



26 January 2024

Principal Message

At Etonbury this week, students met with their academic mentors for important sessions that make a difference to their academic journey and the entire school community. Academic Mentors work to support pupils to achieve their academic goals, assisting pupils to achieve their learning outcomes. Additionally, Junior and KS3 parents were invited to parent consultations to discuss their child's progress and work in partnership with the school to support learning and wellbeing both at school and home.

Please don't forget that our Form Tutors and Teachers are always there to support and answer any questions throughout the year, please don't wait for our parent evenings. It's important that you remain in contact. Email is the best method of communication as they are often teaching throughout the day.

In the Secondary School our Year 9s have completed their second week of option taster lessons, I do hope you have heard about these at home and they are proving to be a valuable insight into our subjects on offer. Our specialist teachers really enjoy showcasing their subjects, and supporting the children in their decision making.

I have been meeting with school leaders and heads of departments over these past few weeks to discuss data and their plans to support the academic progress of our students. Our academic calendar is an essential part of our commitment to help all students aim higher, not just those who are top performers.

Have a restful weekend.

Best wishes.

Mrs. J Young - Principal

WHOLE SCHOOL MESSAGES



Important Reminder

Please ensure your child/ren arrive at school each day with all their necessary belongings for the day ahead. This includes, a bag, lunch, water bottle, PE kit, homework, glasses, stationery, coat, locker keys and mobile phone where applicable.

We are encouraging the children to be independent and organised and would appreciate full support from home to ensure all items arrive with the children at drop off times in the morning and not via the school office. *Learning to get organised, stay focused, and get things done are must-have skills when it comes to schoolwork.*

Queries & Contacting School

Should you wish to contact our staff regarding your child, we ask that you email the relevant member of staff in the first instance. This could be Form Tutor or Head of Year with a pastoral matter or subject teacher if the matter is related to academic issues. Our staff will respond to you in a timely manner and will endeavour to acknowledge your request at their earliest availability, as staff will have teaching commitments throughout the day and it may be towards the end of the day before they are available to respond to you, this will always be within 48 hours.



As a school we always endeavour to work with you and achieve the best for your child. We would ask that your communications and interactions with our staff are polite and respectful, as we always aim to act in the best interests of your child.

To view our staff list and contact details please [click here](#).

Term Dates - [2023 / 2024](#)



Please click [HERE](#) to view the lunch menu.

Masterpiece of the Month

Please [click here](#) to see the winners of this month's masterpiece of the month. Congratulations, we appreciate and recognise your hard work and talent.



Safer Streets Programme for Years 5 to 8

In May we have Luton Womens Centre delivering workshops to years 5-8, raising awareness for VAWG, funded by Bedfordshire safer streets programme. Please see the following links for further workshops on raising boys and parenting in Feb/March, should you be interested'



[Safer Streets Raising Boys](#)

[Parenting Flyer](#)

Recruitment @ Etonbury

We currently have a number of vacancies at school:

Teaching

- Head of MFL
- Science Teacher – KS5 Chemistry Lead

Support

- Teaching Assistants
- Exam Invigilators



Please visit <https://www.etonbury.org.uk/vacancies> to register your interest or apply for a post via My New Term.

PE DEPARTMENT



The PE Department are a team of enthusiastic and passionate and inspiring teachers who have been together at Etonbury for 5 years and they share a range of specialisms including Dance, Football,



Netball and Gymnastics. We teach all students from Year 5 to 12 in PE lessons and are lucky enough to have fantastic facilities including 3G, Pendleton, Gym, Hall, Playground and large field for our lessons, clubs and fixtures. As a team, we are so grateful for all the students who help us in clubs weekly with the younger students and its wonderful to see the excellent relationships they build.

Physical Education is an integral part of the day to day life.

Our main focus is to prepare and motivate all students to engage in activities, which promote health and well-being.

In Core PE, all students, years 5-11, take part in Football, Netball, Gymnastics, Badminton, Basketball, Athletics, Rounders, Cricket, Football, Table Tennis,



Volleyball, Hockey, Rugby and more!

These sports are rotated each half term so students get a wide range of opportunities. At KS4 we offer GCSE PE and BTEC Sport, and at KS5 (Sixth form) we offer Double (worth 2 a-levels) and Single (1 a level) BTEC Sport courses.



