

Newsletter

Spring 2023



The 39 Steps

DRAMA

A cast of 23 deliver a fast-paced, slapstick comedy that stretches from the Scottish Moors to the London Palladium.



Tigs Edwards and Beth Mardell headed up the production team with responsibilities in directing, choreographing, stage management and technical crew.

Jayne Taylor, Head of Drama, said, "The cast and production team have worked extremely hard across only 10 Wednesday afternoons to produce a show full of creative invention, song and dance. The show was performed across three evenings and was well attended by friends and family. It was a great opportunity to showcase the amazing talent we managed to pack into the show!"

This year's College Production was a creative staging of John Buchan's *The 39 Steps*, which was adapted by Patrick Barlow and also a parody of Alfred Hitchcock's 1935 film version.

This fast-paced, slapstick performance follows the adventures of Richard Hannay. A regular guy who suddenly finds himself framed for murder. The story begins in London and sees Hannay travelling the length and breadth of Britain as he attempts to track down suspicious spies and clear his name.

Following the intentions of Barlow's adaption, the students imaginatively changed the original version of only four cast members to accommodate a larger cast of 23. The cast was made up of extremely enthusiastic and talented first year students, who had taken College Production as their 6.1 complementary study option. Auditions were held in the first week of the autumn term while second year students, Jasmine Carmody, Oliver D'Souza, Eloise Johnson,



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Letter from the Principal



Dear Parents, Students and Friends

The Autumn Term was a particularly busy one for both students and staff. The September OFSTED full inspection now feels like a long time ago, and for the College to be graded 'Outstanding' across all areas of the provision, is a huge achievement and a fair reflection of the hard work undertaken by all our stakeholders over the many years. The full inspection report, which is available via our website, provides an excellent picture of the College. The report states that; "Learners have exceptionally positive attitudes towards their education. They thrive in a culture of high expectations set by leaders and teachers," which is very pleasing to hear.

The OFSTED inspection provided an exciting start to the academic year and our schedule of events and activities continues apace. It was great to see so many parents and carers attending the 6.1 Parent & Tutor Evenings and, post COVID-19 mitigations, it cannot be understated how beneficial it is to hold these events in person. On this theme, the Higher Degree and Apprenticeship show held for our 6.2 students and the local community (see page 17) was a huge success and just one of the many wide-ranging events run by our Progression Guidance Department.

In the Spring Term Progression Guidance activities continue with **Higher Education Evening** on Tuesday 14 March. This in-college event is a great chance for 6.1 parents/carers to hear from Nicola Wilberforce, Director of Progression Guidance at Esher, about the UCAS application process and what support Esher provides students thinking about university. **Higher Education Day** on Tuesday 21 March follows on from this when we welcome more than 70 institutions into the Sports Hall. It is an excellent opportunity for students and their parents/carers to speak with university representatives to find out about their courses and institutions, and begin planning for life 'After Esher'.

Both 6.1 and 6.2 students have now received two Progress Review updates and these reports provide an important platform for our students to further identify how together with their teachers they can improve their learning. After the February half-term, 6.2 students will be taking formal exams to help prepare them for the final exams and assessments in May and June. Gaining examination experience is vital for our students to help ensure that they fulfil their potential in their courses.

6.1 students will also experience formal exams on 24-28 April, which will aid their

transition to the 6.2 year in the spring and summer terms. BTEC students will also be undertaking external assessments, as well as completing and submitting units.

Finally, I would like to raise awareness of ECAT, the College's registered charity, which support AIDS orphans with school and examination fees at a school in rural Zimbabwe. The situation in Zimbabwe continues to cause much concern and the charity's resources are worryingly stretched. You can find more information on the College website, as well as an online donation facility. Any support you can provide would be much appreciated.

Dan Hards
Principal

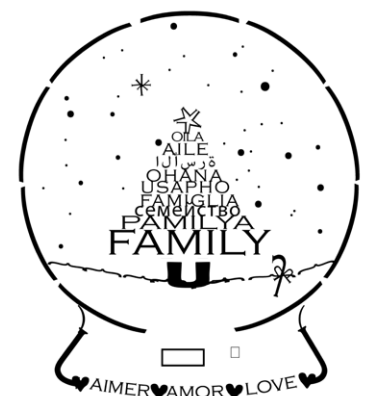
Christmas Card Winners

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

Polar bears win this year's theme of Togetherness

Congratulations to all the 6.1 Graphic Communication students who entered our competition to design a Christmas Card for the College. We had a record number of entries this year and the difficult decision of picking a winner was down to Principal Dan Hards.

Based on the theme of Togetherness, the winner was Daniel Finnerty, who won a £25 Amazon voucher and 25 printed copies of his card. Runners up and highly commended were Thalia Askar, Katherine Zhiltsov, Grace Power and Carla Quintal.





DRAMA

Back Stage on The 39 Steps

Everything came together for three fantastic nights of College Production.

Costume tweaks, carefully crafted moustaches and some energetic dance transitions were the final touches for the cast and crew, before the curtain went up on The 39 Steps in December's College Production.

The lead role of Richard Hannay, was played by three students; Evangelia Boyiatjis, Maxim Samartsev and Richard Chadwick. While the rest of the cast kept the energy going with a variety of roles including dancers, singers, train drivers and a milkman.

Congratulations to all the cast including; Elaya Guven, Rachel Hudson, Rosie Bourached, Sebastian Wickenden, Sarosh Hasan, Libbi Ball, Matea Haakenson, Elena Gonzalez, Mollie Eeva, Edie Nightingale, Grace Tasker, Georgia Coates, Nyah Felix, James Estorninho, Max Collet, Shannon Davies, Scarlett Dedezade, Connie Hamblin, Natalie Panners and Max Dixon.

With special thanks to Becky Voller, Gail Deal and the Estates Team as well as Malcolm Hart for costume, set and technical design, and Directors Jayne Taylor and Mary Cassidy.



Blast from the Past – Meet former student Mohsin Baloch

Joined Esher:	2019
Subjects:	Biology, Chemistry and Maths A Level
What do you do now:	Studying Medicine at Imperial College London

Mohsin swapped South Wales for South-West London when he moved here with a dream of becoming a doctor. Joining the College a term late in January, he admits he was extremely anxious about how disruptive it would be for his A Levels; especially since he wanted to study Medicine at university. But he says, "I was well looked after at Esher and received excellent support from all my teachers to get me back on track in time." He left Esher in the infamous COVID summer of 2020, and is now in his third year studying Medicine at Imperial College London.

Why did you choose a sixth form college?

Because of the independence that comes with it. At Esher, I was treated like an adult who could make his own decisions like leaving college when no teaching was planned, addressing my teachers by their first names, and being encouraged to manage my own time effectively. It was a safe environment to develop key skills for the next stage of my life with lots of support available whenever needed. My time at Esher definitely made my transition into medical school much smoother.

