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

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### **The Ellis Guilford School: news update**

#### **Extra-curricular activities**

We have had another positive start to the new half term, and I want to provide an update on the school and activities taking place over the remainder of the term.

I am delighted that the school is providing a number of PE activities. Netball, basketball and football are popular. Additionally, there are regular tournaments and competitions taking place where our pupils are proving to be highly successful.

In Performing Arts, pupils are rehearsing for CET's festival of Shakespeare. We are performing 'Othello'. The pupils have had the opportunity to work alongside a professional theatre director to support them during rehearsals. Additionally, we have a vocal group taking place weekly and this week we launch our new musical production of 'We will Rock You'.

This half term also sees a new pupil leadership team. Pupils involved will meet to discuss and make recommendations about areas of the school they would like to see improved as well as have a 'voice' in the school.



## **Curriculum information**

### **Modern Foreign Languages**

As we begin a new half term, pupils in Year 7 will now be studying one language, either French or Spanish for two hours per week. This will support pupils having greater time in one subject and therefore increase the amount of learning needed to cover the knowledge, facts and skills needed, in anticipation of their first CET assessment after Christmas.

### **Year 11 PPE's**

The first of the Y11 Pre-Public Examinations is taking place next week. Pupils are working hard in lessons and preparing well. All pupils will be involved in a subject briefing prior to their mock to provide that 'last minute' advice. Following a successful Y11 Parents' Evening, pupils are well placed to sit these examinations. There will be another PPE in the new year.

### **Drop Down Days**

As a school, we are committed to providing an 'all-round' education for all our pupils, including following statutory guidance, looking at local priorities and giving 'richer' educational opportunities. On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November, we are holding our first extended Curriculum days. Pupils in Y7 are focussing on aspects of RSE (Religious and Sex Education) Y8, local priorities, Y9 mental health and well-being, Y10 and Y11, preparing for exams, including avoiding exam stress. All of the topics cover important skills.

## **School Dates Update**

For information, school will close at 12.40pm on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December for all pupils. As this will be the last day of term pupils will spend time with their form tutors, have a celebration assembly as well as normal lessons.

The final day of the school year will Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022. This is to accommodate the additional earlier bank holiday for the celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.



**Parents' Evening:**

As a reminder Y10 Parents' Evening will take place on November 24<sup>th</sup>, 4pm-7pm and there will be a Progress Review Evening on 3<sup>rd</sup> December for Y7 and Y8, meeting form tutors. We have included this evening in the calendar, in light of school closures and restrictions during the last 18<sup>th</sup> months, to allow parents/carers an opportunity to meet with form tutors for the first time.

Y9 Parents' Evening:

In the New Year, our next Parents' Evening will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> February, 4pm-7pm.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Keen'.

Chris Keen  
Principal