



**1 March 2024**

### **Principal Message**

As ever it's been a pleasure to welcome staff and students back after the half term break.

We are delighted to welcome new members of staff to our school community, Miss Kenny our new Medical Officer, Mrs Greer, Attendance and Behaviour Administrator and Mrs Clark, Pastoral Administrator.

This week we conducted SEND learning walks in school with an external professional. Thank you to everyone for allowing us to observe your lessons. It was lovely to come into your lessons and to see how inclusive your classrooms are and learners actively participating in lessons.

At Etonbury we have a strong tradition of supporting charities at both local and national level as part of our 'develop the learner, develop the person' core value. As you may already know, Friday 15th March, is Comic Relief day. Our school is excited to be joining with many others schools around the UK to participate in the fundraising programme. The School has chosen to raise money by turning **RED** to celebrate Red Nose Day, where we encourage all children to make a small donation, in return for dressing '**red-to-toe**'. So, dust off your ruby slippers, pop on your lobster suit or simply pull on some red socks. If your child has PE on this day, they can either wear suitable PE clothing or bring their school PE kit to change into. We ask that if non uniform is opted for on this day that it is appropriate for the school environment, for example tops worn as part of non uniform are not cropped in nature. We are asking for a £1 voluntary donation, although you can donate more if you wish, via ParentMail. It would be wonderful to be able to achieve the target this year of £1000. Donations can be made at any time until Friday 22nd March. I thank you in advance for your support and donations to Comic Relief.



I would like to wish our year 11 students all the best with their next round of mock exams starting next week. Revision that is undertaken in preparation for these exams will stand the students in good stead as GCSE revision for the real exams starting a few weeks after Easter. I am delighted to witness the high levels of engagement from the students with their attendance at lunchtime and after school interventions. The ETA asks our students to 'Always aim higher' and year 11s are most definitely leading the way in demonstrating this value.

Have a restful weekend.

Best wishes.

**Mrs. J Young - Principal**



### 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](#).



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

### Term Dates - [2024 / 2025](#)

### Etonbury Extra Breakfast Club

To sign up to the breakfast club with Mr Bamford please use [this link](#). ETA Extra Booking Form All this for just £2 a day.

### Etonbury Extra After School Provision

Etonbury Extra, our after school provision runs from 3.30pm (end of school) until 6.00pm Monday to Friday. Please [click here](#) for further information.

### Vacancies

Please visit <https://www.etonbury.org.uk/vacancies> to register your interest or apply for a post via [My New Term](#). Currently we are looking to recruit a Teaching Assistant.



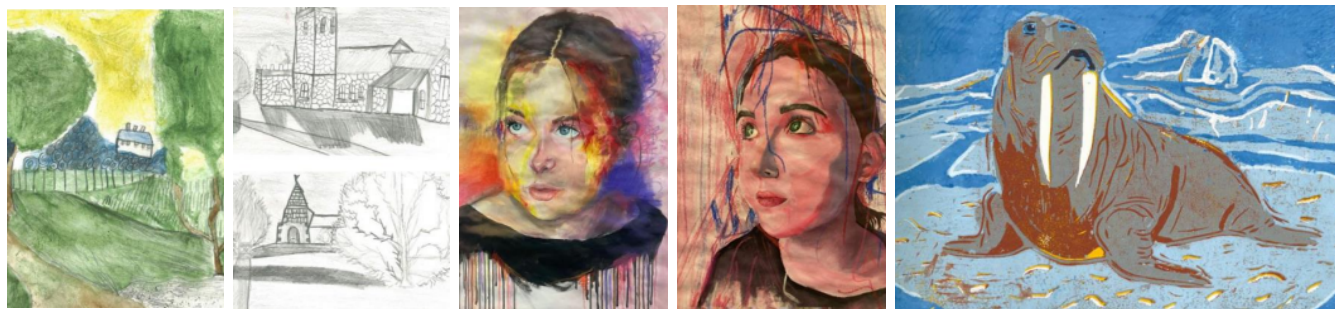
### Red Nose Day

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 encouraging students to wear something **RED** and are asking for a £1 voluntary donation, please make payment via ParentMail. We have a target this year of

£1000.

## Masterpieces Of The Month & Year 12 Photography Finals

Please [click here](#) for this month's key stage 3, 4 & 5 masterpiece of the month winners and to view the year 12 photography finals. This work is on show in our reception area for the next month, if you are passing please take a look.



## 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 Wrotham 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](mailto:wyoung@bestacademies.org.uk)



## Charity Football Match

On the 19th of March, our sixth form have planned a charity football match, to not only help raise funds for Cancer Research UK but also try and raise money for their trip to the USA. Careful planning and months of organisation have gone into the match, and players from both students and staff are excited for the event of the year, back and better than ever!



