



Adlais **Elfed** Echo

Your voice, heard!



Fifth edition

Written by the students, for the students.

Summer 2014

Wonderful **Elfed** hits the top **10** for sports

ELFED is excellent at sport and is one of the top ten schools in North Wales for sports participation.

The Sport Wales School Sport Survey has shown that 61% of students at Elfed normally go to sports clubs and 49% of students are “addicted to sport”; this is one of the best statistics in Wales. A big reason for the high percentages is the Elfed Sports Council, which aims to encourage everyone to do sport and go to clubs.

The Sports Council, the P.E. department and Mr Thomas, 5x60 Officer, run popular P.E. clubs and 5x60 activities which get different students interested in getting involved. There can be up to fifteen different sports activities a week.

Mr Thomas said: “I am delighted that our P.E. and 5x60 programmes have been recognised nationally by Sport Wales as being high performing.

“This is owing to the standards that staff set to deliver high quality sports provision that is inclusive and accessible to all of our students.”

Mrs Woolgar, Head of P.E., said: “Our students clearly have a very positive attitude towards school sport and enjoy taking part in the wide variety of activities Elfed has to offer.

“We are exceptionally proud of every student’s efforts and commitment to both P.E. and extra-curricular activities.”

Elfed High School’s high percentage of sport participation is all down to the inclusive approach, delivery of sport and P.E., and the emphasis put on enjoying sports; it is not all about winning.

Mrs Rosemary Jones, Headteacher, is thrilled with the outcome of the survey. She said: “I am delighted to see that Sport Wales has recognised our positive approach to sport at Elfed High School.”

By Chloe Round



Year 9 student has a ball playing tennis.



Jenna Downing taught students to skate over ramps.



Elfed integrates sport and English with their football-literacy scheme.



Year 7 students had a fun time hurdling.

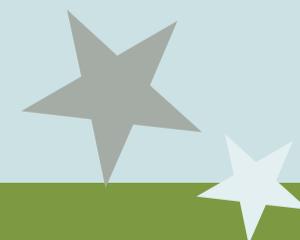


The Elfed Sports Council spent the day with inline skating champion, Jenna Downing.



Students love sports at Elfed High School.

Inside this issue...



Pupils get a taste for drama and writing

YEAR 7 pupils had a ball experiencing Clwyd Theatr Cymru's project, "Hear Me Out."

The project was a great success, inspiring the young people to write about what they think of their world. The pupils experienced new writing techniques and skills which encouraged them to write engaging pieces of work. The project, which included drama activities and games, lasted for six fun-filled weeks and all of the students agreed that they wished it had lasted longer. The students even visited Clwyd Theatr Cymru to see a performance of some of their work.

John Young and Ceri Roberts were "blown away" with their monologues, dialogues and stories. Ceri said: "We have been blown away by the enthusiasm and hard work the students brought to the project.

"They should be as immensely proud of their work, as we are of it!"

Mairielle Mattar, who participated in the project, said: "I'm really grateful for this opportunity because John and Ceri gave us the right to be heard.

"Having my work performed made me feel really proud of what I'd written."

The project was a huge triumph and the students enjoyed taking part.



By Laila Rees

Students created fairytale freeze-frames.

Adlais Elfed Echo's brilliant new team



Year 7 students are happy they joined the Adlais Elfed Echo team.

YEAR 7 students have joined the Adlais Elfed Echo team.

Laila Rees, Courtney Jones, Abbey Young, Abby Cooper, Poppy Millward, Luke Jones and Chloe Round are the new wonderful students who have joined Adlais Elfed Echo. Chloe, Luke and Poppy are the new reviewers for the newspaper and they are doing an amazing job.

The new recruits are learning the skills of professional journalists through new techniques to write accurate and interesting reports and reviews, making Miss Pennington very proud of them.



Students' ace interviews

ELFED'S Year 11 students were interviewed by local businesses, in a Mock Interview Day event, to prepare them for future real-life situations.

