

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

21ST JUNE 2024



A short newsletter with dates (some are new!).

CONTENTS INCLUDE ...

What's Coming Up - Overleaf are dates of events happening this term.

September Classes - Letters are coming home before the end of June detailing your child or young person's Class Teacher for September and the forenames of other pupils in the class. Families have the opportunity to meet with the new Class Teacher in person, online or via a phone call on the evening of Wednesday 17th July. Additional Transition documents will be with you by the end of term, for you and your child or young person to look over during the summer.

September Parents' Evening - Dates for the Diary - Tuesday 24th or Wednesday 25th September to meet your Class Teacher in school or college and see the new classroom, or meet them online or have your 15 minute appointment via a phone call.

Communications Survey - Thanks for your feedback, especially the comments about the Home:School diaries. We are working on these and looking to include some of your ideas into the final version.

Sickness Policy - A few of our families were unaware of the content, so a copy is attached.

Medication Request Form - A new form is available on our [website](#). This needs to be completed if you are sending meds into school or college.

Family Fund - An organisation offering links to support services for our families.

Dress Code - A gentle reminder for students to wear suitable clothing and footwear into school and college. Thanks.

Sports Days - Dates and details on the next page. Due to the number of pupils we have and the space available, we have a number of Sports Days coming up. Letters have been sent home but if you need a reminder, please pop a note in the Home:School Diary.

Family Hubs - News on how to have YOUR say on local Children's Centres becoming Family Hubs.

Safeguarding - Contact details listed.

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JUNE

w/c 17th June - Arts Week

Friday 21st June - Year 6 Camp overnight (details have been sent to selected families and the tents are up and ready for tonight!)

Monday 24th June - Key Stage 2 Sports Day for RED, YELLOW, PINK, INDIGO and SILVER classes, families 1.15 pm arrival for 1.30 pm start

*** CANCELLED *** Tuesday 25th June - E-Safety Session for parents, carers and Grandparents

Tuesday 25th June - Key Stage 2 Sports Day for PURPLE, GREEN, ORANGE, LILAC and BLUE classes, families 1.15 pm arrival for 1.30 pm start

Wednesday 26th June - Early Years Sports Morning (PUPILS ONLY)

Wednesday 26th June - Key Stage 1 Sports Day for BEES, BUTTERFLIES and CLOUD classes, families 1.15 pm arrival for 1.30 pm start

Thursday 27th / Friday 28th June - Duke of Edinburgh Expedition and Camp for selected KS4 students and Sixth Form (letters have been sent)

JULY

w/c 1st July - Parents' Survey being sent out

Thursday 4th July - ETC Sixth Form "Respect" Festival on the Hollow Lane Field and Sixth Form Music Event (letter to follow detailing times for Sixth Form families to visit)

Friday 5th July - All Hollow Lane Classes, Summer Fun Family Visits to the classrooms. Please arrive on site from 1.30 pm for 1.45 pm transfer from the Hall to the classrooms

Tuesday 9th July - ETC Sports Day, Exeter Arena (EX4 8NT). Families to arrive at 1 pm for a 1.15 pm start. Selected Year 6's may be invited - details will be sent from your Class Teacher if your child is participating

Wednesday 10th July - ETC Seniors Classes Celebration Afternoon with Families. Please arrive at the College from 1.45 pm

Thursday 11th July - ETS Fete at Hollow Lane, 10.30 am - 12 noon

Wednesday 17th July - ETC Fete at Wayside Crescent, 10.30 am - 12 noon. Raffle draw at 12 noon

WHAT'S COMING UP - PAGE 2 OF 2

*** DATES ADDED ***

Wednesday 17th July - Opportunity for Parents & Carers to meet their new September Teacher. Meetings to take place either in person in the Hall or online or a via a telephone call

Friday 19th July - ET Prom for selected older students and Year 14 leavers. 7 pm until 9.30 pm at Hollow Lane (red carpet event)

Wednesday 24th July - ETC Sixth Form - Leavers' Day out (details will be sent home)

Wednesday 24th July - ETS Year 6 Leavers' Assembly, 1.45 pm in the Hall

Thursday 25th July - ETC Leavers' Assembly, 1.45 pm, families welcome

Thursday 25th July - Last day of the Summer Term for pupils and staff



SEPTEMBER 2024

Monday 9th September - First day of the Autumn Term for pupils

Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th September - Parents' Evening incl opportunity to see the new Classroom (if you wish)

Summer Fetes - We are finalising plans for the stalls at the Summer Fete so if you can help out for 30 minutes or an hour on a PTFA stall, please let us know! Call Christine or Anne at the school.



