



2 February 2024

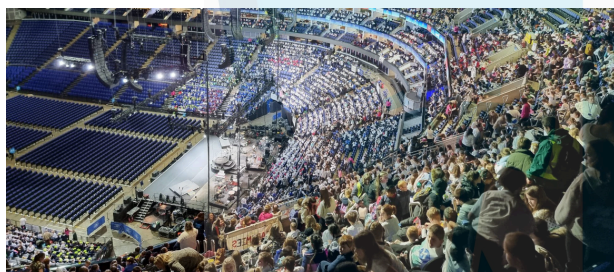
Principal Message

Today we had the pleasure of welcoming Mr Beard, The High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, to Etonbury Academy. The occasion allowed us to exhibit our school, students, staff, and facilities. Mr Beard was impressed with our facilities and was full of praise for everyone he met, commending the school's ethos.



Our Young Voices choir recently visited the O2 to take part in the annual Young Voices Concert. Young Voices sees schools from across the country coming together to perform in the biggest children's choir in the world.

The concert, which aimed to celebrate the power of music and foster a love for singing among young people, exceeded all expectations. The children from Etonbury, brimming with passion and talent, delivered an amazing performance.



We are immensely proud of our students and grateful to all the staff involved in making the Young Voices concert a resounding success. Events like these not only showcase the immense talent within our school, but also instil a love for music and the arts in our students."

Our 6th form Art and Photography students had an exciting day trip to London by train this week. They managed to visit multiple places in just one day, including the Ekkyklema Exhibition by Jenny Saville, ROSL Photo 2023, The National Portrait Gallery, The Photographers Gallery, and Russel Howard's Dreamland.

The highlight of the day for the students was observing the intricate impasto painting style used in Jenny Saville's Ekkyklema work. The group also enjoyed perusing the art on display in the National Portrait Gallery, where they were particularly impressed by the Queen Elizabeth 1 painting. While exploring China Town, the students took candid street photographs and drew what they saw.



This Tuesday we hosted a debate run by the Office of the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner, chaired by PCC Festus Akinbusoye. Sixth Form student Samuel wrote – *‘The topic of the debate was discussing the biggest obstacles to social mobility in the UK. Taking part were students from Etonbury and Samuel Whitbread, after a riveting debate with valiant efforts from both sides, Etonbury ultimately prevailed. We would like to commend the efforts of our debate team, Henry and Nour who performed excellently and will be proceeding to the next round on the 15th of February. We would also like to thank the judges, and commend the Samuel Whitbread debate team on their efforts. The debate was followed by an interesting discussion with Mr Akinbusoye, concerning the tactic of pivoting, used by politicians in interviews. Etonbury were the winning debate team!’*



Last Thursday Mrs Harbour-Cooper, the HPA Lead, took the year 10 Wadham Project students to Redbourn School in Ampthill for their second seminar session. Led by Oxford University, it involved seminars on psychology and economics. Each student had a different favourite session: several enjoyed the practical activities of the psychology seminar, which involved carrying out experiments to learn more about how people think and behave. Others enjoyed the economics seminar, in which they considered (on a smaller scale) the logistics involved with feeding a large population of people on limited resources. The next session is a whole day session in March on STEM subjects, which we are all looking forward to.

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](#).

PE Clubs Notification

There are no PE clubs Thursday 8 February next week, due to parents evening.



Term Dates - [2023 / 2024](#)

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



ETONBURY
ACADEMY

WE ARE HIRING!