Interviewers assessed students' communication skills, level of confidence, appearance and CV and left feedback to help the young people to prepare for future interviews. Students were questioned from representatives from lots of different industries including Airbus, Army Careers and HSBC, Buckley.

Cody Willoughby, a Year 11 student, admitted that she was quite nervous beforehand but was excited because it was a great opportunity to learn something new. She said: "It was daunting to begin with but by the end I was quite comfortable because I'd settled into the situation.

"Now I definitely feel more prepared when going for any interviews for a first job."

Students had some great feedback from employers. Mr Thomas, 5x60 Officer, said: "The students were very well prepared with some excellent CVs and personal statements about their skills and achievements so far."

Every Year 11 student now has a lot of confidence and feels more prepared for future interviews.

By Poppy Millward



Year 11 students were interviewed by local businesses for Mock Interview Day.



Year 11 students smile for the camera after their interviews.



Consortium Concert brings communities together

STUDENTS from schools in Buckley and Mynydd Isa came to Elfed High School to perform at the Consortium Concert to raise money for the British Heart Foundation.

Schools who participated in this event were Elfed High School, Argoed, Drury CP, Mountain Lane, Southdown, Westwood and Ysgol Mynydd Isa. Mr Elwyn Roberts, representing the British Heart Foundation, was in attendance so that he could be presented with a cheque for £800, which was raised from the concert ticket sales. The cheque was presented by Mr Biltcliffe, Headteacher of Drury.

Mr Hughes, Head of Music at Elfed, was the compère for the evening and introduced each act brilliantly. Argoed opened the event, with their choir singing "Songbird" in the style of Glee and their Junior Band who played "May It Be." They were followed by Drury who recited celebratory poems such as "Ring Out the Bells for Saint David." The poetry was well received by the audience.

Elfed Youth Theatre performed an original piece which was created by students with Drama Tutor, Laura Heap. The sketch was all

about the life of Dr Howell Elvet Lewis, the poet and preacher after whom Elfed High School was named. Elfed's Year 7 dancers also performed a fifties-style routine to entertain the guests.

Other primary schools sang wonderful songs in in English, Welsh and they even signed some of them. These songs included Mountain Lane's medley from "Matilda," Ysgol Mynydd Isa's "Dwi'n Hoffi Cyfri," Southdown's "Today" and Westwood's "Bridge over Troubled Water."

Mrs Jones, Headteacher of Elfed High School, said: "It was a pleasure to host this superb display of talent from across all the schools in our consortium.

"Many members of the audience have commented on the wealth of talent in our community. We work together really well as a group of schools for the benefit of our pupils and appreciate the support of friends and family at this event."

The night was a fantastic experience which amazed all of the guests in attendance.

By Joshua Gonzalez



Year 10 students entertained guests as they arrived at the event.



Mountain Lane pupils posed for a photograph.

Pupils discover who they are with **Liverpudlian poet**



Westwood pupils loved Levi's visit.



Year 9 student learned about identity with Levi.

LIVERPUDLIAN poet Levi Tafari delivered an inspirational poetry workshop to Elfed students and local primary schools.

Levi Tafari, a Liverpool-born poet, visited Elfed High School to present a poetry workshop that taught students about identity, culture and heritage.

The young people thought about their own identity, culture and heritage and wrote poems about themselves using worksheets that Levi had prepared. It was obvious that the pupils enjoyed the workshop. Carys Williams, a Drury Primary School pupil, said: "I loved the workshop because Levi was funny and I enjoyed doing the worksheets, too.

"I've learned a lot about who we all are."

Levi also performed his own pieces to the students, he recited "Blessing in my Wife," "Streets of Hope," "Plastic Fantastic" and "Celebrate." The primary school pupils loved hearing what Levi had written. Evan Fallding, from Westwood C.P., said: "Levi was really good because he could just say all of his poems without reading them.

