

ELMS BANK NEWSLETTER



ElmsBank
School & College

Summer 2026



A WARM WELCOME



As we come to the end of another successful and memorable school year, I am delighted to reflect on the many achievements, experiences and opportunities that have made this Summer term so special for our Elms Bank community. Our pupils & students have embraced every opportunity to learn, explore & challenge themselves. From the inspiring visit to RHS Bridgewater, to our college students helping to nurture and release beautiful peacock butterflies into the local environment.

This term has also been a celebration of determination and resilience. We are incredibly proud of our Duke of Edinburgh participants, who successfully completed their Bronze and Silver expeditions. Whether walking through local beauty spots or facing the challenging weather conditions of the Derbyshire Dales.

Our choir has once again represented Elms Bank brilliantly, performing at both the Together Trust Music and Performing Showcase at The Lowry and the ALFA Music Celebration.

We have also enjoyed some truly memorable experiences this term. A group of pupils had the exciting opportunity to visit Wimbledon, experiencing the unique atmosphere of one of the world's most prestigious sporting events. The trip provided pupils with a wonderful insight into elite sport and created lasting memories for everyone involved.

There have also been many opportunities for pupils to develop friendships, confidence and independence through enrichment activities, including the residential visit to the Wingate Centre.

One of the highlights of the end of term has been our school production, Rock Rebellion, which took place earlier this week. The performances were a tremendous success and showcased the creativity, confidence and talent of our pupils. From the performers on stage to the staff working behind the scenes, everyone played their part in creating a fantastic show that was thoroughly enjoyed by families, friends and staff. We are incredibly proud of all involved and grateful for the support from our school community.

As another academic year comes to an end, I would like to thank our dedicated staff, supportive families and governors for their continued commitment to our school community. Most importantly, thank you to our fantastic pupils and students, who continue to impress us every day with their kindness, determination and achievements.

I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable summer break and look forward to welcoming pupils and students back in September for another exciting year at Elms Bank.

Kind regards,
Catherine Dent, Headteacher

Term Dates

School and College re-opens on
Wednesday 2 September 2026
at 8.50am

Autumn Term

Closes on Friday 23 October
(Finish time - 2.00pm)
Opens Monday 2 November

Closes on Friday 18 December
(2pm Finish)
Opens Tuesday 5 January 2027

RHS BRIDGEWATER

College students on the Land Based Studies course took a day out to the RHS Bridgewater to take in the world-class gardens set in the historical grounds of Worsley Hall in Salford.

The group were looking for inspiration from the planting schemes, colour, structures and of course relaxation during the busy visit on a very lovely sunny day in June.

A visit well worth a trip if you can.





WINGATE RESIDENTIAL

Some of our Thrive pupils attended a residential at the Wingate Centre in Nantwich. Pupils loved experiencing the outdoor areas before the rain started pouring. We went for a wet weather walk around the local area and saw a narrow boat on the canal. We experienced a gym and rebound session. Pupils loved socialising and spending time together. We also loved spending time in the light room.

A good time was had by all! Hopefully next time, we will have some more sunshine!



BUTTERFLIES

Elms Bank College was given the opportunity to help increase the butterfly population in the area by keeping 12 caterpillars in a specifically designed pen.

They had the responsibility for feeding and housekeeping until they developed into a chrysalis before emerging as a beautiful peacock butterfly. The group then took the time to release them into the local area.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Your child may be able to get free school meals.



If you think your child may be eligible, please visit -
www.burycouncil.gov.uk
freeschoolmeals@bury.gov.uk
0161 253 5858

ROBLOX

Roblox remains hugely popular with kids, offering tools to build and share custom games. The guide outlines essential safety advice, from handling in-app purchases to steering clear of online daters and unsafe stranger contact.



