



The Elton Times - Edition 148

1 November 2024

Forthcoming

Presentation Evening - Thursday 7th November

Year 11 Mock Interviews - Friday 8th November

Year 11 Mock Exams - From Monday 11th November

Year 7/8/9 Assessment Window - From Monday 11th November

Year 11 Leavers' Presentation Evening - Tuesday 12th November

HPV Vaccinations - Wednesday 13th November

Whole-School Flu Vaccinations - Thursday 14 November

Headteacher's Welcome

With this being the first newsletter since the half term holiday, I hope that all our students and families managed to have a restful break, while we have been pleased with the positive manner in which they have returned for the new term.

The coming weeks see a number of events taking place which involve all year groups (see list above), while it is also the time of year when we join the wider remembrance events in memory of lives lost in war and conflict. This year, Remembrance Sunday falls on 10th November, while the following day we will hold our usual silent reflection in school at 11am. In the Elton Times last November, I told the story of my own Great Grandfather who fought in WW1, was taken prisoner, yet survived to tell the tale of his horrific experiences. It is a good example of an 'ordinary' person affected by the war, and more recently I came across another incredible story from another, 'forgotten' hero of recent war. The person in this instance is a young woman called Noor Inayat Khan, who grew up in France in the 1930s, daughter to an American father and an Indian mother.

When World War Two broke out in 1939, Noor was 25 years old. She moved to England with one of her brothers, keen to do something to help with the war effort. She joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force and worked as a radio operator - she was swiftly promoted due to her ability to speak fluent French and listen in on broadcasts that were being made by the invading German Army in France. Within a few months she had been recruited as a spy to the British Special Operations Unit and was sent on a secret mission to France with the instruction of collecting as much information as possible about German military plans and defences. She was given a fake identity and used the codename 'Madeleine' when contacting the British spy services. The German security forces knew of her work and were desperate to find her, but Noor kept moving all over France, constantly changing her appearance and identity so that she could not be traced.

Noor was only caught - in October 1943 - when a French woman betrayed her to the Nazis, leading to her immediate arrest. She was placed in a prison cell and kept in solitary confinement for nearly a year. Despite consent beatings and torture, she refused to give any information about her work as a spy, leading to a transfer to a Nazi concentration camp, where she was executed in September 1944, shortly after the D-Day landings and just before France was freed from German rule. Her final word was 'Liberte' and she was later awarded the British George Cross and French Croix de Guerre in recognition of her bravery and sacrifice. Stories such as this are central to the annual remembrance events, focussing our minds on the selfless actions of ordinary people who did extraordinary things.

This newsletter is another full, comprehensive update of everything that has been taking place across school and hopefully gives a clear overview about the past few weeks at Elton. We have a busy but exciting half term ahead, with the main forthcoming events listed below. As always, if you have any questions about any aspect of our school then please don't hesitate to get in touch directly through the email below, so that it can be addressed as necessary. Thank you for your continued support.

Jonathan Wilton, Headteacher

Email: wiltonj@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk

WICKED Theatre Trip

We have 226 tickets for a matinee performance of WICKED on Thursday December 19th at the Palace Theatre in Manchester. With music and lyrics by multi-Oscar, Golden Globe and Grammy Award winner Stephen Schwartz (*Godspell, Pippin, The Prince of Egypt, The Hunchback of Notre Dame*) and a book by Tony Award-nominee Winnie Holzman, Wicked is currently the 11th longest running show in West End history, having been seen at the Apollo Victoria Theatre London by over eleven million people.

Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis and letters will be sent out today to all students.

Mrs Johnson, Deputy Headteacher

Email: johnsonc@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk

Blackpool Pleasure Beach

Thank you to all Year 8 and 9 Students who conducted themselves in the Elton Way whilst visiting Blackpool Pleasure Beach. A fantastic time was had by all - next reward trips will take place before Christmas.