We are asking for the donation of £1 for entry which can be paid via the parent mail link that will be released early next week, or in cash on the day. If you have paid via parentmail, your child will be issued with a ticket in the week prior to bring to the match for entry.

With kick-off at 3:50 on the 3G after school, running until 5:00 – We hope to see as many people there as possible! Any questions please contact [lschumann@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:lschumann@bestacademies.org.uk)

## Good Sleep Routines

Did you know that a good relationship with sleeping can improve progress by over 6 months. Click the article below to get some hints and tip around good sleep routines.

<https://www.surrey.ac.uk/features/sleep-tips-exam-success>

## First Aid - Medical Room

From Monday, the First Aid room will be open for first aid emergencies only during period 1 and period 5. This means that students who are feeling unwell can come to the room between period 2 until the end of lunch, provided that they have tried their own self-care strategies. We strongly believe that all students should stay in their lessons, where possible, so as not to miss any learning time. We know that as parents and carers you will have decided that your child is well enough to be in school and therefore should not need to visit the first aid room in the first and last part of the day unless there is a first aid emergency.



## Pain Medication

From year 7, if your child is feeling slightly under the weather, but fit enough to attend school, please note that they are able to carry appropriate pain relief in their bag. Please limit this to 2 tablets and these should only be carried on rare occasions. Whilst the Academy may have some in stock, we are unable to provide pain relief regularly.

For more information on how long you should keep your child off school for specific infectious diseases, please follow this link for advice and guidance from the UK Health Security Agency [click here](#) to view.



Should I keep my  
**child off  
school?**



## Street Tag Codes

[Click here](#) for this month's Street Tag Code.

## World Book Day

This year, to celebrate World Book Day, Etonbury will be running a 'Book Face' competition. This is open to **all staff and students across the school (KS2, 3, 4, 5 and staff)**. The idea behind this competition is to challenge people to pick up a book they may not normally consider and to view books in a different light. A range of entries will be displayed in school, and...there will be prizes! Please email entries to [fnorman@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:fnorman@bestacademies.org.uk)



## MEET THE P.E. TEAM



### Miss Hilton



I am proud to be head of 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.







### Mr Bamford

I went to the University of Bedfordshire for 3 years studying sports science. Upon my graduation I went to America for a total of 3 years to coach football. I specifically went to Hawaii for 6 weeks, Orange County California, Seattle, Portland and Las Vegas where I really enjoyed learning about different cultures and a different way of life. This helped me become the person I am today, taking myself out of my comfort zone and travelling by myself. Travel broadens the mind. My sport specialism is football and I've played for Bedford Town, Biggleswade Town, Barton Rovers, Aylesbury Football Club, Real Bedford and most recently Stotfold Football club where I played my part in a squad that got us promoted to Step 4 Football.

I have 2 children Max, 7 and Marley, 4, that also share my love of sports and are already better at most sports than their Dad.

I love my job and I consider myself very lucky to be in a job that I love which hopefully you've all picked up on through my passion for sport and spreading positivity. To summarise find something you love doing, find a way to make money from it, and if you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life 😊 Life is Good.



### Mr Pullinger

I have worked at Etonbury for 5 years, and have been a teacher for 11 years across 4 schools in Bedfordshire and Luton. I have always had a passion for sport, growing up it was all I wanted to do and knew that a career in sport would be perfect for me. I made the decision to train as a teacher after working in a school for a year and finding I had a real passion for working with students. I trained to be a teacher in Luton, and then took my first teaching position in Bedford. Outside of work, I enjoy playing golf. I have been a member of a club for the past 7 years and continue to work towards playing off scratch (more of a dream). I have also spent a lot of time playing football and basketball in my spare time, but have given these up in recent years to embark on hobbies that do not result in days of joint pain. I am also very passionate about raising money for a charity close to my heart, the MND Association and spend time raising as much money as possible through charitable events such as sporting challenges, raffles, quiz nights etc.

I really enjoy teaching at Etonbury Academy and I'm looking forward to the next chapter here.



### Miss Prior



I have worked at Etonbury Academy since 2019 and previously worked at a school in Kempston for two years. My passion for PE started at the age of 16 when I became a swimming teaching assistant, I later went on to complete my level 1 and 2 swimming coaching awards and remained a swimming teacher throughout my four years at University, studying Physical Education.

I play for a Netball team in Bedford called Storm, playing C (I am too short for any other position). We recently won the summer league and cup and are currently top of the winter league in our division, a promotion is in sight. Outside of playing, I love to watch sports, especially Rugby, Netball, football and athletics. I like to stay fit and strong, and go to the gym 3(ish) times a week.

