



Ellesmere Park  
High School

*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*



# Half-Termly Newsletter



## A message from our Headteacher

This has been an incredible year for Ellesmere Park. Following the disturbances caused by the Covid pandemic, we were concerned that our children might struggle to get back into the swing of full time school: how wrong we were! They have been brilliant. Their constant energy, enthusiasm and kindness never fails to make me grateful for my being able to be a part of this vibrant and exciting community.

We set out to do three things this year, help our children get 'back on track', improve our teaching so that our children can be the best they can be, and increase the opportunities that they had to learn outside the classroom. As you look through this newsletter, I hope that you can see how hard the staff have worked to make these three things happen, and how well our children have risen to the challenge.

We are regularly answerable to a variety of external people, but our biggest critics are our children. They take part in more lessons than anyone else, and see every different facet of school life, whereas most of us only experience parts of it directly. Our student voice this year has been humbling. They have met with a variety of people to give their independent views, and they have consistently told us that they are happy and feel safe in school, that their learning has improved, their book work has improved, the behaviour in school is much better, and that they have many more opportunities to take part in groups and activities than ever before. I couldn't ask for better feedback from anyone.

So many events and activities have brought our community together over the past year. A whole host of trips to theatres, concerts, to look at art and architecture, to investigate urban environments through photography, and so many more. I won't list them all because it would take far too long and I would inevitably miss someone out!

Mrs. Smalley, our new Head of PE, ably assisted by her team, Mr. Davies and Mr. O'Neill, organised the best sports day that we have had. Every child took part in one way or another, and there were events taking place across several football pitches and the athletics track, over the whole day. The staff relay was worthy of It's a Knockout...

We also held our first ever Ellesmere Parklife Summer fair, organised by Mr. McNamee, Mr Moffat, Mrs. Hilton and Mr. Heaton. What a day that was! Over 400 people attended through the scorching day to watch stadium-worthy performances by over 70 of our really talented musicians. We had performances by bands, soloists, and even a Dad and Daughter duet. These performers were from every year group, and the courage displayed by our children, as well as their talent, was truly breath-taking. I'm sure I wasn't the only one who pretended their eyes were watering because of the breeze...

It isn't just the sporting and musical talents that we need to celebrate though. The academic achievements of our children continue to be something to be very proud of. The library has been full of eager readers all year, steward-ed, advised and nurtured by Mr. Campbell, our fantastic librarian, and our English team, headed by Miss Connor. We have twenty students taking the time to study Further Maths as an extra GCSE with Mr. Tunney and our



Ellesmere Park  
High School

*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*



# Half-Termly Newsletter

Monday 6th June ~ Friday 22nd July 2022



excellent Maths team, and our students have seen success in a variety of trust-wide competitions in a variety of activities, including Photography, Geography and Debating. Our year 11s showed absolute dedication to their exams this year, attending before and after school revision sessions, and even Science Saturday School, run by Miss Palin and the Science team.

Speaking of Year 11, we are so proud of them, and so sorry to see them go. They left in style though, with a final (tearful) assembly and they were clapped out of the school for the last time by all of our Year 7 children. Their Prom, held for the second time at Manchester United's ground (sorry Blues!), was a fantastic event, with our young adults demonstrating again what well mannered, kind and energetic young people they are. I know every single one of them will have a bright future ahead of them.

Hot on their heels though are our Year 10s, who enter their final year in September. We have recruited a very strong Student Leadership Team in the form of our prefects, and I know that the whole year will excel next summer when they show the same commitment and maturity as this year's leavers.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of our outstanding parents and carers. I am so relieved that we are able to have face to face parent's evenings again so that we can have a better dialogue with you about your children's progress. A shining example of your impact is that our Attendance this year as a school has been exemplary. We have consistently been almost 6% above the National Average for attendance, and have some of the highest attendance in Salford. Thank you for helping us help your children by getting them here every day and on time: please don't stop what you are doing!

You have consistently supported us and your children, and challenged us when you have felt that things weren't as good as they could be. I hope that you can see that we have listened and responded by making significant and lasting improvements over the year.

I hope that you and your families have a brilliant summer, and I thank you sincerely for helping us to make our Vibrant, Inclusive and Proud community ever stronger. Here's to an even better 2023!

Kind regards,

Mr Ross

## Football team

Huge well done to our Year 7 football team who came second in an extremely competitive football tournament with lots of other schools!



