



News Update (21st July 2022)

Dear families,

I'd like to extend a welcome to new Year 7 families receiving this newsletter for the first time, echoed by Ms Mercier Peart on the first page. It was lovely to meet so many of you at our families' event on 11th July, and the boys on Transition Day. I hope that you increasingly feel members of the William Ellis community and a sense of excitement about the journey we have begun together. I also know that the end of primary school will be a significant moment for the students and for you, and that will bring questions and lots of anticipation for September. We look forward to welcoming students to Summer School at the end of August, and then the trips to The Mill and Boulogne in the first half term. More details are in the newsletter below.

I also know that many of you will be looking for activities and support to make the summer holidays smooth and successful. At the end of this newsletter there are links to summer holiday activities for students and sources of support for families. Please do look at these details and apply.

There are many items below about the activities that have been taking place in school over the last few weeks. We hope that all students have enjoyed them and built new knowledge, formed new relationships and developed the life skills and attributes that are such an important part of school.

Exam results

Sixth Form exam results will be released on 18th August and can be collected from the Sixth Form Centre from 9am. Year 11 students should come to the Sixth Form Centre from 9am on 25th August to collect their exam results. Enrolment meetings for LaSWAP will follow on from results collection. Year 11 families have already been sent their appointment times – please contact Ms Wilson on fwilson@williamellis.camden.sch.uk if you need to rearrange this.

Autumn Term - first day arrangements

The first day for students will be Monday 5th September.

Year 7 students should arrive between **8.20 and 8.30am**, ready for registration with their form tutors to begin at 8.35am. They will be dismissed at **1.45pm** on this day. Further detail for Year 7 families is being posted home and should arrive early next week.

Years 8-11 will be in school during the times stated below and will receive their new timetables on this day.

Time	Activity
11.30am -1.00pm	Year 8 and 9 Tutorial and Assembly
1.30-3.00 pm	Year 10 and 11 Tutorial and Assembly
9.00am-2.30pm	Year 12 Induction
12.15-2.30pm	Year 13 Induction



Sports Day rearrangements

We were very sad to have to cancel our sports day because of the excessively hot weather on Monday, and I know many students were also disappointed. We are working to fix a date for September with the Hampstead Heath track, and will let students and families know this date in September.

Uniform

On Monday 5th September students must wear the full school uniform as listed [here](#). **Uniform orders must be placed with [SWI Schoolwear](#) by 1st August to ensure delivery before September.** Year 9 students moving into Year 10 must order a black Key Stage 4 blazer if they have not done so already (most students had a fitting in school recently to help families choose the best size – we recommend allowing for some growing room between now and September).

We hope that our Parents' Association, WESPA, will be able to run a pre-owned uniform sale on Friday 2nd September. If this event goes ahead families will be informed over the summer break.

Home-school digital communications

The SIMS Parent App is being retired at the end of this week and will be replaced with a new product called My Child At School (MCAS). We anticipate that it will be ready to roll out to parents by the end of the first half term and will be contacting you around that time with details and login procedures. We will, as always, continue to update you regarding a student's progress and achievement by email and SMS. If you have recently changed your mobile number or email address please let us know by emailing info@williamellis.camden.sch.uk giving you're the student's name and Form/Year Group, your name and the new details.

Please note that our email and SMS provider will also be changing during the Summer break; as soon as the new system is live we will advise you and send a test email and text message so that we can both be confident communications are working. Please keep an eye on your junk /spam folder in case the messages are redirected to that folder initially. These new systems are being introduced in order to provide you with more information and functionality in communications between school and home.

Yours faithfully,

Izzy Jones,
Headteacher



Christine Mercier Peart, Head of Year 7 2022-23

Welcome to our new Year 7 who will start here in September, and to their families.

In the last two weeks we have had a great visit from the students when they attended Induction Day, and a lovely information evening for families. Thank you all for joining us!

There is a lot coming up in Autumn Term for our new Year 7 to look forward to, including our camp at The Mill in September and the day trip to Boulogne in October.

Before then, we hope to see you at Summer School, which runs from 22nd-26th August.

A quick reminder to order uniform online by 1st August to ensure delivery in good time, and to buy a Year 7 tie before the first day on 5th September as the office will be very busy at the start of term!

Have a lovely summer and we all look forward to seeing you in September.

Year 6 Induction Day

Year 6 students visited William Ellis earlier this month and took part in lessons in different subject areas to give them a taste of secondary school life. In Art they created their very own William Ellis Tote bag with their future leaving date - class of 2027! We were really impressed by how individual the students designs were. We are looking forward to welcoming the students in September but meanwhile we hope they enjoy their fully sustainable WES Tote!