Teaching Assistant
Exam Invigilators

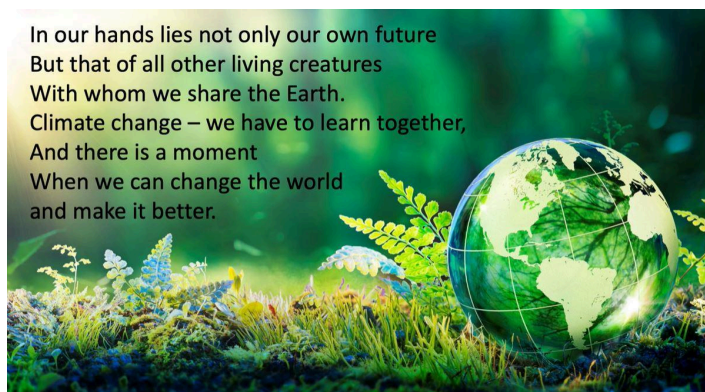
Click to view details & apply!





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

Student Voice [This is the Moment \(Life on Earth\)](#)



SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH'S URGENT MESSAGE IN SONG

Sir David Attenborough's inspirational message about the urgent need to address climate change has been set to music by former Lancashire and North Yorkshire headteacher Brian Beresford, as a completely free song.

A group of children from Whalley CE Primary School, Lancashire, was given the honour of recording the special song. During the project the children discussed climate change, as highlighted by Sir David, and the words used in the song, including, 'There is a moment when we can change the world and make it better: this is the moment'. They also learnt about the recording process, including the way instruments have been mixed with their voices to produce a performance.

They wanted to help communities understand the climate emergency and to share Sir David's inspiration with those singing and hearing the song. He said, "I hope the song reaches a wide audience that can also be inspired by Sir David's message."

The song is found on YouTube channel, by searching for 'This is the Moment (Life on Earth)'.



Red Nose Day

This year Red Nose Day is Fri 15 March. Students may come to school in non-uniform on this day, please ensure this is appropriate for the school day. We are asking for a £1 voluntary donation, please make payment via ParentMail. We have a target this year of £1000.

PE DEPARTMENT



The Year 5 Football Team Triumphs Over Robert Bloomfield – Our Year 5 football team played an away game against Alameda this Monday and won with a score of 4-0. We congratulate everyone who participated, for an excellent performance, as well as Mr. Hair. Goals were scored by Levi, Zachary, and Archie, with star players being Archie and Zachary.



Our Year 10 girls football team showed great resilience and effort in a tough game this week. Poppy was the MVP for her outstanding performance in defence, earning herself a shining star. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Lily for being a fantastic referee.



The Year 5 netball team demonstrated remarkable courage and skill in their recent match against Woodlands. Their victory was a testament to their hard work and dedication. Layla and Bella emerged as the standout players, with their exceptional moves. Isla was outstanding in defence, earning



the coach's praise as the player of the match. Collectively, everyone put in an amazing performance. Their remarkable teamwork and unstoppable skills really stood out – well done, we are very proud of each and every one of you.

Congratulations to our Sports Legends this week. Please see this weekend's X (twitter) and Facebook posts for details celebrating these achievements.

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

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](#)

There are no PE clubs Thursday 8 February next week, due to parents evening

Mr Sale - bsale@bestacademics.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.**

Junior School Arrival Time

Please ensure that your Year 5 / 6 child/children arrive at school between 8:15am and 8:25am. The Junior gate opens at 8:15am sharp and will close at 8:25am prompt. Your cooperation in ensuring punctuality is greatly appreciated.

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](#)

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 would like to provide you with an update regarding Year 9 Options. Tasters have now concluded and given your child(ren) an insight into subjects available at Key Stage Four. The KS4 Prospectus will be sent home digitally on Friday 16th February and provide information on course content, exam boards and who to contact for any questions. When school resumes after half term, the Year 9 Options evening takes place on Thursday 29th February, starting at 6pm. The evening will start with a short talk in the main hall, before you are invited to speak to subject leaders and teachers in the school gym. Option blocks will be shared during this evening and a Google Form will go live, allowing Option forms to be completed.