## GCSE revision

May we introduce Mrs Baqtai, the best asset any Maths department could have.

She is here at 7:30am each day, determined to teach and inspire.

We know we are lucky.

The students know this even more!



## Celebrating Jo!

Jo was very proud to win football champion this half term and also scooped the music award!

The future looks bright at Ellesmere.



## The London Trip

On Tuesday 7th June the Performing Arts department took 38 students from Y9 and Y10 to London to for an amazing opportunity.

Students travelled by Coach to the City and experienced a wide variety of performing arts activities.

On the first day, the students did some shopping in Covent garden, went on The London Eye, visited Buckingham Palace and enjoyed an evening meal in a London restaurant before watching Wicked at the Apollo theatre and staying overnight in a hotel.

On the second day, they took part in a Theatre workshop with the actors from Wicked and watched The Lion King at The Lyceum Theatre.

They then embarked on their coach journey home - singing, playing guitar and playing travel games.



## Celebrating Abigail and Jess

Abigail is a hard working student who is always smiling and is an excellent role model to her peers. She always gives her best in lessons and her hard work has been recognised in English this term.

Jess received a Head of Year award. Jess is a fantastic student who always upholds the values of the school. She gives 100% in lessons and demonstrates excellent behaviour for learning.

Well done guys! Keep up the excellent work!

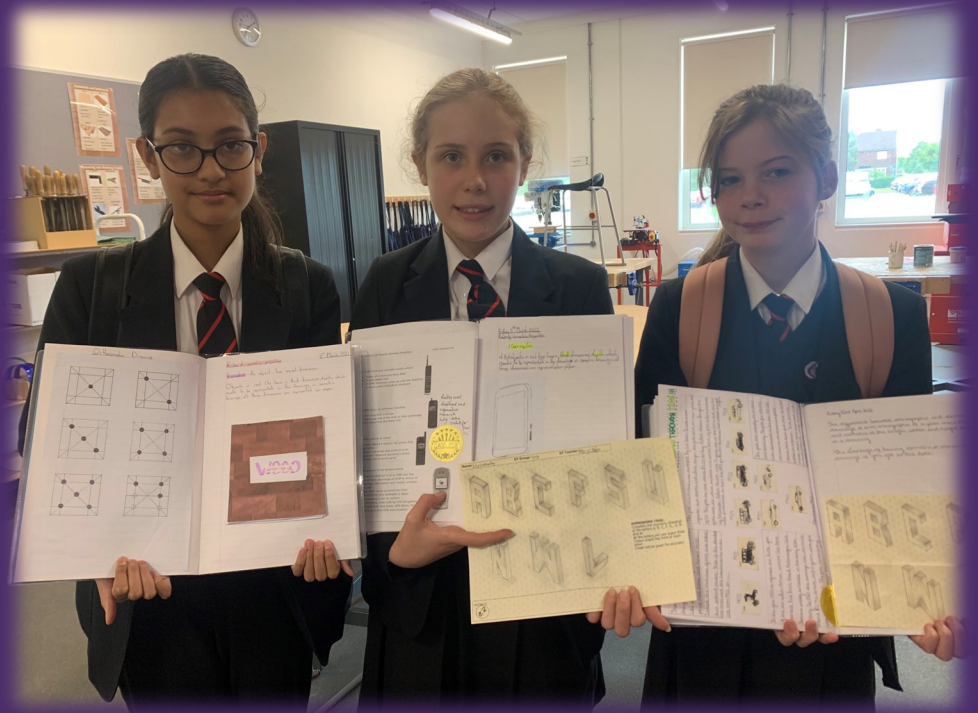


## Gold Standard Homework!

Being 'Proud' is just one of our Ellesmere values and Yr7 certainly embody this through and through.

Here are some of our amazing students, showing off their gold standard homework this week in technology.

Their books are something to be proud of too!



## Experimenting!

Determining what should happen in an experiment before drawing conclusions in pairs this Friday afternoon, Yr7 told Mrs St John "We just love Mrs Kelly Blisset's Maths lessons".



## Thank you, Consilium

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Consilium head office for the delicious and generous cake they had delivered to our school.

This was part of 'National Thank a Teacher day' to say 'Thank you' to all of our staff for their hard work and dedication!

It was very well received and went down a storm!

Pictured here are two of our members of staff from our Art department, enjoying their slice!