What was the first thing that struck you about Esher?

How friendly and accommodating both the staff and students were!

What were your course highlights at Esher?

The Biology field trips, including a trip to London Zoo. I found them very fun and educational.

What was your career path after Esher?

I wanted to study medicine next and hopefully become a doctor one day. Not quite there yet as I'm currently about halfway through my medical degree but I have learned a lot through my journey. I found specialities that interest me and discovered my passion for research and teaching – making me realise I want a balanced career with clinical practice, research and education.

What was the application process like to study medicine?

Long and stressful at times but overall, a period for significant growth. It started with making extracurricular efforts to explore and demonstrate my interest in medicine. Then I prepared for and sat entrance exams (UCAT and BMAT). The rest of it involved writing my personal statement and attending interviews. The process can get overwhelming, but the key thing is taking it all one step at a time, believing in yourself, and asking for help when needed.



Any tips for applying to medicine?

Start early! This will help you to take your time and slowly do things, making everything less stressful. Just some of the things you can do, include; Email GPs/Hospital consultants to arrange week-long work experience placements; try to volunteer at care homes/hospitals/charity shops; volunteer to teach GCSE students; organise weekly sessions with your fellow aspiring medics to teach each other about topics that interests you; practice Multiple Mini Interviews with each other using online resources; do some extracurricular research on a medical topic of interest (you can do your EPQ on this later); read books that help you understand what a career in medicine is going to be like; and finally whatever you do, make sure to reflect on all these experiences so you can talk about it in your personal statement.

What have your university highlights been so far?

I have had a great time at Imperial so far. The first two years were more science heavy but still offered sufficient clinical exposure including GP and hospital placements from the first year. Moreover, in my second year I did a research project at the end looking at how altitude affects exercise performance and got to make a poster on it which I really enjoyed. My third year – which is more clinical – has also been quite exciting so far as I have got to learn a lot from observing and working with doctors. It has exposed me to the more practical world where I have learnt more about the application of clinical medicine and the logistical aspects of the job.

What advice would you give your 16-year-old self?

Be smart with your time, work hard for things that interest you but most importantly have a blast with your friends – the rest will all fall into place in time.

Report from the Student Union



The Student Union held a number of events as a part of the Your Start at Esher programme for the 6.1s, including a bake sale, a pizza & ping pong event and an open mic.

It was great to meet so many students from across the College and serve as some friendly faces for the new 6.1s. Many of the staff joined in too, including our new Assistant Principal, Sagar, who had a bit of fun playing ping pong with our Eco & Sustainability Exec, Dan.

Our Open Mic in October saw some of the awesome talent we have at Esher, performing in the café. Thank you to all the performers and Ollie from the Music department. These events create such a positive atmosphere and we're looking forward to holding more open mic events in the future.

In November, our President, Zara, and Vice President, Max, represented the College to lay a wreath at Esher Memorial for Remembrance Sunday. It was an honour to be part of the community and pay our respects.

The main fundraiser of the term was our Winter Fair, held in the last week in December, to celebrate the end of term and the Christmas season. There was hot chocolate, mince pies, donuts and of course, the Chocolate tombola. It was great to see so many students and members of staff getting involved. Thank you to everyone who came along - it was a great success and we raised nearly £200 for ECAT!

This term we also held Student Voice Meetings with both the 6.1s and the 6.2s tutor group representatives. It is really important to have input from the student body and we are acting on your suggestions. We can't wait to chat to you all again in the Spring term!

And finally, we're here to help make your years at Esher the most enjoyable they can be and are more than happy to chat, so if you need a friendly face, or if you have any queries or suggestions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us via our Instagram @ esherstudentunion, emailing studentunion@esher.ac.uk or through our suggestion box in the Student Union area of the cafe.

Zara, Max, Dan, Connie, Ellie and Orla.





PERFORMING ARTS

Mamma Mia! BTEC Workshop

Performing Arts students enjoyed an ABBA-themed workshop with actress and former student, Sophie Matthew.

Sophie Matthew came to Esher in 2011 from Claremont Fan Court School to study Performing Arts, English Literature and Maths. She went on to train at the Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts in Peckham, before making her West End debut in 2019 in the ABBA-themed hit musical, Mamma Mia! playing Lisa.

She returned to Esher Sixth Form College in November, to run workshops with Performing Arts BTEC students and took them through several dance routines including Honey Honey and Waterloo, as well as a lively Q&A session with advice and tips on how to make it in the industry.



Mamma Mia! Theatre Review by 6.1 student, Connie Hamblin

My first impression was that the audience was mostly middle-aged men and women who appeared to know the musical well and that it was a feel-good show! It made you want to stand up and sing along, the cast's energy was unmatched. I was specifically impressed by the male ensemble and by Donna, Tanya and Rosie. These characters stood out to me since they made the show very comical, and the dynamo girls had impeccable vocals. The friendship dynamic between these characters made my heart feel warm and had me wanting to be like them since their friendship showed aspects of comfort, care and humour.

My favourite scene was when all three of Sophie's dads arrive and tell their story about how they know Donna. I enjoyed this scene because the playwright had used dramatic irony to make the scene comical. Another favourite acting moment of mine was when Donna ran into Tanya and Rosie's bedroom to explain that Sam, Harry and Bill were all on the island, the sense of panic from Donna contrasted well with Rosie and Tanya's comical attempt to make the situation seem not as bad. Lastly, another favourite scene of mine was when Sam comes to talk to Donna the morning of the wedding, this contrasts to my favourite moments of humour and portrays the heart wrenching side to the show, making the audience feel sympathy for both characters and this scene intensifies the audience's feelings for wanting the two characters to end up together.

The Winner Takes It All was my favourite song due to Donna's incredible vocals, she showed passion and emotion throughout her performance which engaged the audience, her end note was powerful, strong and clean making an impact which invited a loud applause from the audience.

Money, Money, Money was my favourite dance. The clever use of spotlighting when the ensemble joined in was effective, all movements were sharp, making it hypnotic to watch and the use of sharp head turns and props (throwing chairs) was effective because it made the stage busy and exciting with the audience struggling to know where to look.

My overall rating of the show: ****

Meet the Teacher questions

HISTORY


Name: Helen Sweeney

Position: Teacher of History

When did you join Esher: September 2022

1 What inspired you to go into teaching?

I have always loved learning and I was lucky enough to have some fantastic teachers throughout my own education. The idea of helping young people to develop a love of learning, achieve their best and ultimately create options for their future makes for a very interesting and fulfilling job. The variety of roles and experiences in the job are plenty enough to keep life interesting and of course I get to talk about history all day!