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**

YEAR 10



History Battlefield trip 2024 Update

Please can all parent /guardians check that their child has a valid UK passport, with at least three months remaining from the date of our return journey, which will be 4th July. If you need to apply for a new passport, this time of year is normally less busy in the passport office and passports are normally issued a few weeks after a successful application.

Can I also remind you that your child will need to have a valid UK GHIC (UK Global Health Insurance) card. This allows for free emergency medical care as we are now no longer in the European Union. If you have an older EHIC card, if it is still in date, then these are still valid. There is no cost for these

cards and an adult with a national Insurance number can apply for one on behalf of their dependents. Please click on this link to apply

<https://services.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/cra/start>

We will be sending out a google form after half term asking for information such as passport numbers and emergency contact and medical details.

Please email me on wyoung@bestacademies.org.uk if you have any questions

YEAR 11

Mr D Sutcliffe - Head of Year 11.

Year 11 Science Trip Reminder

GCSE Science Live at the Dominion theatre in London - **Monday 5th February**. Please see [letter](#) for details of the trip, students will be leaving school at 8.30am prompt so please ensure they arrive for **8.15am**. Students **MUST** wear school uniform. Any queries please contact Mr Lowrie. wlowrie@bestacademies.org.uk



Mock 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.

Summer GCSE Examinations Contingency Days 2024

There are contingency sessions within the Summer 2024 exam timetable - the afternoon of 6 June and 13 June 2024 and the morning and afternoon of 26 June 2024.

We appreciate your child might finish their exams earlier than this, but ask that they are available on all three dates even if they do not have an exam.

The awarding bodies have collectively decided on these contingency days, and are allocated in case of an event of national or significant local disruption to examinations in the UK.

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)

Higher/Foundation tier (Grades 5 & 5)

Foundation tier (Grades 4 & 5)

Mr Vanner

Mr Scott

Mrs Sarup

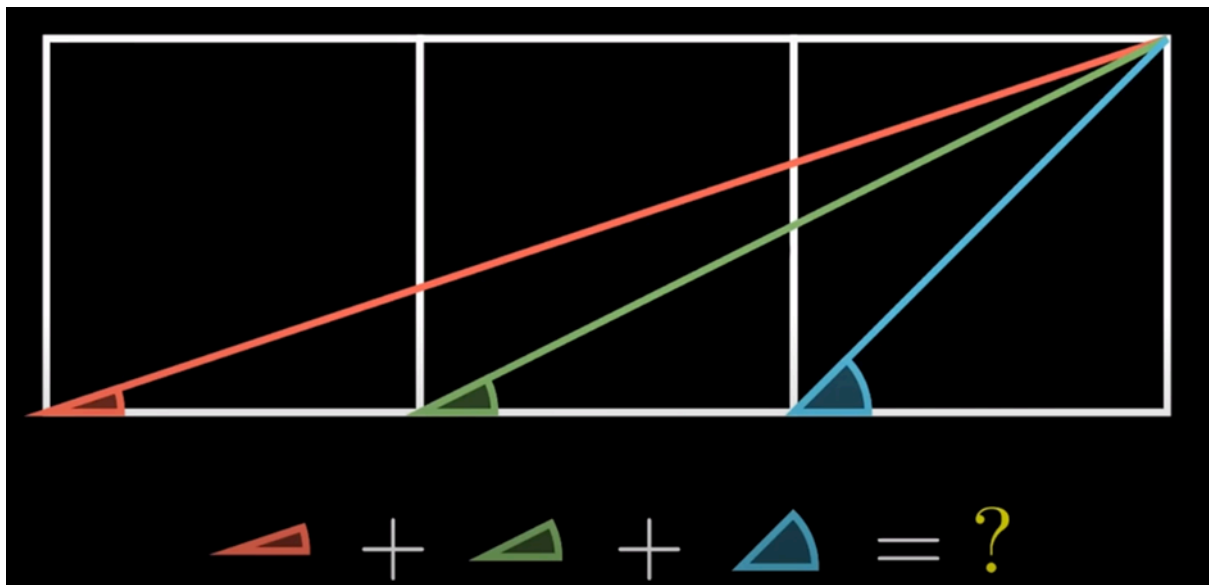
If your son/daughter does not already attend these but you would like them to join this free provision, please would you email Mr Vanner (lvanner@bestacademies.org.uk) or Mr Sutcliffe (dsutcliffe@bestacademies.org.uk).

