

The Elton Times

Newsletter No 66 — 11 February 2020



Student Council Sessions
Are Underway!

STEM Science Ambassador
Visits Year 10 Physics Class

Sports Updates & Lots More!

The Elton Times

Newsletter No 66—11 February 2020

This final newsletter of the half term provides the usual reports and updates of activities, trips and events that continue to take place across the school. The fact that we are able to continue sending the Elton Times on a fortnightly basis is testimony to the fantastic efforts of staff across the school who are always willing to go the extra mile to provide different opportunities, while the students are always so keen to make the most of what is being offered. We still know that more work can be done and Mr Farnworth has been leading efforts to put a timetable of extra curricular activities and clubs in place, as well as launching the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme for our Year 9 students for the summer term. He has also organised a new Student Council with details being provided in recent issues of this newsletter and further updates to follow.

The Student Council will obviously provide an opportunity to collect the views of the children and we are also keen to reinforce our collaborative work with parents/carers. While this newsletter provides regular information about the school, we need to look for more ways to collect the views and opinions of parents/carers about our day to day work.

As such, last week saw the first of our Parent Forum meetings which was led by Mrs Johnson, and we were really pleased with the outcomes from that meeting. It was a very positive, constructive discussion, with a group of parents who were genuinely supportive of the school and keen to work with ourselves to make this the best school it can be. Topics for discussion included school lunches and dinner break, the SIMS Parent App and extra curricular clubs and activities, with actions and responses now being put in place wherever practically possible. Topics to be discussed in future meetings include Parents Evenings, parental contributions to careers education / student development and Mental Health/Wellbeing for students. We will give details of the next meeting in this newsletter and extend an invitation to anyone who is willing and able to contribute.

Following the half term break, all students are due to return to school at the usual time on Monday 24th February. Thanks for your continued support and as always, if there are any questions or concerns about any aspect of school, then please contact me directly at:

wiltonj@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk



Art Department: Art To Heart

Art to Heart volunteers have been working very hard helping residents at Elizabeth House and The Beeches care homes make some beautiful artwork. Year 7 students created wiggling frogs on colourful lily pads during their Art to Heart visit. The residents enjoyed naming their frogs(!) and the artwork is now up on display in the homes for everyone to enjoy.



OUTSTANDING ART

this term:



Congratulations to all of 7E1 in Art who have produced great outcomes for their painting project inspired by Kandinsky.

Particularly impressive were the pieces of work produced by Isobel Oxley (above) and Safa Jawed (below). Students studied Kandinsky's artwork and learned about how he painted music. They then explored the use of colour, line, shape and composition to create their own response to Jazz, Classic, Rock or Pop music. Well done everyone!



English Department: Year 7 Reward Breakfast



7E1 enjoyed a breakfast treat of hot chocolate and toast this week, following a whole term of outstanding homework presentations and a consistently high level of focus and attainment. As part of the Year 7 'Alter Egos' topic, students have come up with a number of innovative ways to develop their learning outside the classroom, including creating 3D models and dressing up as a bat! The high standard and consistency of homework completion is exemplary and the students fully deserved their reward. Keep up the good work Year 7!

Year 7—Our 100 Club Winners for February Half Term

Amazingly, we still have over 75 students who are still members of our **Year 7 '100' Club**. At the start of the year all students were given raffle tickets and entered into our prize draw. This term's two lucky winners were: Kaitlin Kay-Walker and Florence Livesey. However, all students in the 100 Club will get the opportunity to attend the end of year trip to Blackpool. Do not forget Year 7: you have to be in it, to win it! Keep up the excellent attendance and punctuality Year 7 and remember to keep hold of your \$100 bills!

Geography: Film Club!

Next film club will be after half term and will be looking at ecosystems. So look out for the posters around school with more details.



Geography Film Club presents.....

Chocolate

Starting with Documentary

Popcorn available 30p

Sign up sheet on Room 21 door.

Starting Tuesday 28th January 2020

Room 21
All year groups welcome

Year 7 Cadbury's Trip

Trip details will be given to Year 7 in assembly after the half term break.

Places are awarded on a first come first serve basis, with permission slips needing to be returned to Miss Windsor in Room 26.



