

# Eastern High / Ysgol Uwchradd y Dwyrain

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Head teacher: Armando Di-finizio

6th March 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are now into the last push before the GCSEs begin. There are 30 school days left, which can cause some students to become anxious. It is therefore important we all get the balance right when it comes to encouraging pupils (your child) to stay focused in lessons, attend revision sessions and revise independently.

On our website, there are details of additional revision classes and tips on how to help your child revise at home. Having had three of my children recently pass through the GCSE system, I know how difficult and stressful this time can be for both pupils and parents also. For this reason, we have found that pupils need incentives and things to look forward to so we are offering a Year 11 Trip day and our annual Prom.

### Trip day

We would like to invite Year 11 students to take part in a day trip just before the Easter holidays to give the students time to be together and enjoy an away day before the next big push for revision and exams begins. After speaking to Year 11 students, we have decided to offer three trips for the students to choose from. These trips will take place on Tuesday 9th April:

- Shopping trip to Bath. This is a chance to explore the shops and sights of Bath with friends. The trip will cost £10 to cover transport.
- Day trip to Thorpe Park. Many students have asked to go to a theme park for the day. The trip will cost £28 to cover entrance and transport costs.
- Activity Day including paint-balling. Some students have requested a more outdoors based activity day.
   This trip will cost approximately £10

Please could you indicate on the attached form your preferred choice of trip and once we have an indication of pupil numbers, we can then confirm the trip details and how to pay.

#### The Year 11 Prom

The Year 11 prom has been booked for Friday 21st June 2019 at St Mellons Hotel, Cardiff. It is a beautiful venue, situated on the old A48 between St Mellons and Marshfield.

The total price for prom is £30. This includes venue ballroom hire, choice of buffet, DJ hire, photographer/photobooth and table decorations.

A non-refundable deposit of £15 needs to be paid via parent pay by 15<sup>th</sup> March to secure your child's' ticket. Your child also needs to complete the attached form.

Full payment will need to be made by Wednesday 1st May 2019.

If you have any questions regarding prom, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Paynter by email at jpaynter@easternhigh.org.uk

#### The small print!!

While we are delighted with the progress the majority of Year 11 are making, there are still, unfortunately, a small minority of pupils who are disrupting either learning in their classes or the ethos around the school. We want every pupil to attain their full potential, and so we cannot allow this to continue. We also cannot have any Year 11s influencing younger students who look up to them, in ways which damage the positive ethos we have built up in the school.

We are therefore bringing in some preventative measures between now and the exams. I would be grateful if you would go over the measures below with your child.

We expect the following code of behaviour:

- During lessons, pupils should be in the classes or study sessions that have been arranged for them.
- Students should be on time to lessons unless there is a legitimate reason for being late.
- Pupils should be in appropriate uniform. (Black jumper, white shirt, tie black trousers/skirt. No coats worn in building)
- Pupils should not receive red detentions. Red detentions are for behaviour preventing learning, abusive language, on the phone in class without permission and dangerous behaviour. There is, therefore, no reason why any pupil in Year 11 should be given a red detention.

If pupils do not comply with any of the above, they will be given a negative behaviour point. Any pupil receiving four negative behaviour points, will unfortunately not be able to attend a trip. If the number rises to six, then they will not be permitted to attend the Prom.

This may sound extreme, but I have yet to prevent any pupil from attending a prom in past years as pupils usually understand our reasons and begin to focus on their exams ahead.

**Finally,** I wish our pupils all the very best over the coming weeks. All pupils will be expected to attend all of their classes throughout the exam period, however, we will be in touch when nearer the time, to let you know of arrangements as exams are completed.

Please remind your child that there are lots of people they can talk to in school if they begin to feel stressed in any way. The message is — **Don't bottle it up!** 

Please do contact your child's tutor or House Achievement Leader, if you have any queries or concerns over the coming weeks.

Yours faithfully

Armando Di-Finizio Headteacher

## \*\*\* Please complete and return this form to Reception \*\*\*

| Name:                            | Learning Family:                      |   |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
|                                  |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |
|                                  |                                       | Year 11 Prom 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2019       |  |  |  |  |
|                                  |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |
| I would/would not (please dele   | ete as appro                          | opriate) like to attend the Year 11 2019 Prom |  |  |  |  |
| Signed:                          |                                       | -   |  |  |  |  |
| Dietary needs:                   |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |
|                                  |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |
|                                  |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |
|                                  |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |
|                                  |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |
|                                  | Ye                                    | ear 11 Trip Choice 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 |  |  |  |  |
| Please indicate your choice 1st, | 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> ir | n the boxes below                             |  |  |  |  |
| ,                                |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |
|                                  |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |
| Shopping Trip to Bath            | £10                                   |   |  |  |  |  |
| <b>T</b> . 5 .                   | 62.0                                  |   |  |  |  |  |
| Thorpe Park                      | £28                                   |   |  |  |  |  |
| Activity Day (inc paintballing)  | £10                                   |   |  |  |  |  |
| receiving Day (me paintbailing)  |                                       |   |  |  |  |  |