



8 March 2024

Principal Message

This week we have celebrated World Book Day across the whole school. I am so impressed with the incredible effort that everyone has put into this. Our Juniors looked superb dressed as their favourite book characters. If you still need a World Book Day voucher it can be [downloaded here](#). Secondary students have been given paper tokens during English lessons this week and Years 5 and 6 have been handed tokens from their form tutor.



World Book Day is such a fantastic opportunity for students to immerse themselves in the magical world of books and reading. It's heart-warming to see young minds so enthusiastic about literature and storytelling. Whether it's diving into a classic tale or discovering a new favourite author, the world of books is waiting to be explored by each and every one of us. Let's continue to cherish the wonder of storytelling and celebrate the magic of books together!



Our '**Bookface**' competition was a huge success, with incredibly creative entries. Judging was a delightful challenge, as all entries were outstanding. Congratulations to all participants! Click [here](#) to see the winning entries.

Huge congratulations to our Etonbury Academy debate team, winners of the Commissioner's 2024 Schools Debate Competition. Thank you to Ms Young and Mrs Hume for orchestrating this and supporting the team, we are very proud of this achievement and all your hard work. An amazing opportunity to attend the Houses of Parliament for the final of the Police and Crime Commissioners Bedfordshire debate competition. They were fortunate enough to have a tour of the House of Commons and stood in the chamber, normally seen on the television! We are super proud that Nour, Henry and the support team of Hannah. Well done!



In addition, debate club are also competing in an international school competition this week. So far, they have debated a Dubai school and have a New York school to come. This is judged on points and we are awaiting to see if we progress to the next round. Debate club runs every Wednesday lunchtime in the lecture theatre and they would be happy to welcome some new faces.

The PCC said "It is our third year of this competition. And somehow each year it gets better.

"Once again, the pupils have blown me away with their professionalism and passion for debating.

"I felt speechless after listening to these talented young people. The preparation that has gone into this has impressed me the most.

"Everyone that took part should be very proud of themselves. I certainly feel privileged to have had the chance to experience this.

"I'd like to thank the schools, pupils and their families for their ongoing support of this competition".

Mrs Wood had the privilege of leading a trip to Auschwitz this Tuesday with The Holocaust Educational Trust which collaborates with schools, colleges and communities across the UK to educate about the Holocaust and its relevance today. The students have been completing online learning modules prior to the trip in order to extend their understanding of the Holocaust. Students were led through their visit to Oświęcim, the site of the Great Synagogue and to learn more about Jewish life before the war, with a reading from Rabbi Shaw. From there the students visited both the Auschwitz I camp and Auschwitz II (Auschwitz-Birkenau) where they were able to better understand the experiences of the victims of the Holocaust. Students were told stories of individual victims and able to visit the exhibit from Yad Vashem. The students were guided through the day by both Bartek, a local guide and Alex from the Holocaust Education Trust who were able to extend the knowledge of individual stories before hearing again from Rabbi Shaw and taking part in a candlelit memorial. The students will continue extending their knowledge using their experiences to help them complete a project for the Trust for which they will gain certification of Holocaust Ambassador. Speaking to students on the day



shows just how valuable this experience was "We all know the Holocaust happened, but seeing the camps and experiencing the day humanises the story".

I would also like to congratulate the members of our Creative Writing Club and Miss Burt and Ms Dilley who had their work chosen for publication in the latest 'Young Writers' competition. Well done Amelia, Chloe, Zarah, Sophie, Simar and Hannah! Miss Burt and Ms Dilley are very much looking forward to our next competition: 'Mission Catastrophe' and cannot wait to read the students' amazing work!

Please support our BIG WALK over the next two weeks – walk, scoot or cycle to school.

Best wishes.

Mrs. J Young – Principal

SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER



Hello my name is Mrs Sparrow and I am the School Business Manager at Etonbury Academy. My role is about ensuring that the school has the right structures and processes in place to provide a great education, so I deal with everything from HR, to Health & Safety to business support. I am also part of the senior leadership team. Typically, if it doesn't relate directly to in classroom support, I'm involved.

It is coming up to my one-year anniversary working proudly at Etonbury and so far:

- I have been part of opening the new Sixth form block in September, which included their own cafe.