"I've learned a lot about identity today."

Levi Tafari thoroughly enjoyed his day with the children. He thought that the "event was poetry in motion; a flow of human expression that touched the spirit to ignite the room."

By Abbey Young



New logo created for Elfed Sports Council



Ysgol Mynydd Isa



Southdown

A NEW logo has been created for the Elfed Sports Council by members of its committee.

Elfed Sports Council wanted to design a new logo to represent their committee so, at the start of the year, the Sports Council members each designed a logo. Mr Lewis-Jones, Head of the Sports Council, chose a final design that has been put onto t-shirts for the pupils to wear. However, as the entries were so good, the final logo has been designed by two pupils: Ryan Mahon, Year 9, and Alice Whitley, Year 11. Ryan's words "Encouraging pupils to take part in sport" was used and Alice's design of the Elfed High School logo, where the leaf-people were replaced with sports equipment (such as a football, rugby ball, cricket bat etc.), was also used.

The logo was designed to promote Elfed Sports Council and to encourage the pupils to join more clubs, therefore having a healthier lifestyle. The final logo has been embroidered onto t-shirts for the students to wear during clubs, P.E. lessons and activities like the Sports Council cyclathon.

Caitlin Tyrrell, a Sports Council member, exclaimed: "I really like the logo; it's colourful and it stands out well."

Mr Lewis-Jones said: "The colour of the t-shirts is the same colour as the regular P.E. polos that non-Sports Council members wear in lessons.

"We wanted them to be lightweight so that they are nice to wear in the summer. The logo was sewn onto these t-shirts as anybody can buy the regular polos but the Sports Council ones are only available for the members.

"The logo creates the opportunity to remind students of the Sports Council every single day and it will encourage more students to get involved with the activities and clubs that the Sports Council organises."

By Abbey Young and Luke Jones

Elfed Sports Council designed brand new P.E. tops.



Golden pupils reach the stars

EVERY Friday, Ysgol Mynydd Isa get together to reward good behaviour and excellent achievements.

The assembly starts by listening to a piece of music secretly chosen by a teacher, then a member of staff will ask the pupils who they think picked the piece of music. Many hands go up, including those of the staff. Mrs Salisbury, the Deputy Head, then turns the music on again and the teacher that chose the piece of music is announced. This introduces the pupils to new varieties of music.

Jack Mitchell, Year 6, said: "I like it when we get to guess which teacher has chosen the song and I like seeing the star child pictures."

Throughout the year, pupils try very hard to achieve house points. In the Celebration Assembly pupils' names are called out as they receive their certificate. The pupils can receive a Bronze, Silver or Gold award.

Mrs Salisbury will then turn on the PowerPoint that announces the 'Star Child' of the week; a pupil from each class that has worked hard throughout the week. The pupil's picture will appear on the screen along with the reason why they were chosen. The 'golden children' will then step up to the front to receive their certificate. "It's funny seeing people's reactions and pictures when it comes up, if they have won the star child of the week," said Lydia Jones, Year 6.

Through out the week, pupils stay on their best behaviour to receive manner marks off members of staff. The class that won the manner marks will then appear on the screen and the following week the class will get to choose a treat or activity to do.

All the pupils thoroughly enjoy the celebration assembly and look forward to the next one.

By Ffion Jones, Tom Sturt and Tiegan Halpenny.

Year 5 blast off to Jodrell Bank

YEAR 5 Southdown pupils went on a school trip to Jodrell Bank as they were studying space in their Science lessons.

Pupils left the school at half past eight on a coach to Jodrell Bank. The journey took forty-five minutes to get to the planetarium in Macclesfield, Cheshire.

The pupils were split into different groups to do activities throughout the day. One group looked for fake planets on the ground, they then visited the "whispering dishes" where the students called into the dish and the person at the opposite dish received the message.

