

News Update

(15th September 2023)



Dear families,

Welcome to this week's newsletter, which includes details of clubs and activities timetables for lunchtime and after school. We recognise that last year students wanted more clubs and you wanted more, more quickly available information about them so I hope that you find today's details helpful.

Attendance

Thank you for the support you have given students this past week to set up good routines in the morning. As a result, our overall school attendance so far this year is 95% and there are 419 students with 100% attendance.

Student leadership

Next week's assemblies will introduce upcoming elections for the Student Council, who meet regularly to discuss ideas and concerns about their experiences in school. Each form will elect two representatives to the Council, who will then form committees to focus on different areas of the school, for example the canteen. William Ellis founded the school with the aim of nurturing critical, independent thinkers and the Student Council is an important part of this. The Student Council is a supportive environment, and we would encourage all students to put themselves forward for election, even if they feel nervous about doing so.

School photos

Earlier in the week, photographs were taken of all students in Years 7 and 10. Year 7 and Year 11 students also had group photos taken with their forms and tutors. Year 12 students will have their photos taken on Monday.

These images can be a keepsake in years to come when students look back on their time at William Ellis. The photos will be available for families to purchase from the photography company, H Tempest, later in the term. The school also keeps a photo of each student on record while they attend William Ellis so that they can each be identified so it is particularly important that all Year 12 students are in school for their tutorial on Monday.

Professional Development Days – date change

Our term dates, as always, are published on the school website at [William Ellis School - Term dates](#). However, we have had to make an amendment to our published professional development days for staff:

Monday 9th October will now be a full day for students, with lessons periods 1 to 4 for Years 7-13 at this school. Students will be dismissed at 1:10pm, with lunch available for those who want it before 1:30pm. The afternoon will be used for staff professional development focused on improving assessment, teaching and learning.

Monday 30th October will now be a full professional development day, so students' first day back from half term will be Tuesday 31st. Sixth form lessons will be taking place at the other LaSWAP schools on Monday 30th.

Finally, you will be pleased to know that our canteen menu is now on the school website [William Ellis School - Canteen](#)

Yours faithfully,



Izzy Jones, Headteacher

Year 8 Messages

Christine Mercier Peart, Head of Year 8

It was with great pleasure that I saw our year starting back last week! A great start for Year 8! To make sure we are all in tune with the boys' work please see the [Student's Guide to Satchel One](#) on the school website. Parents can find out more about homework [here](#). Satchel One allows parents/carers to check every day for homework, with the student or without!

From next week onwards we'll have many lunchtime and after-school clubs starting up:

- Monday: Lunchtime: Table tennis (PE dept)
PM: Badminton & volley ball (Mr Keeshan) / Homework club in L02 from 3.10 to 4.00pm
- Tuesday: Lunchtime: Cross-country (Mr Levitt) / Mental Heath Art in L02 (Ms Mercier-Peart)
PM: Basketball (Mr Bossinga) / Football (Mr Levitt – includes leadership football with Y7) / Homework club In L02 from 3.10 to 4.00pm
- Wednesday: Lunchtime: Latin club in Room 26 (Ms Damms) / MFL French & Spanish clubs
PM: Table Tennis (Coach Rachel) / Football (Mr Levitt) / Homework club in L02 from 3.10 to 4.00pm
- Thursday: Lunchtime: Chess club in the Library
PM: Homework club in L02 from 3.10 to 4.00pm

Every lunchtime there are inter-house competitions, and there will be more clubs to come. You will get an update on any new clubs open to Year 8 students in the next newsletter.

I hope you had a great summer and still enjoying the rest of the good weather.

***Please note that Latin, Chess and the sports clubs below are open to all Year groups.**

Statistics GCSE option for Year 9 Students

Kate Graham, Maths Teacher

Greetings and welcome to the new school year.

I am a Mathematics teacher here at William Ellis, and have decided to offer an optional additional Statistics GCSE to students beginning Year 9, for examination in June 2025 at the end of Year 10.

There is considerable overlap with the Data Handling in Mathematics GCSE, with a little more depth and just a few additional topics. It will benefit anyone interested in Business, Marketing, Psychology, Sociology or Science, or a future career in Data Analysis.

I propose to offer one lunchtime club, along with an after school session, each week. To take full advantage of this opportunity, you will need to be fairly confident in your mathematics and reading comprehension.

If you think this may be for you, then please come along to see me in Room 4 on the Maths corridor sometime next week, and let me know what days suit you best.

We will use the AQA syllabus. I look forward to seeing you.

Ski Trip 2024

Simon Fuller, Head of Physics

We are delighted to inform you that we are now organising the next William Ellis Ski Trip.

The trip will be from Thursday 28th March to Wednesday 3rd April 2024 in the fantastic Ischgl-Samnaun ski area in Austria. Please have a look at the link below for more details of the resort. The group will be staying at the Posthotel Pfunds – a really nice hotel that we've stayed in on a previous trip.

