

# EC

ETONE  
COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER >>  
OCTOBER 2018



OPEN EVENING 2018  
BOOKBUZZ  
A VISIT FROM OUR LOCAL MP  
AND MUCH MORE

## A VISIT FROM OUR LOCAL MP



## OPEN EVENING 2018



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP



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This year we have continued to move the school forward and improved our performance in many key areas and are consistently producing results that are above the National standard. Our performances in Maths and EBacc (those pupils who achieve top grades across English, Maths, Science, a modern foreign language and humanities), were particularly pleasing along with BTEC Sport and Health & Social Care. We achieved a Progress 8 score which was for the third successive year, above the National average confirming that Etone College has once again performed exceptionally well.

I would like to again thank the staff who continue to work tirelessly to prepare pupils for their exams as well as our parents and carers who work in partnership with us to support their child's learning and progress; it is truly a team effort. I would also like to congratulate the pupils who have achieved such wonderful results and the many who have stayed with us in Sixth Form.

This is a welcome piece of news for parents and carers who are currently making choices about their child's secondary school for September 2019 but also for our current Year 11 pupils who will no doubt gain huge confidence from knowing that if they apply themselves and work hard they will achieve great results too.

Thank you to all parents and carers who came to support our Macmillan Coffee morning on 28th September. We drank tea and coffee, ate lots of cake and raised £472.85.

Parents and carers attended our Year 7 Settling In Evening which gave them the opportunity to meet pastoral staff, members of my Leadership team and Prefects as well as receiving information to support them with their child's education at Etone. It is vital that we all work together to ensure our pupils achieve their maximum potential – thank you once again to all who attended.

Finally, Year 11 pupils are already counting down to their mock exams which commence on 26th November. Work hard and plan your time effectively, ask your teachers if at all unsure. Half term is an ideal time for you to revise and make real gains in your knowledge and skills

Mr Smith



On Friday 28th September, Etone College enjoyed another successful Macmillan coffee morning. Parents and carers from Year 7 and 8 were invited in to have coffee and cake with their child.

Mrs Emery, supported by a number of our Year 11 prefects, served drinks and cakes in the hall whilst enjoying music provided by the Etone choir. Marcus Jones MP also attended in support of an extremely worthy cause.

Last year's successful 'Etone Bake Off' was repeated with the overall winner being Miss Phillips for her fantastic Chocolate Oreo cake.

Mrs Emery said 'I would like to thank all staff, particularly Bake Off entrants, pupils, parents and carers for supporting our Macmillan coffee morning. We raised our biggest total ever, £472.85. Let's hope next year's is even bigger and better'.



Etone College Term and Holiday Dates – 2018/19

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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December 2018							January 2019							February 2019							March 2019						
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April 2019							May 2019							June 2019							July 2019						
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- School Holiday
- Public Holiday
- Teacher Day



## THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH.



**Repeat after me:** I [full name] do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm the evidence I shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Exciting times in the Sixth Form as we are in the Oxford Crown Court on the 17th November competing against other schools in two mock trials in front of a High Court judge. We will be defending or prosecuting a young lady who has thrown acid over someone who refused her entrance into a party. Will there be enough evidence to convict her? In our second case we will be defending or prosecuting a young hairdresser who having got involved with a professional criminal gang is accused of money laundering. The big question being, did she act under duress (force) or did she think this was a quick and easy way to make some cash. Mr Mitchell is driving the minibus with the 15 strong team, which includes barristers, witnesses, an usher and clerk and the jury. Dr King and Miss Russell have decided to drive there by car. You need to ask them why they are not in the mini bus.... We will let you know the outcome so watch this space for the next instalment of Sixth Form adventures.



## Accelerated Reader



All year 7 and 8 students have completed their STAR tests and are regularly quizzing in their library lessons and social times to earn points and certificates. Amazingly, Sophie 8P2 had hit her first points target within two weeks as she returned to school and quizzed on all the books she had read over the summer! Another key strategy used was finding an author or series of books and reading them. Sophie had read a lot of JK Rowling and Jacqueline Wilson! Another huge achievement was Double Millionaire status by Jack 7G1 who can now take a book to the value of £10 in our December book fair! Jack has read and passed quizzes on books with an accumulated count of nearly 2, 500,000 words. Jack has read multiple JK Rowling books, Veronica Roth, Cassandra Clare and also Rick Riordan. He is also working towards his third points target!

In year 7 Amelia is also a Millionaire with a reward of a £5 book and she has also hit her first points target! Molly is also a worthy Millionaire reader who has hit her first points target! Another target student is Millie who is a few books away from Millionaire status. Both Kimaya and Phillip are also very nearly Millionaires!

