



News Update (16th September 2022)

Dear families,

This week's newsletter includes a feature on historical links with the royal family, including a visit to William Ellis by the late Queen Elizabeth and the relationship between our founder William Ellis and the children of Queen Victoria. We have been discussing the historical significance of the Queen's death with students in tutorial time this week and are also aware that heavy coverage of her death and funeral may affect some students especially if they have experienced a recent bereavement. Please do let us know if this is the case.

As a result of the Queen's funeral arrangements we have the following changes to our calendar:

- **We will be closed for the Bank Holiday on Monday 19th September, along with other schools**
- **We have rescheduled our Information Evening for families of students in years 8-11 to Wednesday 21st September 5-6pm**

Open events for new students – [with more information here](#)

Thursday 29th September: Open Evening for prospective Year 7 students and families

- Our webpage above has further information about the format of the evening and a sign-up link
- The school will close early on that day – 2:05pm for Key Stage 3 students, and Key Stage 4 students will be dismissed at 1:10pm, with the opportunity to have lunch before they leave if they wish
- Students across all year groups may be asked to support the evening by giving tours or demonstrating their work in departments. Permission slips for this will be sent home separately.

Tuesday 4th, Monday 5th and Tuesday 11th October: Open Mornings for prospective Year 7 students and families.

Reflection on Year 7 Camp this week

By the time you read this, Year 7 students will have returned from camp – 113 of 124 boys attended, and this is the first time we have had camp this early in the year. It has proved an invaluable opportunity for students to get to know their classmates and their tutors, and for staff to fully understand the newest students as people and individuals. This is critically important in a school such as ours where strong relationships are so important to student success. There are some photos from camp on the later pages of this newsletter.

Upcoming events

Breakfast Club is now up and running, and will be open every morning in the canteen between 8am-8.25am. All year groups are welcome to enjoy free toast, cereal, fruit and more to set them up for the day ahead. We are looking for student volunteers to support breakfast club and hope to recruit students, especially from older year groups, in the coming weeks.



Year 8 HPV vaccinations have been rescheduled to Tuesday 20th September.

If you have not already done so, please return the form to give permission for this vaccination – Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) is an infection that increases the risk of penile and cervical cancer in men and women throughout their lifetime.

The school photographer will be in school on Wednesday 21st September. Photographs will be taken of all students in Years 7 and 10 (and of any students in other year groups who have joined us since October 2021).

Year 7 students will be photographed both individually for our student records and with their form groups. The photos will be available for families to purchase from the photography company, Tempest, later in term. Families with a son in Year 7 who do not give consent to have him included in the Form Group photo should let us know by emailing admin@williamellis.camden.sch.uk by Tuesday 20th September.

Lastly, we have had an unexpected four-legged guest in school this week:



Unfortunately there is no collar and the cat has no distinguishing features to help us to find its owner.

We are grateful to staff from Zasman Vet in Hampstead, who have collected the cat today and will be in touch with us once he or she has been checked over and microchipped.

If you recognise this as your missing cat, or if you know someone in the local area who has lost their white cat, please contact our attendance officer, Alison Ellis, who has been looking after our feline visitor in school today.

Yours faithfully,

Izzy Jones,
Headteacher



Remembering HM Queen Elizabeth II – A royal visit

The picture below was taken when Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II visited William Ellis School in 1980. Our Head of Physics, Mr Fuller, was a student here at the time and remembers the event fondly. Students lined up – on a rainy day – around the perimeter of one of the quads as Her Majesty planted a tree using a silver spade.



Her Majesty also watched a Physics experiment during a tour of the laboratory. Unfortunately, the experiment the class had intended to show their important guest didn't work at the first attempt, but this was taken in good spirit by the Queen!





Year 7 camp photos