Science Department: STEM Ambassador Visit



There are many exciting opportunities in the STEM field and we are always keen to show our students the links between the science and maths they learn in school and careers where they might use this knowledge in the future.

On 7th February STEM ambassador Tayyub Majeed visited Elton and talked to Year 10 triple Science students about his work as a computational fluid dynamics engineer within the nuclear industry. Tayyub is working at the EDF Energy R&D UK Centre / Nuclear.

Students were able to ask questions about his work and the career path he had followed. The talk was very enjoyable and informative and included information on how computational fluid dynamics can be used in designing wind farms as well as in medicine to model blood flow through organs like the heart and plan treatments.

We hope to have more ambassadors visit us in the future.

Further information about careers with EDF can be found at www.edfenergy.com/careers or on their social media channels

Science Department: Astronomy Club



Students who attend our astronomy club recently took part in the Wellcome Trust's I'm an Engineer project. Students took part in a live webchat with the scientists and engineers involved in building and launching the ExoMars Mission.

ExoMars is a programme of space missions designed by the European Space Agency and Roscosmos to try and find out if life ever existed on the planet Mars, and to test new technologies that could be used in a possible future robotic return mission to Mars. The UK Space Agency has been a major partner in the programme.

Already, the Trace Gas Orbiter satellite has been in orbit around Mars for the past three years, investigating gases in the Martian atmosphere that

exist in very small amounts, such as methane. The next stage, due to launch in late 2020, is to send a robotic rover to explore the surface of Mars.

It was really interesting to chat to the scientists about what their hopes and aspirations are for the project and how they ended up working in the space industry. We were also able to chat about what might go wrong and how they are working on tests to try and prevent problems. There was even time to find out who their favourite Dr Who was!

We are going to keep up to date with the latest mission updates and will get another chance to chat to the teams in April and find out how things are progressing. We'll let you know in a future issue of Elton Times.

Weekly Maths Club

Maths Club (Every Friday 3-4pm Room 14)

Now that we are half way through the year and that the first round of grade cards has gone home, I thought it would be a good time to remind parents about the Maths club which takes place every week. Students who have come to this have received help with areas they are struggling with and with homework tasks.

We have a dedicated team of Year 10 students (Jacob McDade, Emma Halpin-Foden, Bailey Withington and Maryam Amin) who are on hand to guide and coach students how to improve. Chromebooks are available to help with HegartyMaths tasks. I am always on hand if teacher input is needed.

The atmosphere is always relaxed and informal as this helps to build confidence and enable students to ask questions. I am aware that a growing number of parents are turning to maths tutors where they are concerned about their child's progress in maths. I would recommend to parents - particularly of

students in Years 7, 8 and 9 - to consider encouraging attendance at Maths club in the first instance, as this may provide the support that is needed to get back on track. With tutor rates currently at £30-£35 per hour, it would also be a considerable saving!

Mr Wilson, Head of Maths



Exam Preparation

As our final set of mock exams draws to a close this week, our Year 11 students are turning their attention to the real thing.

A range of activities will be taking place in school during the next few months to support students with their exam preparations. These will include a visit from our partners at Elevate Education on March 2nd, to run a workshop on Memory Techniques, as well as intervention and revision sessions run by teaching staff in a variety of subjects.

There are many ways in which parents can support students in getting ready for the exam period. These include:

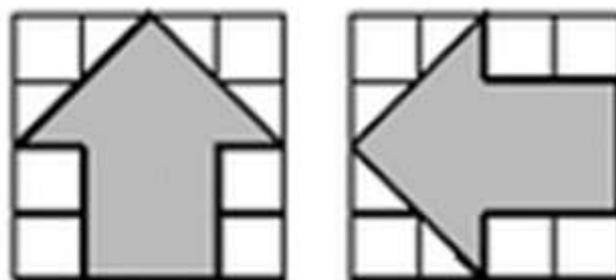
- * Help students to set up a quiet space at home where they can work
- * Ensure they have storage for notes and stationery (this will be a good place to file mock exam revision for use later in the year)
- * Help establish good routines for sleep and exercise
- * Support pupils in creating a realistic revision timetable and sticking to it

Are you ready for exams?

Crossed Arrows

The diagram shows two arrows drawn on separate 4cm × 4cm grids. One arrow points North and the other points West. When the two arrows are drawn on the same 4cm × 4cm grid (still pointing North and West) they overlap.

