



Elthorne Park High School

Newsletter

Issue 940 – 7th October 2021

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Message from the Headteacher

We are all looking forward to welcoming many of our Year 11 parents on Wednesday next week for our first in-person Sixth Form Open Evening since autumn 2019. The event will run from 4:30 - 7:30pm, with ticketed headteacher's talks at 5:00 and 6:15pm. We have put additional tickets for these talks on Eventbrite after the first batches were all allocated and these can be reserved via the link on the school website. On Wednesday all students will be dismissed from school at 12:20pm and years 7 - 11 will be set an assignment as part of our 'Sea of Stories' reading project for this term. On Thursday 14th October school will begin at the normal time for all students, with gates opening at 8:35am as usual.

Our vaccination roll-out at the end of last week and beginning of this week ran very smoothly and I am very grateful to all our staff members who worked alongside the NHS team to deliver the vaccination programme so efficiently. Our students behaved impeccably and were incredibly sensible throughout the whole process. For families whose children have not been vaccinated but would now like them to be, we are currently in discussions with the borough about a catch-up vaccination programme. I will pass on any information about this as soon as I receive it.

With all good wishes,

Eliot Wong, Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 13th October
Sixth Form Open Evening
Early closure @ 12:20pm

W/B Monday 11th October
Yr10 In Class Assessments

Tuesday 19th October
Yr7 Year Ahead Meeting
5pm - 6pm

Thursday 21st October
Half Term begins

Monday 1st November
School resumes @ 8:45am

W/B Monday 15th November
Yr11 PPEs commence

W/B Monday 22nd November
Yr9 In Class Assessments

Monday 29th November
School Closed - Staff Training

EVOLVEclubs - Extracurricular Activity Offer

Parents have received an email with details of how to access their accounts on the EVOLVE system. EVOLVE is our new planning and management system for extracurricular activities and clubs system, it enables parents to electronically sign up their child to attend an extracurricular club or activity. Once **signed up to the system**, parents can view the extracurricular timetable for their child's year group and simply click on a club/activity link to **sign up** and secure a place for their child to attend that club or activity.

This will automatically **register a place** for your child for this activity or club across a scheduled period of time, typically, clubs or activities will span 6 sessions across a half term. There will of course be limited places available for each club/activity. The system does generate a **waiting list** for children who could not gain a place. If a student drops out from a club/activity, it will automatically inform the parent that a place has now become available. The system also generates an **electronic register** for staff running the club. It is important that students only attend activities that they have signed up for. Students will not be able to attend if they do not appear on electronic registers.

The vast majority of clubs and activities are free to attend but some clubs and activities may have a charge. Payments for charged clubs/activities need to be paid for in advance of attendance using **ParentPay**. Clubs are scheduled to start running from the week commencing **Monday 4th October**. Most clubs run for one hour. If students are attending **sports activities** they must bring along appropriate **EPHS PE kit**.

We hope this new system will make it easier for parents and students to track and engage with extra-Curricular clubs and activities. We encourage your child to sign up for some of the activities on offer and we hope they will enjoy developing a new skill or interest beyond our mainstream curriculum.

Mr White, Deputy Headteacher

COVID-19 Guidance

We would just like to remind parents and students of DfE's and school's current guidance on COVID19 risk assessment procedures:

“Bubbles’ will end for all children under 18, social distancing will no longer be necessary, and schools will not need to stagger start and finish times.”

To support safe arrival to and departure from school we ask that:

All students should arrive at 8:35 for an 8:45 start (tutor period starts) and period 5 will end at 14:55.

- Years 7, 9 & 11 must use the Westlea Road gate and will have ‘early’ breaks and lunchtimes
- Years 8, 10, 12 & 13 must use the Vicarage Lane gate and will have ‘late’ breaks and lunchtimes

We will keep the separate **Year group zones** for breaks and lunchtime play and recreation.

2. “close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.”

Since 19th July NHS Test & Trace take responsibility for contact tracing and will contact you if your child is a close contact of a confirmed case.

3. “face coverings will no longer be advised for pupils, staff and visitors either in classrooms or in communal areas.”

The current advice from our Local authority is that masks are still ‘strongly encouraged’ and I believe that we should continue to follow that advice.

We will keep you informed of any other government changes. Full guidance and a copy of the school's risk assessment can be found on [the school website](#).

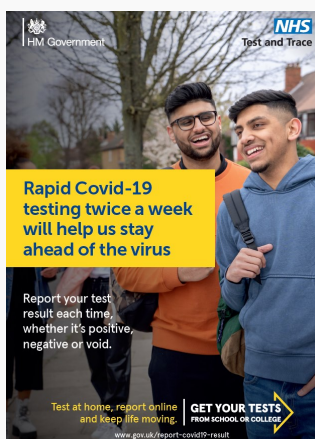
We would like to pass on thanks from the NHS team who were in earlier this week vaccinating students. They were extremely impressed by their positive behaviour and maturity throughout the process.