I am proud to be head for our successful PE department. I have been a teacher for 6 years now and spent 5 years of this at Etonbury Academy. In this time, I have been lucky enough to be the form tutor of 11SH since they were in Year 7.

I began my teaching career as a dance teacher for 5 years before Studying Physical Education at the University of Bedfordshire.



When I started teaching at Etonbury we performed the first ever Etonbury dance show! This led to us entering multiple dance competitions where we have been fortunate enough to have lots of success and talented students.

My passions include dance, netball, rounders, swimming and horse riding! I am passionate about sports, fitness and leading healthy active lifestyles. Ensuring lessons are fun, enjoyable and engaging.

As a department we love to celebrate students sporting successes outside of school, please do share these with me via email, shilton@bestadacemies.org.uk

We would like to say a HUGE congratulations to Miss King for passing her apprenticeship this week!



Having studied at Etonbury from Y5-11, she chose to stay & do her apprentice with us & we couldn't be more grateful for all her dedication to PE lessons & Dance over her time!

With the cold weather, please encourage students to bring any colour underlayer/long sleeve top, gloves and a woolly hat for PE lessons.

Shorts must be Etonbury Shorts (not branded), Jogging Bottoms must be plain Navy or Black and Leggings must be Etonbury Leggings. We now have a new design, these have just the badge on the hip and no letters down the leg.

ALL students need football boots for rugby and shin pads for hockey, these are **compulsory** for safety reasons. Gum shields are advised.

Please contact Miss Hilton via email; shilton@bestacademies.org.uk with any concerns or queries.

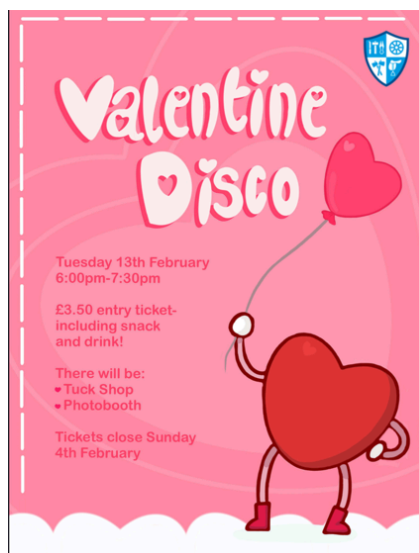
Reminder: No facial piercings are permitted on school site. Any students who come to school with a facial piercing will be expected to cover this up with a plaster or wear a clear retainer. Plain coloured gold or silver ear-studs (not hoops) are permitted. No more than two per ear lobe.

[click here](#) to view visuals of our PE kit.

Follow us on X - [EtonburyPE](#). Facebook [Etonbury PE](#)

Mr Sale - bsale@bestacademies.org.uk Head of Juniors

Junior School Valentine's Disco - Reminder



The Etonbury Academy Sixth Form is organising a Valentine's Disco for years 5 and 6 on Tuesday 13th February at 6:00pm to 7:30pm. If you would like your child to attend, please complete the attached [Valentine's Disco Permission Form](#) and purchase a ticket for £3.50 on the ETA ParentMail system. The ticket price will include a snack and drink, you will find this under the shop heading of the app, please add to basket and then make a payment.

On the evening of the event there will be a Tuck Shop - we would recommend bringing along £2 to purchase items from the tuck shop, ideally in coins. There will also be a Photo Booth - If you would like your child to participate in the Photo Booth experience please provide parental permission when

completing the Valentine's Disco Permission Form.

The Valentine's Disco will take place in the School Hall. Upon arrival Children should enter through the main doors into C Block, adjacent to the School Hall, and be collected at 7:30pm from this entrance point. Please encourage your child to wear comfortable attire and to leave their phone at home. **The closing date for purchasing tickets is Sunday 4th February 2024.**

General Reminders

- Please check timetables via ePraise
- Remember to send your child in with their PE kits on the days this is on their timetable.
- Please ensure your child has their water bottle
- Don't forget to follow ETA Juniors on X - [Etonbury Juniors](#)

YEAR 6

Mrs N Crockford - ncrockford@bestacademies.org.uk

Duxford Trip

Year 6 will be visiting the Imperial War Museum, Duxford next week, Thurs 1 Feb 24. Please [click here](#) for the letter outlining the schedule for the upcoming trip to the museum. Any queries please contact Mr Sale.