2 Why have you chosen to work in a sixth form college?

Having worked in secondary schools for a long time, I found that I was eager to see the 'next step'. The time spent at college represents a pivotal and fascinating time and I want to contribute to this experience. For the next few years, watching some of the students I taught at Esher High School and seeing them flourish at college will be a privilege.

3 What's the best thing about your job?

The students of course! They are so enthusiastic about their learning and the atmosphere in the classroom is relaxed and fun. The staff in the History department are second to none and brighten up even the dreariest Monday morning!

4 What achievement are you most proud of?

Professionally, organising and taking part in international trips with students. It is wonderful to watch minds open in front of you! Before teaching, completing an MA degree in History and Politics was a fascinating time for me, it was so exciting to be amongst academics who were experts in their field.

5 When you were younger, what teacher inspired you the most?

Funnily enough, a History teacher called, Mrs Gleig, who told me that History was like time travel, where you get to meet all of the most interesting and controversial people. When I was worried about my options after GCSE, she told me to just keep doing what I enjoyed and I would get somewhere that suited me – she was right!

6 What book or film has inspired you the most?

There are so many but at the moment, it is a poetry film by Simon Armitage, A Pandemic Poem: Where did the World Go? It captivated me as an early reflection of the impact of the pandemic on everyday life. I also loved the book Girl, Woman, Other by Bernadine Evaristo. It charts the lives of women across social classes and generations in modern Britain, beautifully written with a good dollop of humanity, I have read it twice – so far!

7 What words of wisdom would you give your 16-year-old self?

Trust your gut, it is always right.
Life is a marathon, keep going.
Travel, travel and travel some more.

Thinking about taking History at Esher?

Did you know at Esher, we offer three separate A Level courses, all with the exam board Pearson (Edexcel) and assessment is 80% exam and 20% coursework. Here's a quick synopsis of each course:

History: Dictators and Imperialists

This course is for students who want to study the big hitters from the 20th Century – Hitler, Stalin, Yeltsin, Mao – with a look at Nazi Germany as your coursework in the second year.

History: Oppression and Equality

This course focuses on social and human rights, particularly on race inequality and the fight against white supremacy in America and South Africa. In your second year, your coursework will look at the abolition of the Slave Trade in Britain.

History: Power and Belief

This course builds on the Tudor Monarchs up to Queen Elizabeth I, while also studying the persecution of women for being conceived as witches. In your second year, your coursework will look at the different interpretations of Oliver Cromwell.

For more information about History A Level, and all our subjects, visit the [Our Courses](#) section on the website.

Playing Sport is an extremely important aspect of student life at Esher Sixth Form College. There are numerous opportunities for students to get involved in a competitive manner through our team sports including; football, rugby, netball, hockey and basketball.

Our teams play regularly in competitive fixtures locally and regionally, as well as in some national competitions. Here is a round-up of our current teams to date.



Mens' 1st Football; Coach Alan Reed, Head of PE and Sport

The Mens' 1st team have had some notable victories in the first half of the season. A 2-1 win away at Godalming and a 4-0 victory vs Gordon's in the English Schools FA National Cup. Most recent game was 13-1 defeat of Woking College with top scorer, Sam Neill, netting four goals. There was heartbreak in the AoC National Cup, losing on penalties to Croydon College after an epic 5-5 draw. The team are still in contention to win the league with big games against Reigate, Godalming and Glyn on the horizon as well as the upcoming AoC regional 7-a-side tournament.

Back row (L-R) Alan Reed, Sam Palmer, Dan Bamba, Jake Anderson, Isaac Brown, George Mead, Lucas Alderin, Lucas Lindstrup, Ben Duncan, Sam Fox, Ethan Purdue.

Front row (L-R) Sam Neill, Kai Bhandari, Marcus Rodgers, Nick von Bismark, Stan Curd.



Mens' 2nd Football; Coach James McGrath, PE and Sports Technician

Esher started the season well with a 3-0 win against Godalming in their first friendly match and a 3-0 win over Reigate in their first league game with Joe Martin putting in an impressive performance as player of the match. Godalming then got revenge over Esher in the first league game between the teams, winning convincingly after Esher's goalkeeper Joe Whitehead suffered an injury and had to be replaced by an outfield player. Esher bounced back with an impressive 4-1 win away to Three Rivers with Elliot Horstead and Archie Payne dominating the midfield with impressive performances.

Esher received two buys in the first and second rounds of the national cup before being drawn against Esher's 3rd team in round 3. The game finished 3-0 to the 3rd team with Musa Dibba and Tom Rowlands, who both started the season in the 2nd team having very impressive games. Esher's 3rd team showed great effort and desire to win the game. Unfortunately, Archie Payne picked up an injury in the game which would keep him out for the rest of 2022. The 2nd team had some more unfortunate luck with their next three matches being postponed. They are looking to bounce back with some good performances in 2023.

Team includes; Stanley Barrett, Edward Clark, Morgan Conroy, Brook Ditton, Charlie Evans, Ben Gulliver, Reuben Heritage-Gandar, Elliot Horstead, Billy James, Joseph Martin, Lucas Newman, Rorke Ollerhead, Archie Payne, Xander Perkins, Bryce Rosling, Daniel Seear, Benjamin Taylor, Joe Whitehead, Zakkwan Ali Zaidi.



Mens' 3rd Football; Coach Dan Mackley, Teacher of PE and Sport

"We have a very good team. With the exception of one league game where we lost away to Godalming, as a result of having no goalkeeper at the time (one of the outfield players stood in), we have won every league game. Top score in a game so far is 8-1. In the national cup we have beaten Brockenhurst College as well as our own Esher Mens 2 Football Team, 3-0. In terms of ability we have two key elements 1) deadly in attack, with two strikers whose feet double up as rocket launchers and 2) a bulldog spirit with fighters in every position. Led by captain marvel himself - Doug "the head" Hookey.

Team includes; Joey Black, Doug Hookey (C), Leo Baldwin, George Dear, Anthony Robinson, Finley Brooks, Luke Martin, Alfie Kitchener, Zach Larter, Mussa Dibba, Tom Rowlands, Harry Line, Seb Hunt, Patric Gallagher, Nicky Dimitrov, Henry Doyle, Leo Hutchinson.



Mens' 4th Football; Coach Adam Latrache, Teacher of PE and Sport

The men's 4th team are in a competitive league where they regularly compete against the 2nd/3rd teams from other colleges. So far, the team have a record of 1 win, 3 draws and 5 defeats. Star players in the squad have been Harry Rees and Jackson Parnham. Many players in the team have been promoted into the 3rd team due to their consistently high performances.

Team includes; Adam Benlounes, Toby Carter, Levi Cary, Zeeshan Chughtai, Vinny Couchman, Leo Kinchin, Theodore Lloyd, Ryan Lunemann, Thomas Manship, Callum Marshall, Jackson Parnham, Freddie Pell, Joseph Pim, Freddy Pollard, Jasper Ravaux, Harry Rees, Fynn Sheehan, Ryan Sherwood, Dominic Smart, Tommy Stride-Noble, Sam Whitehead.



