

Parent Weekly Update - 17 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, I want to sincerely thank you all for your continued support, patience and generosity during 2019/20, a year which brought unimaginable challenges never before experienced.

One of the disappointing and sad consequences of lockdown has been that we have all missed out on the usual celebrations which make the summer term so special, from sports days, prize givings, summer art exhibition, summer concert, Year 11 Prom, the residential trips to Lake Garda, Condover Hall, Battlefields (Belgium and France), Dusseldorf and the France PGL to name just a few. The most difficult of all is not being able to say goodbye to the Year 11 pupils and the abrupt end to their life at Etonbury is hugely disappointing for all of us. I really look forward to seeing them for their results day and I know Mr Harpin has a special surprise for them on the day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff at the school for their incredible hard work this year. It has been a challenging time and I know we are all looking forward to getting back to school in September. I would like to offer particular thanks to colleagues who will be leaving us this summer Mrs White, Mrs Whent, Miss Gregory, Miss Binks, Mrs Smart, and Mde Pladeau for their contributions to Etonbury during their time here.

This year has provided us with many challenges however we do have lots to celebrate; numerous refurbishment projects, the introduction of the Primary model at Etonbury Juniors, the GOOD Ofsted judgement in February and our inclusion in the GOVT IQ Top 100 high performing and most improved schools, to name a few.

Our plans for full opening in September have been agreed in principle by the Trustees and we will obviously keep you informed if we have any changes to the information we provided last week.

Finally, I hope you all have an excellent summer and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 7 September.

Regards

Mr Evason

Principal

ALL YEAR GROUPS

Allocation of Form Groups for September - You should by now have received a letter detailing what form your child will be in for September and who their form tutor will be. **If you have not** please, email mcraddock@bestacademies.org.uk directly to find out your allocation.

[Letter for Year 7 in September 2020](#)

[Letter for All other Years in September 2020](#)

Letter from Central Bedfordshire Council - Director of Public Health

<https://centralbedfordshire.app.box.com/s/ugkmrvphtvylaj3cdiyn47kscnowfp9j>

The New Normal - In case any of you are apprehensive about returning to school in September, the slide show linked below will give you some idea of the measures we are putting in place to minimise the risk to all.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/149B5i9BzJw8Bpkdxn7mS8wOoZURX0VAFgTkeUxMO4Ww/edit?usp=sharing>

Public transport - The government guidance requests that pupils and parents should be encouraged not to use public transport and that pupils should be encouraged to walk or cycle to school where possible. Where this is not possible, pupils and parents should read the [safer travel guidance for passengers](#). If you do plan to use public transport, we have been trying to engage with both Arriva and Centrebus for the past few weeks on your behalf and have received a response from Centrebus below but have not received any information from Arriva as yet. Due to the slight changes in the school day for Year 5 and 6, the bus will arrive 'in time for lessons' if it is in service, so there is no need to worry about your child missing any lesson time.

'At the moment we are still awaiting government guidance on school services/journeys for September, so I am unable to comment what arrangements will be in place at the moment. The 96/96A is funded by Central Bedfordshire Council, so we will be working closely with them to meet any requirements that they put in place. Please ask parents to keep an eye on our website www.centrebus.info, as any updates or changes will be displayed there.'

Breakfast Club will resume on Tue 8 Sept - Available for all years at a cost of £2.00 per day from 7.30am - 8.15am. Please email Mr Jack Downes on jdownes@bestacademies.org.uk if you require a place for your child. Breakfast Club will be held in the Student Study Centre.

After School Child Care Provision - Etonbury Extra - is available for all years at a cost of £5.00 per session (3.15pm/3.30pm - 6.00pm). Please register here should you require it:

<https://forms.gle/faEodqn2QpKPXC1x8> Any queries please email eta-asc@bestacademies.org.uk .

Etonbury's parental support page - [Click here](#) to access agencies offering parental support over the school holidays from our website.

Free School Meal vouchers - For those who have registered to receive the free school meal vouchers, we have instructed Edenred to send these out in the first week of the holidays to cover you for the whole seven weeks. If you have any queries, please email Edenred at freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com

Healthy Eating (guidance from DfE) - We encourage families to consider making choices that contribute to a healthy balanced diet. There are also a number of ideas and tips available online to support families in preparing healthy meals, including the [Change4life recipes](#) and [NHS Eat Well](#) website.