Mrs Johnson, Deputy Headteacher

Email: johnsonc@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk





Black History Month

Throughout the month of October we have been focussing on Black History Month allowing students and staff time to share, celebrate and understand the impact of black heritage and culture. The month started with posters of great black role models from various decades being placed outside every classroom in the school, a focus on black authors in the school library, assemblies about the brave Harlem Hellfighters and form time tasks about inspirational people throughout history and culminated in a student led assembly about Little Rock 9 and the impact of racism on today's society.









...pictures to follow



Year 11 Update

OUR mock exam information evening this week was very well attended. As well as sharing the mock exam timetable and routines, key revision points were also communicated by the heads of Maths, English and Science.

Mrs Butterworth shared maths examples from www.mathsgenie.co.uk and www.corbettmaths.com which will support students to practice their skills. Mr Yorke-Robinson recommended students use the revision functions on www.educake.co.uk to target success in Sciences and Mrs Ashworth provided QR code links to a range of revision websites:

Literature Revision Resources	Language Revision Resources
<p>Mr Bruff Playlist – Collection of videos from quick revision, to in-depth analysis, to student exemplars.</p> 	<p>BPC English – walkthroughs of language papers and how to respond to each question.</p> 
<p>Seneca – Bank of quizzes/resources that students can use at their own disposal simply by logging in through school Gmail account.</p> 	<p>Eduqas Website – Past Papers with Mark Schemes to aid in practising exam responses.</p> 
<p>PMT Power and Conflict – A collection of notes pages, which include summaries, context and annotated copies of each of the poems (under the notes section).</p> 	<p>Eduqas Knowledge Organiser – a single page document that assists students in their technical accuracy, with some additional helpful links.</p> 
<p>Unseen Poetry Guide – A video which goes through how to approach an unseen poem.</p> 	<p>Vocabulary Extender – a document including some high-level vocabulary for non-fiction writing.</p> 

The mock exam timetable is below, and we hope that families can support by helping students to create timetables for revision, to have a quiet place to revise and to ensure they are on time for all exams. Any queries about mock exams should be directed to wardens@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk.

MOCK 1:

	Monday 11/11	Tuesday 12/11	Wednesday 13/11	Thursday 14/11	Friday 15/11
8.45am	English Lang 2h	Geography 1h30	History 1h20	French L&R 1h45	English Lit 1h25
11.20am	Chemistry 1h15/45	Food 1h45	Maths 1h30	Biology 1h15/45	Music 1h30
1.50pm		French Writing 1h10			
	Monday 18/11	Tuesday 19/11	Wednesday 20/11	Thursday 21/11	Friday 22/11
8.45am	Urdu Listening and Reading	GCSE PE 1h15	RE 1h30	Sports Stud 1h	Maths 1h30
11.20am	Physics 1h15/45	Design Tech 1h45	Maths 1h30	Bus Stud 1h45	CompSci 1h30 (LRC)
1.50pm	ICT 1h15	Child Dev 1h15			