Womens Football; Coach Steve Lee

We have a big squad this year which is great and means numbers at training are always healthy. We started the season off strongly but have suffered some big defeats in recent weeks against full-time college programmes in the AOC and ESFA cups. That being said, we have only played two league games so have pretty much a whole league season to look forward to. With the lessons we have learned this season so far I am hopeful we can push on and challenge for the league.

Team includes; Ire Oshad, Lily Beattie, Poppy Walker, Adira Liedthe, Zoe Kleftakis, Ella Watson, Catherine Maher, Amelia McDermid, Ella Gainsborough, Zoe Walters, Daisy Nichols, Claudia Borland, Aaliyah Florant-Allen, Lydia Osborn, Maddie Bushell, Grace Frise, Alice Horan, Clara Faulkner, Evie Heath, Fran Hopping, Indya Norton, Alara Tyrer, Sofie Pollard, Lauren Wort, Lulu Patalano, Arin Law, Willow Berry.



Womens' 1st Netball; Coach Shelley Copland, Teacher of PE and Sport

The 1st team netballers are made up of 6.1 students, who have done a brilliant job to collaborate their skills to gain a few successes in the first couple of months. They have made teamwork look really easy with the camaraderie they have built in such a short period of time. The students are very dedicated to netball and have so much enthusiasm that the rest of the season will be exciting to follow.

First team players include; Bea Andrews; Georgia Balderstone, Lily Donald, India Gould, Sophie Jackson, Lily Jarvis, Mia Jones, Amy Lyon, Charlotte Maynard, Charlotte McCartney, Hannah Stacey.

Womens' 2 Netball; Coach Sam Nicoll, Teacher of Health and Social Care

"Women's netball remains a firm favourite amongst students. The Women's 2 Netball team showed great enthusiasm last term, landing a number of well-deserved wins. Returning players from last year have welcomed new students to form a solid team of 6.1 and 6.2 talent with varied experience. The players are developing every week and have made particular improvements in their attacking skills. The team has gelled well and players show great versatility in a range of positions. I have been particularly proud of their positive attitude and polite manner when hosting home matches. Congratulations to all involved."

Second teams players include; Lily Hays, Martha Grist, Tilly Lodge, Anastasia Lambrianou, Madeleine Simms, Bo Bourne, Liberty Bullock, Isabel Evans, Daisy Gowans, Sophie Hall, Lily Martin, Millicent Pearson.



Womens' Hockey Team; Coach Nicky Dowds

The hockey this term has mainly been mixed games involving a selection of players from the pool of 33. The women's team enjoyed their first game against Barton Peveril in October, but are still in desperate need to recruit a goalkeeper – if any current students are interested in joining us please email ndowds@esher.ac.uk

Team includes; Lizzie Bolton, Georgia Dobson, Chloe Frewin, Millie Griffiths, Maya Hollyman Vera, Olivia Hulley, Poppy Huxtable, Lily Luckes, Amaia Matheson Sollano, Maddison Pankhurst, Sophie Renton, Stella Rice-Oxley, Tea Robert-Nicoud, Darcey Spicer, Gabriella Styles, Chilli Tardelli- Reid, Tabitha Wells, Isabelle Williamson.



Mens' Rugby: Coaches Dani Knight and Paddy Waplinton, Teachers of PE And Sport

After winning the SE League 2 last year, the rugby team moved up to League 1, bringing with it a higher level of competition. Nonetheless, we had a strong friendly against Godalming and followed with an opening league win against Barton Peveril. The team was led by new Captain Piero Buttaci and Vice-Captain Will Harvey who showed great leadership qualities in their first year and were the natural choices to take over the armband. The team have had some strong competition to start the season off with a couple of closely fought losses and some convincing wins and at the half way point, they are currently sitting in third place. The 6.1s have integrated well in to the squad and have benefitted from the additional training session that has been added to their timetables this year. We are hoping this will lead to further winning performances and a strong finish to the new league.

Team includes; Matthew Bannister, Piero Buttaci, Andrew Craigie, Robbie Dones, Michael Evans, Harry Glover, Rory Gray, Archie Hartwell, William Harvey, William Harvey, Logan Harvey, Archie Horsfall, Ben Hudson, Joshua McKiernan, Benjamin Murray, Max Penniceard, Tom Penniceard, Morgan Wainwright, Gabriel Weglarz, Alfie Williams, Thomas Wilson, Ali Al Hassan, Luca Branch, Fraser Brewerton, Frankie Chandler, Dylan de Ferry, Thomas Freeman, Harry Iriarte, Oliver Lea, Arthur Line, Flynn Moseley, Matthew Murphy, Cameron Ott, Callum Parkes, James Pratley, Ross Robinson, Justin van der Vegt, Jack Webb.

Mens' Basketball Team

The Mens Basketball Team have had a tough run with a series of injuries, winning just one match against Reigate and losing six. However they start the Spring term with a new coach, Jason Tanega.

L-R top row: August Zujevas, Miles Parsons, Yonatan Solomon, George Pittwood, Callum Mcgarvey, Daniel Cook, James Marchant (Coach)

L-R bottom row: Camran Abbasi, Theo Butcher, Matthew Vital, Ashton Williams, Flynn McCarrick.



Trip To Roche Court

Art and Design BTEC students prepared for a written exam with an inspired trip to test their ability to research and analyse art and design work.

The students visited Roche Court (New Art Centre), near Andover, to explore ways of looking at and discussing sculpture and painting with the inspiring collection there. The centre staff opened-up the conversation with drawing and commenting games, revealing intriguing insights into the ideas and inspirations behind many large-scale art works.

Building students' confidence to discuss artwork is also vital for success in their UCAS and progression interviews later in the year.

The weather was (mainly) kind and we enjoyed the country location. All of the art work is for sale and students noted some gallery owners inspecting a huge Antony Gormley work in order to buy it for a six or seven -figure sum!

Tim Foxen, Head of Art and Design

ART & DESIGN



Christmas Charity Fundraiser

TUTOR SESSIONS



Students support the East Elmbridge Food Bank and ECAT as their nominated charities.

This year, 6.1 tutor groups donated festive items to make an incredible 50 Christmas Hampers for local families in need. The tutor groups decorated the boxes and filled them with loads of goodies, which were delivered to the East Elmbridge Food Bank just before Christmas.

Amy, the Food Bank co-ordinator said, "A massive thank you from all at East Elmbridge Food Bank, to all the students of Esher Sixth Form College. The hampers are a lovely idea and the decoration of the boxes is such a nice touch. These hampers went to families that are struggling at this time of year, and we know they most definitely helped to make their Christmas Day special."