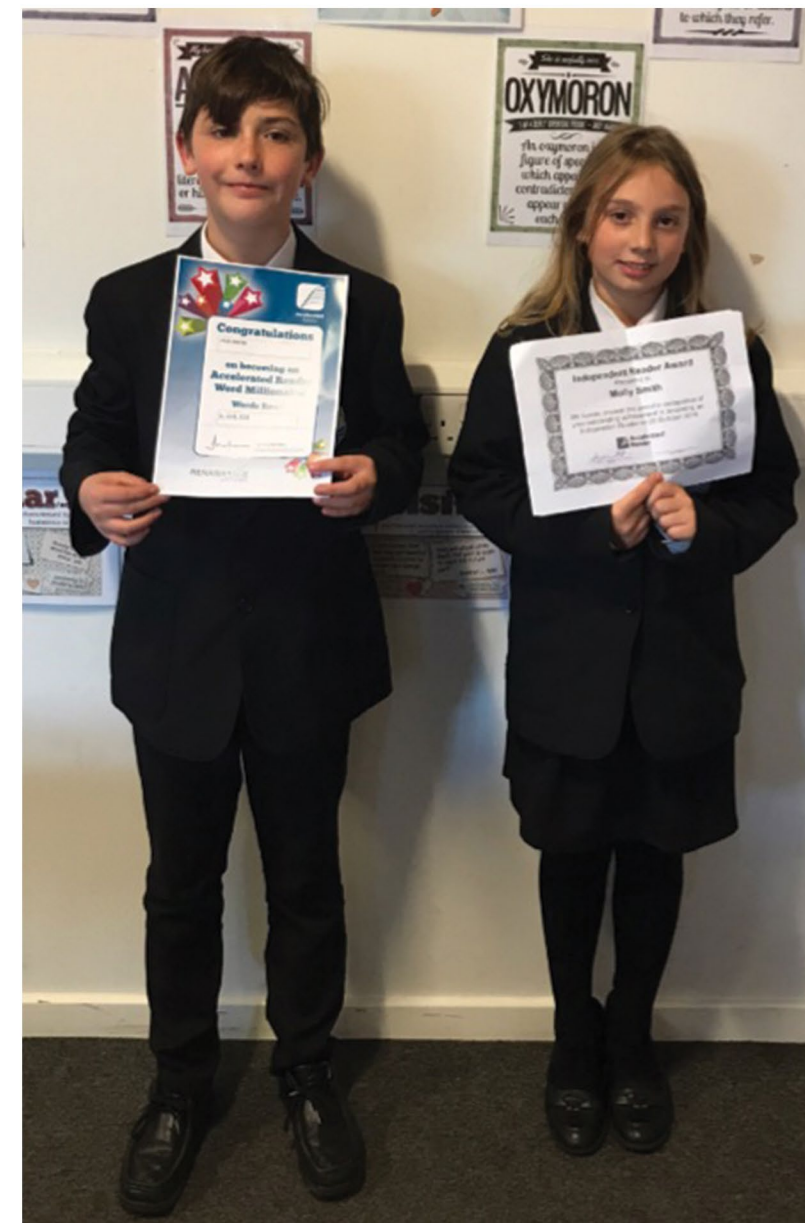
Well done to Chloe who is nearly 80% into her points target and is reading and quizzing on BINGO books.

In year 8, Kashif and Aditya are also nearly halfway through to their points targets!

Many year 7 students have also used their social times to quiz often and are working hard and progressing well with their targets, so a special mention to :

Jasleen and Isobel in 7C1.  
Paige and Ellie in 7P1

Well done and congratulations on all of your hard work!





# Open Evening 2018

On Thursday 4th October 2018, Etone College opened its doors for all prospective pupils and their parents and carers. With a vast range of displays and presentations from all department areas including Etone Pupils and staff on hand to answer any questions, the Open evening was a great opportunity to see what life at Etone is like.

Some of the events of the evening were as follows:

Headteachers presentations.

Roald Dahl inspired English activities.

A number treasure hunt from the Mathematics team as well as a times table quiz against the clock.

Spectacular Science experiments including making colourful sparklers, organ dissection and launching bottle rockets.

Complete the World map jigsaw and guess the country from the flag or country outline in the Geography department.

Look into the past with History by making a personalised poppy and creating a timeline of key events.

A Modern Foreign Languages Café featuring free tasty treats from France, Spain & Germany. Also included face painting of flags.

Can you taste the difference between a brand product and a non-brand product? In Business they will tell you is it worth the price difference?

Can you name the parts of a computer? In IT and Computer Science you can see the hardware and use the software including Scratch & Python.

The Create team will let you make your own mono print, manufacture your own pendent and cook your own pitta pizza.

Football, hockey, netball and performing arts all demonstrated by enthusiastic Etone students. Just a small flavor of the activities available from the PE/Perform department.

Experience the great outdoors with some of the Duke of Edinburgh team displaying their tent and kit whilst rustling up a free hot dog for you.