What is the area of overlap?



Congratulations to James Chao from 10E for his solution to the previous problem on awkward angles! The value of x was 30° .

Send your full working out and answers to Entwistle-WilkinsonJ@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk. All correct entries will gain an Achievement Point and be put in a hat. The first name pulled out wins a £5 Trafford Centre voucher!

Barclays Lifeskills: Day 1

Last year a few selected Year 9 students were offered the opportunity to participate in the Lifeskills project with Barclays. Students attended six events where they focussed on a range of skills for the future. We are pleased to be participating in the scheme again in 2020 and our selected current Year 9 students have just attended Day 1 of the programme at the Etihad Stadium.

Students spent time doing icebreakers so that they got the opportunity to get to know students from other schools. The focus then moved onto skills and personal qualities that would be useful in the workplace.

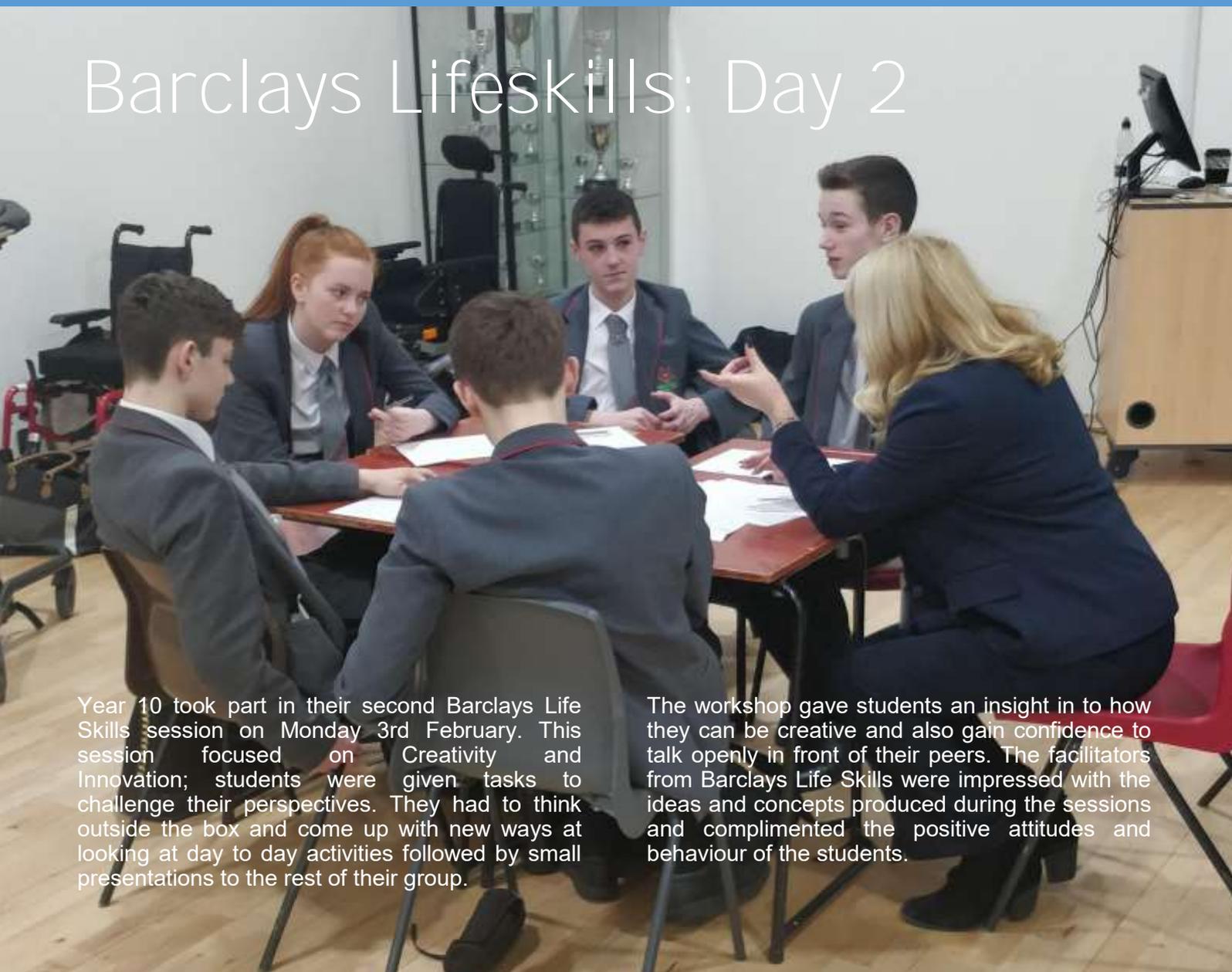
Overall the students had a great day and are now looking forward to the next day later in February.