ARK Thursday Rewards Event

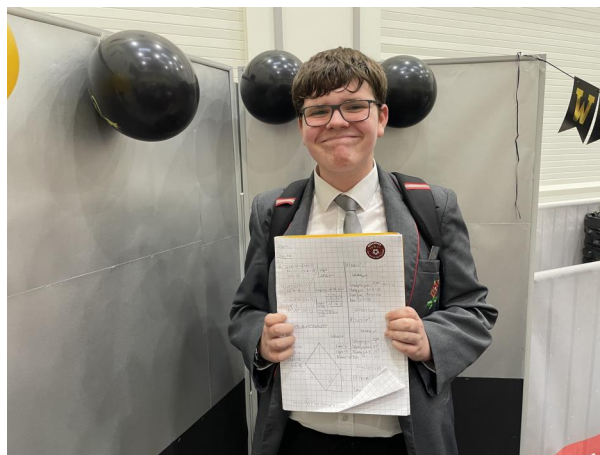
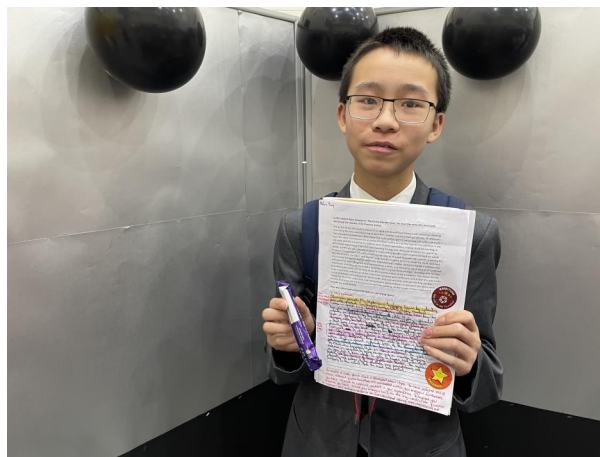
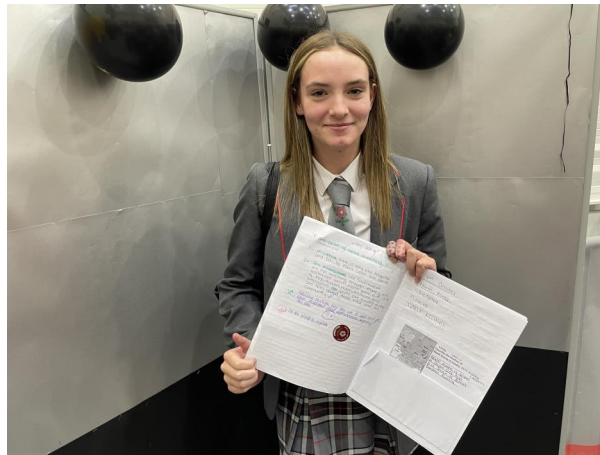
Our first ARK Thursday rewards event took place this week and was a huge success with more than 50 students receiving recognition and reward for their Ambition, Resilience or Kindness.

All staff gave out stickers and postcards to students who demonstrated excellence in one of the three areas, and students brought along examples of their work along to show off to school leaders, including our chair of governors Iain Mackay.

This reward event will take place every week, so we look forward to seeing even more examples of excellence every Thursday!

Ms Warden, Deputy Headteacher

Email: wardens@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk







Gardening Club Plant 1,500 Bulbs!

A huge thank you to all the students who gave a day of their half term holiday on Monday 21st October to help Mr Wooliscroft and Ms Edwards plant almost 1500 bulbs!

We're looking forward to a stunning display in Spring with more exciting planting to come.

Ms Edwards, School Counsellor

Email: edwardss@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk







Learning Resource Centre Information

As pupils enter the LRC, there is a display bookcase with books that celebrate any events that may be going on that week or month. During the past half-term, we have had a poetry display for National Poetry Day, a horror book display for Halloween and currently there is a Remembrance Day display with some of our war fiction and non-fiction texts.

All students receive regular LRC emails with updates and reminders about book events and the Year 7 pupils had their library inductions last half-term to familiarise them with all that there is on offer and introduce them to Accessit, which is our Library management system for all the books in the library, and eplatform, which has around 2000 ebooks for them to borrow online.

We purchase books regularly to update our collections and have just bought 36 new books which are about to hit the shelves.

Miss Lythe, LRC Manager & Literacy Manager

Email: lythea@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk



Bury Porch Boxes Appeal

Porch Boxes is a registered charity based in Bury, providing crisis packs of food and toiletries to local agencies to distribute to local people in urgent need. You can donate any non-perishable food items or toiletries which are well within their best before date. Smaller tins and packets are better. We can also accept items such as disposable nappies and baby food. NO FRESH ITEMS. We would kindly request students to bring in donations, if possible, and give to their form tutors.

In addition, if you would like to contribute financially please head to our 'Gofund' page [here](#).

Mrs Wilson, English Department

Email: wilsona@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk

Open Events Feedback

As you will know, right at the start of last month, we had our Open Days and Open Evening with hundreds of families looking around the school during the day and also accessing different departments in the evening. The prospective parents were invited to give feedback and we received lots of lovely comments. A selection of the feedback is shown below and it is a credit to the efforts of our students and staff who showed Elton High at its very best!