## News team

This is our wonderful news team busy editing with Mr Connolly and Mr Ritchie.

They have worked really hard this term to create newspapers.

Excellent team work.

## Transition evening

What an amazing evening we had on Wednesday 29th June.

We held a Transition evening for all of our new parents and carers in preparation for two fun days for our new Y7 students in September.

So proud of our current Yr7 students speaking from the heart. The best news about EPHS is from the students themselves!



## Salford book awards

Abigail, Arifa & Mae read their book review of 'Tamarind and the Star of Ishta' on stage to a packed audience at the Salford book awards. Their team lead EPHS news too. We can't wait for them to begin their literacy ambassador roles. Well done to you all!



## Goodbye Year 11

What an amazing send off for our fantastic Y11s this month. Our pupils and staff lined the path and we all cheered for the Y11s as they came out after watching their very emotional leavers video in the auditorium. There were lots of cuddles, tears and beautiful gifts and Thank you cards for the staff too!





## Year 11 Prom

Our Year 11 leavers enjoyed a fantastic evening at Manchester United's Football ground on Friday 1st July 2022. We all joined together to enjoy a hot buffet and an evening of dancing to a live DJ. It was a beautiful evening and it was lovely to see the students letting their hair down after 5 years of hard work and perseverance.



## Ellesmere Vs Moorside

Meet our enthusiastic Year 8 Rounders team who travelled to Moorside High School this term for their first ever fixture. Well done girls, you were amazing!



## Design & Technology

Mr Bird's Year 7 design & technology class and their product holders. Great work everyone!



## Culture Day



Yr7 script writing in English. Developing their own working class, Salfordian, archetypal characters and discovering the heritage of soaps. Mr Connolly has sent the work to Coronation Street producers for feedback.



Our students said Culture day was 'THE BEST'. This was our Bollywood dancing workshop, led by head girl Saidah. A huge thanks to Ms Kaur. Her passion ensures all community voices and issues are heard throughout the year. Saidah too, what a natural teacher!



Culture day really did put the VIBRANT firmly into the week. Every child participated in so many activities to explore culture and where we are from.

A Samba music lesson running into lunch here!

Students dressed in their traditional clothing with absolute pride.

Pranav here sharing stories with our alumni guest speaker Nathaniel Tetter, who shared how his British-Ghanaian culture has shaped his successful career.



## A message from Mr Cassidy about Culture day

Thursday 7th July was Culture Day at EPHS. This wonderful celebration of cultural heritage and diversity was the idea of some of our students. It began just a couple of weeks earlier when Asvini and Dylan from Year 9 showed amazing public-speaking skills to present the idea to all staff in the auditorium. Their first idea was for students to be allowed, for one day, to come to school wearing clothes that represented their own cultural heritage. They also wanted staff to prepare lessons for Culture Day which focused on celebrating the amazing cultural diversity we have here at EPHS.

Culture Day began with a 'guess the teacher' quiz in form time, celebrating the cultural diversity among our staff. During Period 1, all of Year 7, 8 and 9 listened to our fantastic guest-speaker, Nathaniel Tetteh. Nathaniel is a local councillor, British-Ghanaian, and a former student at this school. He delivered a really inspirational talk on how his own cultural background has driven him on to be successful, and how the students of EPHS should embrace all the opportunities that cultural diversity brings.

Over the course of the day, students were involved in a huge variety of activities celebrating different cultures, learning sign language, learning to count in Mandarin Chinese in MFL lessons, participating in the Great Big Culture Quiz in Geography, cricket taster lessons in PE, studying Native American and Aztec Art (in Art), learning about the 'hidden figures' of Computer Science who have not received the credit they deserved due to their cultural background, learning about script-writing and stereotypes of northern working-class culture in English, learning to count in Irish, and sampling different types of bread from around the world and assessing what makes each one different, to name a few!

Among the highlights of the day were the amazing performance by Mr McNamee's classes performing Samba music, a mixed group of Y7-9 students producing food from all corners of Asia with Mrs McNally in Food Tech, and the amazing five hours of Bollywood dance classes led by Mrs Kaur and two of our Year 11 students!

*"It was really good that everyone got to show what their culture is all about. People got to show their cultural background and be proud of it and talk about it. We should do it next year too so that the new Year 7s get to experience it and show their cultural heritage"* – Nishaan, Year 8.

