

Welcome from the Executive Headteacher



What an amazing term we have had at Elms Bank, there have been so many fabulous activities.

During our Open Day our students welcomed prospective parents. They were greeted with big smiles as students enjoyed showing them around school. It was a pleasure to meet some of our new intake of pupils. We know that they will enjoy their time at Elms Bank!

World Book Day 2024 our students and staff showcased a love of reading as they shared their favourite books, comics and texts.

Students participated in a variety of workshops. They included a visit from an author and The Crazy Comic Club. There were birds of prey in school and Divergent Drama delivered a sensory story. All of students had a fantastic time!

Some of our female students attended a football tournament at the Etihad football stadium and secured a remarkable victory with a score of 6-2.

Elms Bank choir joined forces with schools within the local area to perform at ALFA's annual showcasing event at the Bridgewater Hall. It was an unforgettable musical spectacle!

During our Annual Arts Week, we celebrated Music, Art and Drama across the whole of Elms Bank. Using the theme 'One World, One Chance'. Staff delivered a range of workshops giving the students opportunities to explore new and exciting activities, such as song writing and pot throwing. A range of artists and performers came in to school to work with our students.

We are absolutely delighted that Salford City Football Club have organised an exhibition of the photographs taken by Parr students as part of their program for Autism Awareness Week.

College students went to Bendrigg. The students had a great time, a few of the activities they took part in were rock climbing, caving, zip wiring, canoeing and biking.

Elms Bank College held a coffee morning, it was attended by QEB members, parents and members of the community. Students showed off their many talents by producing and serving refreshments and cakes.

We were part of a performance group called 'Many Hands'. The group are creating a vibrant parade performance, designed to bring people together to explore the shared communication power and, the expressive potential of hands.

We are immensely proud of all our students.

I hope that you all have a restful break!
Mrs Langley-Sadler

Term Dates 2024
School re-opens on Monday 15 April
May Day
School closed all day
Monday 6 May

Mid-Term
School closes Friday 24 May
Close at 3.15

School re-opens on - Monday 3 June



Many Hands

Elms Bank were given the opportunity to be part of a performance group called 'Many Hands'. The group are creating a vibrant parade performance, designed to bring people together to explore the shared communication power and, the expressive potential of hands. The parade took part on Saturday 23 March at the Rock in Bury.



Multi-Sports Event at Bury Grammar School

Year 9 Explore students participated in multi-sports event held at Bury Grammar School. The students showcased their skills and sportsmanship. We could not be prouder of their performance. They returned wearing their well-deserved medals and smiles of pride.



Arts Week 2024

This half term we held our annual Arts Week, celebrating Music, Art and Drama across the whole of school. Using the theme 'One World. One Chance'. Staff delivered a range of workshops giving the students opportunities to explore new and exciting activities, such as song writing and pot throwing. A range of artists and performers came in to school to work with our students such as Aestus quartet from the Royal Northern College of Music, All Days petting farm and Freak Dance. We also had the pleasure of inviting Y5 students from Unsworth Primary School to work with our students to make ceramic bird houses. In addition to arts taking place in school, we took the opportunity to get out and about in the community to visit Bury Art Gallery and the Museum of Science and Industry. We concluded our brilliant week with a themed assembly and a disco in the afternoon.

Elms Bank would also like to say a huge thank you to Bury Grammar School for inviting us to work in their art department for a morning. The students involved enjoyed working in a different environment and had a great time.



Etihad Football Stadium



A team of female students from all year groups attended a girl football tournament at the Etihad Stadium and secured an impressive victory with a score of 6-2. This achievement is even more remarkable considering that only one of them had prior experience of playing football. Congratulations to our talented ladies on this fantastic win!

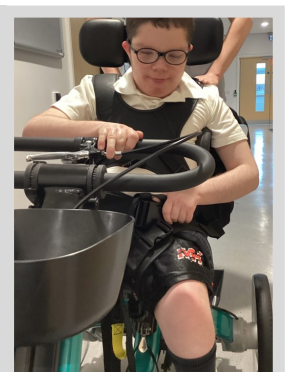
Our students also participated in a street to stadium competition, engaging in throwing, running and jumping activities. We are proud to announce that Elms Bank students brought home both gold and bronze medals from this event. Well done to all participants for their hard work and dedication!