Mr White, Deputy Headteacher

Home Coronavirus Testing

Please remember to continue your twice weekly testing at home. If you are symptomatic, you must [get a lab PCR test from the NHS](#). You must not use a LFD test in these cases and must get a PCR test. Results from the school issued rapid coronavirus test kits should continue to be recorded on [the school database](#) using the test bag id and on [the NHS system](#) using the QR code on the test cartridge. Please remember to use the test bag ID associated with the box that that test came from so we can continue to automatically issue new kits where needed. If you have not been recording your results, but need a new kit, please [contact Mr Ryan via email](#). A reminder that our short video guide to home testing [can be found here](#).

Mr Ryan, School Operations Manager



Student Academic Year 2021 - 2022

Autumn Term 2021

Autumn/1

Friday 3rd September - Wednesday 20th October

Half-Term

Thursday 21st October - Friday 29th October

Autumn/2

Monday 1st November - Thursday 16th December

Christmas Holiday

Monday 20th December - Monday 3rd January

Spring Term 2022

Spring/1

Tuesday 4th January - Friday 11th February

Half-Term

Monday 14th February - Friday 18th February

Spring/2

Monday 21st February - Friday 1st April

Easter Holiday

Monday 4th April - Monday 18th April

Summer Term 2022

Summer /1

Tuesday 19th April - Friday 27th May

Half-Term

Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June

Summer /2

Monday 16th June - Friday 22nd July

Sumer Holiday

Monday 25th July

Medical Care Plans

Parents of children who require a medical care plan, and who have not renewed the plan for 2021-2022, will have an email sent to them this week asking for the online plan to be completed. If you are unsure if your child is in this position, please contact Mrs Walters to check. If your child has a new medical condition that you have not informed the school of, please follow [this link](#) to complete a new plan.

Ms Quinn, Assistant Headteacher

Career Opportunities - Professionals Wanted!

In December we will be running a Careers Fair to provide our students with a greater insight into the world of work and possible career paths. This will be the first in a number of careers' events that will run across the year. In previous years, this event has been hugely successful due to the extensive range of experience that we are able to draw on across our wider school community. If you, or anyone you know, would be willing to attend the event to represent your career or field, I would be very grateful.

December's event will run during the day on Monday 13th December and our guest professionals will have a table in the hall where students can approach them to discuss their field. If you would be willing to help, could you please e-mail me at jkashap@ephs.ealing.sch.uk, stating your career and whether you would be available on Monday 13th of December or if you would be willing to support future events at the school.

Ms Kashap, Administration Team

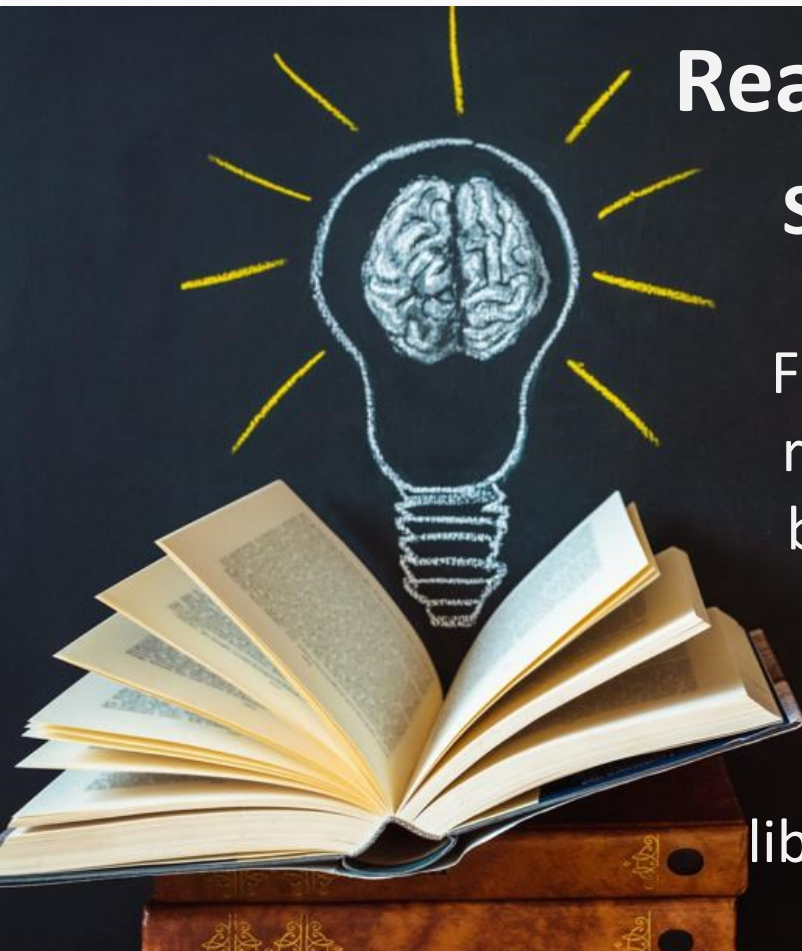
Catering

We hope your child has tried out our new catering company-the food has been very well received. Just a reminder that they also do breakfast from 8 to 8.30am, so if your child would like breakfast they can come in from 8am onwards.