"Very welcoming, great impressions and well mannered pupils throughout the school."

"Love the school – son says it's a 10/10!"

"Such a nice school and excellent staff."

"Myself and my daughter were very impressed with quality of the work we viewed and the overall appearance of the school. The teachers and tour guides were extremely friendly, approachable and knowledgeable. I would be very happy for my daughter to come to this school as I feel she would be cared for, looked after and listened to."

"Our guides gave excellent information about classes, teachers and what the school offers. Very impressed and much looking forward to coming again."

"This was a great opportunity to see the school in action during school day and now we want to come here!"

"We are impressed by the facilities and curriculum offer. We are praying that our daughter is offered a place."

"Our guides were very welcoming and helpful, answered all questions and showed us everything! They seemed to love being at the school."

"Very friendly and informative tour guides. Impressive atmosphere around the school."

"Highly impressed with the facilities, appearance of the school - students were very welcoming and well mannered. Looking forward to my son hopefully joining the school."

"Tour guides were excellent. Really knowledgeable, confident and well spoken. School is well organised, clean and welcoming."

"Tour guides have been absolutely fantastic - what a credit to the school."

“Our tour guides were excellent hosts and obviously love being at Elton.”

“Excellent tour and the school seems so welcoming and impressive.”

“Everyone was calm and collected, with the children well behaved. Our tour guides were so informative and were excellent hosts.”

New Catering Facial Recognition System - Opt-In Required

We're excited to announce that Facial Recognition will soon arrive at Elton to offer a fast and straightforward payment experience for school meals - our go-live date is expected to be Wednesday 13 November 2024.

In response to both parent and student voice about our lunch service and students experiencing long queues at some points during the week, we have decided to invest into state of the art facial recognition software to speed up service and make the dining experience run more smoothly.

The speed of service is significantly slowed by the current system of lunch cards. Students frequently don't have their cards ready at service point, or forget their lunch cards, catering staff have to look their names up, parents having to pay to replace lost cards etc., which all takes time - facial recognition takes seconds.

Linked to the new facial recognition system, we will also be investing into a new on-line payments system which will enable parents to view student balances and also view what their child is purchasing daily, this is a facility we have received frequent requests from parents for. Information on the new on-line payments will follow in the next edition of the Elton Times.

In the meantime, we ask that parents complete the Opt-In form as soon as possible, so your child can access the new facility via our [Opt-In Link](#).

Mrs Filkins, School Business Manager

Email: filkinsj@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk

Enrichment Opportunities

2025/26 SCHOOL TRIPS

AUSTRIA

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2026 (dates tbc)
ALL YEAR GROUPS

Hit the slopes of the Austrian mountains for skiing lessons to learn or improve skills

BERLIN

26 FEBRUARY - 1 March 2025
YEAR 11 GCSE HISTORY STUDENTS

A cultural and educational trip to the German capital for GCSE History students

PARIS

14-17 MARCH 2025 - CURRENT YEAR 10
13-16 MARCH 2026 - CURRENT YEAR 9

Visit the French capital, take a Bateaux Mouches down the river Seine, ascend the Eiffel Tower and enjoy the Disneyland parks

ICELAND

EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025
YEAR 11 GCSE GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS

A trip to the Nordic island nation for GCSE Geography students to explore the dramatic landscape of volcanoes, hot springs and glaciers

LONDON

MAY / JUNE 2025 (dates tbc)
ALL YEAR GROUPS

An opportunity for students to explore our capital city and see iconic landmarks

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

JUNE / JULY 2026 (dates tbc)
YEAR 9 & 10 STUDENTS

Learn new skills with volunteering and expedition opportunities, whilst gaining a widely recognised and valued qualification

BARCELONA

9-12 OCTOBER 2025
CURRENT YEAR 8 STUDENTS

Explore the Spanish city with a visit to PortAventura theme park, Sagrada Família and Park Güell

USA / CANADA

NYC 12-17 FEBRUARY 2025
USA (tbc) OCTOBER 2026

CURRENT YEARS 7,8 & 9
An amazing enrichment and cross-curricular opportunity. The trip destination will alternate annually



Online Safety

Teen Boys and Body Image Challenges

In light of the new content recommendation changes by YouTube which is going to [restrict content to teen boys](#) in particular it's good to see platforms finally start to acknowledge that their algorithms can have a negative effect. A lot of research has been undertaken in relation to algorithmically driven content force-fed to girls but not so much boys who can be just as susceptible, particularly when a simple 'like' on one post can create a feedback loop of similar and more extreme content.

