



ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025

Our very busy and fun filled summer term rounds up the academic year of 24-25. From Arts Week, to Prom, to various sports activities, it has been wonderful to see our learners grow as individuals and to begin to understand their own personal strengths and interests.

Like all staff here at Mary Elliot this year, I am so very proud of all that our learners have accomplished and I look forward to greeting our wonderful student community again in September.

Have a wonderful summer everyone and thank you again for all your support of Mary Elliot!

Autumn Term Dates:

School closed to Students: Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd September, Monday 3rd November

School open to students: Wednesday 3rd September – Friday 24th October 2025

Half term: Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October 2025

School open to students: Tuesday 4th November – Friday 19th December 2025

Prom and Graduation:

This year we celebrated our leavers with our very special Country and Western themed prom and graduation. This gave students (and staff) the chance to dress up and decorate the school in country and western themed decorations. During the day we received a very special visit from 'Spirit' a Therapy Shetland Pony as well as some chickens, rabbits and guinea pigs, two luxury sports cars and some live music courtesy of a fantastic country singer.

The formal graduation was an emotional event for students, staff and parents. Students received their diplomas, official Graduate framed photograph, gifts. We are extremely proud of our leavers and everything that they have achieved during their time at Mary Elliot Academy and we wish them every success for the future!

Cinema Trip:

As part of the Independence and Community sessions, students have been looking at careers and were offered the opportunity to visit the Light Cinema in Walsall and explore how it works. Students learnt about what jobs roles are available and the skills and personality traits that are required for a career working at the cinema. Students were given a guided tour of the building by the manager, where they were able to sneak behind the scenes and see how the cinema really works and even managed to see the projection booth.

Arts Week:

Our annual Arts Week took place 30th June – 4th July. Arts week enables our students to broaden their access to cultural events and prepare for adulthood by taking part in rich and diverse leisure experiences.

Among this years external visitors, we welcomed Big Top Music and Open Theatre Company where students were able to experience multi-sensory music making and non-verbal drama and mime activities.

As well as working with our visitors, students accessed arts and crafts activities within their classes and departments and our school choir, the Mary Elliot Music Makers had been developing their singing and signing skills by learning new songs – which we are extremely excited to hear.

PMLD Garden:

We have an exciting new feature at the front of our school, thanks to the hard work of our PMLD department.

The new upcycled garden has been created as part of a project that students and staff have been working on as part of their 'Community and Lifetsyle' lessons.

Students have planted seeds, designed plant pots and worked extremely hard to design an eye catching garden. Including the creation of Rosco the snake.