<https://www.ischgl.com/en/Active/Active-Winter/Skiing-in-Ischgl> .

This is an excellent opportunity for your son to join us on what has always proved to be a very enjoyable and successful trip. The trip is open to students in years 7 - 11 There are 35 places available for all levels of ability and experience. The trip may not run if we do not have sufficient numbers or payment from families, although this has never been the case.

If you wish to apply for a provisional place for your son on this trip, please pay a deposit of £300 through your ParentPay account.

PE Extra-curricular Clubs

Josh Levitt, Head of PE

This term clubs will run as follows:

Before School 7:30 – 8:20	Basketball Team Training Mr Bossinga (invite only)	Basketball Team Training Mr Bossinga (invite only)	Basketball Team Training Mr Bossinga (invite only)	Basketball Team Training Mr Bossinga (invite only)	Basketball Team Training Mr Bossinga (invite only)
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch time 1:20 – 1:55	Interhouse MKE See Timetable	Interhouse ASZ See Timetable Table Tennis Club (Main Hall) Coach Rachel Cross Country Club Mr Levitt	Interhouse GCO See Timetable Table Tennis Club (Main Hall) Coach Rachel	Interhouse ASZ See Timetable Table Tennis Club (Main Hall) Coach Rachel	Interhouse JLE See Timetable Table Tennis Club (Main Hall) Coach Rachel
After School 3:20pm – 4:20pm	Fitness Mr Szymanski Badminton & Volleyball Mr Keeshan	Basketball Club Mr Bossinga Year 7 Football Mr Levitt	Table Tennis Club Coach Rachel Year 8 & 9 Football Mr Levitt Fitness Mr Szymanski	GCSE PE Practical Mr Szymanski GCSE PE Homework/catch up session Mr Levitt	Year 7 & 8 Gymnastics Mr Court

To attend a club, students must come to the PE changing rooms after school and register with the lead teacher for the activity. They must wear **full William Ellis PE kit** to take part in a club.

Please ensure that your son has made arrangements to stay in school with your permission until 4.20pm. This must be done before he leaves for school in the morning.

Thank you.

Extra-curricular Music

Oliver Singleton, Head of Music

Choir is now running at lunchtime on Thursdays and both junior and senior string groups will take place on Wednesdays. Students wishing to take part should see me in the Music Department to sign up.

Our team of peripatetic music teachers begin extra-curricular music lessons in the week commencing 25th September and a full schedule of music clubs will be available and distributed to families as soon after this date as possible.

Families wishing to sign their child up for extra-curricular music lessons can find out more by visiting the [music department's page](#) on the school website.

Camden Foodbank

Camden Foodbank have reached out to us at William Ellis to see if we will be able to help spread the word about helping those in our local community.

Please see their message below:

"The current situation over the last 2 months is that Camden Foodbank has been overwhelmed with local people going into food crisis and needing support with emergency food parcels.

We desperately looking for urgent and targeted food donations as the number of adults and children in food poverty coming into Camden Foodbank is increasing so much, we are running extremely low on food.

In April 2023 the Trussell Trust said that in the past year, more than one million children received emergency food parcels from foodbanks. This is the first time the figure has reached over one million children.

Our autumn drive is to get in as many targeted food and cash donations as possible to support local people in food crisis. Please see attachment to this email for details of targeted food required and how to donate food and money.

We would be truly grateful if you can support Camden Foodbank and the local community."

At William Ellis, we will also be accepting donations of targeted items until **Friday 22nd September** to go to Camden Foodbank. If you are able to help out in this way, please bring any items or donations to the Main Office by this date.

Lauderdale House's Fresh Youth Programme
Laura Madsen, Head of Art, Craft & Design

Students aged 13 and over may be interested in these weekly creative sessions hosted by Lauderdale House this term. William Ellis has proudly partnered with Lauderdale House on projects in Art and English over the last few months and we look forward to future collaborations.

To find out more and sign up, please follow the QR code below or contact Liv Clements at Lauderdale House: oclements@lauderdale.org.uk



Autumn Programme

Thursdays from 4-6

Autumn Term 1 - Clay with Charlie
7th September - 19th October

Thursday 26th October
Private View of Clay work (friends and family welcome)

Autumn Term 2 - Photography with Polly
2nd November - 14th December

Thursday 21st December
Xmas Party and Photography Private View (friends and family welcome)

Sign up here!

Open to all 13 - 19 year olds, Fresh is a weekly creative session run in partnership with Camden Youth Services. For more information contact our Outreach & Education Officer, Liv Clements at: oclements@lauderdale.org.uk
Highgate Hill, Waterlow Park, N6 5HG | 020 8348 8716

