

Etonbury Academy Weekly Update – 9 September 2016

All Years

- **E.A.T Canteen Update**

As you know, we have brought the catering service back in house to ensure greater range, higher quality and full control over this absolutely essential part of school life. Even though it would have been much easier just to carry on as before, we did this, knowing it is complex and would create significant workload because we felt it was the right thing to do for our students.

Demand has been much, much higher than we ever expected – which is great! Thus on Tuesday, the first day, this did lead to longer waiting times and some shortages. We made rapid changes overnight and I am very pleased that queuing times have been halved to a maximum of around twenty minutes, and we have nearly doubled the amount of food being prepared. Yesterday many students enjoyed free seconds (with one girl who shall remain nameless loving her lunch so much she even managed thirds!)

The Slushie machine that was delivered over the holidays was found to have a fault, so that is being replaced and I am very hopeful that slushie fans (myself included) will be able to enjoy a healthy fruit slushie next week.

This has been a very big project for the school, and I want to thank students and parents for their patience while we learn and improve the service still further. I am determined that Etonbury students will enjoy the best catering of any school, so at the moment we are continually reviewing the canteen operations daily to ensure this is so. The students are also involved in the process through the School Council, and feedback as always is welcomed.

Kind regards,

Alex Prior
Principal

- **Nuts** – We have a number of children with severe nut allergies in our school, please avoid sending your child in with foods containing nuts. Thank you.
- **Clubs List** – This is currently being finalised and will be sent out next week. Your children will be told in assemblies and Form time of the various Clubs' times and days for next week if they wish to attend.
- **PE Clubs List, Autumn Term 2016** – Please [click here](#).
- **Winter PE Kit Requirements** – Please [click here](#) for details.
- **School Photos (Thurs 22 Sept)** - Following feedback from parents we have changed the school photographer to Vancols. On September 22nd every child will have their school photograph taken, the photographs will be used for our school information system and also for parents to have the opportunity to purchase. We will no longer be able to manage teams and siblings on this date but we will continue to take photos throughout the year for you to see via our website, Facebook and Twitter. We are also planning to have a whole school photograph taken in the summer term. We will update you once we have finalised a date.
- **Uniform** - Please make sure your child's name is on their uniform, including their PE trainers and boots.
- **Choir Rehearsals** - If your child is interested in joining the Choir this year please read the attached letter [here](#) and reply as appropriate. Please note that we are performing in the Arlesey Festival on Saturday 8th October. Therefore it

is **essential** that your child can **attend every rehearsal in September and the performance**. If you prefer him/her to wait and join Choir after this performance, in time to rehearse for the Christmas show, please make this clear on your reply. Miss Barnett

- **Drama and Dance Clubs** - All clubs for drama/dance will start next week. If your child would like to take part in any of the drama/dance clubs after school, they will need to e mail jlimb@bemat.co.uk to confirm their place. This applies to new starters only. All welcome.
- **Dance Club** - If your child is involved in Dance Club on Tuesday after school with Miss Marks, please complete the attached letter and return by deadline. Please [click here](#) for letter.
- **LAMDA** - for more information on joining or LAMDA Performing Arts Club, please [click here](#).
- **Best Orchestra** - This group is held at Samuel Whitbread Academy [click here](#). **Reply slips and payment to go directly to Miss Meadows at Samuel Whitbread.**
- **Best Choir** - This group is open to all pupils and is held at Samuel Whitbread Academy, [click here](#). **Reply slips and payment to go to Miss Meadows at Samuel Whitbread Acacemy.**

Year 6

- **Harry Potter Warner Bros Studio Tours Trip, 7th December 2016** - Please [click here](#).
- **PGL Trips** - Information regarding the UK residential 2017 and PGL France 2018 will be out next week.
- **Data Collection Sheet** - On Monday your child will be coming home with a data collection sheet, please check all the information on this sheet is correct before signing and returning to the school office via your child's form tutor before Friday 16th September.
- **Permissions Form** - On Monday your child will be coming home with a permissions form, without both student and parent signatures on this form your child may miss out on some opportunities at school. Please read through this form and return to the school office via your child's form tutor before Friday 16th September.

Year 7

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Year 8

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Year 9

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Other Items of Interest

- **Kitchen and Cleaning vacancies** – As we continue to grow we are continually expanding our catering and cleaning teams and would be delighted to hear from you, or members of your family or friends. Please contact Mrs Lockey for further information on 01462 730391.
- **Biggleswade Rugby Club** – for information on how to join and taster sessions. Please [click here](#).

Diary Dates

Thurs 22nd September – School Photos

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