*"The samba drums and the Bollywood dancing were the best. It's good to celebrate and respect all different cultures from around the world. It was a memorable day"* – Louie, Year 8.

*"We should do it again next year definitely"* – Asvini, Year 9.

*"We made onion bhajis, spring rolls and flatbreads because they come from various different cultures. I love cooking and it was a really interesting experience"* – Meryan, Year 7.

*"There was lots of different things to learn and types of activities about different cultures. My favourite was learning about Yorkshire culture with Mr Tunney and learning about our own local culture in English"* – Millie, Year 7.



# Ellesmere PARK LIFE SUMMER FAIR

On Saturday 16th July, we held our first ever 'Ellesmere Park Life' event. It was a fantastic day! The pupils and staff performed live on stage while other sat back and relaxed.

There was a bouncy castle, a giant dart board, Ice-creams, Burgers, Hot dogs and several stalls selling lots of festival style goodies. Miss McCarthy and some Y11 helpers did lots of face painting too, complete with glitter art!

We plan to make it bigger and better next year!



# Ellesmere PARK LIFE SUMMER FAIR



# Inspire your future

We held a Careers Fair on 11th May from 9-11am.

The aim was to inform and inspire our pupils about the wide range of employment and training opportunities in the Greater Manchester area. Pupils were inspired by the people they met and were advised on how to make more informed choices about their own futures with a greater understanding of the opportunities available to them.

Companies came along and presented information about their business or training provider. Ideas included skills, qualities and qualifications needed. Pathways to a certain career, typical tasks in that career; prospects/wages and lots of other aspects of working life.



# World of Work Event

We have been working closely with Career Connect to welcome a range of employers in to school to run workshops with pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9.

This 'World of Work' day was a fantastic day of discovery for Years 7, 8 and 9 as part of our CEIAG programme. Employers from a range of sectors joined us to help our pupils learn about what the future career market might look like and the skills they will need to help them be successful.





# Sports Day 2022

A few words from our newly appointed Head of P.E...

*"I'm so excited to have joined Ellesmere; I can't wait to start showing our students how wonderful the world of Physical Activity and Sport can be!", Ms Smalley.*

On Tuesday 5th July, Sports Day returned to Ellesmere with a bang. After several years of being unable to celebrate Sports Day, the event was enthusiastically welcomed back by both staff and students, all eager to compete and take part. With an entire day of activities planned, competition for places was high, and Form groups worked tirelessly to perfect their match day squads. Some students took on additional roles such as team managers and photographers, ensuring everyone had the opportunity to shine.

As the bell sounded, clouds and light drizzle threatened to dampen spirits during the opening events, but it wasn't long until the sun broke through to create glorious conditions for the rest of the day. Despite this being the first ever Sports Day for the majority of our students, they managed themselves exceptionally with the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. The day concluded with the staff events, and once again students were eager to cheer on their teachers across the line. As the day came to a close and we waved our students off to go home, it was clear the event was a tremendous success; a real celebra-