If your child's card is broken and they have to swipe it at lunchtime rather than tap, can you please organise a replacement (this can be ordered through the uniform shop online). After half term, students will no longer be able to swipe, only the tap will be available.

If you had a child in Year 11 last year, and they still have a balance on their ParentPay account, please contact finance.admin@ephs.ealing.sch.uk to request either a transfer to a sibling account, or a refund. Credit balances MUST be claimed by the end of October 2021.

Finance



Reader of the week

Sonija Smirnova (7P)

For challenging herself by reading a wide variety of books already this term!

Please come to the library to collect your prize.



EPHS Sixth Form Open Evening 2021

Wednesday 13th October — 4:30pm - 7:30pm



You are warmly invited to our Sixth Form Open Evening, where you will be able to see the broad and diverse range of subjects that we have on offer, meet our outstanding Post-16 students and staff, and hear from the Headteacher and Director of Sixth Form.

Presentations at 5:00pm & 6:15pm

Book your tickets [on our website](#) now!

“The school’s mission is ‘achieving excellence in a learning community’. It fulfils this mission outstandingly well.” Ofsted Report – 2019



P T F A

Parents, Teachers, Friends Association

Elthorne PTFA Committee Meeting

Thursday 14th October

7:30pm

**The Foresters, W13 9EP
(Upstairs Function Room)**

Come along and join us at the next PTFA committee meeting - meet the team, find out more about what we do, what our ambitions are and how you could get involved.

We'd love to see some new faces!

If you're interested or would like more information contact us at

elthorneptfa@gmail.com

News from Key Stage 3

Year 7

We are in the flow of secondary school now, consolidating new friendships, beginning to mature around the playground and taking more responsibility for our own resources. However, In the Year office we still have a number of lost items, mainly PE jumpers and coats. We return as many items as we can and this is made much easier when they are names on the labels. Students are wearing their uniform with pride but please remind students to bring their lanyard every day, as we're seeing an increase in students coming to the Year office having left it at home.

During the past fortnight, we have been dropping into Year 7 lessons and seen hard work, 100% effort and well prepared students, their behaviour in the classroom has been excellent and their teachers are really impressed with their continued commitment to their education. Some of their answers have blown us away.

A further reminder that if your child is absent from school please call the school in the morning to make us aware of their absence with a reason.

It was great to see so many parents and carers at the 'bring your parent to school' event, which allowed your child to show you the school. We are looking forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 19th October from 5pm - 6pm for our Year Ahead meeting, which will be your first opportunity to meet your child's tutor.

And finally, as the nights and mornings are becoming more wintery, please speak to your child about travelling to and from school safely, crossing at marked crossings, waiting for cars to stop fully and walking on pavements and going straight home at the end of their school day.

Thank you for all your support this term.

Mr Sykes and the Year 7 team

Year 8

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the Year Ahead Evening on Wednesday and to finally meet in person. We hope you found it an enjoyable and useful evening, if you have any feedback on the event please do email Mrs Brown on kabrown@ephs.ealing.sch.uk. If you missed it please find information from the evening, including the residential, on the [school website](#). If you have further questions or queries about the residential then please do contact Mr Reyes - areyes@ephs.ealing.sch.uk.

The students are continuing to work well and as we move towards the end of the first half term (where does the time go?!) We are continuing to focus on the high expectations we laid out at the beginning. Our half termly focus this term is on uniform and equipment, students have not received a notification for either will be entered into a draw in their form to win a £5 amazon voucher. The next focus will be attendance.

We are launching our extra-curricular sessions so please do look at the Evolve website to sign up and the school website for all the details on this.

Thank you for your continued support

Ms Maddox and the Year 8 Team

Year 9

I'd like to thank all the parents who attended the Year Ahead Evening on Thursday. It was great to see you in person after two years of remote events, and I hope you found the information beneficial and made the most of the opportunity to speak with your child's form tutor. For those of you who were unable to join us, you can find the presentation slides on the [school website](#).

With Autumn now upon us and the weather changing, please encourage your child to bring a coat to school in order to stay warm and dry. Whilst students may be tempted to wear a hoodie in place of a coat, I'd like to remind you that these are not accepted under our uniform policy and will be confiscated so please ensure your child doesn't bring one to school.

I've had the pleasure of visiting a number of Year 9 lessons this week, and I've been thoroughly impressed with the behaviour and effort students have displayed. With the added incentive of choosing their GCSE options this year, it's clear that students are determined to put themselves in the best position for their KS4 journey and I'm optimistic they can maintain this high standard for the rest of the year.

Stay safe and take care.

Mr Simmonds and the Year 9 Team