Meanwhile, our 6.2 tutor groups donated festive chocolates for our Winter Fair Chocolate Tombola, held in the last week of December. The tombola and donut stall made £165 profit, which will be donated to the Esher College Africa Trust (ECAT), which supports AIDS orphans at a rural school in Zimbabwe. ECAT helps pay for the exam fees of these students, who live in one of the most deprived areas of East Africa.



Student Achievements

Check out some of the amazing things our students are achieving beyond the classroom. If you've realised an ambition or goal that you want to tell us about, email marketing@esher.ac.uk



World Championships Beckon For Lois

Congratulations to 6.2 student Lois Snelling who is second in the world at the Gymnastics Floor Event.

Lois, who trains with Chiltern Gymnastics in Beaconsfield, was encouraged to enter the AIAGC World Championships by her coach Sarah Wright.

Lois says, "She really believed in me and thought I had a shot. At the World Championships you have to compete in four events; Beam, Bar, Floor and Vault. Although the floor is not my strongest, I qualified in the top eight to compete in the AIAGC finals. So I was really surprised to come 2nd, beaten by 0.1 of a point (which is literally a pointed toe short of winning). It was insane to come that close, and also the girl that beat me was also called Lois."

It means Lois still has her sights set on the World Championships 2023. She says, "Beam is my favourite event. I don't want to go to the Olympics but I really do want to go back to the AIAGC to try and win gold. It will be harder as I will be competing in the senior section as I will have turned 18 by then." Lois came to Esher from Wycombe High School in Bucks, as her local school sixth form wouldn't give her time off to compete, so she moved in with her grandparents in Hampton and applied to Esher. In her first year she joined our ROSE programme (Roll of Sporting Excellence), which included trips to King's College London. She was able to speak to specialists who helped her build training programmes, which she says all helped her prepare for the competition, which was held in Florida in June 2022

She adds, "I like Esher because I can do multiple things including sports. I like to keep busy!"

Selected For Sandhurst

Congratulations to 6.2 student Millicent Pearson who has been offered a full scholarship to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

Millie came to us from Thamesmead School to study Psychology, Biology and PE A Levels. It was while in lockdown she started thinking about her future, that she started to consider the army.

She says, "It was my mum who told me to write a list of what I'd like 'A Day in My Life' to look like in the future. I wanted something active, not office-based and with a clear progression path to a manager or leadership position. My cousin told me about these Army Officer Insight webinars and it sounded right up my street. I was doing loads of research looking into it when I found out about the scholarship programme."

Last summer, Millie spent three days of training doing bleep tests, dead lifts and obstacle courses as well as psychometric tests and written tests too. She was thrilled when she received a letter saying not only had she passed, but that she had been selected for a full scholarship. She says, "It was stressful being surveyed and tested for nearly solid three days, but I really enjoyed the experience. I will start my training after I complete university."

In a letter to Millie, the President of the Army Officer Selection Board, wrote, "This is no mean feat! It is a fantastic achievement because the standard is very high for this prestigious award. You must be congratulated for showing the necessary attributes, high intellect, developed fitness, strong personality and apparent leadership potential to become an army officer. Congratulations again!"



Success at Young Geographer of the Year 2022

Congratulations to first year student Jasmine Clifton who has been highly commended by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG).

Jasmine was encouraged to enter The Young Geographer of the Year competition, which recognises the outstanding work of the next generation of geographers. This year the competition asked students where they want to travel, how they would get there and why they want to travel there. Jasmine, who came from Hinchley Wood School to study Economics, Politics and Geography at Esher, wrote, "Costa Rica [is] my dream destination due to the combination of its rolling mountains, vast rainforest, incredible biodiversity and unwavering focus on sustainability. This unique geography is preserved by the country's culture that aims to limit human impact."

Helen Humphreys, Head of Geography, added, "We are really proud of Jasmine's achievement in this competition. She taught herself how to use the Geographical Information System technology and created an inspiring account of an ideal trip to Costa Rica where she could observe the country's sustainable practices."

To read Jasmine's full report go to www.rgs.org



Snap Happy For Luca

Congratulations to Photography student, 6.2 Luca Sadi White, who has had his work published for the Tropical Forest Alliance.

Luca's brilliant photos have appeared in a brochure about deforestation. Stephen Andrews, Head of Photography, says, "The brochure will be seen by government ministers and investors across the world! We are incredibly proud of him and more importantly, Luca is rightfully very chuffed with himself."



Waxing Lyrical



English A Level students were treated to a talk in College Theatre with Scottish singer-songwriter, Adam Beattie.

Adam has been on the music scene since 2003 and released five albums of his own, with his music having roots in Scottish folk music as well as a lifelong interest in old time jazz. The lesson was part of a series of English Enrichment talks, where Adam discussed the narrative in popular songs as well as a Q&A session with students.

Writing Winners

ENGLISH

The English department held a prize giving ceremony at Denny's Bookshop in Thames Ditton for the winners of its writing competition.

All three winners stood out for their creativity and clarity of style in a strong field.

First prize (£30 book voucher) went to 6.2 student, Adelka Delevante, for 'This is What it's Like In Words.' Second prize (£20 book voucher) to 6.1 student, Mia Badby, for 'Lucy' and third prize (£10 book voucher) to 6.1 student, Innaya Dias Choudry, for her essay on the topic 'Old texts have no relevance to the modern world.'

Thank you also to former Esher student, Megan Warrington, owner of Denny's Bookshop for the prizes.





Leader of the Liberal Democrats, Sir Ed Davey, and parliamentary candidate for Esher and Walton, Monica Harding, discuss electoral reform, civil liberties and the prospect of a Starmer Premiership.

Ed has been the Leader of the Liberal Democrats since August 2020, although his political career has spanned the premierships of Blair to Boris. He became the MP for Kingston and Surbiton in 1997, and despite losing his seat in 2015, he returned to Parliamentary service in 2017. In the coalition government, he served as Energy and Climate Change Secretary, although he insisted that he ‘fought the Conservatives every day’. It was clear to me that he wished to distance himself from the Liberal Democrats’ disappointing spell in government and the present-day Conservative Party.

During his visit, he reaffirmed his support for electoral reform. Ed supports Proportional Representation in the image of the Irish or German system, clearly reflecting the view that smaller parties such as his own struggle in the current electoral system. Ed believes that the constituency-MP link must be retained since voters must be able to hold local politicians to account, a belief you would expect a seasoned constituency MP such as himself to take. Similarly, Ed supports House of Lords reform but not abolition, thus rejecting ‘unicameralism’. He called a second chamber valuable, but it must be democratically elected. I asked Ed if the Liberal Democrat Election Manifesto 2024 would include a promise to rejoin the EU or the Single Market. Whilst he confirmed his pro-European stance, rooted in his Liberal beliefs of free trade, he focused his attention on a stronger post-Brexit deal with the European Union and insisted that neither the British public nor European politicians had any wish for the UK to rejoin.