Information about Etone College's admission process can be found at [www.etonecollege.co.uk/admissions](http://www.etonecollege.co.uk/admissions)

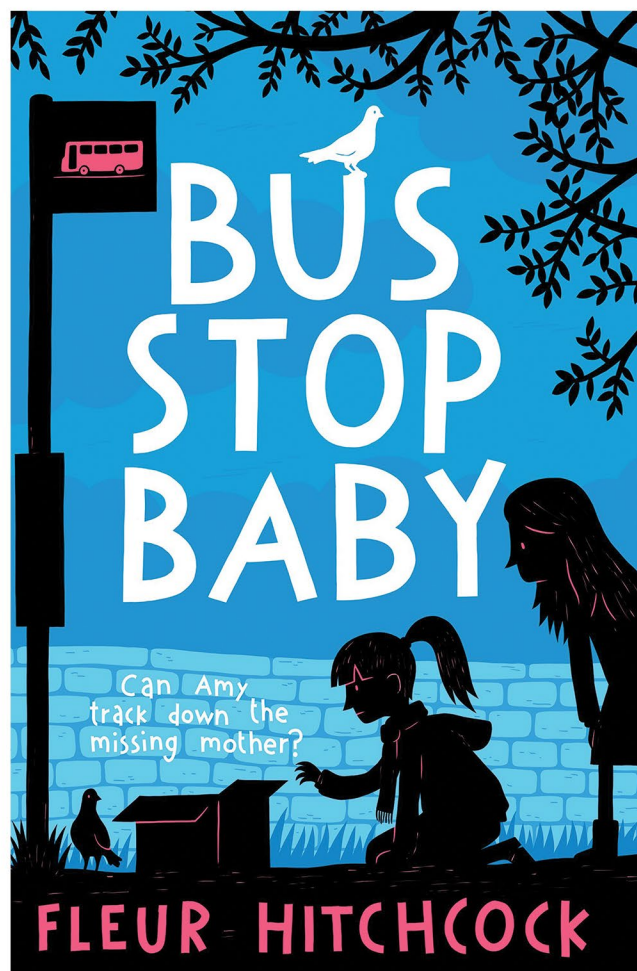




# Bookbuzz

Library lessons began with a buzz of excitement in the air as all of our year 7 and 8 pupils chose a free book from an electrifying selection of 14 titles which were carefully selected by the charity Book Trust. Pupils spent their initial library lesson watching a video which advertised each book and they watched a selection of authors, book publishers, illustrators and pupils from other colleges who persuasively recommended each book choice. Our students then read book blurbs and looked at sample books to make their choices.

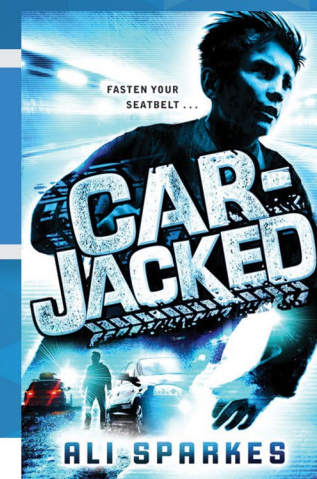
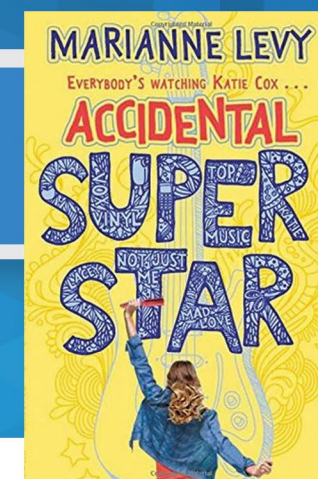
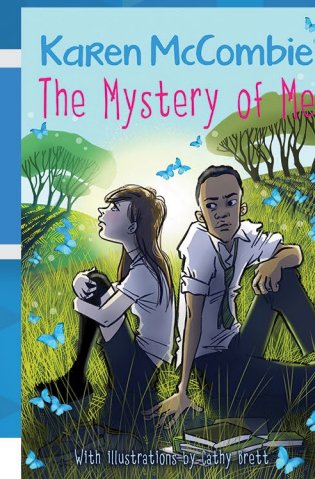
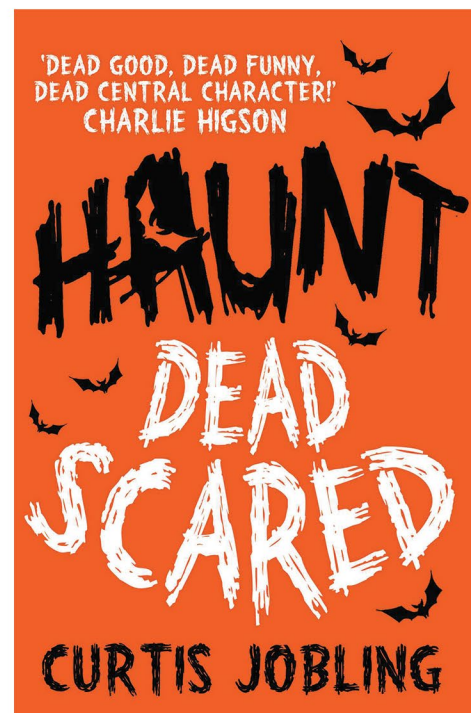
One of the most popular choices was 'Guinness World Records Amazing Animals.' Animal loving students were surprised to read about a basketball playing bunny and a gorilla who communicate with sign language!



Another popular choice was 'Haunt' by Curtis Jobling. The plot was of great interest to students who learned in the blurb that a boy dies but becomes a ghost who haunts his best friend. There is a reason for this but only reading the book will provide us with the answer!

'Bus Stop Baby' by Fleur Hitchcock tells the story of a girl called Amy who finds an abandoned baby at a bus stop! Just who is the mother of this child? An emotional investigation throughout the provides the answer. This powerful and thought-provoking plot also engaged many students.