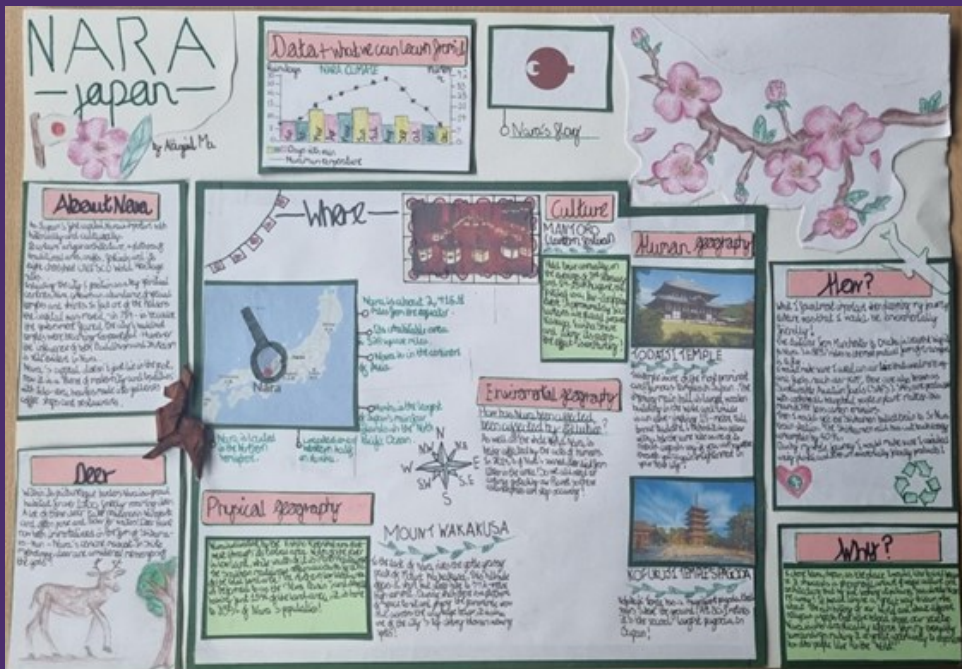


# Young Geographer of the Year competition

Consilium Academies ran their inaugural Young Geographer of the Year competition and the results are out!

There were some fantastic entries and the competition was tight.

Congratulations to all prize winners across the trust, you've given us all the travel bug!



## 1st place

An absolutely amazing entry to our Young Geographers competition.

The judges said "Just brilliant, the level of detail is fantastic! The use of photos and images really adds to the work, well done!"

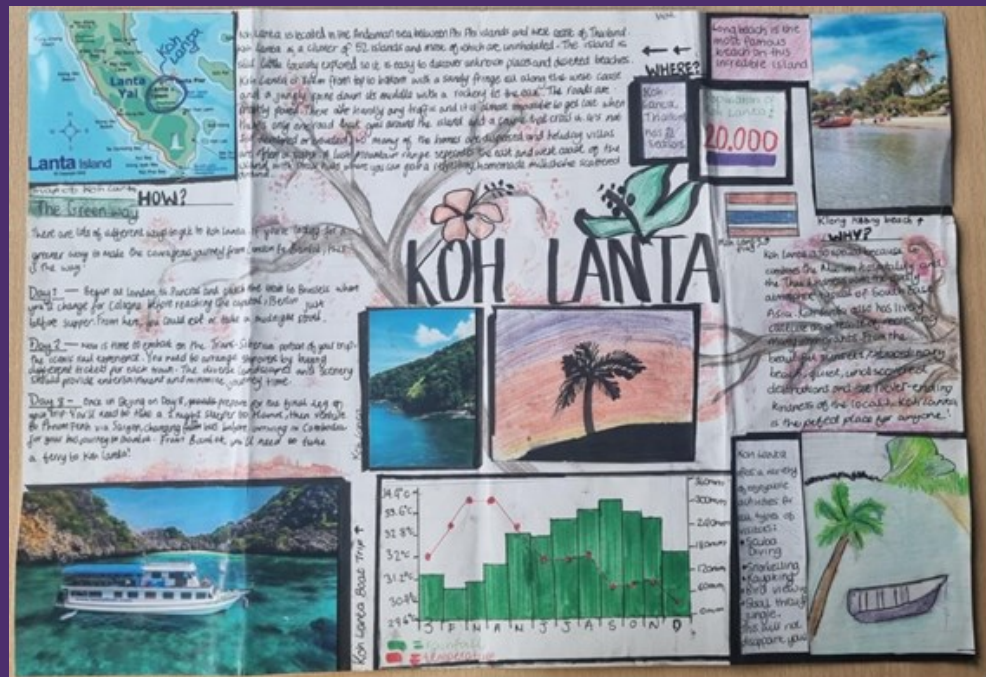
Abigail, Year 7 - we are so proud of you!

## 2nd place

2nd place - an outstanding entry to our Young Geographers competition.

The judges said "I now want to go to Koh Lanta! I like the overview of weather and when to visit. Love the graphs – like I would expect from a geographical survey!"

Mae - Year 7, We are so proud of you!



★ Consilium Academies Young Geographer of the Year Winners ★

## Rewards Assemblies

Our lovely Y7 students collecting their  
Consilium awards.

Well done and congratulations!



Mrs Grime photographed here  
with some of her Y8 students  
holding up their certificates!

This was following a very  
emotional assembly as it was  
Mrs Grime's last one.

Mrs Grime retires this term  
after working at the school  
since March 2007. We wish  
her all the very best for the  
future.



Ella photographed here, representing all of our Y9s who received their  
award this week.

We are so proud of you all!



Mr Joseph photographed here  
with some of his Y10 students  
after receiving their awards.

Very well done to you all.