On the issue of civil liberties, Ed opposed the Public Order Bill, in order to protect the right to protest. He also criticised the Conservatives for imposing noise limits on protests, which he believed to be ludicrous. Ed expressed further sorrow over transphobic sentiment in the country, alluding to the mistreatment of gay and lesbian people in the 1980s. He discussed misconduct within the police service and articulated concern that mass recruitment may result in the wrong people joining the force, this being particularly relevant due to the pressure on the underperforming Metropolitan Police.

Ed was also critical of the opposition leader, Sir Keir Starmer. He claims that the Labour Party’s policy positions are unknown and that they continue to play it safe. ‘The Labour Party is carrying a vase and is scared to drop it’ because

they think they are on track for an election victory in 2024. However, I am quite sceptical of this claim. Like them or loathe them, the Labour Party has been bold in recent policy announcements, especially the proposition of a state-run Great British Energy company and an increased windfall tax on private energy companies. By contrast, Ed stresses that the Liberal Democrats were the first major party to propose a windfall tax on energy profits, months before the Labour Party.

However, on a local level, Ed stated that Keir Starmer as leader of the Labour Party would help the Liberal Democrats. He insists that in 2019, many local voters alienated by the direction of travel under the Conservatives, refused to vote for Liberal Democrats in fear that Jeremy Corbyn would become Prime Minister. A Starmer premiership, he claims, is a much less daunting prospect, and this would not be a factor in the next general election. Close co-operation between Labour and the Liberal Democrats, on the contrary, is not on the agenda, at least not before an election. Ed is cautious of joining a coalition, referencing the impact of the previous one on the Liberal Democrats’ electoral prospects. He warned that a so-called ‘Progressive Alliance’ would ‘treat voters like pawns on a checkboard’.

Monica Harding frequently spoke of the local predicament and her fight against incumbent MP and Deputy Prime Minister, Dominic Raab, who has served in Parliament since 2010. Although Esher and Walton was formerly considered a safe seat for the Conservatives, Monica won over 10,000 former Labour voters and 5,000 disillusioned Conservative voters in 2019, cutting Mr Raab’s majority to the finest of margins. One of the issues she was most passionate about was poverty, commenting on the 20% deprivation rate in Esher and Walton, despite the constituency being the ‘single biggest contributor to the Exchequer’. Monica stressed that this figure would only be 10% if the issue of housing availability was addressed by government.

It is undeniable that the Lib Dems have a significant task ahead of them – to rebuild the party’s reputation and national prominence post-coalition or fade into irrelevance. Nevertheless, Esher and Walton may be the first brick of the Blue Wall to fall, unless Dominic Raab can prove that after 12 years of governance, he has more to offer.

Carl Egginton 6.1 Politics student (pictured next to Mr Davey)

Christmas Concert 2022

MUSIC



Students and staff were thrilled to be back in a packed College Theatre playing live music to an appreciative audience, of parents, family and friends.

Students taking Music A level, Music Technology BTEC, as well as musicians from Performing Arts BTEC, and those that play in our Complementary Study Bands and sing in the Esher Sixth Form College vocal ensembles, all came together to deliver a breadth of styles from all musical backgrounds.

The Concert started off with a jubilant rendition of Chameleon, by Herbie Hancock, performed by the Jazz Band and directed by jazz trumpeter, Paul Jenkins, from the piano. The Jazz Band had a front line of alto saxophones, cornets, trumpets and trombones, and featured solos from the rhythm section on guitar, bass, keys and drums. The College Bands have been rehearsing together for just 12 weeks, to prepare for this concert. Adam Walters, Teacher of Music and a regular to the world of bands and gigs, organised the students into three bands to perform Where Is My Mind, by The Pixies; Ain't No Sunshine, by Bill Withers; and Don't Stop Believing, by Journey.

Despite some of the bands being affected by students not making it in due to Christmas term coughs and colds, all the performances went ahead and we are grateful to those that stepped in to fill the gaps! Some bands had performed at the Open Mic events this term, held in the College Cafe and in the Music Block. The Choir, conducted by Head of Department,

Claire Whittaker, sang an arrangement of You Gotta Be, by Des'ree and Ashley Ingram. Vocal soloists Aaliyah Heddon (Music A Level and Music Technology BTEC) and Elaya Given (Music A Level and Performing Arts BTEC) performed Pray, by Sam Smith, and Hopelessly Devoted, from Grease, respectively.

We are so fortunate to attract musicians from across the College who want to continue performing even if they do not study a music related subject. Grade 8 pianist, Mila Pendaroska (taking Geography, Biology, Chemistry A Levels) performed a sparkling rendition of Debussy's Pour le Piano Suite, no 1.

Music A Level students formed a Chamber Choir to sing one of the set works they are studying, which is also in the style of their Compositional Techniques exam paper. J S Bach's Chorale from Movement 8 of his Cantata, Ein Feste Burg.

The Concert finished with all the singers leading the audience in a final Christmas Carol, Ding Dong Merrily On High, and everyone went home singing the Chorus melodies!

With special thanks to our fabulous music technician Ollie, for efficiently and calmly managing the set-up, sound check and videoing of the concert.

Claire Whittaker, Head of Music





In December, all four 6.1 Politics classes travelled to Westminster to visit Parliament and Europe House. We were split into two groups with the first group visiting Parliament in the morning. They heard the Archbishop of Canterbury's annual speech in the House of Lords. He talked about migration and asylum and said that the Rwanda policy (of sending illegal immigrants to resettle in Rwanda) is an 'immoral policy that shames Britain'. In the Commons, they then attended a debate which was part of the Second Reading of the 'Protection from Sex-based Harassment Bill'.

At the same time, our group was in Europe House for a workshop about the European Union and its relevance to post Brexit UK. It involved a couple of interactive games, however was arguably not the most gripping activity and was certainly upstaged by our visit to Parliament later-on. Towards the end of our workshop, we devised policy proposals based on different political characters we had been assigned; the proposals ranged from being more eco-friendly to extreme anti-immigration rules!

A generous two-hour lunch provided us with the perfect opportunity to observe, and for some of us to join in on, the large postal-workers strike protest that took place in Parliament Square that day. Since we have recently been studying pressure groups, rights protection, and protests, it was brilliant to see one in action and was ultimately a very educational experience in itself. We picked up badges and leaflets full of information regarding the strike and government actions.

