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**ELLIS  
GUILFORD  
SCHOOL**  
*Creative  
Education  
Trust*

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent/carer,

### **End of Term Letter**

As we now reach the end of term, can I take this opportunity in thanking parents for your continued support of the school and, in particular, the change we continue to make to further improve the school.

It has been a busy term, especially the arrival of Ofsted during the month of September.

The Ofsted letter to parents will be sent once Ofsted provides the 'go ahead' but there were many positive comments which, once published, I will share with you.

Additionally, we have had a number of visits from the Trust, who also recognise the improvements as well as our local MP, Alex Norris, who I took on a tour around the school earlier this term.

Ellis Guilford is on a journey and certainly those parents whom I have shown around have all been impressed both by what they see in the classroom and the management and organisation of pupils in between lessons.

One of the best parts of this half term has seen the re-emergence of Performing Arts and Sports.

We have now 116 pupils learning to play a musical instrument, together with Basketball, Football and Netball teams, all of which are doing exceptionally well.



Another highlight was the school's Open Evening and Open Day where over 400 people came along. Both occasions were splendid, and we received many compliments about the school.

As ever, pupils have settled well his half term, especially our new Y7, who are now getting used to life in a secondary school, as well as other year groups who are getting used to their new Knowledge Organisers and a new way of working where they are expected to apply their learning in a lesson, writing more extensively about a particular topic. Our new homework timetable has also been launched.

Expectations in the school are high. We would all expect that to be the case. The behaviour of pupils in lessons is very good. The school is calm and purposeful. And the number of pupils receiving student of the lesson and student of the week is growing all the time. Today we congratulated all the young people who volunteered to help during the Open Evening, some of whom gave up their time to attend the Open Day. All were given certificates and we had a group photograph.

Well done to all pupils who contribute to school, in every way.

I am in no doubt that there are aspects of the school which could be better, but the experience for our pupils is improving all the time.

Their education is our core business, and we are determined to put this at the centre of what we do and what we are as a school.

Partnership work with parents is also key to success and I look forward to meeting more parents on our Y11 Parents' Evening and our 'Keeping In Touch' evenings for pupils in Y7 and 8 on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Over half term we are not stopping: more works to our environment are planned and there are is a timetable of Y11 revision across both weeks.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support.

Chris Keen  
Principal