For more information and the full leaflet visit:
our website - www.elmsbank.com > **Key Information > E-Safety > Guide to Roblox Safety**



BLACKPOOL ZOO AND PLEASURE BEACH

Pupils from the Austen and Palmer Nurture classes enjoyed an exciting day out at Blackpool Pleasure Beach as part of their KS4 Oak Experiences programme. Blessed with beautiful sunshine throughout the day, pupils showed fantastic confidence and resilience as they tackled some of the park's biggest thrill rides, including The Big One, Infusion, and the park's brand-new attraction, Aviktas. The pupils embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and were a credit to the school, supporting one another and making the most of the experience. Staff also joined in the fun and managed to brave a few rides themselves, although it is fair to say that the pupils proved to be much more fearless than the teachers! A special mention goes to Mrs Farnworth, who took on the important role of Chief Bag Holder for much of the day, ensuring everyone's belongings were kept safe while pupils raced off to enjoy the rides. It was a memorable day filled with laughter, excitement, sunshine, and lots of happy memories.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

This summer term, two groups of pupils from Elms Bank College successfully completed their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Awards.

Our Bronze group took on their expedition around Radcliffe, making the most of local beauty spots including the Irwell Sculpture Trail, Philips Park and Prestwich Clough. After a fantastic day's walking, they camped overnight at Giants Seat Campsite. In the evening, with the sunny May weather we had loads of fun with music provided by Colin Lindo and his fantastic sound system.



Our Silver group faced a much tougher challenge; after travelling to the Derbyshire Dales for their three-day expedition, they were greeted by some particularly challenging June weather. Despite the conditions, every participant demonstrated outstanding determination, resilience and teamwork throughout the expedition. We were based at Mandale Campsite, near Buxton, where we enjoyed a lovely first evening, complete with s'mores around the fire pit and a visit from Mrs Cass. Unfortunately, the weather soon took a turn for the worse, and the following two days truly tested the group's resilience. We are delighted to say that every pupil rose to the challenge and successfully completed their expedition with flying colours.

Congratulations to all of our Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants on this fantastic achievement. We are incredibly proud of you all!



WIMBLEDON

On Tuesday 7 July, 7 pupils from across KS4 & KS5 were selected to attend Wimbledon 2026. Staff and pupils were up early to catch the train to London and then navigate the London Underground to Wimbledon. Arriving in the afternoon pupils were lucky enough to see Jannik Sinner win his quarter final match 3-0. Pupils spent some time exploring the Wimbledon grounds and some even managed to sample the famous strawberries & cream! All pupils showed excellent maturity and behaviour throughout the day.



CHOIR EVENTS

Music and Performing Showcase

Our choir recently had the privilege of performing on the Lowry stage as part of an event organised by Together Trust, celebrating inclusion through the performing arts for children and young people with SEND.

The pupils sang beautifully and were a credit to the school throughout the day. It was a fantastic opportunity to perform in such a special venue while being part of an event that celebrated inclusion and the joy of making music together.

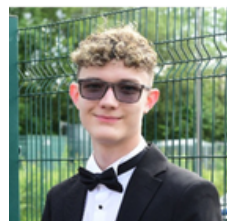
Alfa Music Celebration

Our choir took part in the annual ALFA concert, joining schools from across the area to celebrate a year of music-making. ALFA, the organisation that provides our pupils with music lessons, organised the event, giving our choir the opportunity to perform in front of an audience of more than 200 people.

Despite it being a long day, the pupils were outstanding from start to finish. Their behaviour was exceptional and was praised by staff from other schools, who commented on what a credit they were to our school. The choir performed with confidence and enthusiasm, taking to the stage without being fazed by the large audience. Their performance was moving and well received, with many parents visibly emotional as they watched.

A huge thank you goes to the dedicated staff who supported the pupils throughout the day and helped make the experience such a success. We are incredibly proud of every member of the choir for representing the school so brilliantly in both events.

PROM 2026



EXAM RESULTS SUMMER 2026

Any pupil that sat examinations this Summer, the results will be available for collection from the School Office on Thursday 20 August 2026 between 9.00am – 10.00am.

Good luck!