Darren Laur, aka The White Hatter has written a really good article about this, specifically in relation to body dissatisfaction, causing boys to feel they fall short of societal expectations. A good read for both parents and educators which you can find [HERE](#).

Parental Supervision - How Far is Too Far?

Many parents will opt to use apps to track and monitor the location and online activities of their children. These apps can be really beneficial (e.g. physical safety) but as with anything there are drawbacks (e.g. invasion of privacy).

Using the voices of young people Voicebox have put together an excellent article which parents can use to give a more informed opinion of these apps and to use as discussion points with their children.

You can find the article [HERE](#).

Cyber Security

From financial scams, identity theft, using public WiFi and much more, cyber security is fundamental to all of our lives. Internet Matters have put together a number of articles and resources for parents and their children which go into these topics including:

- Creating secure accounts.
- Phishing and ransomware.
- Digital piracy,
- and much more.

You can find all the resources [HERE](#).

Mr Thompson, Assistant Headteacher

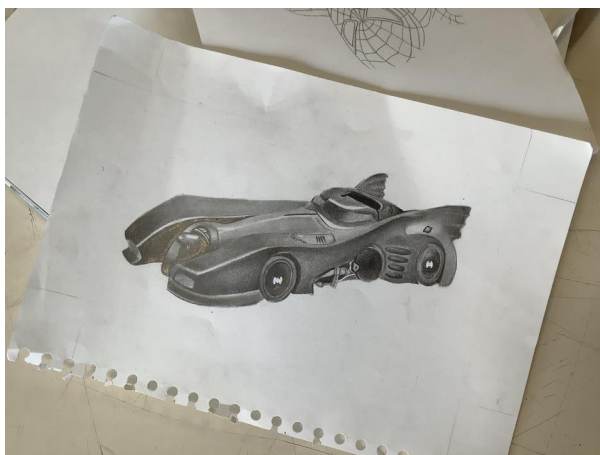
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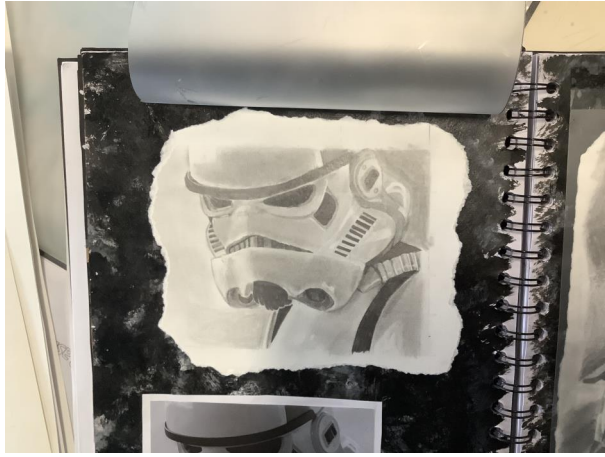
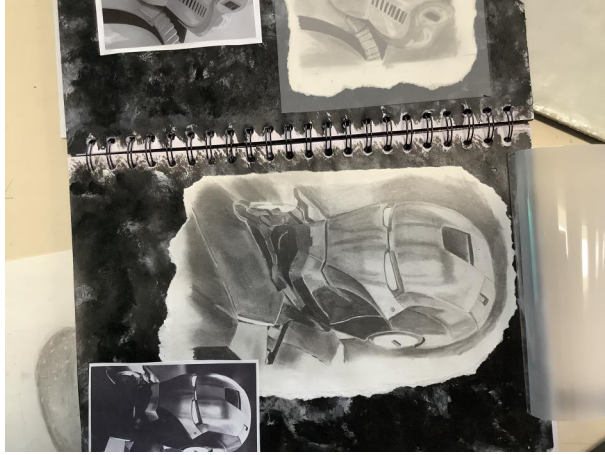
Art Department