- Acquired funding for a woodland project for the Duke of Edinburgh practice field.
- Ensuring the Website is compliant, up to date and informative.
- Arranged a successful nearly new uniform sale with proceeds going to the NEED project.
- And lots of other behind the scenes business planning 😊

I wouldn't be able to accomplish any of this without my amazing support team who embed The ETA Way in everything we do.

WHOLE SCHOOL MESSAGES



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](#)

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.

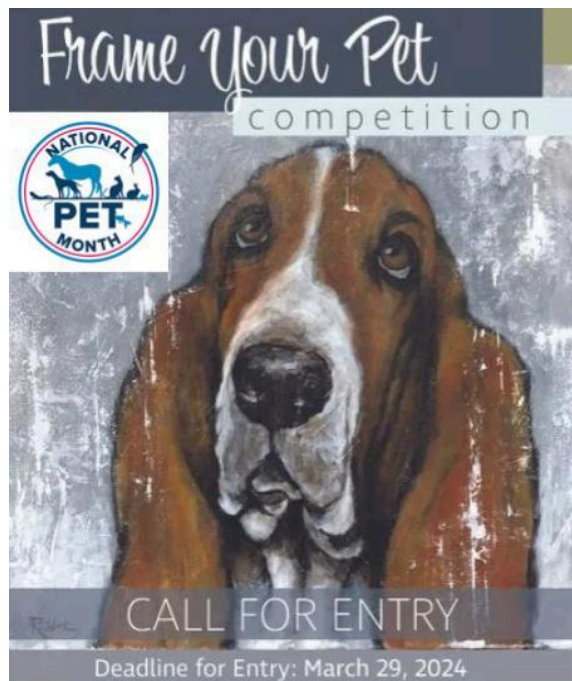


Sustrans Big Wheel and Walk

We're taking part in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel. In partnership with @SchwalbeUK it's the UK's biggest #walking #wheeling #scooting and #cycling to school challenge. Encourage your children to take part on as many days as possible between 11- 22 March by walking, wheeling, scooting or cycling to school.



Art Competition



Put your best paw forward in our pets themed art competition. Whether furry or feathered, we want to see artwork of your favourite animal friends.

Share your creative portrayals of cats, dogs, lizards, birds—all pets (and all painting and drawing media) are welcome! The art competition is open to any artist.

Please include your full name, form and your pet's name on the back of your work before submitting it to the art department.

We will be exhibiting the work on display to celebrate National Pet Month 2024, April 1st- May 1st 2024.



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. [Please ensure students have their PE kits as normal on this day - thank you.](#)

Street Tag - [click here](#) for the March codes - keep tagging!



Student V Staff Football Match

March 19th 2024 - 3:50pm to 5:00pm - on the 3G

Raising funds for Cancer Research UK and Sixth Form USA Educational Trip

Careful planning and months of organisation have gone into the Football Match of the year, and players, both students and staff, are busy limbering up and preparing for the big day.

We are requesting donations of £1 for entry which can be paid via the parent mail link, or in cash on the day.

If you choose to pay via parent mail you can choose to donate your £1 to either the USA Sixth Form trip or Cancer Research UK.

Kick-off commences at 3:50pm on the 3G, running until 5:00pm.

We hope to see as many people there as possible!

Any questions please contact lschumann@bestacademies.org.uk

Thank you and well done to Hannah Webb and Gurvir Pabla for all their hard work in making this event possible.

First Aid - Medical Room

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?**

PE DEPARTMENT



It's been a busy start to the half term, with fixtures and organising sporting events at Etonbury. This week we organised and hosted a Year 3 and 4 Football Festival for local schools on the 3G. The PE department received assistance from students in years 8,9 and 10. Throughout the footballers displayed much improved touch and passing skills and scored some excellent goals!

Year 6 enjoyed an afternoon playing rugby at Almedia rugby festival.

Last week, the year 10 boys' football team competed against Henlow Academy, demonstrating impressive strength and resilience.



We saw an outstanding performance from the Year 5 & 6 girls football team against Henlow and Woodlands.



The Year 7 and 8 girls football team also played in Flitwick last week against Woodlands and Henlow. Outstanding performances from all players!