Barclays Lifeskills: Day 2

Year 10 took part in their second Barclays Life Skills session on Monday 3rd February. This session focused on Creativity and Innovation; students were given tasks to challenge their perspectives. They had to think outside the box and come up with new ways at looking at day to day activities followed by small presentations to the rest of their group.

The workshop gave students an insight in to how they can be creative and also gain confidence to talk openly in front of their peers. The facilitators from Barclays Life Skills were impressed with the ideas and concepts produced during the sessions and complimented the positive attitudes and behaviour of the students.



We Will Rock You! Palace Theatre in Manchester

On January 30th fifty one Elton students went to the Palace Theatre in Manchester to watch the spectacular musical by Queen and Ben Elton. The students, from Years 7 through to Year 11, actively participated in the show by singing along to a number of classic Queen songs such as "We Are The Champions", "Another One Bites The Dust", "We Will Rock You" and of course "Bohemian Rhapsody". All in all it was a fantastic evening; students were a credit to the school and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

We now plan to organise a similar trip to watch "The Lion King" which is due to arrive in Manchester in Autumn 2020.



Hate Crime Conference



On Friday 7th February eight students from Year 9 attended the Hate Crime Conference at The New Kershaw Centre in Bury. The conference was attended by several schools in Bury and speakers included Bury Councillor Sharon Briggs. The conference was to raise awareness about the different strands of hate crime, how to recognise it and actions that can be taken both in school and in the local community to stand up to prejudice and hate.

The student Ambassadors will now plan and deliver assemblies to other year groups in the school and promote hate crime awareness across our school community.



Punctuality To School



Whilst we know that the school buses can cause some students to be late to school, we would ask all parents to encourage your child to arrive early to school (well before 8.40am). At 8.45am we start our first lesson of the day and clearly students who are late to school are missing vital learning when arriving after this time.

If parents wish to drop children off at school before work, the school building is open from 7.45am onwards and students are able to sit in the canteen where they can complete work or chat to others.

Students Leaving Building During School Day

Although we would prefer students to remain in school throughout the day, we understand that sometimes appointments have to take place during the school day. If your child is going out of school for such an appointment we would request that you write a note (which your child should hand in at reception) or email into reception@eltonhigh.bury.sc.h.uk. Within the note we would ask you to let us know the reason for, time and date of the appointment. For safeguarding reasons we would also request that the named parent / carer comes into reception to collect their child.



Year 7 Girls' Football



Congratulations to the Year 7 girls football team who won their group to progress to the final. The team beat Tottington High School 2-0, goals from Isla Nield and Jess Harrop. Second game was against Woodhey High School which we won 1-0 with another goal from Isla Nield.

Players of the Match:
Isla Nield (Striker)
Matilda McGough (Goalkeeper)

Indoor Athletics Competition



A number of Year 7 boys and girls recently participated in The Manchester Indoor Athletics Competition held at Eastlands. All pupils had a fantastic day and experienced competing at a high level in outstanding facilities.



Year 9 Basketball



Congratulations to the Year 9 boys who achieved a hard working victory over Parrenthorn High School to win the Division 2 play-off 22-17, securing a bronze medal for the team. A special mention to Adam Coxon who contributed an impressive 18 points.

Year 7 & 8 Netball Update



Congratulations to our Year 7 team, winning 6-2 in their recent netball game. Player of the match went to Izzy Whitworth. Our Year 8 team had a tough game and unfortunately lost 7-13. Year 8 Player of the Match went to Abigail Traynor.