Flora Wilson, Assistant Headteacher & KS5 Lead

Futures Day, on Monday 4th July, saw schools buzzing with professors and experts keen to inspire Year 12 students and support their decisions for the future. Speakers from over 20 organisations and universities came to LaSWAP and helped students to think about their choices and gain some insight into subjects/fields, studying at degree level, finding an apprenticeship, and the wider aspects of life after LaSWAP. Subject areas were wide-ranging, including Biological Sciences, Economics, International Business Management, Law, Film & TV, Medicine, Politics & International Relations, History, Classics & Archaeology, Healthcare, Engineering, Sociology, Student Life and more. Lots of London universities were represented, such as UCL, SOAS, Birkbeck, University of London, Imperial, Goldsmiths, Middlesex, and University of the Arts. Others came from Sussex, Oxford, Cambridge, Royal Holloway, Hertfordshire and Essex. One speaker travelled from Glasgow that morning - which I think is a record for this event!

Laura Madsen, Head of Art, Craft and Design

On Wednesday the 30th of June Year 11 Art and Graphics students were invited to bring their families to see their work in the William Ellis Art exhibition. Some of the clay pieces and pull-along toys made by Key Stage 3 students were also on display. Staff, students and parents agreed that the quality of work that all students had produced was fantastic and after three years without any exhibitions it was really exciting to be able to celebrate the students' achievements and creativity once more.



Vuyo Gawe, SENDCo:



I'd like to introduce myself to those whom I have yet to meet. I'm Vuyo Gawe, the new SENDCo at William Ellis School.

Although I am new to WES, I have been a SENDCo, Deputy SENDCo and worked in SEND in different roles across four local authorities for many of the 26 years I've been teaching.

Since joining WES in the summer term, I have had the pleasure of working with some of you and look forward to meeting more in the next year. If you have any burning questions regarding SEND, please [use this link](#) to access an online form.



Matthew Hansom, Music Teacher

Earlier this month pupils from various year groups came together for the wonderful event "Proms in the Playground" organised by The Camden Music Hub and held at Gospel Oak Primary School. Nearly all year groups were represented and they performed incredibly well in front of hundreds of their peers. We will be very excited to be invited back next year!



Nariece Sanderson, Librarian

A few weeks ago, our book club members were invited to Parliament Hill School for a special 'shadow' Carnegie award event. Here we heard a talk from author Piers Torday about the importance of reading and watched local schools perform to celebrate their favourite Carnegie nomination while enjoying some pizza and cake. Interestingly, the book that most *Shadowers* enjoyed was not the overall winner of the Carnegie Prize at all!



We would like to thank Parliament Hill for hosting this event in their wonderful library.

WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL



This week, to celebrate the Reading Roadmap, William Ellis students attended a celebration event at Arsenal's Emirates stadium. A selection of students that participated in the challenge, volunteer in the library and have shown excellent work in English lessons were nominated to attend.

Christina Neary, Learning Support

These last two terms saw the members of William Ellis Chess Club sign up to take part in a "swiss" style chess tournament. This tournament was divided into two sections; a KS3 section and a KS4 section with each player playing five rounds against other students in their section. We saw some very high quality chess being played with quick wins from devastating attacking play to students managing to eke out wins from closed rook-and-pawn endgames with precise technique.

Congratulations to all the boys who took part and particularly to Pierre in Year 9 for winning the KS3 section with a score of 5/5, and to James in Year 11 for winning the KS4 section with a score of 5/5.



Caroline Smith, Head of Year 12



Year 12 went to the UK University Search Fair at the Tottenham Hotspur stadium on the 24th of June.

This exciting and informative event provided students with the opportunity to speak to a wide variety of universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers – as well as attend vital seminars – in order to make informed choices about their future.

Josh Levitt, Head of PE

On Thursday night, three boys were representing William Ellis as they were recognised by the Camden School Sport Association (CSSA) for their contribution to the Camden Athletics Team in the London Youth Games. It was great to see our boys getting the recognition they deserve amongst the best athletes in the borough. The boys who were selected for the Camden Athletics Team this year were Rufus, Mohamed, Theo (all pictured), Gaspard and Phoenix. Well done boys!



Lorna Damms: Head of English

Keats House Summer Writing Workshop 2022 – a report from the English department.

After two years of just virtual summer workshops, Linda Carey at Keats House was able to offer students across Camden an opportunity to do a week's workshop in person at the lovely setting of Keats House in Hampstead.