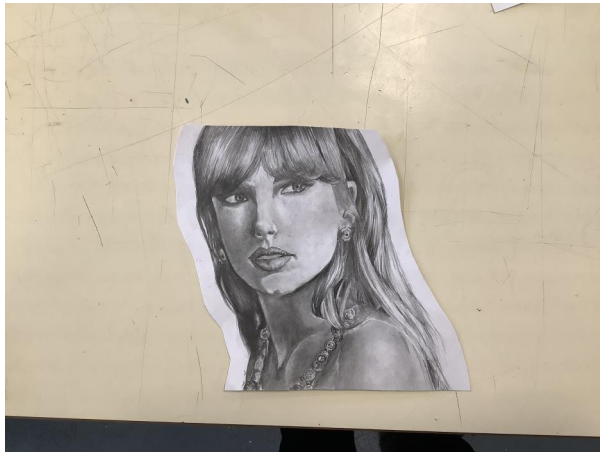
Year 10 have had a really strong start to their GCSE course. They have started their project of 'pop culture' looking at different observational drawing techniques. Here are some excellent examples. Well done to Scarlett Raymond, Cecily Anderson, George Howcroft, Aimee Duce, Izzy Woodhams, Higgs Yui and Lily Wood.

Mr Goodwin, Art Department

Email: goodwind@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk





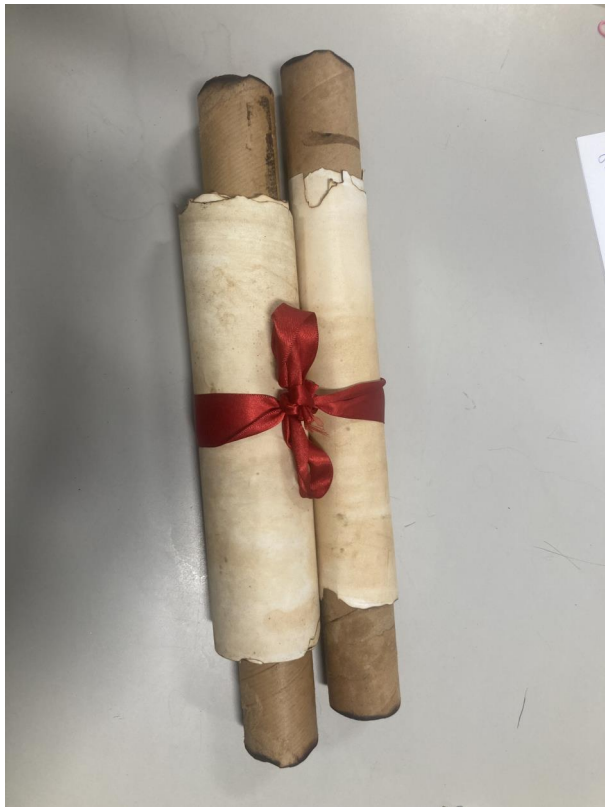
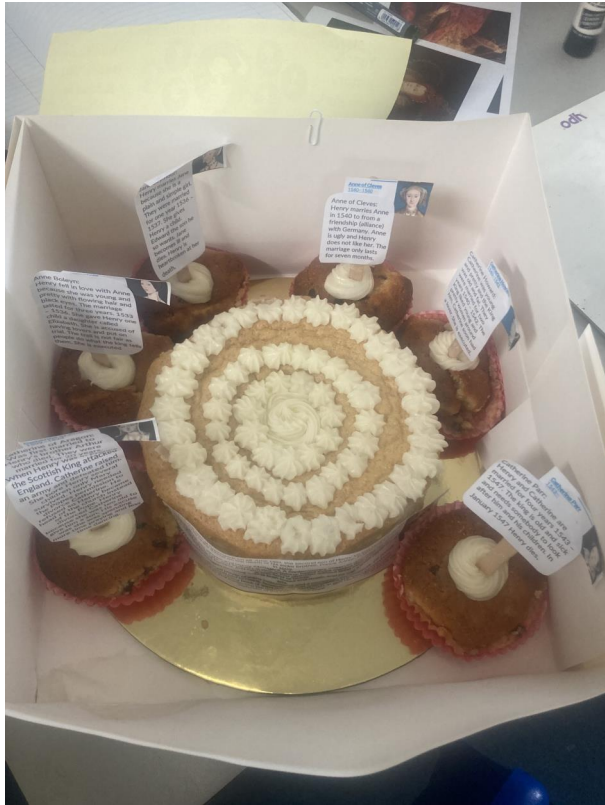


