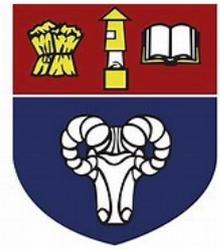


MAY 2022

Eckington School Year 6 Newsletter



Just one half term to go before you join our school community!

Dear Year 6 students / parents & carers,

As we enter our last half term before the summer holiday, we are sharing with you our newsletter, full of reminders and information to support transition.

We are very excited that you will be joining our school community in September and are hopeful that our transition activities will help support you move to secondary school. Eckington School is becoming increasingly popular in the local area, and as a result your year group will be one of the largest in school, with 10 form groups! This means there will be lots of new people to get to know and friends to make!

What have we done to support transition so far?

In March we found out who would be joining us in September. As soon as received names we started working with your primary schools. Finding out about you all and what we can do to support you before, and when you arrive. Our Mandarin Chinese teacher, Mrs Lang has been visiting our cluster Primary schools and has been teaching Mandarin Chinese and delivering Chinese Cultural Experience Days.

Some Year 6 students have visited as part of our SEN Head Start programme and have had a taste of what life is like at Eckington School.



What Transition activities do you have to look forward to?

Information Evenings

We are really pleased that for the first time in three years we will be able to deliver our Information Evenings live at Eckington School. These sessions are repeated on the two dates and will provide you with key information regarding Taster Days and starting with us in September.

Please attend on either;

Wednesday 15th June 5.30-6.30pm

Tuesday 21st June 5.30 –6.30pm

Visits to Primary Schools

We will be visiting all feeder primary schools in June. We will be accompanied by three former students, so that Y6 children can listen to their thoughts about Eckington School and ask questions. It also gives the opportunity for our SENCO, Safeguarding Officer and the Leader of Student Development to find out more about your child.

Taster Days

The Taster Days take place in July. This experience will give your child the opportunity to find out more about Eckington School, sample lessons and meet children who will be in their new year group. We will post further information regarding Taster Days to non feeder students and send it home via primary schools for those we visit in June.

Taster Day Dates

Date	Schools
Monday 27th and 28th June, 2022	Marsh Lane. Eckington Camms, St Giles, Ridgeway
Thursday 30th June and Friday 1st July, 2022	Killamarsh Juniors, Eckington Juniors, Renishaw, Non Feeders

Language preferences

A choice to be made - Please read

Studying a new language is very exciting. At Eckington School, students study either French **or** German, not both. Most children are



happy to study either language, but if you do have personal reasons why you would sooner child study one language rather than another, please email;



rebecca.priceaziz@eck.leap-mat.org.uk stating your preference and the reason why you would sooner French or German by **Tuesday 14th June 2022**.

Please note the language they study will determine their tutor group.

The AST TEAM

At Eckington School we have an Achievement Support Team (formally know as the SEN department), which is made up of Joe Marriot, Trainee SENDco, Pam Ward, the AST manager, Joe Hale The Year 7 lead Achievement Support Assistant (AST) and a team of 11 other ASTs. Together they oversee all the provision for students with special educational needs.

Their aim as a department is to make the transition to secondary school as smooth and stress-free as possible. They began working with individuals and primary schools in March who may struggle and may need additional transition support.

Please speak with your child's Year 6 teacher if your child has needs which would benefit from support from the Achievement Support Team. Should you wish to get in touch with the Achievement Support Team Please email them at AST@eck.leap-mat.org.uk

A Welcome form Mr Grenham

Vice Principal

Hello Everyone,

My name is Mr Grenham and I am the new Vice Principal at Eckington School. Having only been here for a few weeks, I can understand the excitement you are feeling at starting a new Secondary School.

I have already met a number of you during your visits and have taught a number of you in taster lessons. I teach Business Studies so may not actually teach you until Year 10, however I will see lots of you around school and be involved in some of the fabulous rewards which we have in school.

Starting a new school is an exciting experience for all students and gives you an opportunity to make a really positive impression on all of the fantastic staff at Eckington! We look forward to seeing you in your Eckington uniforms and for the start of your journey as an Eckington student.

AN OVERVIEW OF KEY TRANSITION

Mid June

Welcome Information Evening at Eckington School

Mid June

Visits to Primary Schools by key staff from Eckington School

Late June / Early July

Taster Days

Late July

Notification of language options, form group, tutor and details for September.



A subject in the spot light— Science



As you move up to secondary school, science lessons change a lot. You start working in labs like proper scientists. you will learn all about the nature of science and what it means to be a scientist. You will start to realise that science is all around us and helps explain the amazing world we live in!

In science you will have four lessons a week, taught by two teachers. You will carry out exciting experiments such as blazing Bunsen burners, making concoctions in conical flasks and extracting DNA.

You will find that science is exciting, a way of discovering what's in the universe and how those things work today, how they worked in the past, and how they are likely to work in the future. Scientists are motivated by the thrill of seeing or figuring out something that no one has before.

You will find that science is useful. The knowledge generated by science can be used to develop new technologies, treat diseases, and deal with many other sorts of problems.

You will find that science is ongoing. It is continually refining and expanding our knowledge of the universe and our world.

We look forward to welcoming you all in September but in the meantime try these simple cool science experiments at home (after having checked with your parents..!):

- *Take a fishing net and investigate habitats – try pond dipping, or if you go to the beach, rock pooling.*
- *See what happens when you add water to cornflour and then squeeze it. Is it a liquid or a solid?*
- *Grow your own crystals together, using sugar or salt, boiling water and a jam jar.*
- *Make your own version of a lava lamp using a plastic bottle, coloured water, and oil*
- *You can make a messy volcano by finding out what happens when an acid (vinegar) mixes with a base (baking soda)*

For further information and updates please visit the Year 6 Admissions section of our School website.

www.eckington.net

We will also keep in touch via email.



Thank you for taking the time to read our second newsletter; we hope you have found it useful. If you would like to find out more about Eckington School and what life will be like as a Year 7 student visit the **Transition** section of our website at Eckington.net.

If you have any queries or questions please email me, Rebecca Price, Transition Coordinator,
rebecca.priceaziz@eck.leap-mat.org.uk

We look forward to meeting you all very soon!

