

Report by
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The Year 9 trip to the battlefields of WWI was a raging success. On the 8th February a selection of Year 9 and 10 students set off for France and Belgium to visit the important sites of World War I which included Ypres and the Somme. We were accompanied by Mrs Woosey, Mr Jones, Mr Weatherley and our tour guide Ben Parry.

On the 8th February we started the 12 hour journey to Belgium. We arrived in time to visit the Menin Gate for the last post ceremony, which happens every night at 8pm to commemorate the lives of all the men who fell in the Ypres Salient. Five students laid two wreaths with messages from Elfed High School students.

Saturday morning was spent looking around WWI cemeteries, such as Bedford House Cemetery, for the relatives of students who had lost their lives in WWI. The afternoon consisted of visiting Hill 62 and Sanctuary Wood which has been turned into a museum showing the weapons and clothing from the war, from Lee Enfield rifles to Knives. It was a very special and emotional place that also allowed us to walk in the trenches, it was very muddy! We also visited the Cloth Hall Museum in Ypres as well as the chocolate shop across the road! The evening meal was enjoyed at the accommodation and a pool competition was played before bed was calling.

Sunday was the last day for the Elfed group. We made our way back into France, to the Somme, and enjoyed a guided tour of the main points of interest. We visited Thiepval Memorial, which was an outstanding sight and most for the group were in utter awe by its sheer size. It truly was an amazing sight. This inspiration motivated everyone to make the mile walk to see the red dragon of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers and visit the trenches where the Canadian army fought.

By this time the day was growing old and it was time to set off back home. It took another ten hours to get back home, during which time we took time to reflect on the time in Belgium and France and what the battlefields of WWI were really like. It was truly a great trip and as well as having fun the students learnt a lot more about the military side of WWI.



vivo.

Well done! Da iawn!

Keep up to date with your child's rewards by visiting the Vivo website. www.vivomiles.com
Phone 01244 550217 for your log in details.

School closes for Easter Holiday on **Friday 22nd March 2013** and reopens on **Monday 8th April 2013**.
May Bank Holiday is on **Monday 6th May 2013**.



In this edition:

Excellent standards in numeracy
Important updates for Parents and Carers

March
Mawrth **2013**

Excellent standards in Numeracy at Elfed High School!

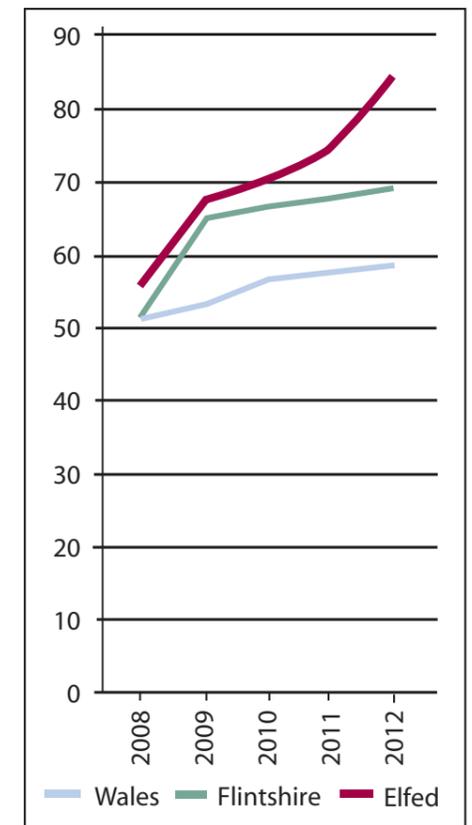
Excellent standards in numeracy at Elfed High School have been praised by a visitor from Estyn who was visiting schools across Wales, looking for outstanding practice.

He was very impressed by the positive impact of numeracy activities across the curriculum and the individual advice and support provided for Elfed students.

Staff were praised for the way the online resource, 'Basic and Key Skills Builder' (BKSB), is used to support students to develop their skills in numeracy and literacy. BKSB can be used at home and in school and we encourage parents and carers to view the resources via the Moodle site. Please contact us for the BKSB log in details.

The percentage of Year 11 students achieving A* to C grades in GCSE Mathematics at Elfed High School has increased steadily from 50% of the 2007 to 84% in 2012. Improvement has been at a faster rate than Wales and Flintshire and in 2012 the level of achievement at our school was 14% above the average for Flintshire. This means that students leave us with the high quality qualifications that will help them along their future pathway, whether it is college, university and in the workplace.

Well done! Da iawn.



Percentage of Year 11 students achieving A* to C in Mathematics GCSE 2008–2012

NEWSLETTER
Ysgol Uwchradd Elfed High School
CYLCHLYTHYR

Eisteddfod Elfed 2013

Outstanding entries from students made this year's Eisteddfod a very special event. 7E and 8E won the tutor group competition and Erin from Year 7 was chaired as the winner of the short story competition. Everyone in Year 7 and Year 8 took part and all supported their friends through being an excellent audience. Well done! Da iawn!



‘Be the best you can be!’
‘Byddwch eich gorau!’



A selection of our achievements



The school ski trip took students from Year 9 and Year 10 to Ravascletto, Italy for a week of skiing. The students benefitted from opportunities to develop new skills whilst enjoying the sun and snow.



6th Form students organised a talent concert for Elfed High School pupils to help raise money for local charity. The 6th form students, headed up by Ryan Hopwood, created a fantastic night of dance, rock and acoustic performances and sign language. The night was a fabulous success and students and supporters helped to raise £275 for Miles of Smiles. Well done to all involved. Da iawn.



Two Sixth form students were awarded the Lifetime to School Sport award for their contribution to Physical Education throughout their time at Elfed High School.

Members of the Year 8 indoor athletics team have been selected to represent North East Wales indoor athletics team. Congratulations! Longyfarchiadau!



Well done to the twenty students from Year 9 and Year 10 who participated in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge on the 7th February 2013. The results have arrived and there are congratulations due to Jessica Peers, Saffron Higgins and Aled Bellis who all received a Bronze certificate for their efforts. We are delighted that Haydn Graves achieved a gold certificate; Haydn has now been invited to participate in the next round of the competition the European 'Kangaroo' Mathematical Challenge. Da iawn ti Haydn! Well done!



Excellent football skills have been rewarded with selection to play for the Connah's Quay Nomads on their tour of Belgium, Spain and Germany. Good luck on the tour! Pob lwc!

Year 8 students excelled at the Flintshire indoor athletics event. Here are the members of the team, including the winners of the gold medal in the eight lap endurance event and bronze in the 'speedbounce'.



In February, pupils from Drury, Mountain Lane, Southdown and Westwood primary schools visited Elfed for a workshop on report writing with Mrs Culshaw and Miss Pennington. They learned how to shape a report and all of the key elements to make a good story. Their work will be published in the first issue of the Adlais Elfed Echo newspaper next month.

The Elfed Parent and Teachers' Network Quiz was a great success. Congratulations to the winning team, the Ironmongers. Thanks to the quizmaster, Mr Green, and to all who supported the event.



The Elfed High School Sports Council ran a marathon for Asthma UK, and raised over £100.



Year 7 Elfed boys' cross country team won the County Cross Country Championships in Mold Alun. Well done! Da iawn! Jordan Walker, Ross Walker and Flynn Pownall finished in the top ten and qualified for the Flintshire Squad to run in the North East Wales Schools Championships along with Robert Griffiths (Year 9), Aled Bellis (Year 10) and Beth Aldred (Year 10).