SECONDARY SCHOOL (YEARS 7 TO 11)



Student Equipment

Please can you ensure students have the correct equipment with them in school. Pens, pencils, rubber, ruler, pencil sharpener, protractor, compass and scientific calculator.

Lockers

ILS provides lockers for ETA Secondary Students, if you are interested in renting a locker please [click here](#) to view further information for 2024.

YEAR 9

Mrs K Hume – Head of Year 9

Year 9 Options

We are now at that time of year where we begin to think about Key Stage Four Options. The Key Stage Four Prospectus will be sent home prior to half term and along with an invitation to our Options evening, which takes place on Thursday the 29th of February.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate getting in touch with Mr Baga rbaga@bestacademies.org.uk.

- The KS4 Prospectus will go home to parents/carers on **Friday 16th February**
- **Options evening is on Thursday 29th February (6–8pm)**
- Options form deadline for return is **Friday 8th March**

Vaccinations

The School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) will be attending school on- **2nd February 2024** to offer year 9 pupils the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (DTP) and Meningitis ACWY vaccinations.

Please find below a secure link to complete the consent form [click here](#) to view the letter with vaccine information. Forms must be completed and submitted by- **30th January 2024**

DTP/ MEN ACWY E-Consent Link 2024 –Central Beds

YEAR 10

BTEC Performing Arts

It is advisable that students buy this book as part of their course to support them with independent study. It can be ordered online [click here](#).



YEAR 11

Mr D Sutcliffe – Head of Year 11.

Exam Update

Year 11 mocks will be running between **Monday 4th** and **Friday 8th March**.

These exams will be focussing on the core subjects: Maths, English and Science – [click here](#) for a timetable.



All students will now have received an electronic personalised timetable and a printed copy of this will be handed out to them in due course which will indicate room and seat allocations.

Exams are run in accordance with JCQ regulations. It is important that students are familiar with these guidelines. Please see the below links:

- [Information for Candidates – Written Examinations](#)
- [Information for Candidates – Coursework Assessments](#)
- [Information for Candidates – Non-examination assessments](#)
- [Information for Candidates – Preparing to sit your exams](#)

Mathematics Revision Sessions

We are pleased to be able to offer a limited further number of places at our Tuesday afternoon revision sessions. These run from 1530 to 1630 each week.

There are places available in each of three classes:

Higher tier (Grade 7 and above)	Mr Vanner
Higher/Foundation tier (Grades 5 & 5)	Mr Scott
Foundation tier (Grades 4 & 5)	Mrs Sarup

If your son/daughter does not already attend these but you would like them to join this free provision, please would you email Mr Vanner (lvanner@bestacademies.org.uk) or Mr Sutcliffe (dsutcliffe@bestacademies.org.uk).

Higher Revisions Schedule – [click here](#)

Foundation Revision Schedule – [click here](#)

BTEC Performing Arts

It is advisable that students buy this book as part of their course to support them with independent study. It can be ordered [click here](#).



ETA Sixth Form Applications 2024

The application process for Sept 2024 is now open and can be accessed on our website – [ETA Sixth Form Applications – 2024](#). If you would like to book a tour of our Sixth Form facilities please complete the online booking form found on the ETA Sixth Form website or contact Mrs C Dowden: Head of Sixth Form.

Mrs C Dowden – Head of Sixth Form.

Reports

Reports have been issued to students this week, detailing target grades and first predictions. These reports have initiated thinking around post 18 choices and students have been meeting with their mentors to discuss what their options could be. We have been encouraging students to use Unifrog as a reference point and we encourage parents to have conversations at home. Those students thinking of either Apprenticeships or University are encouraged to gain a good understanding of the entry requirements for their chosen area and Unifrog is a tool that helps guide students through this process.

University Open Days

Universities are actively advertising Open Days and we encourage students to visit – we would appreciate two weeks' notice if your child plans to be out of school for this purpose.

UK University Search – London Spring 2024 Fair

An opportunity for students to choose which university or apprenticeship is right for them.