PE Challenge - Staff vs Students vs Parents/Carers Results - thank you to everyone who took part in our challenge. The results at the moment are as follows:

Students - 151

Parents/ guardians - 143

Staff - 57

PE - Guidelines and delivery of Physical Education for September 2020 - Please [click here](#) for information.

Art and Photography online exhibition - This year we have been unable to celebrate our Year 11 student success with an end of year exhibition, so we have decided to celebrate with an online exhibition. We would like to invite you all to celebrate with us and take a virtual tour around the works of our fabulous Year 11 Art and Photography students. The exhibition launch is on Thursday 20 August 2020 and the link to the ETA Gallery will be on our school website. Enjoy.

Academic Interventions - On our return to school in September, students will be receiving well being support during form times, in order to help them readjust to school life. To allow students to focus on their well-being, academic interventions are expected to begin week beginning 21st September 2020.

Science Snippets 6 - [Click here](#) for more fun science facts.

Instrumental and Vocal Lessons - Following government guidance we are hoping to recommence our instrumental and vocal tuition on site at Etonbury from September; this will be reviewed when schools reopen after the Summer. Learning an instrument not only has musical benefits but it has also been linked to boosting memory, processing and reading skills and it has been shown to boost blood flow in the brain and reduce stress and depression.

If you are interested in having music lessons then you can sign up using one of the options below.

Guitar Lessons;

Contact **Allan Simpson** - email; alsimpsontr@gmail.com

Piano Lessons;

Contact **Boris Peck** - email; boris_peck@hotmail.com, phone; 07884057278

All other instruments and voice - Follow this link to the Inspiring Music Website and sign up for a taster session. <https://www.inspiringmusic.co.uk/lessons-schools/suitable-instrument>

Two-Tier Consultation Results - [Click here](#) for the covering letter and [click here](#) for the report.

Uniform shop - If you are requiring uniform, the supplier has now opened their Peterborough premises for you to make an appointment if you so wish. Go to <https://totalclothing.co.uk/book-online/> or order uniform online at <https://www.totalclothingshop.co.uk/etonbury>

ETONBURY JUNIORS - Email ETA-Primary@bestacademies.org.uk

Year 6 in to 7 uniform - Please remember to place your order for your child's blazer (compulsory) and skirt (if preferred). Jumpers are not compulsory in the upper years, and you can continue to use their jumper from Year 6. The uniform supplier has opened their Peterborough premises for you to make an appointment if you so wish. Go to <https://totalclothing.co.uk/book-online/> . Otherwise, please go to their website for fitting guides and to order at <https://www.totalclothingshop.co.uk/etonbury>

UPPER YEARS

Year 11 Art and Photography Students - If you have any Art or Photography work at home please keep it in a safe place in case we require it's return in the near future. Thank you Mrs Parsons.

Year 11 GCSE Results Day - GCSE results day takes place on **Thursday 20 August** and students will be allowed to collect results **from 8.00am until 11.00am**. With the current guidance on social distancing, the collection of results will be slightly different, with **students only** collecting their results from the side of the hall. Once students have collected their results, teachers and careers advice will be available. Closer to the time, you will receive a frequently asked questions document that will answer some of the questions you may have prior to the day.

Current Years 7 and 8 - KS3 Summer Reading Challenge - Please [click here](#) for more information about the Etonbury Summer Reading Challenge for students in Year 7 and 8. This challenge will be monitored using Accelerated Reader. Please [click here](#) for information about Accelerated Reader.

Current Year 9 and 10 - KS4 Suggested Summer Reads - Please [click here](#) to see a list of suggested summer reads. We recommend that students who will be in Years 10 and 11 next year attempt to read some of the books on this list. Well read students often perform better in their English GCSEs.

Careers Guidance -

Year 10 Important Post 16 options - [This powerpoint presentation](#) will explain all the options students have after leaving Etonbury. It's full of useful information and links to start exploring which pathway they would like to take. It's important to note that Sixth Form applications close between the end of December 2020 - January 2021 depending on where you are applying to.

[Go to the careers page on our website](#)

Careers - Year 11 URGENT Information on post 16 apprenticeships 2020

If you do not have a confirmed apprenticeship then go to <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

ETA Careers Newsletter - This is packed full of information, support and guidance for both students and parents. <https://www.etonbury.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=682&type=pdf>

Success at School's careers guide - Packed full of advice to help you steer your child through the confusing world of career choices. Please click below to register for the free download 'Helping your child begin their career Journey'. <https://mc.successatschool.org/parents-ebook>

HAVE A WONDERFUL AND SAFE SUMMER BREAK!