I love teaching at Etonbury Academy and have enjoyed my pastoral roles whilst being here too.



### Mr Jones



I'm excited to introduce myself as a new member of the Etonbury PE team alongside my senior leadership role. I have over 10 years teaching experience and have previously taught in North London and Bedfordshire. It is a privilege to be able to share my passion for sports and education with our students. My journey to becoming a PE teacher started with a degree in Sport and Exercise Science, followed by two incredible years coaching football in Chicago. This experience opened my eyes to the joy of helping others and inspired me to pursue teaching and complete my PGCE upon my return. While I enjoyed many seasons representing local football clubs, my playing days are now behind me. However, I continue to challenge myself by participating in functional fitness competitions and have recently taken up mountain biking and golf to keep myself moving and engaged. I believe in the importance of leading a healthy, active lifestyle, and I'm committed to instilling this value in our students. My next challenge will be the 3 peaks in 24hours... watch this space. The warm welcome from both the staff and students at Etonbury has been fantastic, and I look forward to what this next chapter will bring.



### Ngoni Bvunzawabaya



I moved to Bedford to attend the University of Bedfordshire after living in London and Essex. I graduated from Bedfordshire University in 2018, I studied sports development and management and absolutely loved it. I went straight into sports coaching, which involved delivering PE and multiple sports across different primary schools in Bedfordshire. This encouraged my secondary school teaching curiosity. It later led to me deciding to take the plunge and applying for a teaching position at Etonbury 4 years ago and I haven't looked back. I've really enjoyed teaching PE and being part of a department full of laughter and unbelievable levels of sarcasm (I'm 99% responsible).

Outside of school I love to play football or watch sports such as rugby, basketball, athletics or tennis. I love to support Liverpool and make it known to students that they are the best team in England.

I've also been a form tutor of my current form since they were in year 7, it's been a delight encouraging and trying to lend pastoral advice to the students that aren't always able to voice their feelings and making their school experience much better than before. I look forward to many more memories being made not only in my wonderful department but at Etonbury Academy as well.

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



ETA JUNIORS



ETONBURY  
JUNIORS

Mr Sale - [bsale@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:bsale@bestacademies.org.uk) Head of Juniors

We are delighted to welcome the children back to ETA Juniors after the February half term. There is much excitement amongst our juniors for our World Book Day celebrations next week! We would also like to congratulate 2 of our pupils in year 5 who have been successful in auditioning for a place to perform in the 'school of rock' show at the Gordon Craig theatre Stevenage in May!

### Junior School Arrival Time

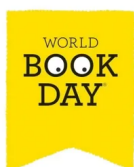
Please ensure that your Year 5 / 6 child/children arrive at school between 8:15am and 8:25am. The Junior gate opens at **8:15am** sharp and will close at **8:25am** prompt. Your cooperation in ensuring punctuality is greatly appreciated.

### 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](#)

### Equipment

We are now half way through the academic year and are noticing that some pupils are coming to school without the correct equipment, whiteboard pens are beginning to run out or they have misplaced/lost items. Please can you ensure that your child's pencil case is restocked over the half term holiday and they have all the correct equipment for learning when they return. [Click here](#) to view the list.



### World Book Day 2024

Etonbury Juniors will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The theme this year is 'I am a reader'. Staff and teachers alike will be dressing up as a character from their favourite book. There will be WBD themed ideas throughout the day, and the children will each receive their WBD voucher. We look forward to seeing the children dressed up as their favourite character.

## Year 6

### **SATS Information Evening**

SATS information evening will be held on Weds 20 March from 4.15 – 5.15pm for Year 6 parents. The aim is to give you an insight into how the KS2 national tests work, to learn what is expected of the children and how you can support them when they sit their tests in May. If you wish to attend please complete the [Google Form](#). Thank you.

## **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**

Please [click here](#) to view the Year 9 KS4 Prospectus. This document provides information of all the Key Stage 4 courses on offer. This will help you discuss options with your child prior to the Options evening on Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> of February (6–8pm).

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



- Options evening is on Thursday 29th February (6–8pm)
- Options form deadline for return is Friday 8th March

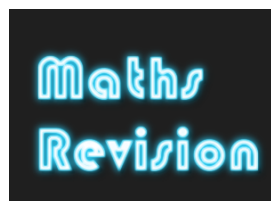


## YEAR 10

### Maths Revision Schedules

Please find below revision schedules for both higher and foundation tier maths students in Year 10 to help with revision for their summer mock exams.

- [Higher Tier](#)
- [Foundation Tier](#)



## YEAR 11

### Year 11 BTEC Performing Arts Exam Dates

Please [click here](#) to view a detailed timetable for the BTEC Performing Arts Exam Students.



