



Parent E-Bulletin

28 SEPTEMBER 2018

Issue 2

Welcome to Esher Church of England High School Parent E-Bulletin. This is sent to all parents fortnightly and aims to keep you updated with upcoming events, reminders, offers etc taking place at the school as the term progresses. We hope you find the information useful.

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1. **Term Dates**

Autumn Term 2018:

Autumn Term: Tuesday 4 September – Friday 21 December

Inset Days: Thursday 4 and Friday 5 October

Half Term: Monday 22 October – Friday 2 November

Spring Term 2019:

Spring Term: Monday 7 January – Friday 5 April

Half Term: Monday 18 – Friday 22 February, 3.00 finish

Summer Term 2019:

Summer Term: Tuesday 23 April – Friday 19 July

Half Term: Monday 27 – Friday 31 May, 3.00 finish

All term dates are available on the school website, under Parents - Term Dates.

2. **Important Dates**

Year 6 Open Evening Thursday 4 October, 6.00 – 9.00

Year 6 Open Mornings Monday 8 – Wednesday 10 October, 9.30 – 11.00

Year 7 Greatest Show Monday 15 and Tuesday 16 October, Year 7 parents invited.

Enrichment Day Wednesday 17 October

3. **Literacy – Closing the Vocabulary Gap**

At Esher High School, we want to encourage our students to do the very best in all their subjects. A key focus is encouraging students to develop their vocabulary and therefore, asking them to use more developed language. We are finding that with the increased reading and comprehension with the new curriculum, students need to understand and be more aware than ever before.

To help our students develop the number of words they know and to help them understand the meaning, we have two activities during tutor time each week. Once a week students will take part in LANA (Literacy and Numeracy Activities). This includes spelling tests (the words to learn are posted on SMHW) followed by a short literacy activity. We also have Everyone Reading in Class (ERIC) in tutor time which is done for 15 minutes.

We would also like you to support this at home with your child:

- **Explain.** Ask your child to carefully pronounce any new words they read, write down the word, give them a definition and multiple examples of how to use the word.
- **Explore.** This is the fun bit. Talk to your child about the words, use image association and compare words with similar meanings.
- **Consolidate.** Ask your child to revisit any tricky academic vocabulary they have been taught in class. Children need to use the words again and again so they can remember it.

4. **Letters Home**

A reminder that when we send year group and whole school letters home, you can also find them on the school website, under News and Events, Letters Home. This includes details relating to the Enrichment day, school trips, Curriculum Evenings. You can also follow us on Twitter @esherhighschool.

5. **Getting to Tutor Time on time**

As you are aware from previous Parent Bulletins, it is imperative that all students arrive at school, in the correct uniform, on time but more importantly, get to tutor group sessions before the bell sounds.

As a school, we actively encourage high attendance in tutor group sessions and by giving attendance rewards. Parents can support this by encouraging your child to come in even if they do not feel 100%, a dose of paracetamol before school can often reduce a temperature and make a child feel better. We can administer antibiotics, which will be kept at student services.

6. **Dropping off lunches, homework and PE bags**

Please can we ask you to ensure your child is organised for the day ahead by taking responsibility for bringing in their lunch, homework, Food Tech ingredients and PE bags. This would save you from making a special journey to school to drop these items off.

7. **Leaving school during the day**

As we are unable to collect students from class when they need to leave school for appointments, please can we ask that your child is reminded in the morning.

8. **Contact Details**

If you have recently moved house, changed email address, mobile or landline numbers, please inform school by sending an email to parents@esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk so we can update our system. Also if your situation has changed at home (change of contact names), again please inform us.

If your child would like to take drum lessons, please complete an online application form which is on our website or e-mail Mrs Sisley jsisley@esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk for more information.

9. **Parents' Prayer Meeting**

Our Parents' Prayer Meeting starts back again on Monday 8 October at 9:15am in the large meeting room in school. All are welcome and if you are a parent of a new student in Year 7, it would be particularly great for you to join us! If you require any further info please email me at dwhymark@esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk

Dave Whymark
School Chaplain

10. **Kyle Langley – Drum Tutor**

We are pleased to introduce one of our ex-students as our new drum tutor, Mr Kyle Langley. After Esher High School, Kyle went on to graduate from the Academy of Contemporary Music (ACM), achieving a BA (Hons) specialising in Drums and Percussion and now has over 15 years of teaching and performance experience.

Kyle currently teaches in schools across Surrey and in his spare time performs in a Rock and a Funk-Jazz band. He is looking forward to returning to Esher High School to pass on his skills and enthusiasm to a new generation.

11. **Notices**

Zambia Clothes Request

An on-going request for any donations of unwanted clothes, shoes (tied together/bagged please), hats, belts and bags. Please continue to bring all donations to either Reception or Student Services marked "Zambia".