Other popular authors were Tom Palmer, Rick Riordan, and Neil Gaiman. All of the books are quiz able through Accelerated Reader and many students are lending a huge selection of Book Buzz Bingo titles from the last four years which you can find in the library. Three books read and quizzed will earn a commendation and six books will earn a selection box at Christmas. Students should receive their free books before half term!



## Julia 8C1

I chose 'Haunt' because the subtitle was 'Dead Scared' so it has to have a lot of adrenaline and excitement! The themes of friendship and ghosts appealed to me as my favourite genre is horror!

## Theo 7C2

I chose 'Haunted' as I like horror themed books so I love that it is a mystery with a ghost. I was interested in the fact that a character called Will dies and becomes a ghost but the only person who can actually see him is his best friend Dougie. The mystery is why does he come back as a ghost and what must be solved?

## Aleona 8P1

I chose 'The Wolf Wilder' by Katherine Rundell. The story is set in Russia and as I'm a Russian student, this caught my attention straight away! The main character finds a pack of wolves and becomes friends with them because her mother can domesticate them from the wilds. However, there is an evil general that kidnaps her mother and she must rescue her with the help of the wolves. The themes of adventure, war, animals and family attracted me to this book.

## Grace 7C1

I chose 'Wolf Wilder'. The book drew me in because it is about standing up for things you care for and fighting back and I would like to do that. Also, it is an adventure story, therefore, there will be challenges along the way which makes things interesting and keeps you anticipating what will happen next.

## Millie 7D1

I chose the book 'The Mystery Of Me' by Karen McCombie as it seems like a very interesting book. Mystery books are definitely my favourite genre, so I can't wait to begin reading it! When I start the book, I know I just won't be able to put it down!

## Abbie 8P1

I chose 'Accidental Superstar' by Marian Levy as my Book Buzz choice. This was because it is about music and social media. Katie, the main character was filmed singing and posted it on Youtube. It started with her school gossiping about her talent. It could be her first steps to fame and fortune....or will it be a disaster?

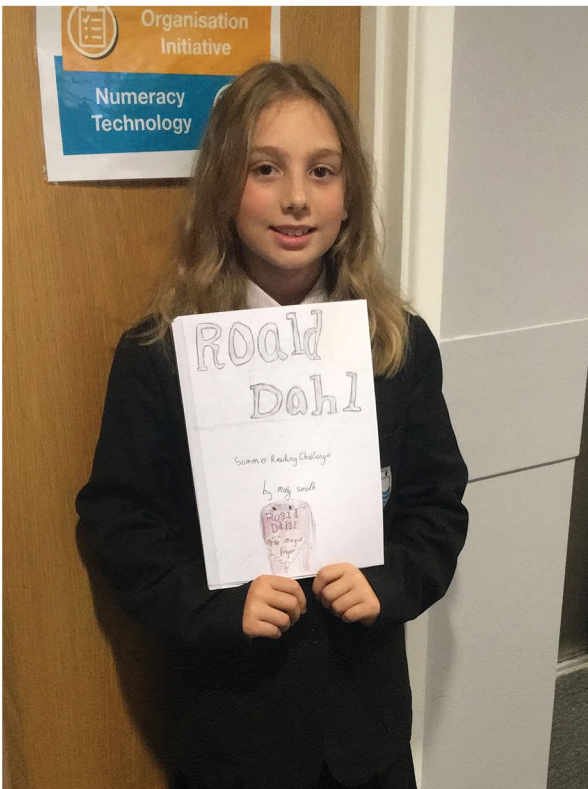
## Callum 8P1

I chose the book 'Car Jacked' by Ali Sparkes because the plot sounds interesting and invigorating. It is the kind of book which will keep you on the edge of your seat, never to be put down by the reader. It's about a boy who gets caught up in a bank robbery after not being able to leave his house. This means that when he finally experiences excitement, he simply can't turn it down!



# Summer Reading Challenge

# 'Dahlicious jollification!'



Following transition day in July, our new prospective students were set the English Summer Reading Challenge! Miss Hammersley introduced the idea to them in their transition day assembly and they all stepped up to the mark to impress their English teachers at Etone College.

The booklet contained a range of activities with a plethora of skills, both old and new. This was all centred around the writing of Roald Dahl in anticipation for Roald Dahl Day in September to continue that transitional theme. Students were given extracts from a variety of Roald Dahl books to entice them into the exciting world of reading.

The entries were overwhelming and teachers found it difficult to select the best in the class to put forward for the final stage of judging. Miss Hammersley found it extremely difficult to judge, but Molly Smith won overall, gaining a book voucher and an 'Outstanding in English' pen to continue her great work. Well done Molly!

Students were in for a 'Dahlicious' treat at the start of term this year when they encountered some of their teachers sporting rather different outfits to their normal attire!

Every year in September the country celebrates the author Roald Dahl for his contribution to children's literature. Here at Etone, we wanted to make sure that we celebrated his life and works too! After numerous deliberations, members of staff selected their favourite character and adorned their chosen costumes tremendously.