In the afternoon, the groups swapped and our group moved over to the Houses of Parliament and had the pleasure of seeing the most stunning architecture. As we walked through the building, we lay witness to the incredible amount of gold, 40kg of 23-carat, inside. The ceilings were covered in intricate designs and looking around, everybody's breath was taken away. Walking through the members lobby, we were greeted by the four bronze statues of the former PMs: Margaret Thatcher, Clement Atlee, Winston Churchill, and David Lloyd George; and between the two chambers, there were designs displaying emblems of the four countries of the United Kingdom.

Our group had the opportunity to walk through the floors of both the Commons and the Lords. We arrived just as the House of Lords rose, allowing us to see the peers and other officials on their way out of the chamber. It was an amazing experience to stand where countless prime ministers have stood and to view the chambers from the perspective of the MPs.

After the tour we attended another workshop, focused on pressure groups. While this workshop covered what we have already discussed in class, it did not subtract from what was an engaging and informative day for the 6.1 politics students and a brilliant experience to have had.

Emma Lipton & Darcey Holloway, 6.1 Politics students



Employers And Volunteering Fair

PROGRESSION GUIDANCE



Students meet with local employers and volunteering organisations

It was great to see so many students attend our Employers And Volunteering Fair in the new café area last term.

Thank you to all the organisations that joined us including The Mulberry Centre; Clubland Playscheme; Dexters estate agents; KOOSA Kids; Compass Group; England Sports Group; Gallagher Professional Associations; The Jockey Club and Access1st Professional Benefits; Perfect Start Nurseries.

Cat Elmes, Work Experience and Alumni Co-ordinator at Esher, said, "This was a wonderful opportunity for students to find out more about work experience and part-time work opportunities locally. We had a great show of employers and inquisitive students."



Degree Apprenticeship Fair 2022

Esher Sixth Form College welcomes more than 2000 visitors to its first Degree Apprenticeship Fair, in partnership with EM3.

Held in November, the College welcomed 28 different employers and training providers who set up their stands during a busy afternoon and evening in the College Sports' Hall. Nearly 2000 tickets were booked in advance by students and parents/carers from Esher Sixth Form College and local school sixth-forms. A programme of talks by individual employers ran alongside the fair so students could hear in-depth about specific degree apprenticeship schemes, application and selection processes.

The employers included;

- Large private-sector companies inc. Amazon, Procter and Gamble, Unilever and BP;
- Professional service companies including BDO, IBM, Azets, and CGI; civil engineering;
- Construction companies including Balfour Beatty, BAM Construction, Morgan Sindall, Willmott Dixon, Peregá and Tony Gee and partners;
- Public sector employers including the Royal Navy, Civil Service, DSTL, the NHS and the Met Police
- Training providers and industry-wide trade groups including Multiverse, the University of Law, the University of Portsmouth and the Market Research Society.

Esher held the fair with the support of local enterprise partnership, EM3, to raise awareness of degree apprenticeships, how they work and who offers them.

A higher or degree apprenticeship is a paid job within a company where you also study towards a relevant higher or degree level qualification. Your employer releases you from work to complete the study for the qualification and pays for your study, which is usually provided by a university or specialist training provider. You can start your paid, working career immediately after leaving College

and achieve a degree qualification with no student debt and lots of work experience on your CV - what's not to like! However, not many employers offer degree apprenticeships, and those that are available can be very competitive.

Nicola Wilberforce, Head of Progression Guidance said, "It was great to see several former Esher Sixth Form College students, who were representing their employers, return to the College. We had some very positive feedback from visitors and exhibitors and we hope to see an increase in the numbers of students applying for (and being accepted onto) degree apprenticeships in the future. Moving forward, we plan to host the event every other year and will work on growing our group of exhibitors with our colleagues at Godalming College, who have offered to host in the intermediate years."

If you have contacts within companies which offer higher or degree level apprenticeships and would like to be involved in future, please contact us on progression@esher.ac.uk.



Peaky Blinder's Finn Cole returns to Esher

In between the selfies and BeReal requests, Finn Cole sat down with A Level Drama students to talk about his "crazy 10 years" since leaving Esher Sixth Form College.

When Finn Cole left Esher in 2013, he never thought nearly 10 years on he would return having acted with the likes of Margo Robbie, Ken Stott, and been in one of the most successful TV shows of a generation.

Finn, who took Theatre Studies, English Language and Economics A Levels at Esher, came back last term to meet his former drama teacher Jayne and to talk to current students about his career path into acting.

Offering tips and advice, Finn ran a drama audition workshop for 6.2 students as part of their progression pathway studies. He also talked about his open audition for Peaky Blinders when he couldn't afford the train ticket to Birmingham, so instead he filmed a couple of scenes on his phone and sent them off to his agent. The rest is history – he was cast as Michael Gray, and the drama aired over six series and won a BAFTA for best drama series in 2018 as well as two National Television Awards. Finn has also appeared in An Inspector Calls with Ken Stott, Animal Kingdom with Ellen Barkin and Dreamland with Margo Robbie.



Book Review

DIVERGENT by Veronica Roth

'Divergent' by Veronica Roth is the first of a trilogy of SciFi books that take place in the distant dystopian future of Chicago, USA. It's here that society has been separated into five factions, each representing a trait or characteristic that its members are meant to possess above any other. The factions are Candour (truth); Abnegation (selflessness); Dauntless (courage); Erudite (intelligence) and Amity (joy).

The story begins with a 16-year-old girl, Tris, on the day of her aptitude test that will decide which faction she belongs in and will stay in for the rest of her life. However, the results unearth a secret about her mind that puts her in immense danger and her last-minute decision at the choosing ceremony rips her away from her family, who are in Abnegation and she goes into the most dangerous faction there is, Dauntless. She meets 'Four' in the first initiation test, sparking their relationship and as their seemingly perfect society begins to crumble, they find that they have a lot more in common than they think.

This book is one of the most thrilling and encapsulating I've read, juggling politics, love, fear and questions about morality and personality. By setting the era so far into the future, politics can be a caricature of what it is now and what is to come and allows the book to hide under the false pretence of fantasy while deeply criticising the priorities of modern society and its leaders. Whilst it would scarcely be compared to them for their greatness, 'Divergent' holds many of the characteristics of books such as '1984' and 'Brave New World', due to the shrewd observations Roth makes about the way society is going and the disposability of civilians.

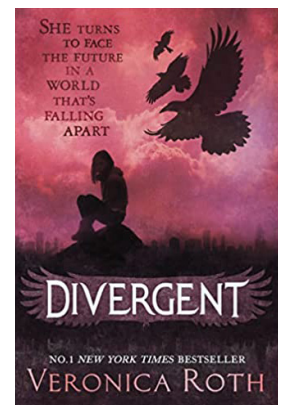
It's a shame this book is not nearly as highly acclaimed as its predecessors as it is rare to see a book like this with a primarily female narrative. I've read both '1984' and 'Brave New World' and while they were incredibly insightful and shifted my perception of the world indefinitely, as a young woman reading Male lead stories, I felt alienated from them because the stories lacked the dynamics of a viewpoint I could relate to.