New Physio Trike!

In Spring Term our pupils in Thrive had an opportunity to experience the new physio trike. They enjoyed taking it for a spin!

New time slots will be implemented by the Physio team so that pupils can access the trike on a regular basis.



Free School Meals

Are you entitled?

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit - and your earned income is less than £7,400 a year, after tax and not including any benefits
- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, providing you are do not get Working Tax Credit, and your annual gross income is less than £16,190
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you get Working Tax Credits you will not be eligible unless you are receiving the four week 'run on' payment after stopping work.

Free School meals are also available for eligible households with:

- children at local authority-maintained nurseries, providing they receive education before and after lunch
- students aged between 16 and 19 who go to Elms Bank College
- students who receive Income Support or Income-based Jobseekers Allowance in their own right

If you think your child may be eligible, please visit www.bury.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Bridgewater Hall

This term, the Elms Bank choir joined forces with lots of other learners within our local area to perform at ALFA's annual showcasing event. Pupils from various schools joined to create an unforgettable musical spectacle, set against the majestic backdrop of one of Manchester's cultural gems. This event was a celebration of community, collaboration and raw talent as the audience had the opportunity to witness a variety of musical performances from ALFA learners. Elms Bank wowed the audience with their rendition of 'Sweet Caroline' and 'A Million Dreams' which was received with a standing ovation and lots of cheering from the crowd!

What truly elevated this event was the inclusion of numerous choirs from the local area. Each choir brought its unique flavour and passion, infusing the performance with diversity and richness. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the spirit of inclusivity and unity that can be shared through music. Every participant contributed to the tapestry of sound, fostering a sense of belonging and pride within the community.

At the heart of the performance was the captivating synergy between pupils and the esteemed ALFA ensemble. Their partnership ignited the stage, breathing life into every note and rhythm. The hall echoed with the blend of voices and instruments, showcasing the hard work and dedication of the students involved.



On World Book Day, students, and staff from across the school showcased a love of reading as they shared their favourite books, comics and texts.

Students participated in a variety of workshops. They included a visit from an author of Science Fiction, Ian C Douglas.

We also welcomed a visitor from *The Crazy Comic Club*, who supported participants to create a comic strip that represented characters from popular comics.

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

7 MARCH 2024



Visit from Birds of prey!



Birds of prey linked to key characters from the books and films such as, Hedwig from *Harry Potter* and Kes from *A Kestrel for A Knave*, took flight in the Sports Hall.

Divergent Drama

Delivered a sensory story to students in Thrive and Explore, linked to the popular fictional text of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.



Excellence for All

All about...ears

At 17 my hearing had deteriorated = profound hearing loss

I had lots of assessments & tests

it took a year!

cochlear implants were suggested

I did some RESEARCH

2 TYPES!

I needed 2

I had surgery to put magnets under my skin

I wasn't sure! THEY ARE PERMANENT

I have to look after them

It took 2 months to get used to them

They aren't waterproof

recognising sounds

They're not for everyone but I recommend exploring them!

I'm 19 and was diagnosed with hearing loss at 6

Now my hearing is really good! My speech is clearer! I'm less isolated and more confident!

My cochlear journey

Alisha Sadique with Marie McGee

thinkbigpicture.co.uk

Ex-student Alisha produced this great visual from a talk at the online Alstrom conference. This is Alisha's contribution to the charity she is an ambassador for.

Cricket

Even with the snow falling and dusting our paths, Lancashire Cricket managed to conduct sessions with our Year 7 students. They had a fantastic time playing indoor cricket.



Thrive students participated in a table cricket session thanks to @LancashireCricket when they visited our school. The students had a smashing time learning and playing the game. The session was a great success and they cannot wait for next week.



Bendrigg

What an amazing week at Bendrigg Trust with a wonderful group of students and staff. Everyone enjoying canoeing, climbing, abseiling, zip wiring, biking, swinging and great times together in the outdoors!!

Canoeing in the lakes enjoying the scenery followed by campfire and marshmallows.



Forest School

Lawrence wrapped up warm and had a great Forest School session in the snow. We warmed ourselves up with s'mores on the fire and hot juice. Then we hid in the den and relaxed on the hammock!



Happy Holidays

