

WEEK AHEAD

Monday 6th – Friday 10th May 2019



Dear Parents,

We have just returned from the Brighton College Conference, which annually brings together the top 400 independent schools in the UK – by invitation. It has been our pleasure to attend the conference for the last six years, almost always the only SEN school in attendance. As suggested by our record of attendance we have traditionally found the conference of significant interest and value.

Usually, the themes have focused on various aspects of pedagogy and more broadly, education. However, this conference was somewhat different, which is why we thought we'd mention it to you. Specifically, the focus was on the criticism that the independent educational sector throughout the UK receives – and why much of this is unfair and inaccurate.

Two of the key speakers were particularly knowledgeable; Lord Agnew, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State and Barnaby Leon, the Chairman of the Independent Schools Council and the former Head of Harrow. Both delivered spirited defenses of independent education – and both suggested that parents who share the view that their children profit immensely from independent education would do well to so indicate to their local MP.

We will be addressing this issue in a variety of ways over the next period of time, but in light of this issue's prominence in the press and elsewhere, we thought we should pass on to you our recent experience.

Best wishes,

Mrs Kim Salthouse
Head of School

Dr Duncan Rollo
Principal

MESSAGE FROM FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE

Firstly, please allow me to introduce myself to you, I am Kirstie and am in the enviable position of being Site Manager at Framlingham Castle, the best job in the world! I am currently working on a project in the East looking into what we at English Heritage can do at our sites to become more welcoming and engaging for visitors with various disabilities and one of the things I would like to trial is an early opening session for people on the Autism Spectrum.

The plan is to open the site an hour early at 9.00am for families to come and enjoy the castle for an hour before we open up to the general public, it would then be your choice as to whether you remained on site at 10.00am to enjoy your visit further. My limited knowledge of the difficulties when visiting new places suggests that the arrival is the most challenging where the surroundings can be alien. I would ask that anyone interested in helping with this pilot please contact me at Framlingham.castle@english-heritage.org.uk the pilot will be for pre-arranged families from the academy and I would like to spend some time with the families at the end to receive some feedback and suggestions to help us improve our offer. The date for the early opening will be Sunday 19th May. I very much hope that some of you will be prepared to help us to improve our visitor experience for all!

Best wishes
Kirstie Horne



Bank Holiday

Monday 6th May 2019

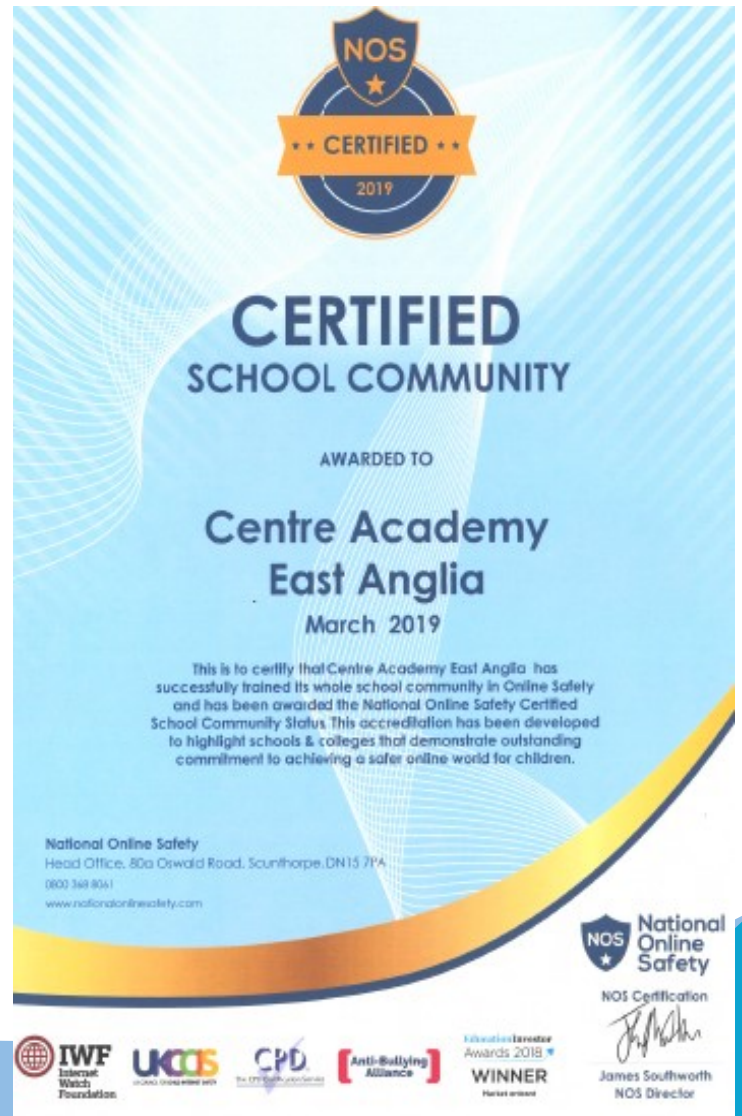
Half Term

Friday 24th May – Monday 3rd June 2019

Friday 24th May - School finishes at 12.00

Term Commences

Monday 3rd June 2019



NOTICES

Students Who Travel by Taxi

Please could parents ensure that their child's taxi is informed if a child is to be absent from school and does not need to be collected by the taxi. It has come to light on a number of occasions that taxis have arrived at the school at the end of the day to collect students to return home. We have had to explain that the child has been collected for medical appointments/or sent home unwell.

Thank you.

School Diaries

Please could all parents check with their children that they have their school diaries. These should have homework assignments written in. Teachers are also checking these diaries to ensure that all parents and students are aware of the demands being made on the children. The diaries are especially helpful in facilitating communication between class tutors and parents.

Sunday boarding arrangements

Please can Parents let Mr Thompson know in advance, either by email at athompson@centreacademy.net, or by phone or text message on 07555 416172. This is so that we have numbers for food on Sunday evening and numbers for pick up from Stowmarket train station. Boarders should either arrive at Centre Academy no earlier than 7pm if coming directly or be picked up from Stowmarket train station.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Boarding House Telephone Numbers:

Mr Thompson can be contacted on the following mobile number during the week, Monday from 8.00 am to Friday 3.00pm. Please can any arrangements for Sunday evening boarding be made in advance prior to 3.00pm on the Friday. The Care Staff do not stay on site at the weekend and will be out of contact during this period.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Mr Thompson - 07555 416 172

Gentle Reminders:

- ✚ If you child requires any medication, please ensure that this is handed into the office or Mrs Beadman. Medication will need to be in its original packet along with the relevant paperwork. The item must be clearly labelled with the students name and the instructions of administration.
- ✚ Students must not be sent to school if they have a fever/sickness or are feeling ill. Students should be fever/sickness free for 48 hours before returning to school to protect other students from contact with potentially contagious illnesses. Parents will be contacted by the medical staff on duty if a child shows symptoms of illness while in school.
- ✚ Could all students bring stationery in to school for their lessons, e.g. pens/pencils and crayons.
- ✚ Please check and sign homework diaries every week; the diaries are a very important tool to communicate with teachers and parents.
- ✚ All female students are to wear either trousers or skirts with thick tights when participating in drama lessons or drama activities after school.
- ✚ During the summer please ensure your child has sun cream, a sun hat and appropriate glasses with them; all items should be marked with the child's name.