Students were invited to get involved in various activities in the library during break time and after school. It certainly was a fabulous day enjoyed by all! Mrs Elliot, playing the role of Grandma Josephine for the day said: "Roald Dahl is loved for his ability to bring stories to life through his humorous and irreverent characters. Our students love to read his books and have really engaged with the day's activities."

Roald Dahl promoted imagination in his young readers and his legacy continues to take them on journeys into the lands of giants, inside Willy Wonka's magical chocolate factory to name but a few. He managed to convey numerous morals through his character's mystical powers and in doing so has created stories that will stand the test of time.

It is fair to say that he is one of the 20th century's most prolific children's authors and will continue to be so for many years to come. If you want to read any of his books, please see Mrs Elliott in the library as she has the entire Roald Dahl collection for you to borrow.





# Etone College



High standards underpin all that we do



Ilan Smith, head teacher



Paris trip 2018

Based in Nuneaton, Etone College is a secondary school in the Matrix Academy Trust for pupils aged 11-19. What makes this school unique is the speed with which it has progressed. They have recently attained a 'good' rating by Ofsted, which is just one of the bodies that have recognised their excellence – a significant achievement given that, in very recent memory, the school was placed in 'special measures' (2013). Just three years later, this same school received national recognition for progress, placing them in the top 14 per cent of schools nationally – a remarkable feat for such a short space of time. Never has there been a better time for pupils to join Etone College on its journey of progression, something that Ian Smith, head teacher, who joined the school at Easter 2015, describes in greater detail below.

## Knowing strengths

Rapid progression requires a school to take a fresh approach – one that is incisively informed by a thorough sense of what it already does well and how it needs to improve. At Etone College, we've always prided ourselves on our traditional values of good manners, courtesy and respect with a "no excuses" culture. Pupils constantly reflect on their choices, how much their choices were in their control and how they might have chosen differently. This is accompanied by a keen sense of responsibility and numerous opportunities for pupils to participate and take ownership of their own learning. Our strong pastoral system has undoubtedly

### REPORT CARD ETONE COLLEGE

- » Head teacher: Ian Smith
- » Location: Etone, Nuneaton
- » Type of school: secondary comprehensive with a sixth form
- » No. of pupils: 750
- » No. of staff: 80
- » Has quickly progressed from the Ofsted rating of 'Special measures' to 'Good'
- » In the top 10 highest performing academies nationally
- » [www.etonecollege.co.uk](http://www.etonecollege.co.uk)

“We've been able to transform learning and outcomes for our pupils because of the real team ethos running through our school”

underpinned our success, and while it doesn't always yield the same obviously measurable outcomes as other measures, it has provided the foundations on which we have been able to build.

High quality pedagogy now pervades the school, with a strong emphasis placed on measurable outcomes, set in a culture where only the best is good enough. In practice, this means highly effective teaching and learning, rigorously planned quality assurance and the regular and diagnostic use of pupil data. By measuring and evaluating our outcomes and through high quality professional dialogue and CPD, we are able to inform our next stage of planning and facilitate recursive improvements year on year. The "devil is in the detail" – looking closely not only to ensure that the basics are in place and completed to a minimum expected standard but that we are also constantly improving all aspects of our practice.

Aspirations for and expectations of our pupils are very high and we work continually to ensure that pupils share the same sense of belief in their own abilities. We look to provide them with opportunity – wanting to be the means by which they realise their ambitions and potential. Rewards, closely aligned

to progress and participation, and the strong pastoral system have been pivotal to this success as have links to external providers such as universities, which all constantly encourage our pupils to aim high.

Curriculum relevance and clear progression pathways are also key to engagement and therefore success. Our curriculum rationale is simple: based around clearly transferable employability skills that allow our pupils to make progress within school and be equipped for their appropriate next steps. We celebrate the successes of our pupils, with regular, high profile events now the norm. At the heart of everything we do is a belief that we will provide the highest possible level of education provision while meeting the specific needs of our community – a local school to meet the needs of local people.

Maintaining a close point of contact with parents, our feeder schools and the community has also been central to our improvement, and we now enjoy a much better reputation in the local area as a result. We recognise the crucial role that parents and carers have had in our success – playing greater roles in their children's progress and achievements. We are now the first choice of many – moving from a rapidly falling roll to admission numbers that have doubled, now being the highest they have ever been.

## Improvement

A key strength is also positive contributions from all stakeholders: "everybody benefits because everybody contributes". We've been able to transform learning and outcomes for our pupils because of the real team ethos running through our school – teaching and non-teaching staff alike – whose common purpose is to improve experiences and outcomes for pupils. Our staff work hard to



Wilmott Dixon site visit



secure improvement for pupils and we, in return, work hard to secure improvements for staff.

One aspect of this is CPD with a recognition that staff at different stages of their career have different needs. These efforts ensure that our teachers have the necessary skills to improve learning. Ultimately, we want our staff to have the opportunities to grow and improve. Part and parcel of this process is the chance for us to recognise strong practitioners and elevate them in terms of leadership. This fits with our school strapline of "progress for all" – a statement to which we have a very real and genuine commitment.