Raffle tickets have been sent out this week. Please send your money, stubs and any unused tickets back to the office. And if you have any spare school uniform, raffle and tombola prizes, hamper items, we would love to receive these.

All funds raised come back to the school!

ELLEN TINKHAM'S
SUMMER FETES

THURSDAY 11 JULY 2024 10.30 am - 12 noon
Ellen Tinkham School,
Hollow Lane

WEDNESDAY 17 JULY 2024 10.30 am - 12 noon
Ellen Tinkham College,
Wayside Crescent

Donations of wine, luxury gifts, food items & prizes gratefully received for the Hampers and Tombola!

Thank you so much

Raffle draw taking place on 17 July @ 12 noon

Please return your money, stubs and any unsold raffle tickets to us asap



A Request from Early Years - Katie and her team are running a Teddy Tombola at the Hollow Lane Fete. Staff have donated a few, Nearly New cuddly toys but do you have any at home that your child does not play with? Please could you send in your Nearly New teddy bears and cuddly toys to Early Years? Thank you so much!



September Classes

Transitions - Class lists for September are being finalised for pupils, Class Teachers and support staff, and we'll be able to provide you with the name of your September Class Teacher and the forenames of other pupils in the class shortly. Letters will be sent out to you in the next week.

Additional Transition documents will be sent to our families by the end of term, ready for you/your child to look at over the summer holiday.

Pupils - September Teachers and other key staff will be visiting the pupils in their existing classrooms, introducing themselves and spending time with the pupils in their familiar environment. We will also have Transition Social Stories available for everyone too.

“Meet the September Teacher“ Family Evening - Wednesday 17th July - Families have the opportunity to spend 15 minutes either in person, online or over the phone, chatting with your new September Class Teacher. A letter similar to our Parents' Evening letter will be sent to you before the end of June so you can book your time slot.

If you choose to meet your September Class Teacher in person, the meeting will take place in the School Hall as our classrooms are still being used by the existing classes up until the end of term.

September Parents' Evening - Families will have the opportunity to meet again with their new Class Teacher to set targets for the year and visit the new Classroom. As usual, appointments can be made in person, online or via a phone call. The majority of our appointments will happen on Tuesday 24th or Wednesday 25th September 2024.



Communication Survey - Thank you for completing this survey. Your comments around the Home:School Diaries were particularly useful and we hope to make some changes to next year's diaries based on your feedback.



The annual Parents' Survey based on Ofsted questions, will be circulated at the beginning of July.

Sickness Policy - A few parents are not aware of the specifics in this policy. A copy is attached.



Medication Request Form



Staff at Ellen Tinkham School or Ellen Tinkham College will not give your child any medication unless you complete and sign this form.

STUDENT NAME:	
DATE OF BIRTH:	
ALLERGIES:	

Medication & strength	Time	Dose	Full directions for use

I understand that I must inform the transport escort that medicines are being transported to school.

I consent to the school nursing staff or school staff giving the above medication to my child

Name		Date	
Signature			
Relationship to Pupil			

Medication Request Form - An updated version of this form is now available on our [school website](#). If you need to send in any medication, prescribed or otherwise (such as Calpol or Hayfever relief), you must complete this form in order for staff or the Nursing Team to administer medication. Thank you.

Family Fund - The National Charity, Family Fund, has launched a new 'Discover more support' search tool on their website. It can help you more easily find services best suited to you and your family.



Family Fund
Helping disabled children

Featuring topics like money and benefits, mental health and wellbeing, education and learning and disability, you can now browse through 130 trusted organisations listed on the new search tool - to find available support services in your local area, or nationally.

To use the tool and find out more, [head to Family Fund's website](#).



Dress Code - This is a gentle reminder that students should not wear flip flops to school. Footwear should cover the toes and back of the foot/ankle. For Sixth Form students, shorts, dresses, skirts should be knee length, and tops should not be revealing (spaghetti straps) or low cut. Thank you!

Children's Centre Consultation - As part of the development of Family Hubs, Devon CC are reviewing their Children's Centre buildings and where they are.

The model of providing support to families is changing. There will be a universal offer for 0-19 year olds, and to 25 years old for special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and care experienced young people.

