the end



	LUNCHTIME		AFTER SCHOOL		
	Sports Hall	Activity Studio	Sports Hall	Activity Studio	Field
Monday	Hockey PJ	Table Tennis Year 10 VH	Girls Football Years 10/11 MP		Practices on the field for boys football weather permitting. See your team manager for which day it is to be held.
Tuesday	Netball PJ	Table Tennis Year 7 PA	Netball home games PJ		
Wednesday	Boys Football Year 10 DT	Table Tennis Year 8 KMG	Girls Football Years 7/8/9 MP		
Thursday	Girls Basketball Years 7 NI	Table Tennis Year 9 PJ	Boys Basketball Years 7/8 KMG		
Friday	Badminton All Years KMg/PA	Table Tennis Year 11 MP		Gymnastics Years 7,8,9 VH	

'Ski Trip, Austria Feb 2018. Details to follow soon...'





Netball



The Year 9 and 10 netball teams had their first game of the season against Woodhey High School. It was a fantastic start for Year 10 who were leading 9-8 at half time. In the second half unfortunately Woodhey scored straight away finally won 21-11. However, for their first game and with only one practice the team should be proud of themselves.

The Year 9 team had a fantastic game and were leading 8-2 at half time. We were ready in the second half to continue with this determination to win and win we did! The final score was 15-3! A fabulous start to the season for both teams. The players' player voted by the other team went to Georgia Pritchard in Year 9 who plays Goal Attack and Beth Straccia in year 10 who plays GS. A big thank you to all the parents who came to give their support. It is very much appreciated!

As a result of a student voice activity with our current Year 11 GCSE Physical Education students we have launched a new kit. The kit is better designed for training and performance at a higher level with climate control fabric. The kit is lighter and has the option to be personalised with the student's surname on the training top and initials on all other items of kit. This kit is just for our GCSE PE students and an order form can be collected directly from school as it is not sold in the traditional uniform shops.





GIRLS BURY SCHOOL FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS



2016 2017

Thurs 6th Oct

Year 10/11 7 a-side league @ Woodhey (round robin) BUS BOOKED

Thurs 13th Oct NO BUS

Year 7 5-a-side indoor competition. @Woodhey

Thurs 20th Oct

Year 7 5-a-side FINAL (venue TBC)

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Thurs 17th Nov, 24th Nov,

Year 9 7 a-side league @ Woodhey (round robin) BUS BOOKED

Thurs 19th Jan, 26th Jan

Year 8 7 a-side league @ Woodhey (round robin) BUS BOOKED

Thurs 16th Feb, 2nd March BUS BOOKED

Year 7 7 a-side league @ Woodhey (round robin)

**The next edition of The Elton Times will be emailed on
3rd October 2016.**