After, Year 5 visited the Lovell telescope and discovered that Sir Bernard Lovell established the observatory in 1945. Some members of the class were lucky enough to see the telescope move. Other activities included creating a Mars Rover for transporting an egg safely. The pupils used paper, cello tape, straws and balloons to make one. The creations were then dropped from 2 metres to see if the egg cracked or not. They also did space experiments. Students enjoyed the experiments and thought they were worth doing. The favourite activity was how big a crater becomes depending on the height of the drop.

The pupils and teachers would recommend this to the future Year 5 students. Mrs C Bibby said: "A wonderful and educational day for Year 5 pupils."

A Year 5 pupil, Jay Butler, really enjoyed the day he said: "I personally enjoyed searching for the fake planets on the floor."

By Yanik Merrilees-Kelly, Megan Batchelor, Chloe Miller and Luke Rowe.



Diolch yn fawr...

To the primary school reporters who have been writing for Adlais Elfed Echo this year. You have been fantastic in your contributions to the newspaper. Pob lwc: good luck for the future!



Drury



Mountain Lane



Westwood

Glan Llyn gone wild

YEAR 6 pupils from Drury had a fun-filled time at Glan Llyn.

The group set off at eight thirty to Glan Llyn. The bus was buzzing with excited children ready for three days of activities. When they arrived they dropped off their bags in the rooms. Kirsty Wilson was impressed with the accommodation. She said: "The rooms were very big and modern." Shortly after this, the Year 6 group got ready for their first activity.

It was great fun building rafts at Glan Llyn. The instructions were hard to keep track of and follow. The pupils had to tie the ropes and put big, blue barrels and posts of wood together. With a bit of help they managed to get the raft put together. When they were pushing the raft into the water, people had to stand in front of the raft to pull it into the water; the children all got very wet.

The climbing wall was great; the group had to wear a harness and helmet. The climbing wall was almost 12 feet tall and scary for the people who were afraid of heights but fun as well. They all enjoyed it very much.

Drury pupils had lots of fun at Glan Llyn. Eliza Grimshaw said: "The climbing wall was my favourite activity.

"It's harder than it looks, you feel like you're on top of Everest when you're really only 5 feet off the ground. It was lots of fun!"

Everyone had a lot of memories but their favourite is how fun Glan Llyn was.

By Kirsty Wilson, Sophie Wynn, Daniel Williams and Brandon Smith

vivo.

How to log on to your Vivo account to check your rewards. Type in your username. This is your first and second name with a full stop in the middle.

For example: john.smith

Type in the domain name which is Elfed.

Type in your password (this should have been created by you!)

Click log in and check out how many Vivos you've earned recently!

If you have any problems with logging on, go and see Miss Messum!

How will you spend your Vivos?

Cross country 'in da' house

MOUNTAIN Lane juniors took part in the prestigious cross country held at the Buckley Common.

All pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 participated in the inter-house cross country event. The first race started at one o'clock, seeing the Year 3 girls run a 1km race, this race was then followed by the Year 3 boys. Next it was Year 4; they ran 1.4km, followed by Year 5 who ran 1.8km and finally, Year 6 who ran a staggering 2.2km.

The Year 3 girls' winner was Lucy McManus and the boys' winner was Harry Ledsham. The Year 4 girls' winner was Madi Ion and the boys' winner was Elliot Pownell. The Year 5 girls' winner was Shannon Morgan and the boys' winner was Jack Price. Finally, the Year 6 boys' winner was Owen Coppack, the reigning champion, and for the girls, the winner was Phoebe Evans-Farlie. The victorious winners were all ecstatic as they were presented with their medals. Year 4 winner, Madi Ion, said: "I felt proud and very happy that I won the Year 4 girls' cross country and I was so excited when I received my medal."

The cross country is a tradition at Mountain Lane where parents can watch their children run. The support from parents was outstanding and the school had much help from the Year 9 marshalls from the Elfed. Mr Caughter, one of the main organisers of the event, said: "I thought it was a very successful event; the pupils, once again, performed extremely well and the support from the parents, without doubt, spurred the children on.