Although we've undergone enormous improvement, there are still challenges. Curriculum change is often rapid, often providing insufficient time for schools to adapt. Teacher recruitment is also difficult, particularly in certain subjects, and while we have successfully engaged with SCITT programmes to "grow our own", we are acutely aware of the uncertainty that surrounds teacher recruitment both now and in the future.

### The future

We see collaboration as key to our future success, and are proud to be part of the Mairik Academy Trust. As such, we have been afforded opportunities to share and learn best practice. We enjoy the status of being part of the 7th highest performing academy chain in the country. Collaboration is an area we'd like to grow, not least by establishing links within Muncatton – only good things can come from partnerships with other schools. We've already worked hard to re-establish curriculum links with our primary feeder schools and developing further links with other schools would be particularly helpful, particularly as we would all be familiar with challenges specific to our region.



Duke of Edinburgh Award

Looking to the future, we want to continue our successful journey. Complacency does not exist at Elton. At the risk of tempting fate, we constantly strive to be an Ofsted 'outstanding' school. Until then, we plan to expand our work with other schools, utilise the forthcoming new build and further increase our numbers while never losing our focus on traditional values and progress. We want to be known as a leading school in our area that meets the needs of the pupils, the parents and the broader community. More than that though, we want to be the school where there is truly "progress for all".

“We enjoy the status of being in the top 10 for the highest performing academies nationally”



Year 11 Prom Class of 2018

# Years 9 – 11



*Develop effective study habits for GCSE.*

*Complete homework or revision in a supportive, focused learning environment.*

*Ask the experts on hand for guidance and support.*

*Work alongside your peers.*

## Tuesdays and Thursdays

## 3.00 – 4.00





# Kenya Expedition 2020

# Charity Choir

In the summer of 2020, pupils from Etone College will undertake a once in a lifetime opportunity to go to Kenya for four weeks. This expedition, run and supported by Camps International allows our pupils in years 10, 11 and 12 to experience an insight into how others around the world live and to be able to explore how fortunate we are in England. As part of their time out in Kenya, our pupils will help take part in project and wildlife work where they will help to build and construct homes and schools for those living in Kenya to give them more opportunities. This type of charity work is a huge opportunity for our pupils to add to their employability skills and will hopefully be able to allow them to grow as individuals.

For their expedition, each pupil has to fundraise £4070 which goes towards all of the building materials they will be using when they get out to Kenya. As a result of this, over the course of the next 18 months, there will be a series of fundraising events taking place in and out of school and on behalf of all of the pupils we would be beyond grateful for your support in helping this venture take place.

Keep an eye out for our fundraising events, with our first taking place on Tuesday 6th November in the Main Hall at 6pm. This event will be a quiz run by two pupils, Megan and Ashleigh with other activities such as raffles available. For any more information please see Miss Kelly-Smith or Mr Hope.



Etone College choir has been involved in a fundraising project for a charity called JDRF. This is a charity that funds research into ways of improving the lives of children with Type 1 Diabetes, with a cure being the ultimate goal. Type 1 Diabetes is an unpreventable, autoimmune condition that affects over 30,000 children in the UK. Everyday life for a child with Type 1 is a delicate balance of several factors just to stay healthy. The school choir provided backing vocals for a song called 'I Am the Hero', which is sung by Phebe Maddison from Swindon, who was recently part of Team Pixie on ITV's The Voice: Kids, and who also has Type 1.

Etone College choir became involved because the lyricist of the song is Steve Paxton, whose two children at the school have Type 1 diabetes. His daughter is a member of the choir. The song sends a very positive message about the condition .... that it won't hold the child back from achieving whatever they want to in life. While it was written with children who have Type 1 in mind, any child who has been through a difficult period in their life will be able to relate to it. Please support this charity by downloading the song from the website that Steve Paxton created for his first song for JDRF, [www.innocenteyescharity.co.uk](http://www.innocenteyescharity.co.uk), where you can also see the video featuring the choir. Steve hopes that JDRF will adopt the song for their upcoming 'Superheroes' campaign for World Diabetes Day in November. Etone College is proud to be a part of this project. Please feel free to share this great news on your own social media accounts to raise as much money as possible for JDRF. You can find out more about the charity at [www.jdrf.org.uk](http://www.jdrf.org.uk)



## Innocent Eyes

fathers of children with type 1 diabetes - raising money for JDRF



# Student Leadership

# Maths Challenge

## First Etone cohort to achieve SSAT Student Leadership Accreditation

During the last academic year a group of our Lead Learners rose to the challenge to demonstrate their leadership skills within 10 different categories. They collated folders of evidence and then wrote a supporting statement for each section to explain how they had demonstrated each particular leadership skill.

Finally, in July, 9 students were ready to submit their folders. The wait was long but on October 2nd the students found out that they had been successful. Imogen and Molly were awarded the highest level by achieving the gold award, Davina, Elliott, Skye and Aimee achieved the silver award and Keira, Maryam and Zoe Call achieved the bronze.

This cohort, as well as aiming for a higher award this year, will be instrumental in coaching other lead learners through the process this year.

If you're interested in becoming a lead Learner, if you think you have the skills shown in the grid above, please speak to Mrs Kaye-Shepherd.