### Mock Exams

Mock exams are next week for our year 11 students, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March - Year 11 Core Mocks.

### Mathematics Revision Sessions

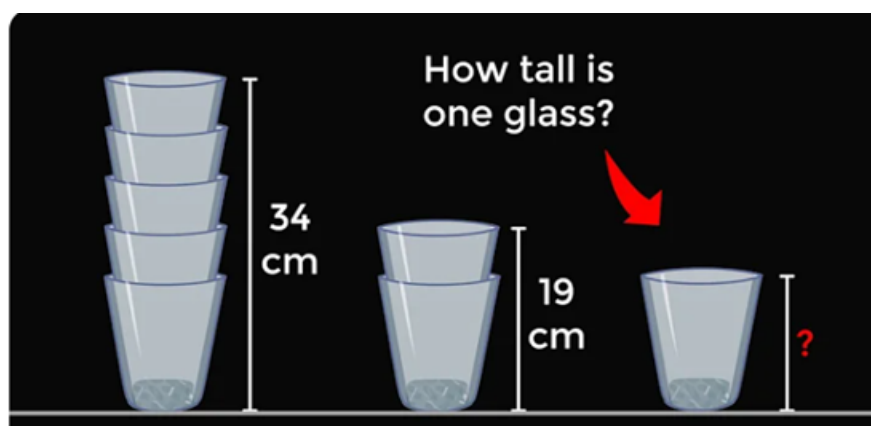
Tuesday afternoon revision sessions. These run from 1530 to 1630 each week. If your son/daughter does not already attend these but you would like them to join this free provision, please would you email Mr Vanner ([lvanner@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:lvanner@bestacademies.org.uk)) or Mr Sutcliffe ([dsutcliffe@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:dsutcliffe@bestacademies.org.uk)).

- Higher Revisions Schedule - [click here](#)
- Foundation Revision Schedule - [click here](#)

### Weekly Maths Challenge from Mr Vanner

Did you solve the four overlapping circles puzzle? Here is the solution - [Maths solution](#)

**This week's challenge is to find out how tall is one glass?**



### 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.

## SIXTH FORM



Mrs C Dowden – Head of Sixth Form.

### Parents Evening

On Thursday 7th March we will be holding our year 12 parents evening. You will be able to meet virtually with all of your child's subject teachers to discuss their progress.

The booking system is open now and will close on Monday 4th March at midnight. You can book your appointments here <https://etonburvacademy.schoolcloud.co.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@bestacademics.org.uk](mailto:lschumann@bestacademics.org.uk)

### Exams

After half term the following exams will be taking place for Sixth Form students:

- **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March** – The London Institute of Banking and Finance E-Test Re-sit (Year 12)
- **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – Unit 1 Criminology Controlled Assessment (Year 12)
- **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March** – The London Institute of Banking and Finance written paper Re-sit (Year 12)
- **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March** – Unit 1 Criminology Controlled Assessment (Year 12)

Exams are run in accordance with JCQ regulations. It is important that students are familiar with these guidelines.

Please see the below links:

[JCQ Information for candidates Non-examination Assessment](#)

[JCQ Information for candidates Written Examinations](#)

[JCQ Information for candidates On-screen Tests](#)

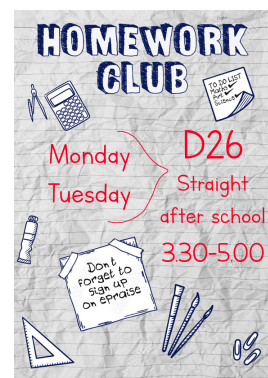
[Click here to view the AI Student Guide](#)

## CLUB INFORMATION



- **LAMDA Dates** – March: 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>
- **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** - School of Rock Rehearsals are every Thursday after school till 5pm in the main school hall. Children should have already signed up via ePraise. 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.
- Air Cadets 2482 Henlow Squadron are recruiting now - [click here](#) for further information.
- Autism Empowerment Webinar - [click here](#) for more details
- Balanced Minds - [Football](#)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



4th – 8th March	Year 11 Core Mocks Week
Tues 5 March	Year 12 Auschwitz Trip
Thurs 7 March	UCAS & Year 12 Parents Consultations (virtual)
Fri 8 March	Year 12 Cambridge Trip & World Book Day
Fri 15 March	Red Nose Day
Mon 18 March	KS3 Science Fair Cambridge
Weds 20 March	Year 12 Geography Trip & Year 6 SATS Info Evening 4.15 – 5.15pm
Fri 22 March	Performing Arts Drop Down Day Year 11
Thurs 28 March	Break for Easter End of term
Fri 29 March	Bank Holiday – Good Friday
Tues 16 April	Students return to school

**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**  
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