"It was also great to have the help of the ex-Mountain-Laners acting as the marshalls."

The winning house of the cross country was Clwyd house, who received 424 points from this event.

Overall, the cross country was an enormous success and the pupils will be looking forward to competing again next year.

By Robert Ghone, Alfie Jones, Grace Tasker and Mia Cannon



Westwood go West End

WESTWOOD C.P. are preparing for a production of the 1968 musical film *Oliver!*, by Lionel Bart, but with a twist.



The school is continuing its tradition of putting on a production every summer. Year 5/6 teacher, Mrs Brown, thought of the idea for the play, as the pupils have read the book *Oliver Twist*, by Charles Dickens, in their Year 6 English group. They have also studied the Victorians in their History lessons.

Oliver! is a Victorian play written by Lionel Bart, a famous playwright, in 1960. The story is about a young orphan named Oliver Twist who gets kicked out of a workhouse in Darby.

Auditions for the main characters, narrators and smaller parts in the play were held for Year 5/6 in Class 8.

Pupils in Year 6 are excited to put on the production. Ruben Jones, a Year 6 pupil, said: "I am very happy about getting the part of Bill Sykes because he is a main part.

"I am looking forward to the play because it has lots of good characters."

Another Year 6 pupil, Morgan Irvine, said: "I am happy to get Mr Bumble because I like shouting and I am excited about doing *Oliver* because I have read the story and enjoyed it."

To see the exciting production of *Oliver!* go down to Westwood C.P. Tickets are £1.50 and are available from the school.

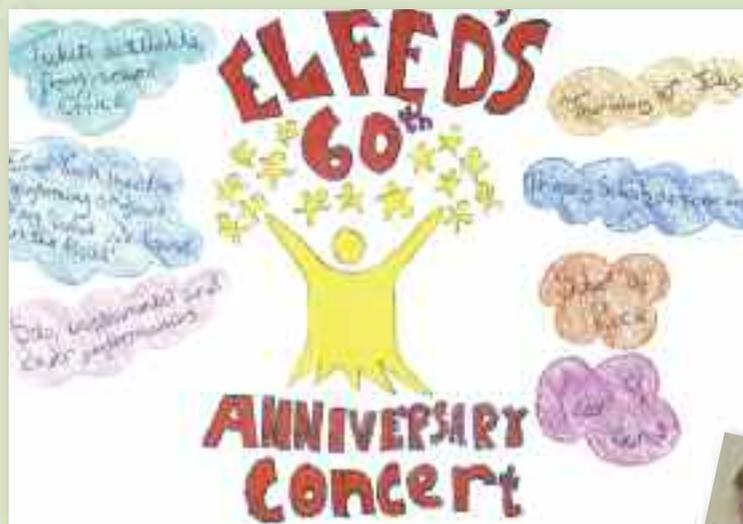
By Morgan Irvine, Niall Maguire, Ruben Jones and Harvey Kopp.



Don't miss...



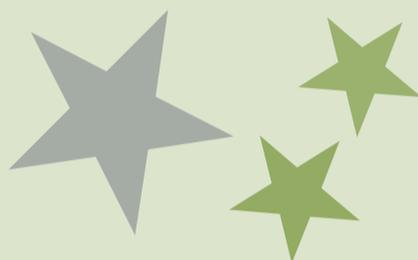
"Stomp" inspired routines in What We Found in the Flood.



G.C.S.E. Music students' performances.



Elfed Youth Theatre's performance of original play What We Found in the Flood.



Mr Hughes' Primary Recorder Club performance.

Governor celebrates 60th Wedding Anniversary at Elfed



Elfed buries time capsule for future students

LLONGYFARCHIADAU: Congratulations to Elfed Governor, Mr Iball, and his wife, Mrs Iball who celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary this year.