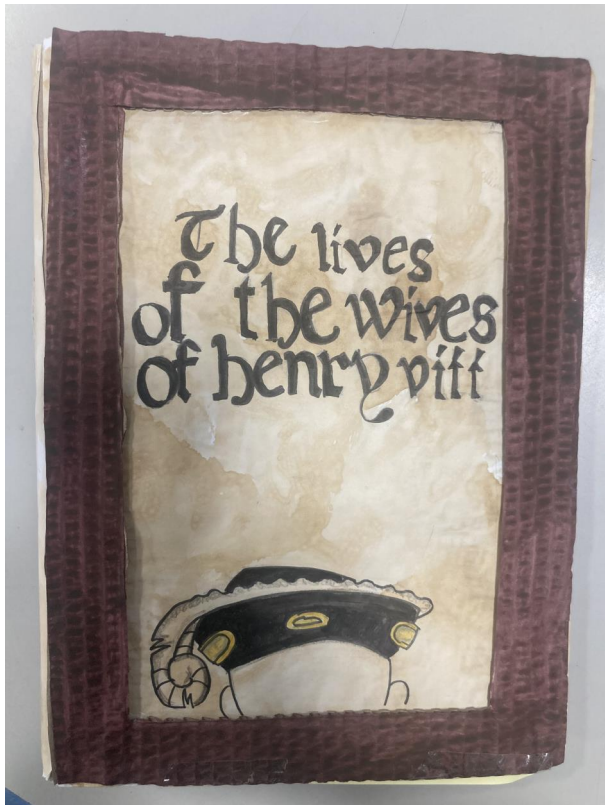
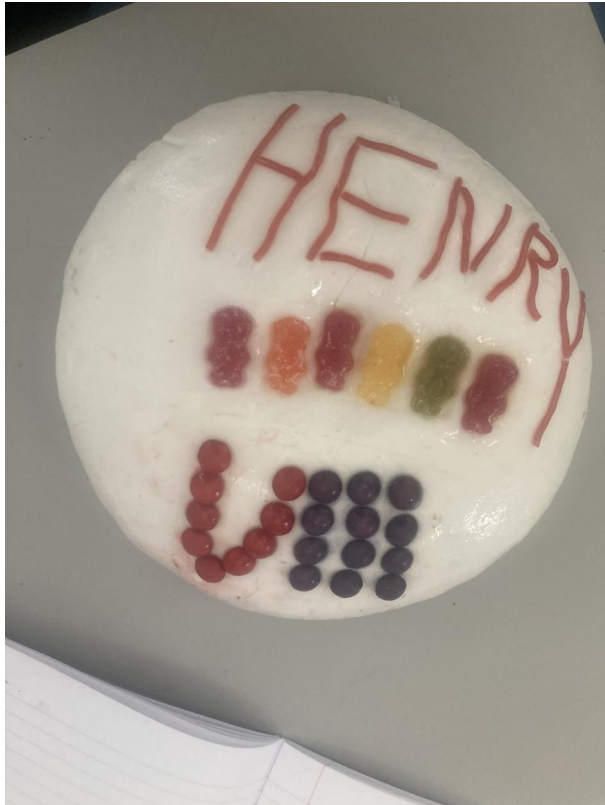
History Department

Once again our year 8 students have been studying the marital; trials and tribulations of Henry VIII.. Was he just unlucky in love or a serial philanderer who enjoyed wedding festivities, stag parties and best man's speeches. the creativity and imagination of our year 6 students never ceases to amaze the History department. We have had cakes, board games, top trumps and treasure chests. here are some examples...

