

MARY ELLIOT SUMMER NEWS LETTER JULY 2017

School Prom 2017

Last week we had the annual School Prom and Graduation Ceremony, twenty students who have been with us for the last 8 years started on their new adventures.

All the leavers and staff got into the spirit of the event by wearing party clothes and more formal wear. Students had their photographs taken standing by or sitting in vintage cars and motorbikes.

The event culminated with a live band playing in the hall and many of the students and staff letting their hair down dancing along to the music.

Parent Support Groups

We have regular meetings for parents where other organisations come into school and provide 'free' advice and information.

The next three meetings will be taking place on the 28th September 2nd November and 7th December 2017. We are currently waiting confirmation from a number of Service Providers in order to add to the programme.

Please contact Sharon Fogarty our PSA, for more information.

Talent Show

This year's Talent Show took place on the 10th of July. There were lots of memorable acts which included dancing, singing and plenty of audience participation.

The next Talent Show will take place at Christmas so there will be lots of opportunities for students to perfect their acts!

R.E. Theme Week

The focus this term was Noah and groups of students joined us from Old Hall and Oakwood schools to build the Ark in the Sports Hall.



Jan and her team provided a multi-sensory activity which was enjoyed by students and staff alike.

Our next theme week will be in October and is all out Eid.

Friends of Mary Elliot

All parents are welcome to come and join in with our Friends of Mary Elliot group.

They are working to help raise funds to support all the students'.

They have a regular meeting in school on the first Monday of every month and you are welcome to join us.

Supporting students Independence

From September we are trying to encourage more student independence and we would like each student to bring in a pencil case with felt tip-pens, glue sticks and pencils, so that they are able to use them in lessons. A small 6" ruler and an eraser would also be useful.

Please can you ensure that the case has the name of the student on it!

Thank you

School fund

A £5 contribution per student each term is requested, payable during the first week of each term.

Please send contributions into school in an envelope stating 'school fund' with your child's name.

The fund helps to support special activities across the school.

Staff Changes

This year we have a number of staff who will be leaving us to move to new posts.

Paul Buckroyd is retiring he has worked in PMLD and SLD areas

Kay Galikowski is retiring and she has worked in PMLD

Abi Parsons is leaving to take up a new post in Wolverhampton

Mel Horspool is leaving to join James in the UAE

Sam Wilkins is leaving to pursue other options

Tracy Davenport is moving to a new post in Solihull

Kim Record is moving to a new post at Oakwood

Debbie Nunnick is moving to a post at Old Hall

New Appointments

John Chell, new Deputy Head Teacher commenced Easter 2017.

New appointments to cover maternity leave from September: Diane Chell, Hayley Howarth and Gary Plant.

Governance

After 8 years we are sad to say that June Moriarty, Chair of Governors is standing down. I would like to take this opportunity to thank June on behalf of all staff and students', for all the hard work and dedication she has given over the years.

If you would like to join our Governing Body from September, as a Parent Governor, please contact the school office for further details.

Sports Day

The fun Sports Event took place on Wednesday 12th July, where the students were in their House Groups for the whole day, gaining points for every event.

The wheelchair football and the running events were enjoyed by staff and students alike. This year's winning House was the '**Blue Team**' and the trophy will have the blue ribbon on it for the next 12 months.

Well done everyone!!



Important information

Please can you make sure that all items of school clothing have a name in it so we are able to return it to you.

If you send in a bag for respite please ensure that it has a label/name tag on it.

We will be sending out contact lists in September, please make sure that you check the contact details including **mobile phone** numbers and **landlines**, as it is essential that we have them in case of an emergency.

We also use the mobile numbers to contact you by text in case we have to close and to remind you about special events and activities.

School is open to receive students from 8.50 am
and students should be collected by 3.15 pm

New Classes

The new class groups have now been set up and there will be a full week of transition, where students work in the new class groups with the team of staff who will be supporting them from September.

This gives them the opportunity to get to know each other and to meet any new students who are joining the school.



Training days for 2017/18

Monday 4th September 2017

Tuesday 5th September 2017

Wednesday 6th September 2017

Monday 30th October 2017

Friday 16th February 2018

Monday 4th June 2018

School will be **closed** to students' on these Inset Training days

School Web site

The school website has been refreshed – and there is lots of important information available to parents and carers.

There are lots of photographs of the work undertaken by students and staff both in school and off-site, as well as important school policies and procedures.

There is also a link to the Ofsted '**parent views website**' where you are able to add comments about the school.

Dates for your Diary

7th September School open for students'

11th September 'Friends of Mary Elliot'

22th September Harvest Festival and Coffee Morning, commencing at 10.00 am

28th September Parent Group

2nd October 'Friends of Mary Elliot'

16th October Student School Photos

19th October Parents Evening, appointment between 4.00 pm -6.00 pm

Half term

23rd October – 31st October 2017

31st October - Tuesday school opens for students'

2nd November Parent Group

6th November 'Friends of Mary Elliot'

10th November Remembrance Service

4th December 'Friends of Mary Elliot'

7th December Parent Group

14th December Xmas Fair commencing at 10.00 a.m

18th December Christmas Concert

22nd December **break up for Christmas** at 3.00pm

2018

8th January 2018 - School opens for students' at normal time