Higher Revisions Schedule - [click here](#)

Foundation Revision Schedule - [click here](#)

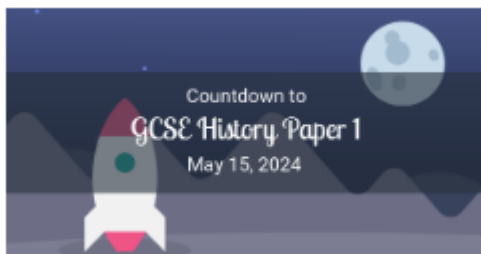
Weekly Maths Challenge from Mr Vanner

Can you find the sum of the 3 marked angles? The solution will be published in next week's bulletin.



GCSE History revision – keep your streak!

Monday 5th February will be 100 days before the first GCSE history paper. You can keep track of the days using this [link](#)



GCSE History Paper 1

Countdown to May 15, 2024. Showing days, hours, minutes and seconds ticking down to 0

www.timeanddate.com

To help with revision, please use this 100 day streak challenge. Just enter the code at joinmyquiz.com. Parents/guardians, see if you can compete against your child too; who can get the most correct the quickest. Try and maintain your streak! Click [here](#) for the code sheet Good luck – Ms Young



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.

Year 12 Silent Auction requests

Year 12 are busy fundraising for their trip to the USA later this year. We are organising a silent auction where the highest secret bidder receives the item. For example, English Heritage have already kindly donated a family day ticket to Wrest Park. Other examples could be a dog walk, wine, flowers or cut and blow dry.



If you would like to donate anything yourselves or you know of any local businesses who would like to promote their services through a donation, please can you contact me on wyoung@bestacademies.org.uk

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

Work Experience – Monday 1st – Friday 5th July 2024

Week commencing July 1st 2024 students will be gaining experience through their chosen work experience placements. We are actively encouraging students to begin thinking about which industry/company they may wish to approach. Unifrog is a great tool for guiding students through the application process, please encourage your child through discussions at home. The [click here](#) for the letter provides further detailed information about the work experience process

UK University and Apprenticeship Search – London Spring 2024 Fair

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

Last week we shared information on this event – the event is such a great opportunity for our students that we have decided to arrange a trip for the whole cohort. We are in the process of organising a bus so that all students can attend. More information will be communicated soon. This will be a great opportunity for students to choose which university or apprenticeship is right for them. It is 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. London Spring Fair 2024

CLUB INFORMATION



- **LAMDA Dates** – 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.

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 jbrahmachari-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.
- Mid Beds Football @ The Pendleton – [click here](#)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Mon 5 Feb	Year 11 Science Trip
Thurs 8 Feb	Meet the Mentor Year 5/6/7/8/9
Tues 13 Feb	Junior Disco
Weds 14 Feb	Year 12 Geography Trip / Year 9 Careers Fair
Fri 16 Feb	Break for Half Term
Mon 26 Feb	Students & Staff Return to School
Thurs 29 Feb	Year 9 Options Evening
Fri 1 March	Year 12 Careers Trip
Tues 5 March	Year 12 Auschwitz Trip
Thurs 7 March	UCAS & Year 12 Parents Consultations

Fri 8 March

Year 12 Cambridge Trip

Fri 15 March

Red Nose Day

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.**

Etonbury Academy

Stotfold Road, Arlesey, SG15 6XS

t. 01462 730391 e. ETAoffice@bestacademies.org.uk



@EtonburyAcademy @Etonbury