We were delighted to welcome fifteen Year 5/6 pupils and two members of staff from Queens Church of England Academy at the start of September to join us for our Most-Able Maths workshop held in the sixth form building. The workshop was full of creative Maths challenges such as fifteen cards, treasure hunt and problem solving relay race. The day was carefully designed to maximise both fun elements of maths and problem solving skills needed in the challenging Maths SATS at Key Stage 2.

Our Year 10 Lead Learners – Sophia Parish, Bindi Leech, Jess Griffiths, Adam Phillips and Liam Spiller supported the day with great enthusiasm. They helped the pupils understand how to apply BIDMAS, percentages and use arithmetic operations. Our Lead Learners made the day amazing for the pupils.

Queens Academy pupils really enjoyed their time with us and gave us lots of positive feedback. The snack time in the Sixth Form area went down really well too.

We look forward to having similar workshops in the future for Year 6/5.

Have a go at one of the questions on the Relay Race



## Question 3 - Relay Race



Tim gets £2000 for his monthly salary

He spent one-quarter of his money on rent



He spent 20% on entertainment.



He spent two-fifth of the remainder on living expenses ?



How much money does he has left?



## Local MP Visits

Taking the time to meet and talk to Marcus Jones – MP for Nuneaton, was truly eye opening. Our meeting with Marcus Jones started off with an insightful Q&A about his position and what his future plans are for Nuneaton. Within this we learnt that a main focus of his is to improve the aesthetic of Nuneaton town while also placing a heavy focus on improving our police force in order to ensure that the community is securely safe and protected from any situations that may occur throughout day and night. Having outgone this Q&A we also unravelled a deeper understanding of his contributions to the community and the development and experience he has gained in order to reach the position he is at now.

Throughout his journey, Marcus Jones has gained great success in his position. Later on, during our meeting with Mr Jones, we attended our McMillian Coffee Morning where our student choir beautifully perform for the parents who attended, while also having students sell cakes, coffee and tea in order to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Here at Etone College we are highly charitable and strive to go the extra mile to support a good cause, having Marcus Jones attend our event – someone who also places an emphasis on contributions to the community, made our Coffee Morning that little bit more special. It was a huge pleasure to take the time to meet with Marcus Jones and discuss the next steps for Nuneaton and Etone's journey through success. We wish all Marcus all the success in his position.





# Centaur House

May I wish all students and their families a very warm welcome back following what I hope was a restful but fun summer holiday! I have been delighted by the speed with which our students have settled back into school life – no doubt buoyed by the excellent GCSE results achieved by last year's Year 11! Etone really is an exciting place to be at the moment and our students should feel both very proud and very fortunate to be playing a part in the next stage of our journey.

Students in Centaur have wasted little time getting into the swing of things with many achieving their Bronze commendations certificate before the term was even up! Rhian in 7C1 was the first of these. Well done Rhian!

The advent of a new school year brings with it new opportunities for our students at Etone and none are more exciting than the opportunity to stand for School Council. Students from each form group elected a member to the Council; someone they felt would best represent their interests and wishes. Many congratulations to all elected School Council members! Furthermore, a huge well done to the students taking Lead Learner status at school this year. It's wonderful to see so many of you recognised for your hard work.

I wish all our students a well-earned break!

Mr Astall  
Head of Centaur House



# Griffin House

What a fantastic start to the year Griffin pupils have made!

Well done to all the year 7 students who have settled in so well and are already a real credit to Griffin House. It is always a pleasure to come into your form and to receive so many positive comments from you teachers. It is great to see that so many of you are making the most of all the experiences and opportunities that Etone has to offer. Thank you to all the students that helped on open evening you were a credit to Griffin House and the school.

Thank you to Natasha who was chosen from 7G1 to share her experiences of the first term at Etone in front of a packed school hall.

As well as hearing about the progress you have all been making in your lessons it has also been great to hear about and celebrate the extra-curricular successes of Griffin students. Zoe has been extremely busy and had great fun gaining her Equine Awards, well done Zoe!

Griffin students in years 8, 9 and 10 have all come back with a fantastic attitude and I am proud to be sending so many positive praise postcards home.

11G1 and 11G2 have made a great start to the year and shown such maturity and commitment already to what will be an extremely important year. I have been so impressed by attendance at revision and support sessions, keep up the effort and it will really pay off!

I would also like to give a special mention to the following students for gaining their Bronze award so early in the year, it shows just how hard you are working; Amelia, Emily, Libby, Sinead, Cai, Hannah and Holly.

Miss Bailey  
Head of Griffin House





# Dragon House

A warm welcome to our year 7 students and what a great start they have made.

Dragon house students are gaining a lot of commendations which is fantastic to see, this shows how hard they are working within lessons and completing outstanding pieces of homework. The first student in Dragon house to complete the Bronze award was Jason (7D2) which was a fantastic achievement, this was closely followed by William (7D1). I know that all my Dragon students are determined to collect the most commendations this year and beat all the other houses.

A lot of Dragon students are involved in a number of activities outside of school too. I have students participating in athletics, netball, football, rugby, American football and ice hockey. Some of my students are members of local dance companies performing in lots of competitions around the country in different genres such as Hip Hop, Ballroom, Acro, Ballet, tap and contemporary; with a number of students involved in competitions. I have several students involved in martial arts and I know that they have their grading coming up soon. I also have a couple of boxers who have been competing in a variety of boxing matches. I will no doubt have more news on student's achievements outside of school in the Christmas newsletter.

