

Etonbury Academy Weekly Update – 8 September 2017

All/Mixed Years

- **Mobile Phones in School**

I wanted to clarify our rules surrounding phones within school. We want our students to use their phones in a healthy responsible manner, to that end we do not “ban” mobile phones at Etonbury but we do apply rules.

Students should put their phones away once they are on the school site in the morning. Years 5 & 6 hand their phones in to their tutor at the start of the day and collect them at the end of the day. For all other years they should ensure their phones are put away until 3.30pm- when the school day ends. A member of staff may give permission during a lesson for students to use their phones- this is perfectly fine. But, at the end of that lesson, phones need to be put away again.

If a student has their phone out then a member of staff may confiscate it. If this occurs it will be placed in a clear bag labelled with the student’s name and kept in reception in a locked cupboard. If it is the first time this has occurred the student will be able to collect the phone from reception after school has finished. If it is not then an email will be sent to the parent/carer for them to come in and collect the phone after 3.30pm.

We really want our students to socialise and interact with one another rather than be glued to a small screen, I hope that we have your support in our work.

I am attaching a link below from the BBC website that is a very interesting clip from a US study to the effects of smartphones on teenagers, please watch it. Best wishes, Mr Chris Redding.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-us-canada-41114887/how-are-smartphones-affecting-teenagers>

- **School Clubs List Autumn Term** – Please see the attached table which shows the wide range of clubs we offer at Etonbury Academy. All students are welcome at all clubs (for the year groups/key stage that the student is in). We encourage the students to try a range of clubs but they are welcome to swap and change as the term progresses. During the term some new clubs may be added and the students should look out for the posters advertising them and announcements in assemblies. Please [click here](#).
- **Music Lunchtime Clubs** – Please [click here](#) to see a poster regarding music lunch clubs.
- **Gardening Club** – Please [click here](#) for more information.
- **Science** – We would be grateful for an old rubber doormat, any wind-up toys and all old geraniums from summer that can be re-potted. Thank you.
- **PE Clubs List Autumn Term** – Please [click here](#).
- **PE footwear** - Your child will need football boots this year for P.E. and Fitness. As some of our lessons and clubs will be held on the 3G pitch it is essential that the correct football boots are worn. This poster displays what footwear is acceptable and unacceptable, please [click here](#).
- **New BEST Chief Operating Officer** – Please [click here](#) for letter

- **Bedfordshire School Trust Twitter Account** – please follow us @BedsSchTrust.

Year 5

- **Mrs Sinden** – Mrs Sinden will now be known as Mrs Smyth, her new email address will be tsmyth@bestacademies.org.uk
- **Conover Hall Residential Trip** – Please look out for letter regarding this trip that will be sent out shortly. Details of consent and first payment will be included in this letter. Thank you.
- **Lockers** -The lockers are owned by ILS and are available to rent on an annual basis. The rental cost is £25 per year. Go to www.ilsschools.co.uk . There is no discount for lockers booked later in the year. Any queries regarding the lockers are dealt with online by ILS.

Year 6

- **Harry Potter Trip (Thurs 7th Dec)** - We are delighted to be able to take the year 6 students to the Warner Brother Studios Tour on the 7th December. Please [click here](#) for the letter. We apologise for asking for payment so soon into the new school year but we have to confirm numbers and pay for the tickets at the start of October.
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Year 7

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Year 8

- **Life Skills** - Mr Bodger will be teaching all year 8s Life Skills, one lesson per week. In the first lesson, he will be showing them that their mobile phone is not just for social media. The modern day mobile phone is a powerful computer in your pocket. If your child normally brings their mobile phone to school, then Mr Bodger is going to show and talk about some of the useful features like the Calendar. Therefore, in this instance your child will be allowed and encouraged to use their mobile in that lesson. Don't worry if your child doesn't have or bring a mobile to school. Similar Calendar features will be shown on Chromebooks. Your child should know the day they have Mr Bodger's lesson.
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Year 9

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Year 10

- **Lockers** –The lockers are owned by ILS and are available to rent on an annual basis. The rental cost is £25 per year. Go to www.ilsschools.co.uk . There is no discount for lockers booked later in the year. Any queries regarding the lockers are dealt with online by ILS.

Other Items of Interest

- **Salvation Army Stotfold** – Youth Club (Years 6, 7 & 8) starts on Wednesday 23 September at 6.30 pm.
- **Luton Town FC, Skills Performance Centres 2017-18** – Please [click here](#) for more information.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 7th December – Year 6 Trip to Harry Potter, Warner Bros Studios

Let us know what you think about these emails. Have you got any suggestions?
Please email etaoffice@bestacademies.org.uk