Adlais Elfed Echo reporter, Joshua Gonzalez, interviewed Mr Iball to find out how he and his wife met.

Mr and Mrs Iball first met in the early 1950s after Mr Iball's sister invited Mrs Iball to come along to a Red Cross dance in Buckley. The two met each other properly when, after a little prompting, Mr Iball asked Mrs Iball to dance. The couple met once again at a dance, where Mr Iball asked Mrs Iball to go out to the cinema. From there, the two began courting and got married in a Roman Catholic church in Mancot in 1954. The rest is romantic history.

Congratulations to the happy couple from the Adlais Elfed Echo and everyone at Elfed High School.

Now... in 2014, celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.



Then... at their wedding in 1954.



STUDENTS at Elfed have buried a time capsule which is to be opened in 2074 by future generations.



A Senior Student buries the time capsule.

To mark the 60th Anniversary of Elfed High School, a time capsule has been buried in the quad by the English corridor by Senior Students with one of Elfed's governors, Mr Iball, present to mark the occasion. The time capsule has been filled with newsletters, letters from students, photographs of

the school, a letter from Headteacher, Mrs Jones, and more.

Guest of Honour, Mr Iball, said: "As a governor of Elfed High School for many years it has been a real treat to be part of this special occasion.

"Thank you for inviting us."

The time capsule will be opened by the grand children of current students and will reveal a glimpse into the lives of students at Elfed High School today.

Fresh Off the Charts

Reviews of the latest music, films and games by our reporters:
Josh Gonzalez, Chloe Round, Luke Jones and Poppy Millward.

Ghost Stories – Coldplay



There is nothing cold about Coldplay's new album. Ghost Stories comes straight from lead singer Chris Martin's heart as, when the album was being made, Chris and his wife, Gwyneth Paltrow, were deciding whether to stay together as a couple.

The album was the 11th most downloaded album on iTunes throughout April and May. It was also the most downloaded album in the alternative section of iTunes in April.

One good thing about this album is that it is really relaxing and easy to listen to. I think that this album would relate to a lot of people who are having a hard time. I enjoyed listening to this album as the music comes from the heart and soul of the band-members.

Two songs that really stand out to me are "Magic" and "A Sky Full of Stars." Both songs are quite up-beat compared to others, like "Midnight." I recommend these songs to people who love a cheerful Coldplay song as much as I do.

There are no weaknesses with this album; it is amazingly tranquil and peaceful. It will link with many listeners' lives and relax them if they feel stressed. I think it will continue to be a very popular album, even the most popular summer album this year. I rate it 4.5/5 stars because it really relaxed me and linked with my life.

The Lego Movie



A new legostastic film is coming out on DVD soon! The Lego Movie is a fantastic film for the whole family.

The movie is a kid's film about a builder called Emmet who is trying to save the world with his friends Wyldstyle, Batman, Unikitty, Benny, Metal Beard and Vitruvius. The group of friends have to defeat the evil

President Business and prevent him from destroying the world.

When I first watched The Lego Movie, I was laughing all the way through it because it is so random and funny. If I had to rate this film, I would give it 9/10 because it is really funny and children everywhere should watch it.

The Lego Movie is available to buy on DVD on 21st July.

Need for Speed: Rivals



Need for Speed: Rivals is the newest and only next-gen instalment of Playstation's classic driving game series, Need for Speed. You play as a racer or cop battling it out in Redview County.

The game seems much like the previous title "Hot Pursuit" in the respect that you play as both the police force and street racers, and you can switch between the two instantly.

The main difference is that you are constantly online with other players, meaning that there's no need to switch between online and single player if you want to play with friends. This is also a drawback; as online glitches can sometimes result in loss of progress, and others can mess you up in the middle of a race or pursuit. Each career has a different set of vehicles, upgrades, currency and story so you need to play both if you want to 100% the game, or even just level up their respective counterparts.

