

November 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy month already and we have lots to update you on and some exciting school events ahead.

Transition Coffee Morning

We need to think about transition to the next setting after Mary Elliot as early as possible. Many thanks to Debbie Ward who organised our first Transition Coffee Morning of the year. Debbie has the lead role for transition across the school. Please do contact Debbie on the school number if you have any concerns or queries regarding all aspects of transition for your young person. Many thanks to parents and providers who came to the coffee morning including Walsall College, Wolverhampton College, Futures, Queen Alexander College, Trinity Specialist College, Social Care, Catherine Care, Hayward Care, Select Lifestyles, Motivation Hub and Leabrook House. We will be holding further events across the year, please do come and join us.

Remembrance Service and R.E. Week



We held a very fitting and moving Remembrance service for the whole school in which our students all joined in and we experienced readings from students alongside music and images to commemorate our fallen in the great war. Thanks to John Mansfield, Jan Gray and the team for making it a very touching experience for our young people on many levels – especially well done to Myles, Faheem and Hamzah for their reading at the end of the service. We are continuing this theme in R.E week where the team have created an immersive World War One experience for all students which really does make it relevant for our young people. We also invited Oakwood and Old Hall schools to R.E week as part of our transition work across the year. Myles is doing excellent work as our Sergeant Major across the week's production.

Student Councillors



Student Council Elections were held on 15th October and we now have nine new members of the council to represent all students in school, help in school events and meet important visitors to share their views. School council will also be important in helping us to develop our school by leading the pupil survey later in the year. Our council members are: Tanzila, Robert, Ben, Hamzah, Faheem, Christian, Luke Muskan and Ben W. One of their first duties will be to meet our Walsall MP Eddie Hughes who is due to visit school on Friday 30th November.

Congratulations to:

Dostee, Jahid and Hadi who have now all achieved their RDA Grade 1 Riding certificates. Very well done!

Children in Need – Friday November 16th

We always look to support Children in Need Day – this year staff and students are encouraged to come to school dressed in pyjamas or onesies – please send in £1.00 donation to support this event.



Have Your Say – Walsall Council Budget Consultation.

Walsall Council Children’s Services are currently consulting on budget proposals which may have an impact on children and young people, and their families, accessing Home to School Transport support, Policy Proposal Reference Number 20.

It is important that everyone tells the Council their views about these proposals, whether you agree with them and what impact they could have. **Please remember to return your questionnaire or complete online before 21 December 2018 when consultation finishes.**

You can also go along to one of the following drop in sessions where Council Officers will be available for you to talk to, no need to book:

| Date | Time | Location |
|---|-------------|--|
| Tuesday 20 th November 2018 | 2:00–4:00 | Castle Business and Enterprise College, Odell Road, Leamore, Walsall WS3 2ED |
| Friday 23 rd November 2018 | 17:00–19:00 | MyPlace, Walstead Road West, Walsall WS5 4PE |
| Monday 26 th November 2018 | 1:00-3:00 | Jane Lane School, 203 Churchill Rd, Walsall WS2 0JH |
| Wednesday 28 th November 2018 | 10:00–12:00 | Mary Elliot School, Leamore Lane, Walsall WS2 7NR |
| Thursday 29 th November 2018 | 17:30–19:30 | Education Development Centre. Pelsall Lane, Walsall, WS4 1NG |

More information about these and the Council’s other budget proposals, and to have your say, please visit: www.walsall.gov.uk/budgethaveyoursay

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 28th November 10.00 – Transport Consultation at Mary Elliot

Friday 30th November – Eddie Hughes MP visit to Mary Elliot – meet with school council

Friends of Mary Elliot – Singing and Signing Show

Friends of Mary Elliot are working hard on our behalf to raise money on behalf of all our students. Friends have organised a sponsored singing and signing show involving all classes in school on **Tuesday 11th November 9.45 am** – look out for sponsorship forms and booking details coming shortly, it's going to be a great show!

10 Year Celebration Event

Mary Elliot School will celebrate 10 years on this current school site this year. To mark the occasion we invite all parents to join us to watch a celebration concert (special guests to be announced!) we are also supported by friends with a celebration bake-off, tea and cake – another great event to look forward to – we will confirm the date and time very shortly.

Safeguarding News – Sharon Fogarty Designated Senior Leader



Please always be aware of your young person's use of YouTube at home – we have had information from Walsall safeguarding team that there is a Youtuber called 'Chad Wild Clay' who posts videos that look child friendly and as if presents are being opened. These videos are about knives, knuckle gloves and blades – please do speak to Sharon if you have any concerns on this.

Please do remember to send in coats for cold weather.

Please may I say another thank you for keeping reception area clear at beginning and end of day, it really has helped to keep individual students safe at these difficult transition times, your support is much appreciated!

INSET Dates 2018 - 2019

Monday 29th April 2019 – TEAM TEACH

Monday 22nd July 2019 – Curriculum development

Very best wishes

Clive Padgett