# Eton Academy Monthly Newsletter - Welcome! January 2025

Dear Eton Academy Community,

Happy New Year! We are excited to welcome 2025 with fresh enthusiasm and new opportunities for growth and learning. As we begin this term, we look forward to sharing updates, events, and exciting programs happening across our community.

## G11 Full Mock Exam Week

This year, our G11 students will have a comprehensive mock exam experience spanning three weeks. Dates: February 3rd–14th, followed by a one-week half-term break, resuming February 24th–28th.Students will take full-length exams, and detailed results will provide invaluable insights into their progress, helping them prepare for their final assessments.

## New Year's Resolutions

A new year means new opportunities! We encourage our students to take some time to set meaningful and achievable resolutions for personal growth. Whether it's improving study habits, trying a new skill, or being more active, 2025 is a blank canvas ready to be painted with your aspirations.

## Elf Engineers Competition - Winners Announced!

Congratulations to Team Big Ben for winning the Elf Engineer Competition during our Christmas Fun Week! Their innovative Advent Calendar impressed the judges with its well-developed concept, market desirability, and solid business plan.

Jeam Members: Fajer, Yousif, Kiya, and Rahaf A huge well done to all participants for their creativity and teamwork!

## House Leaderboard

At the end of term one, the House leaderboard stands at;

4th	Buckingham Palace	31 points
3rd	Angel of the North	33 points
2nd	Big Ben	34 points
1st	Stonehenge	38 points

Well done Stonehenge! But this year the points are closer than ever, so it's anyone's game!

## Applications Open for Summer School 2025

We are thrilled to announce that applications are now open for our Summer School 2025! Join us for an unforgettable experience filled with exciting activities around Manchester, including: Kayaking, Skiing, National Football Museum, Manchester United Stadium Tour, Trafford Centre Shopping, Go Karting, Science and Industry Museum



It's a fantastic opportunity to meet your peers, make new friends, and explore Manchester. For more details, email <u>admission@eton-academy.net</u> Deadline for applications: End of February

#### New Sanctions System is Live!

We're excited to announce that our new sanctions policy is now in effect! This system is designed to promote accountability, fairness, and respect across our school community. With a points-based structure for secondary students (Grades 7–11) and a visual model for primary students (Grades 3–6), it provides clear guidelines and communication protocols to ensure a supportive and positive learning environment. Points reset each term to encourage fresh starts and continuous improvement. For full details, please see Appendix 1 of our <u>Behaviour and Exclusion Policy</u>

#### Safeguarding Spotlight: Keep your child safe on Minecraft

Minecraft is a game where children explore an online world. They can use 'building blocks' to customize the world and create new parts to it.

#### What potential risks should you be aware of?

• **Inappropriate content**: Minecraft has a PEGI rating of 7, but user-generated content may not be age-appropriate. For example, when the TV show *Squid Game* (rated 15) was popular, some users recreated its violent content in Minecraft.



- **Contact**: Strangers might use in-game chat or platforms like Discord to talk to children, potentially posing risks.
- **Bullying and griefing**: Players might use chat to exclude or bully others, or ruin gameplay intentionally (known as 'griefing').
- **In-game purchases**: Children can use 'Minecoins' for purchases, which require real money through app stores.

Key terms include:

- **Realms**: A private server requiring a subscription.
- Whispers: A private chat function.

## 6 steps to keep your child safe:

- 1. Limit in-game communication and content
  - On **Xbox**, set up a <u>family group</u> and manage <u>online safety settings</u>.
  - On PlayStation, create family accounts and restrict chat features for PS4/PS5.
  - On Nintendo, use the Parental Controls app.
- 2. Caution your child about talking to strangers

Remind them not to share personal information like their phone number or school.

- 3. Ensure your child knows how to block or mute players
  - o <u>Xbox</u>
  - <u>PlayStation</u>
  - <u>Nintendo</u>

#### 4. Set spending limits or require approval for purchases

- o <u>Xbox</u>
- <u>PS4/PS5</u>

#### • Nintendo

#### 5. Talk regularly with your child

Regular conversations about online activities make children more likely to share if something upsets them. The <u>NSPCC</u> offers great tips.

#### 6. Know where to go for help

Inform the school about any bullying your child experiences, whether it involves schoolmates or not. This helps us provide support and follow appropriate procedures.

## Parent Feedback

Your feedback is extremely important to us! Please take a moment to let us know your thoughts through our parent feedback form <u>here</u>.

#### Other upcoming events

- World Religion Day 19th January 2025
- Chinese New Year 29th January 2025

Warm regards,

Dr Gabrielle Hargreaves Principal



## Do you have an idea or suggestion for our newsletter? Submit it HERE.

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