

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you to inform you that the Local Authority has granted the school two additional Inset Days before half term on 20th/21st October 2016, in order to carry out this additional staff development. This training will support the school in moving forward rapidly over the next few months. Our previously arranged Inset Day on 31/10/16 will still go ahead.

Inset Days are: 20/10/16, 21/10/16 & 31/10/16 – Pupils return to school 1/11/16

What training will take place during these three days?

Staff will be trained by a number of external Local Education Authority colleagues on the following areas of school development:

- End of Key Stage 2 National Assessments and the New National Curriculum spelling, grammar and punctuation strategies for the whole school.
- End of Key Stage 2 National Assessments and the New National Curriculum, concrete, pictorial and abstract strategies for maths and problem solving and reasoning.
- End of Key Stage 2 National Assessments and the New National Curriculum Reading and Writing strategies
- Herts Assessment strategies and how to implement them with accuracy and meaning for pupils and parents.
- Target setting and measuring progress.
- Middle Leader training on how to monitor and evaluate learning and intervene where necessary.
- Safeguarding including supporting pupils and staff to use the internet wisely.

How will this training benefit my child and their learning at Edwinstree?

These Inset Days will provide an intensive training and updating for all teachers and leaders to support Year 7 and Year 8 in preparation for the new and demanding GCSE curriculum and Year 5 and Year 6 pupils for the exceptional demands of the new SAT exams. This will mean across the whole curriculum pupils learning is honed to the new requirements and their learning is planned to support them to make accelerated progress and meet these demands.

Pupils should see clear strategies which support them to understand:

- What it is they are going to learn over each term?
- How they will be supported to learn?
- How they can support themselves to improve their learning to meet the new needs of the curriculum.

As a full time working parent I understand the imposition that I am creating in implementing these additional days. However, after significant consideration the Governing body, Diocese and Local Authority believe this is the swiftest way to bring about transformation and the significant improvements that are needed. Thank you for your support, patience and understanding.

Yours sincerely

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