Mr Cooke, History Department

Email: Cookem@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk





Maths Department

Maths Challenge KS4

Al, Bertie, Chris and Di have sums of money totalling £150. Al and Bertie have £55 between them and Al and Chris have £65 between them. What is the difference between the amounts that Al and Di have?

Maths Challenge KS3

Cheryl finds a bag containing 50 coins. The value of the coins is £1.81. If the bag only contains two-pence and five-pence coins, how many more five pence coins are there than two-pence coins?

Deadline Friday 8th November - email armishawm@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk with your solutions.

Prizes available!

PE Department

Year 7 Girls Basketball

Year 7 girls basketball club takes places Thursdays after school 3.10-4.10pm. All you need to do is have full PE kit and trainers! We are working towards a basketball competition taking place in November, and we have been given a brand new kit to wear by the organisers (a lovely bright orange colour!). We need lots more girls coming along to practice, so we have a great team. You don't have to have ever played just come and have a go.

Year 7 Netball

Our year 7 team played netball after school at Philips; their first experience of playing netball. They played against The Heys, who they beat 1-0, they played against Tottington, who they lost to 1-3 and finally they played against Bury Church who they lost 1-3. Considering it was their first matches they played really well and all had a lovely time!

Well done to all players and thank you to those parents who were able to come and support. Tilly, Charlotte and Olivia were players' players voted by our opponents.

If you're interested in playing netball, practices are Mondays after school 3.10-4.10pm - you just need your PE kit, everybody is welcome.



Our year 10/11 girls football team recently played in a Bury Schools' tournament on our 3G pitch and had a very successful evening. They played against Woodhey whom they beat 2-0, drew against St

Gabriel's 0-0, beat Unsworth 1-0 and St Monica's 1-0, finishing the tournament as Champions! A brilliant night of football and it was fantastic to see them play!

Girls football practice is now being held on a Monday night after school for years 9, 10 & 11, and on a Thursday after school for years 7 & 8 - 3.10-4.10pm just turn up in full kit, including boots and shin pads.

Thank you for all the parents, students and staff who came along to show their support.



Our year 9 dance exams have recently taken and all students have worked really hard throughout their dance classes to produce a dance worthy of the West End! Well done to all students for their continued enthusiasm. After half term girls will be doing badminton and football, and boys will be doing dance and football.



One of our year 7 dance classes has also recently completed their dance exam and were amazing! Everyone tried their best to learn steps, choreograph in pairs and groups and work with pom-poms. They had the opportunity to design their group costumes. Well done to all students!

After half term girls will be studying badminton and football.





Year 9 Boys Rugby - After School Club

Year 9 boys played Derby High school on Tuesday 29/10/2024 securing a whopping win of 50 - 25. All players gave 110% with a valiant defensive effort led by captain George Smith, vice captain Alfie Cunliffe, Zach Mehers and Henry Frith. Zayne Sultan-Smethurst played an absolute blinder, intercepting a long pass from the Derby attack and scoring a try from the halfway line.

Overall every member of the team played above and beyond all expectations and scoring 10 tries in a game is no easy task for any team at any level of Rugby.

Mr Vickers, Behaviour Mentor

Email: vickersq@eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk



The Rake Hill Climb

Dylan Cadwallander (form 80) recently took part in The Rake Hill Climb event for his club and has managed to get his picture in the Cycling Weekly magazine. The Rake is a 1km climb and has a gradient of 23% at its steepest section, so it's a really tough climb.

Congratulations to Dylan on this fantastic achievement!



Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at www.eltonhigh.bury.sch.uk

Families can also find out more about the life of the school by following our new Instagram account:
[the_elton_high_school](https://www.instagram.com/the_elton_high_school)

***The next edition of the Elton Times will be sent on Friday 15th
November 2024***