We sent Jonas, Tahmid and Liam, three of our exceptional Year 10 writers. They worked with the Daljit Nagra and the novelist Louise Carey. Here they are shown in different attitudes, including looking each other up and down in front of the ancient mulberry tree at Keats House.



The William Ellis students were, in fact, the only boys across the borough to participate in the writing week, with all the other participants being girls from sixth form classes. They did, nonetheless, hold their own and Linda Carey reported that she was delighted to have them for the whole course and they were 'absolutely delightful' and 'very talented'. Some of their work is to be published by Keats House in an anthology.

The theme was dystopian worlds, though a July week at Keats House looks like a fairly utopian experience, and we are grateful for the opportunity to send our students there. It is a rare experience to be offered such valuable extra-curricular events completely free, and Jonas, Liam and Tahmid were excellent ambassadors for the WES English department.



Year 7 Camp

When I saw the sea at The Mill for the first time I felt surprised to see it was so beautiful, the ocean of the English channel, and that it was a warm place to be on the beach. As it was my first time looking at the ocean I felt amazing to see waves flowing over the sand over and over again.

One other thing I realised at the beach was that it was also my first time making a sandcastle and it felt was cool to just hold sand in my hand and then pouring it to make a hill of sand.

Another thing I loved about The Mill was when we went to Leith Hill tower and Arundel Castle because it was a bright place to be, the people were friendly to us, and there were so many fun things to do over the week we were at The Mill!

I really recommend going to The Mill especially if you are a new Year 7 student next year – you will be alright and make lots of friends!

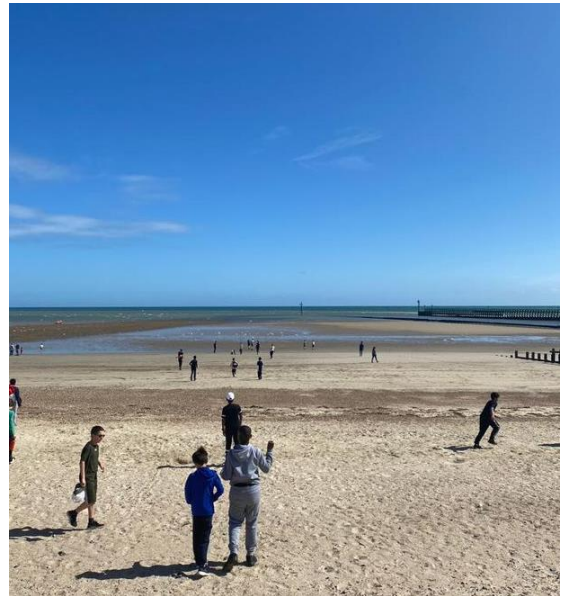
Noah 7L

When I was at camp I met a National Trust ranger called Jon. He came to collect me from The Mill and he drove me to the top of Leith Hill in his special Land Rover! I saw lots of people hiking up the hill and at the top I could see really far away including an airport where planes were taking off. It felt like they were underneath us because we were so high up!

I also enjoyed the water sports. I did Kayaking! The bonfire was also nice. We listened to a campfire story with my friends and we had toasted marshmallows! I found it very exciting when we set off our rockets the suspense was worth the wait!

Also I would say to next year's Year 7s if you are worried you will be homesick don't be because you will wish you could stay longer once you are there!

Kian 7B





Ann Conway, History Teacher

On Wednesday 13th July a small group of year 7 students went to the British Museum. We are currently studying a KS3 History unit comparing the Islamic Medieval world with the Christian European Medieval world. We visited the Islamic world galleries at the British museum to discover more about Islamic society with a particular focus on Trade, Art and literature, architecture and leisure. Students completed worksheets on these various aspects of Islamic culture and were surprised to find how many inventions and innovations came from the Islamic world to Europe during the Medieval Era including chess, astrolabes, medicine, knowledge of substances to dye cloth and glass and much more. Other highlights of the trip were Lindow man (picture taken by Vincent in 7B) and the treasure of Sutton Hoo (pictured with Vincent) which Year 7 students studied as part of our work on Anglo Saxon England in the Autumn term. The students behaved impeccably and were a credit to the school throughout the trip.



Summer Reading

A reminder that we have a FREE equivalent to *Audible* that students can use. This is ePlatform and it has tonnes of new eBooks (to read on smart devices) or eAudiobooks to listen to. This subscription was kindly donated by to us by Morwenna Banks and David Baddiel.