If you want a racing game on PS4 then this is your only option until Driveclub comes out, which isn't until October!

5 Seconds of Summer



5 Seconds of Summer (5SoS) are an Australian pop band who formed in 2011. They were found making cover versions of popular songs on Youtube then rose to international fame when One Direction invited them on their Take Me Home tour last year.

Their new self-titled album is a debut studio album which was released on 30th June. The album singles "She Looks So Perfect" and "Don't Stop" are included in the twelve song track list (the deluxe edition of the album has three bonus tracks!). Most songs are ones that you can really move your feet to and pretend you're on X Factor by singing with your hairbrush.

When listening to this album, the song that stood out the most for me was "Don't Stop." It is an upbeat and very catchy tune when compared to "She Looks So Perfect" which is has more of a rock feel to it.

I thoroughly enjoyed this new pop album and I know for sure that it will go straight to Number 1 on iTunes.



Back of the Net!

The latest sports news from Elfed High School

Pupils' pedal power puts them past Paris

SPORTS Council members rode from Buckley to Paris in five days for charity.

Students and staff rode for fifty minutes on a stationary bike, and held fundraising events in the Drama Studio, to raise money for Whizz-Kidz to help buy new equipment for disabled children in the UK. Some fundraising events that took place were "Name the teacher's baby picture", cake sales and a raffle. Donated prizes in the raffle included a signed Everton poster, a jar of sweets from Rigby's and a voucher for the Bistre farm shop.

The events were arranged by Mr Lewis-Jones, P.E. teacher, he stated: "The thirty members of Elfed's Sports Council have done exceptionally well to help organise and participate in events.

"The events have really brought the school together; there's been such a buzz in the corridor during break and lunch times when staff and students have been cheering the cyclists on and getting involved in all of the different activities. Local businesses have also shown a lot of support in donating items for the raffle. A former

student of Elfed, footballer Ryan Shawcross, kindly donated a signed shirt and shoes too, which is fantastic. There's been a real sense of community in the school and that's just brilliant."

The students cycled the equivalent of 595 miles in total which took them to the small village of Joux-La-Ville; this is 135 miles further than the original 460 mile target to get to Paris. All sports councillors had their turn on the bike. The total time spent on the bike was a staggering thirty-two hours and fifty minutes. Laura Hodgson, Year 9, exclaimed: "I felt pretty exhausted after cycling for fifty minutes but I'm glad I was able to do my bit for Whizz-Kidz.

"The support from my friends, teachers and students has been immense; it helped a lot towards the end when I was getting really tired."

At the end of the week, the events had a massive raised £798.21 for Whizz-Kidz.

By Luke Jones



Elfed Sports Council members cycled for fifty minutes each.



Students also sold Sport Relief bands throughout the week.

Fun at 5x60 Festival

YEARS 7, 8 and 9 took part in the Festival of Sport which included trying a number of different sport activities.

All students were involved and thoroughly enjoyed it. The day consisted of eight activities, including roller-zorbing, wheelchair basketball, lacrosse, archery, golf, tag rugby, cardio tennis and ultimate frisbee.

The Festival of Sport was set up to get students participating in sports they may not have tried before. It also aimed to encourage students to have healthy lifestyles. The purpose of 5x60 is to get each child under the age of 16 to complete sixty minutes of activity five times a week. This festival was designed to show students how this is easily achieved.

Mr Lewis-Jones said: "I couldn't be more delighted with how the day went.

"We had every single student active for a whole morning. The students' behaviour and attitude towards physical activity was fantastic and I couldn't be more proud."

Year 7 student, Joe Norman, said: "It was probably one of the best days in the school year; it was really fun!"

The day was a huge success and students hope it continues in their future time at Elfed.

By Courtney Jones



Ultimate frisbee had students up in the air.



Year 9 boys played hand-dodge.



Year 8 students have a blast during the 5x60 Festival of Sport.

Students were on target as they learned to do archery.