Our year 10 boys' football team has successfully reached the County Cup finals this week. Congratulations to them, and we eagerly look forward to the finals. The team has shown dedication and skill throughout the season, working together to achieve this impressive feat. Their hard work and determination has paid off, we are extremely proud of them.

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

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

Head of PE - shilton@bestacademies.org.uk



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

Junior School Arrival Time

Please ensure that your Year 5 / 6 child/children arrive at school from 8:15am and before 8:25am. The Junior gate closes 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](#)

Bikeability

Year 5 and 6 have an exciting opportunity to complete a level 1 and 2 Bikeability course at Etonbury Academy. Please [click here](#) to view the Parent Information leaflet.

These are four-day courses starting the week beginning 8 July. Bikeability is the only approved cycle training programme supported by The Department for Transport. It is designed to enthuse participants about cycling whilst equipping them with the skills and confidence to ride more often. The course is free, all you need to do is complete the consent form. Please [click here](#) to access the consent form and complete by **Thurs 14 March**). If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at bsale@bestacademies.org.uk



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.

Textiles Lessons

If possible please can Year 6 bring in fabric for their textiles lesson with Miss Young. They will be making 'make, do and mend' bunting. The fabric needs to be red, white, blue and green, and as it is

make, do and mend, it should be material around the home that is no longer used, so we can recycle it. 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.

**British
Science
Week
2024**

Celebrating Science

This year, between the 8th and 17th March we celebrate the 30th anniversary of British Science Week. It is an annual ten day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths to raise awareness and spark enthusiasm. Mrs Royle has kindly put together an information leaflet about Science week and our in school celebrations. Please [click here](#) to view.

YEAR 9

Mrs K Hume – Head of Year 9

Year 9 Options

Thank you if you have completed and submitted the Options Form. If you are yet to complete and submit the form, I have left the form open until the end of Sunday. Hopefully this allows any late discussion that is required. I will then begin the process of looking at the numbers and comments made, before making any final changes that are possible. I will then be in touch with a letter, informing you if any changes to blocks have been made, and your child's confirmed options.

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

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

Prom Tickets

Prom tickets will be available to purchase via ParentMail from today, Friday 8 March. Tickets will cost £30 each. The prom will be held this year at Letchworth Hall Hotel and the price of tickets includes a buffet which will be provided for the students. Further details regarding the evening will be provided closer to the event.



Garden House Hospice Prom Dress Event

Garden House Hospice Care is holding a dedicated Prom Dress Event this year on 18th April. Please [click here](#) for more details.

Leavers Hoodies

Leavers hoodies are now available to be purchased via parent mail. You will only have the option to buy one via ParentMail if you completed the form sent out in the parent bulletin prior to half term. Please email Mr Sutcliffe if you would like to order a hoodie but did not complete the form in the parent bulletin.

Yearbook

Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that we did not receive enough interest in a yearbook to meet the minimum order the publishing company required to make the yearbook. Hence there will not be a yearbook for this year's cohort.

Year 11 BTEC Performing Arts Exam Dates

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

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) or Mr Sutcliffe (dsutcliffe@bestacademies.org.uk).

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

Weekly Maths Challenge from Mr Vanner

Two logicians (A and B) each secretly pick a whole number from 1 to 30 inclusive. Each knows the other has done this.

A: "Is your number double mine?"
B: "I don't know. Is your number double mine?"
A: "I don't know. Is your number half mine?"
B: "I don't know. Is your number half mine?"
A: "I don't know."
B: "I know your number."

All the statements are true. What is A's number and how did B know?

Did you find out how tall one glass was? Here is the solution - [Maths Solution](#)



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.

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

Exams

Exams will be taking place for Sixth Form students from next week, these are listed below:

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

CLUB INFORMATION



- **LAMDA Dates** – March: 11th, 18th, 25th
- **P.E.** Please click [here](#) to view this half term 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](#)
- Parent Insight – April Session [click here](#) to view.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Mon 11 – 22 March	Big Wheel and Walk to School
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
Stotfold Road, Arlesey, SG15 6XS
t. 01462 730391 e. ETAoffice@bestacademies.org.uk



@EtonburyAcademy

@Etonbury