You can download the ePlatform App or access the catalogue via <https://williamellis.eplatform.co>

Student logins should be their Microsoft Teams username (not the whole email address), and the password is: library1

If the student's login doesn't work please ask them to try their name in the format Firstname.Lastname.

FREE E-BOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS

GET THROUGH YOUR READING LIST AS YOU EXERCISE/GAME/DO CHORES!

HARRY POTTER
GOBLET OF FIRE
J.K. ROWLING

ALEX RIDER
NEVER SAY DIE
ANTHONY HOROWITZ

DRACULA
BRAM STOKER

Skulduggery Pleasant
APOLYPTIC KIN
DEREK LANDY

DIARY of a Wimpy Kid
CABIN FEVER
JEFF KINNEY

BLAME MY BRAIN
TEENAGE BRAIN REVEALED
NICOLA ROBERTS

MULTI-TASK TO THE NEXT LEVEL

HEAD TO:
[HTTPS://WILLIAMELLIS.EPLATFORM.CO/](https://williamellis.eplatform.co/)

Login with your microsoft teams username.
Password: Library1

Summer Celebration and tributes to Sam White and Fiona Millar

On a beautiful summer's evening last week the school community came together to celebrate the enormous achievements of our whole school community in the face of adversity of the past 2 and a half years.

There was also a celebration of two very special people for their contributions William Ellis over a number of years – the school's Headteacher from 2011 to 2020, Sam White, and former Chair of Governors Fiona Millar.

Two talented ex-students, Zaak and Jonah, were commissioned to create portraits of Sam and Fiona, which were presented to them on the evening. We think you'll agree that the likenesses were incredible.



Evie Bown, Head of MFL

Year 8 French lessons have had a delicious focus recently. Students researched countries from the Francophone world, then used what they had learnt to create traditional menus for their own restaurants. The students were asked to cook one of their recipes at home which resulted in some delicious lesson snacks and lunches for their teachers! The menus were put into practice in role play scenarios, with a script that students came up with themselves. In the photo Ms Mercier-Peart's class are acting out their restaurant scene and enjoying their food afterwards. Bon appetit!



PC Roy Baird, Safer Schools Officer

As we approach the Summer break, please talk to your child about phone safety

Mobile phones are a great way to stay in contact with family and friends. Many children starting secondary school in September own one or have access to one.

As useful as they are, they can make children vulnerable to thieves who are particularly interested in new models and other valuable items such as cash, airpods and expensive coats. Reducing robbery is our top priority and our officers are working hard to catch those responsible, with activity to prevent it taking place daily.

There are however, a number of things you can do to help reduce your child's risk of becoming a victim and keep safe whilst using their phone. **If you can, talk to them about where and how they use their phone using the following advice:**

Safety when out and about:

- Keep your phone and valuables out of sight in a safe place when travelling to and from school. Be careful when you take your phone out in public places.
- Bus stops, train stations and surrounding areas are common target areas for thieves, who can approach on foot, moped or on a pedal bike or e-scooter.
- Earphones/headphones can distract you, stopping you from seeing or hearing someone approach you from behind.
- **Don't confront a thief – it's not worth risking your own safety for possessions that can be replaced.**
- Robbery or attempted robbery are serious crimes and should be reported. It's important you seek help straight away by dialing 999 rather than contacting police when you get home. Use a friend's phone or the



phone of a trusted adult. This gives us the best chance to catch the suspects, recover any stolen property and ensure your safety.

- If you have information about a robbery and do not want to report it to police, speak to Fearless 100 % anonymously at www.fearless.org. Fearless is the youth service of independent charity Crimestoppers.
- Whether you have a phone or not, memorise or keep a parent/carer's phone number in a separate place in your bag/zipped pocket in case of emergency.

Help protect your child's phone if it's stolen:

- Use your device's security features, apps or PIN locking mechanisms to protect your data and prevent the phone being used.
- Keep a record of the phone's IMEI number (not on your phone!). This is a 15-digit unique number which can be obtained by keying in *#06#. You need this information if the phone is lost or stolen.
- Consider installing a tracker app, available online.

For more information go to www.fearless.org/campaigns/robbery. For help and advice on staying safe online and how to keep cyber criminals at bay, the Met has some great videos and other resources at www.met.police.uk/littlemedia



KEEPING YOU AND YOUR PHONE SAFE

Getting a phone is really exciting. You can stay in touch with friends and find out more about the world.

As police officers, our job is to keep you safe and stop people who want to steal property like phones, cash, earphones and even expensive coats or trainers.

You can help us do that by being careful where you use your phone and taking care of cash and other valuable items.

