



Elfed High School Newsletter
February 2016
Cylchlythyr Ysgol Uwchradd Elfed
Chwefror 2016

Rated **'Excellent'** by Estyn in 2015

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Elfed High School is in Group One for Standards

Students' outstanding achievements over the last three years put Elfed High School in the **highest group for Standards** in this year's Welsh Government's Categorisation of Schools.

Schools in Standards Group One are described as 'demonstrating very good overall performance'.

Congratulations to students, staff, governors and families on this excellent outcome. Categorisation takes account of the School's standards and the potential for future improvement. We are delighted to be rated once again as a 'Green Support Category', based on the outcomes:

- **Standards Group One**
- **Improvement Group A**

This confirms that the school has very good overall performance and clear priorities for future development. **Full details about school standards are available on the 'My Local School' website:** www.myllocalschool.gov.uk

Parents attending the Elfed Extra Families ICT Workshop were in for a treat!

They had an opportunity to be see for themselves how our students are learning about computer programming. They visited the Lego Robotics Workshop, chatting with students from Year 7 and Year 8 as they used the various programmed commands to guide their Lego robots to complete some complex tasks. This event is one of several Elfed Extra Family events planned for this term. Parents and carers are welcome to future events to find out about excellent learning at Elfed.



extra Elfed Families



Presentation Evening

We rolled out the red carpet to welcome former students as Guests of Honour at the Presentation Evening.

Families and friends filled Theatr Elfed, celebrating some really impressive achievements by Elfed High School students. The two Associate Governors from Year 11 gave the vote of thanks to our guests.

Thank you to everyone for supporting our students in their learning from day to day and a special thanks to all who attended the Presentation Evening. You were a brilliant audience!

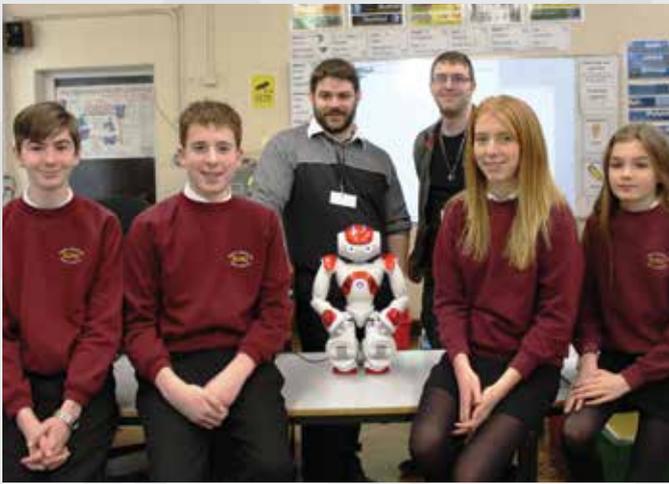


Spelling Bee

Elfed's first Spelling Bee was a thrilling competition, showcasing some excellent participants. The English Leading Learners first suggested the idea of holding the competition and, with the support of Mrs Spragg, they went ahead to organise the event. Everyone enjoyed the thrill of participating in the early rounds and supporting their friends in the final.

Congratulations to 7E for achieving the top score in the final round and to 7D who were the runners up.





Python software

Glyndŵr University has provided some fascinating experiences for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. They have been learning about computer programming using the 'Python' software package. The programme allowed them to carry out tasks using their computers. The visitors also demonstrated the use of 'Python' in controlling an interactive robot. It was fun seeing the robot going through all the moves for the Macarena and dancing Gangnam style.



Synthite Science Award

Congratulations to the Year 11 winner of the annual Synthite Science Award for his outstanding achievements in Science. This year's winner and the two runners up were selected for their outstanding performance in the Year 10 GCSE. All three students achieved A* grades and are continuing to work at the highest level. We are grateful to Synthite, the Mold-based chemicals firm, for sponsoring the award, now in its eighth year.



Immersion Morning

Visitors to Elfed High School were very impressed by students' excellent behaviour and focus on learning during Immersion morning. We received some positive feedback from guests and charities, including Nightingale House and My Name is Not Cancer. Students also worked together to produce their own political manifestos, supported by visitors from the Welsh Government.



Ski Elfed

Team 'Ski Elfed' enjoyed their time on the slopes of the Italian Alps, learning new skills and making new friends. Thank you to the PE department for providing this excellent opportunity for our students.



Flintshire Indoor Athletic Championships

Congratulations to the Year 9 and Year 10 students who took part in the Flintshire Indoor Athletic Championships. There were some excellent individual and team performances. Well done! Da iawn



Flood damage

Elfed High School was closed to students for a day in January due to flood damage. A burst pipe on the first floor and the water gushed down to the ground floor, affecting ceilings and electricity supplies. Everyone worked together to bale out the water, mop up and make safe so that school was ready and open for the following day. The support from our Caretakers was excellent under difficult circumstances. Thank you to parents and carers for your support in supervising the students.



Light and Sound

Year 4 pupils from Drury, Mountain Lane, Southdown and Westwood Primary Schools learnt about Light and Sound, with the help of Elfed's Mr Kelleher and the team from Techniquest. Everyone loved the 'Stardome', a pop-up planetarium visited by all the pupils and their teachers. The activities are part of the Smooth Move to Elfed programme of learning activities planned to support pupils as they prepare for the move to High School.

Elfed News

News about Elfed High School is available on our website, together with policies and updates. You can also follow us on Twitter.

www.elfedhs.co.uk

 @elfedhs

Elfed High School, Mill Lane,
Buckley CH7 3HQ

School is closed for the holidays from:

**Monday 15th February to
Friday 19th February 2016**



Is your child eligible for free school meals?



The high cost of raising a young family means that everyone could do with some help. Free school meals save you time and money and provide reassurance that your children are eating a healthy, balanced lunch every day. If you are on benefits or unemployed you may be able to claim free school meals for your child. Details are on the website.