Aimed at students in years 13, 12 & 11, this exciting and informative event will provide attendees with the opportunity to speak to over 120 exhibiting universities and apprenticeship providers. These will include; Russell Group, red brick and modern institutions, as well as apprenticeship providers and local colleges.



<https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/london-spring-2024>

Friday 1st March 2024. From 9.30 am – 2.30 pm at Tottenham Stadium, N17 0BX

National Apprenticeship Week 2024

National Apprenticeship Week 2024 (5 – 11 February) aims to shine a light on the amazing work being done by employers and apprentices across the country, whilst showcasing and encouraging everyone to consider how apprenticeships can help both with new talent and to upskill the existing workforce to develop #skillsforlife. The South East of England event and will be held at: GSK, Stevenage on **Wednesday 7th February – 11am-2pm**



Find out more about ATAC and see what our employers and apprentices say the programme in their case studies at: <https://advancedtherapiesapprenticeships.co.uk/testimonials/>



Calling All Sports Students!

Thinking of a career in sport? check out the link below for a step-by-step guide on how to become a Sports Coach and/or Personal Trainer: [Sports Coach / Personal Trainer guidance](#).

Safeguarding in Sport is an area which will be referred to within apprenticeship, job or university applications... and this FREE course will be great to evidence your In-depth understanding. [Safeguarding in Sport Training](#)

Sixth Form Shout Out's

A shout out to Evie Bridle for producing the Valentine Disco poster - thank you, her poster is published in the Junior section of our bulletin.

Attendance

Our expectation is that students are here for 95% of the time. It is proven that the higher the attendance the higher the grades. We would urge that holidays were not booked during term time. If your child is unwell, please encourage them to attend and we will endeavour to support them here. If a student will not be attending school, please contact the Sixth Form team by phone or email: lschumann@bestacademies.org.uk

CLUB INFORMATION



- **LAMDA Dates** - January: 22nd, 29th, February: 5th, 12th, 26th March: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
- **P.E.** Please click [here](#) to view this half terms timetable.
- **Extra-curricular Complete Clubs List** - please [click here](#) to view.
- **Homework timetable** - [click here to view](#).
- **Homework Club** runs every Monday and Tuesday after school with Miss Nicole.

ETA Debate Club

The debate club is coming up to a busy time of year. On Tuesday, 30th January, we are hosting a debate run by the Office of the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner, judged by PCC Festus Akinbusoye. If any debate or criminology students would like to come and watch, please arrive for 5.45pm and the competition will end at approximately 8 pm.

In addition, we have entered the International Debate with Hart competition. Last year we had the opportunity to debate with teams from Dubai and America. We have two KS4 teams entered this year and we hope to improve on last year's placings.



Please follow [@ETA_debate](#) on x /Twitter for weekly polls on our lunchtime debates.

ETA debate club

Ms Young - wyoung@bestacademies.org.uk

School of Rock

Rehearsals for School of Rock are every Thursday after school till **5pm** in the main school hall. Children should have already signed up via ePraise, please note the time change this term - **collection is now 5pm**. All students must bring their script, pencil and water bottle to every rehearsal. Thank you. Mrs Brahmachari-Limb ibrahmachari-limb@bestacademies.org.uk

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



- Take a look at other community events, promotions and things happening in the area [click here](#)
- Children's services also have some child focused learning opportunities coming up. Details can be found in the community events section of our website too.
- A therapeutic digital intervention (game) for childhood anxiety Luma Nova.
- Autism Bedfordshire Conference 2024
- Autism Online Workshops

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Mon 29 Jan	Year 12 Art Trip
Tues 30 Jan	Juniors Meet the Tutor Evening
Thurs 1 Feb	Year 6 Duxford Trip
Fri 2 Feb	Year 9 DTP Vaccine
Mon 5 Feb	Year 11 Science Trip
Tues 13 Feb	Junior Disco
Weds 14 Feb	Year 12 Geography Trip
Thurs 29 Feb	Year 9 Options Evening

Everyone is respectful - Together we care - Always aim higher

You are receiving this because you are a Student, Parent, Carer, Governor or Member of Staff at ETA.

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@EtonburyAcademy @Etonbury