5 TIPS TO KEEP SAFE

- Keep your phone and valuables out of sight and in a safe place. Take care when you take them out especially near bus stops and train stations.
- Stay alert and remember earphones/headphones can distract you from being aware of someone approaching from behind you. Thieves can approach on mopeds, e-scooters and pedal cycles.



Family wellbeing

Here are some resources, including links to register for webinars, that families may find useful in supporting children and young people with their wellbeing:

Charlie Waller Trust

- The Charlie Waller Trust are running a series of live webinars for parents, carers and educators, each webinar will be delivered twice across the month and be approximately 90 minutes in length.
- <https://charliewaller.org/what-we-offer/free-webinars>

Anna Freud

- Free webinars for parents and carers: supporting the wellbeing of young people before and after exam results day
[Register for free now](#)
- Free workshop for all students transitioning to university this Autumn
[Reserve your free place on one of the webinar dates](#)

The Brandon Centre will be running their next 'Love & Limits' support group for Camden and Islington Parents/Carers in the week of 12th September (dates tbc). Please find further information in our leaflet attached.

- The group will be held virtually (via Zoom)
- They are offering 6 sessions (once per week)
- They will be offering morning and evening groups
- During the sessions, they ask that parents have their cameras on and audio working on their devices as there will be lots of discussions
- Only parents/Carers to attend these group meetings

If you feel you could benefit from their virtual support group, please do complete and return the editable referral form attached.

Alternatively, please contact the Brandon Centre directly.

If you have any questions or having troubles completing the form, please feel free to get in touch.

Tel: 07939 833 069 or familyservice@brandoncentre.org.uk

Food vouchers for Camden families

If your child gets free school meals or you receive Council Tax Support or Housing Benefit, you'll get £45 supermarket vouchers for each child to help with costs over the summer holidays. Look out for a letter with instructions for downloading your voucher(s). If you don't have access to the internet or can't download the voucher, your local library or children's centre can help. If the letter doesn't arrive by 8 August or you need any other support, please call **020 7974 4444 (option 9)**.



Summer Activities for young people in Camden

Camden and Islington Councils are running free Summer courses for 13 to 19 year olds in the Camden and Islington areas. The links below will take you to the respective sites where courses available are listed along with details of how to apply:

www.cmdn.co.uk

Camden Summer University offers a wide range of FREE ACTIVITIES during all five weeks of the summer, including Documentary Film making, Vegan Cooking, Journalism, Archery, Vocal Performance and Manga Self Portrait.

www.summerversity.co.uk

Summerversity have an exciting programme lined up with delivery partners including Access to Sports, YES Outdoors, National Youth Theatre, Better, Jigsaw GC, London Screen Academy, Indigo Arts, Freightliners Farm and Enterprise Starter to name just a few.

Camden Integrated Youth Services are also running a 'Fresh Youth's Summer Programme' (see flyer attached to the email). This will be a 4 week Summer Programme from 25th July – 19th August 2022.

Please note spaces are limited and only young people registered will be able to attend

<https://forms.office.com/r/Y3GqPZTLNA>

Google UK Summer Series

Google UK is hosting a Summer Series dedicated to encouraging, inspiring, and engaging young people aged 12 to 18 in our local area with taster sessions. Each day will be dedicated to a different age group. Each day, hosted at the company's King's Cross headquarters, will be filled with inspirational workshops and activities, with a mix of arts and STEAM content, brought to life with the help of professionals from the music, gaming and fashion industries, as well as guests from notable arts and scientific organisations. **Date:** Tuesday 2 August to Friday 5 August. **Times:** 9.30am to 4pm, including breakfast and lunch. **Location:** In-person at Google UK's King's Cross Office, 6 Pancras Square, London N1C 4AG. **Sign-up [here](#).**

Camden Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge will launch in [Camden libraries](#) on Saturday 16 July. This year's challenge is all about inspirational tales of creativity and invention, with picture books for early grade readers and middle grade books for more accomplished readers. You'll find mind-boggling and brilliant facts with these fun science and innovation themed recommendations. Children can also join in the fun online, on [the Challenge website](#). To take part, you can visit your local library - they will get you signed up for Gadgeteers, help you find books to borrow and provide you with fun reading activities to get you started! Once registered at one of our libraries, you'll receive Gadgeteers collector poster and stickers for every book you read.

Special Needs Strategy Consultation

The Council is asking parents, carers, children, young people and professionals to have their say on a new draft strategy to improve services for children and young people with special educational needs and / or disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25. The [consultation](#) runs until **22 September**.