3G Sports Pitch Footwear

In anticipation of our new 3G pitch opening, we would like to make parents aware as soon as possible of the requirements for sports footwear and what can / cannot be worn on the new pitch. TigerTurf, the building contractors, have provided the following information:



TigerTurf™

Appropriate Footwear for a TigerTurf 3G Pitch

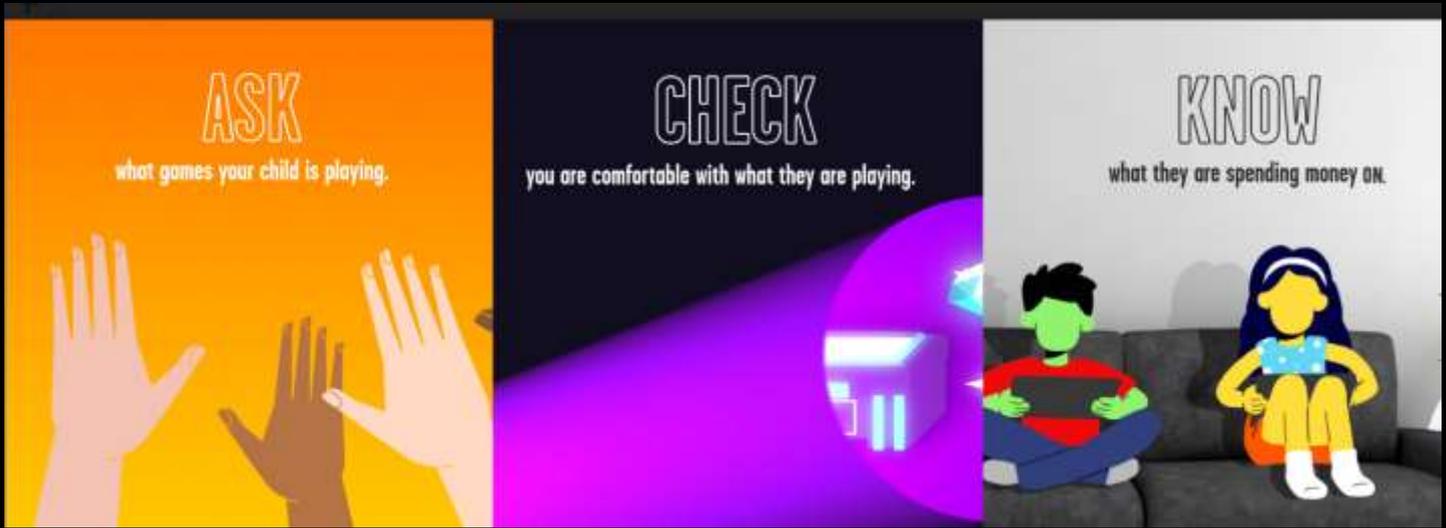
**Use plastic-studded footwear only
(no metal studs)**



Do not use blades, dimpled or flat soled shoes



Footwear should always be clean and in good condition



If you require further information to help your child stay safe whilst online, please log into PARENTZONE.ORG.UK. There are a range of very useful resources and information leaflets to help parents monitor and safeguard children using a wide range of digital based applications.

FREE ENTRY

UNIVERSITY
APPRENTICESHIP

AN ESSENTIAL EVENT FOR 15-19 YEAR OLDS
Meet the UK's top employers and universities

What **CAREER** LIVE ? What **UNIVERSITY** LIVE ?

20 & 21 MARCH 2020 | EXHIBITION CENTRE, LIVERPOOL

Book free tickets at WhatLive.co.uk

Year 9 Immunisation Catch-ups will be held on Thursday 26 March 2020

If any Year 9 students recently missed having their School Leaver Booster vaccination (DTP and MenACWY) due to consent forms not being returned, then there will be one final catch-up held on **Thursday 26 March 2020**.

The contact number for the Immunisation Team with any questions is 0161-724-2132 or email pcn-tr.buryschoolimms@nhs.net

Explore 100s of opportunities from the following:



Have you
downloaded
the *new*
SIMS Parent
app?

Receive alerts
about your child's
attendance
and achievement,
direct to your phone.



Simply visit the App or Play Store and
download SIMS Parent to get started.

Or login online at www.sims-parent.co.uk

Ask your school for more information.



Google Play and the Google Play logo are trademarks of Google Inc.

CAPITA |



helping
schools
inspire



The next edition of the Elton Times will be emailed on
Tuesday 3 March 2020