# Work Experience

158 Year 10 students from Ellesmere Park went out on work experience this term. The fact that so many of the students managed to find placements was due to their efforts and the support of family, friends and businesses both local and further afield. There was a wide variety of opportunity given to the pupils by local schools, the health services, local tradesman, construction companies, accountants, estate agents and local banks. Local restaurants and hairdressers also offered great opportunities.

There were also some very interesting placements such as the Doggy Day care centre, Trafford crematorium and working in university departments.

## What the employers thought about Year 10

*"It has been a real pleasure to have Susan with us. She has worked really hard with all tasks given. A very mature, capable, friendly young lady."* Salford Community Leisure.

Susan said *"I got a much better understanding of what I want to do in the future and I do not think the work experience could have gone any better"*.

*"Anna was a brilliant addition to the team. I hope that she had a varied and interesting time with us. She got involved with everything, including a job interview for a practice nurse, helping a patient move, sitting on reception and meeting to discuss the changes to a mental health resource. She was friendly and very confident"*. Hope Citadel Healthcare

Anna said *"It was really good! I had my picture taken with an M.P"*

*"It has been a pleasure to have Safiah on work placement this week. Her main contribution has been her involvement in preparing our AGM report which is a lengthy document, I was particularly impressed by her typing skills and speed. She has excellent editing abilities making a wonderful job of placing text and photographs in the right positions. One of her main assets has been her ability to write well in English and to make positive suggestions in improving our AGM report. She has shown dedication and commitment in all aspects of her work and it has been an honour and a privilege to have her on her work placement"* Jinah Day Care Centre.

Safiah said *"I enjoyed going to work it was really interesting, I felt that I was part of a team"*.

*"Sonnie was a great addition to our Bury New Road heritage project, taking photos, interviewing people, which was published in the Salford Star, helping with marketing and planning our stalls"* Mary Burns Community Group.

Sonnie said *"I got a better understanding of the workplace. It can be improved by making work experience longer so students can get a further understanding of the world of work. I enjoyed doing my interview"*.

*"It has been a pleasure to have Tyler working alongside our team at Claremont. Each day he has shown great initiative whilst working with different trades and undertaking a variety of different works within the domestic area of our company. He has worked well with his co-workers and hasn't shied away from getting his hands dirty and carrying out some of those tasks himself whilst being supervised by a member of staff"* Clairmont Building and Joinery

Tyler said *"I gained new skills and an understanding of the workplace. It helped me to have a better understanding of what I want to do in the future"*.

*"Eve did a fabulous job and worked at a level far beyond expectation. Over the week, alongside other tasks she developed her own mini research project on parental influences on academic subject choice in children, which she viewed through a feminist lens"*

School of Psychology, University of Leeds

Eve said *"For me personally, work experience had no faults but I think that's due to me being in the position in which my family offered a lot of opportunities. I cannot believe what they said about me."*

There were so many positive reports. Well done to you all, we are extremely proud of you!

## Our trip to “Crown Court”



Our students got a taste of what it is like in Crown Court through an experiential mock trial at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Students learnt about what it takes to be a judge from two serving judges as well as how the courts operate.

It was inspirational to see the University buildings and meet the staff who work there.

The students ran the trial brilliantly with some fierce cross examination of witnesses by Abdall.



# Debate Mate Competition



Working together as part of Consilium Academies Trust, Ellesmere Park and Moorside High School students joined together to take part in a debate competition. It was a close call but Moorside beat Ellesmere with a 13-10 win! Well done to you all, you were brilliant!

## Peer Mentors

Congratulations to the 22 Year 9's who have been successful in becoming Peer Mentors to the new Year 7's joining EPHS in September.

Very well done!



## Greater Manchester Community Lettings

GM Community Lettings specialise in bringing communities together offering a varied range of activities run by local people. They hire out our facilities here at the school and have some fantastic classes on offer! From Boxercise, Football and Basketball to a very relaxing 'Sound Journey' with Alchemy Bowls. They are always open to suggestions for class themes.

You can contact them directly - You can find their details on the very eye catching banner they have attached to our school gate.



Thank you for reading our newsletter.

Have a fantastic break! Recharge those batteries and stay safe!

The next edition will be published on Friday 21st October 2022.



### Our Twitter feed

If you haven't already, head to Twitter.com and follow us at:

<https://twitter.com/EllesmerePark> or @EllesmerePark

We share news and celebrations almost every day and have lots going on!



Proud to be part of  
**Consilium**  
Academies