Dragon house continue to support the charity Georgie's gift and we hope to raise more money for this over the academic year.

I hope that Dragon House students continue to work hard and continue to achieve great things in and out of school.

**Dragon House Motto: "High achievement always takes place in the framework of high expectations"**

Mrs Price  
Head of Dragon House



# Phoenix House

Where do we begin? As the Head of Phoenix House I can proudly say that our House has begun this new academic year as the proud winners of the much coveted Etone Sports Day Trophy, Year 9 & 10 House Sports Winners Trophy, 2018 Sport Relief Trophy and the latest addition is the Attendance Challenge with an amazing 97.38%! Well done to all our pupils and thank you to Phoenix form tutors for maintaining high expectations and ensuring that Phoenix gives nothing less than our very best!

There is more to celebrate: I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Carys Jones from 11P1 on her recent three bronze medals, awarded at the European Karate trials in Germany and also Markella from 10P1 who has retained her title as Female British BMX champion! Year 7 have also made Phoenix House proud during recent public events: Guy 7P1, was excellent in addressing the audience during open evening and Ben 7P2, posed some pressing questions to Marcus Jones MP when he visited the school during our recent MacMillan Coffee Morning.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind our Year 10 and 11 pupils that Phoenix House is behind them as they move towards mock and real exams during the coming academic year. This is a time when pupils often feel anxious and pressure can mount but our Year 10 and 11 Form Tutors are very experienced; not only are they supporting our pupils with revision and time management but also encouraging pupils to begin considering future pathways and achieving their dreams and ambitions. Remember Year 11: the time is always now.

We are 'Team Phoenix', we support each other and work together to achieve 'nothing less than our very best,' we ensure we are organised, punctual and committed to our future.

Phoenix House is proud to support the charity: Young Carers.





## LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for. It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits. Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s). All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days). Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

**Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.**

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Government issued new regulations in September 2013 regarding Leave of Absence; The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2006 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013

- Head teachers shall not grant any Leave of Absence during term time unless they consider there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

- Parents do not have any entitlement to take their children on holiday during term time. Any application for leave must establish that there are exceptional circumstances and the Head Teacher must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave.

- Head Teachers will determine how many school days a child may be absent from school if the leave is granted.

- The school can only consider applications for Leave of Absence which are made by the resident parent. i.e the parent with whom the child normally resides.

- Applications for Leave of Absence must be made in advance and failure to do so will result in the absence being recorded as "unauthorised". This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

- Applications for Leave of Absence which are made in advance and refused will result in the absence being recorded as "unauthorised". This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice, if the child is absent from school during that period.

- All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service of Warwickshire County Council.

- The Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service have the authority to consider issuing Fixed Penalty Notices for Leave of Absence in line with the Warwickshire County Council's Non-School Attendance and Penalty Notices Code of Conduct. (A copy of which can be found at <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/pupilnonattendance>).

- If a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued and is not paid within the timeframe set out in that Notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

**Each application for a Leave of Absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.**



# BONFIRE NIGHT

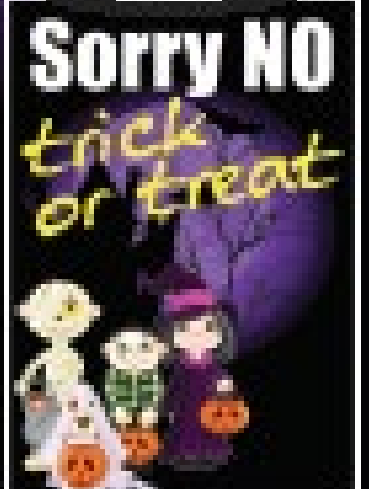
## REMEMBER! REMEMBER!






- X It is illegal to sell fireworks to anyone under 18 years of age. Maximum penalty of £5000 and/or six months in prison.
- X It is illegal to set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am (Bonfire night extended until 12 midnight).
- X It is illegal to let off any firework in a public place and this carries a fine of up to £5000. Police may also issue an £90 Fixed Penalty Notice.
- X All fireworks sold to the public must comply to British Safety Standard BS 7114.
- X The police have the power to stop and search anyone suspected of carrying fireworks.
- X The sale of banger, mini rockets, fireworks that fly erratically (squibs, helicopters etc), aerial shells and maroons is illegal.
- X Irresponsible use of fireworks can damage property, cause injury, scare people (particularly the elderly) and frighten animals.

# Have a Safe Halloween



Please do not knock on doors where there is a 'No trick or treat sign'



-  Adults should always accompany children when trick or treating. Young people should never go trick or treating alone
-  Do not knock on the doors of strangers - only go to people you know. Never go into a stranger's house
-  Always keep to well-lit areas. Wear bright clothing and always carry a torch. Remember road safety
-  Unless pre-arranged, do not visit elderly members of the community. Be careful not to frighten vulnerable people
-  Keep your tricks within the law - anything that results in damage is an offence and will be dealt with as such