The love that blossoms between Tris and Four is beautifully written, paying attention to every detail that would make it seem as if you are the character, tricking you into falling in love yourself. Their relationship is incredibly tender and calculated, and the way Roth represents how a lot of communication happens through words that are left unsaid shows how acutely she's observed the way that love grows.

Overall, I found their relationship to be heart wrenching and it kept me flipping through the pages of the book. I also enjoyed the representation of the relationships Tris has with other female characters in the book, like her mother and her determined and loyal friend Christina.

I'm hard pressed to find something negative to say about this book, except that the ending was spoiled for me because it was talked about so much by my friends! Nonetheless I couldn't be happy unless I was reading it and I just wish I could read it for the first time again.

Lily Luckes, 6.2 Student



Student Eco Committee

ENVIRONMENT


The College's Student Eco Committee has been busy making the College a more biodiverse environment, recently planting a traditional hedge mix from the Woodland Trust, consisting of Hawthorn, Hazel, Crab Apple, Dog Rose and Dogwood. We are hoping to plant more hedging and develop the College's allotments into a wild flower meadow in the coming months. Students are also working on their College-wide Environmental Action Plans as part of our ambition to achieve the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award, this has involved investigating how we can improve the green credentials of the College.

We have recently rolled out soft plastic recycling which is available to staff, along with new stationery recycling bins, which are available to recycle a variety of stationery items (e.g. pens and pencils) - students can access this facility in the Learning Resource Centre. Furthermore, we are excited to continue doing Community Litter Picks and begin planning for the College's Green Week in March - watch this space!

Ed Jones, Teacher of Biology and Eco Champion



LRC Winners

Congratulations to Lily Luckes, winner of the LRC BookFlix competition who's review of *Divergent* won her a £40 Everyman cinema voucher, and Maria Barth, winner of the LRC Scavenger Hunt, who won a £20 book voucher plus a LRC goody bag.

Read Lily's book review opposite.

Small Actions That Have A BIG Impact

The Eco Committee has come up with **5 Actions**, you and your family can take at home to help the environment.

Remember every little helps.

1. Food Waste

Bin it or compost it. Throw your food away wisely, put it in an outdoor compost bin or your very own food waste bin.

2. Walking Wednesdays

Dedicate one day a week to acting greener. Whether it's no public transport, going meatfree or not buying plastic bottles.

3. Recycle

The old faithful, take the extra time to make sure you're recycling correctly. Don't be lazy and throw it in the bin because it's closer.

4. Clothes

Donate to charities or recycle old clothes. Better yet, do some research on the brands you love. Are they creating environmentally friendly products?

5. Energy

Turn off lights and sockets. You've heard it a million times but once more can't hurt!

Most of us know what to do, but choose not to out of convenience.

Be An Environmental Friend not Foe.

Dates for your Diary

ECAT

Please be aware dates published here may have to change. We will email any changes to students and applicants, but please do keep checking our website for any updates.

Spring Term 2023

Monday 13 to Friday 17 February	Half Term
Monday 20 to Friday 24 February	6.2 Formal Exams
Monday 27 February	'Catch-up Day' no timetabled lessons
Thursday 2 March	6.1 Parents' Evening
Thursday 9 March	6.1 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 14 March	Higher Education Evening
Tuesday 21 March	6.1 Higher Education Day
Friday 31 March	End of Term

Summer Term 2023

Monday 17 April	Start of Term
Tuesday 18 April	Employment Seekers' Evening
Monday 24 to Friday 28 April	6.1 Formal Exams
Monday 1 May	May Bank Holiday
Tuesday 2 May	'Catch-up Day' no timetabled lessons
Monday 8 May	King's Coronation Bank Holiday
Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June	Half Term
Wednesday 7 June to Friday 9 June	6.1 Work Experience/Internship
Tuesday 27 June	After Esher Day
Friday 7 July	Summer Festival
Monday 10 to Friday 14 July	Wider Skills Week
Friday 14 July	End of Term

Dates for Prospective Students and Parents/Carers (September 2023 admissions)

Tuesday 27 June	Introduction Evening (Parents/Carers)
Thursday 29 June	Introduction Day (students)
Friday 30 June	Introduction Day (students)
Tuesday 29 to Thursday 31 August	Enrolment

Dates for Prospective Students and Parents/Carers (September 2024 admissions)

Monday 3 July 2023	Open Evening
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Social Media

 EsherSixthFormCollege  @EsherSFCollege  EsherSixthFormCollege

Message from Zimbabwe

The Esher College Africa Trust (ECAT) has for many years been our College Charity. It supports Aids Orphans at The Dope school in rural Zimbabwe with school fees and exam fees, which means that the selected orphans can take their O' Levels and A' Levels, without which they have no chance of any job. Many of the students we have supported now have families of their own, and are doing us proud.

The main link with the Zimbabwean School and Esher Sixth Form College is the Principal of the school, Edward Nyahwema. He emails the charity's trustees regularly (when the internet is available) to give us news of the achievements of the students that the College has supported in the past, and is trying to support in the present.

Here's Edward's most recent letter: "Thank you for the wonderful work you have been doing and continue doing. I wish everyone who had a hand and has contributed to the ECAT fund to know that we are thankful for what has been achieved with regard to the lives of the students who have benefited and continue to benefit from the generous hands."

"Our new academic year starts in January (not September like the UK). And in October, students prepared for their exams. Given the disruption of teaching during Covid, the student success rate was satisfactory. Since the year ended in December students often help, during their holidays to plant next's years crop, to ensure adequate food supply can be grown."

We will bring you more news in our next newsletter.



Roll of Sporting Excellence



Every year at Esher, students who perform to a very high standard in sport, are invited to join our Roll of Sporting Excellence (ROSE) programme. And this year's 6.1 class is no exception with students competing at

county, national and international levels in a myriad of sports including ice-skating, basketball, rugby, hockey, cricket, gymnastics and athletics.

The ROSE programme works in collaboration with the Sport and Exercise Science Department at King's College London, and aims to help

sporting talent at Esher manage their academic and sporting commitments. Students also have the opportunity to attend specialist workshops and undergo physiological testing at King's.

Already this year, representatives from Solent University and St Mary's University have visited our ROSE students to give talks about sports scholarship opportunities.

Ones to Watch: Tilly Simkins (ice-skating), Charlie Crabtree (basketball), Marcus Rodgers (football), Emma Dalton (rugby), Evie Donaldson (ice-skating), Lois Cottey (ice-skating), India Gould (hockey), Fin Walton (cricket), Cameron Ott (rugby), Harry Iriarte (rugby), Frankie Chandler (rugby), Ruby Charlotte Bray (Gymnastics), George Pittwood (Athletics).