Devon CC need to hear how you have used Children's Centres and what you value most. They are proposing to create Family Hubs centres in each district council area, and outreach hubs in local communities.

There are 27 children's centres across Devon. This proposal suggests that:

- five are maintained to use as Family Hubs
- up to eighteen could potentially be used in an outreach capacity, if partners are open to this arrangement
- three will be completely passed to partners for alternative use such as childcare
- one will close



Please follow **[THIS LINK](#)** to Devon CC's [site and voice your opinion.](#)

The survey closes at midnight on
Wednesday 3rd July 2024.

Safeguarding - Across our Federation, we take safeguarding very seriously and have robust policies and procedures in place. If you ever have a safeguarding or wellbeing concern, please contact your **Designated Safeguarding Lead - Katy Bradley at the school and Monika Davis at the College incl Sixth Form.**

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If Katy or Monika are unavailable to speak to or meet with, please contact one of our **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.**

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SICKNESS POLICY

We recognise our responsibility to promote a learning environment that is safe and healthy for all. In order to maintain a clean and healthy environment this policy provides guidance for staff and parents as to when students should or should not be in school if showing signs of sickness. The health and well-being of all students is of paramount importance to enable them to be successful learners in everything they do.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- To ensure that sick children are appropriately and correctly identified.
- To ensure sick children are cared for appropriately.
- To protect children and adults from preventable infection.
- To enable staff and parents to be clear about the requirements and procedures when children are unwell.

The school has not got any facilities to look after students who are sick.

It is the responsibility of the parent / carer to collect their student promptly, if they are unwell during the school day. Parents are asked to ensure the school has a contact number where they can be reached in emergencies.

Students should not be brought to school if they are displaying signs of illness. If students do come into school and staff feel that they are unfit for school, parents/carers/emergency contacts will be contacted and requested to come and collect their child and requested not to return their child to school until symptom free.

If a student is thought to be unwell while at school they will be seen by the school nurse, nursing assistant or in their absence by a member of SLT, as the condition of the child needs to be assessed. This will be done in a kind and caring manner. The child may be distressed, so it is important to be calm and reassuring. The Head of School will be informed of any sick students.

Reasons students will be asked to be collected from school due to illness/medical condition or why students should be kept at home:

- Following a hospital admission for surgery or illness, please check with the therapy / Medical team for advice, as some operations will need longer recovery periods than others.
- If a student has a temperature of 38° C and above.
- A student who is needing regular paracetamol throughout the day should be kept at home until well.

- Coughs and colds do not normally require the student to be absent from school but this depends on the severity and how the student is able to cope with the school routine. Students who have colds which are obviously 'streaming' and they look unwell and are unable to participate in lessons.
- Students who have diarrhoea and vomiting. Parents must keep their child home for 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea and can only return to school providing they are well enough. Students will not be able to swim for the 2 weeks following this episode. We understand that some children/young people may take medication for constipation. Please ensure that staff are made aware if this is the case. If your child/young person requires medication as part of a disimpaction plan, this should be carried out at home.
- During the first 48 hours of antibiotic treatment. A form will be sent home for parents to sign before antibiotics can be given in school and will only be given if stated 4 times a day.
- If a student has an infection which can spread easily – refer to following: [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-children-and-young-people-settings-including-education) Students with infectious or contagious diseases will not be permitted to attend for certain periods(see appendix) If staff suspect that a student has an infectious or contagious disease they will request that parents/carers consult a doctor before returning their child to school and the school may seek advice from the Health Protection Agency
- Post op anaesthetic or sedation e.g. dental extraction, day case; your child needs to stay at home for 24 hours.
- If a student's asthma is flaring up and they are not responding to their inhalers.
- Following a seizure when rescue medicine has been given or it is known that a prolonged recovery period will be needed – If pupils are going to be unable to access education following a seizure and recovery they will need to be collected.

We understand the needs of working parents and do not aim to exclude students from school unnecessarily. In the event of a student having a condition where some of the above might be considered 'routine' or a side effect of their condition an agreement will be put in place in consultation with medical professionals to allow a pupil to remain in school when they would otherwise be collected.

The final decision on whether a pupil may remain at school rests with the Head of School/College who will consider not only the impact on the individual student but also on the welfare and education of other students.

Any medicines given in school, including paracetamol and ibuprofen will be given in accordance with the schools supporting students with medical conditions policy.