



**Edwinstree Middle School**  
 A Voluntary Controlled Church of  
 England School  
**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS &  
 CARERS**  
**Week Ending: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017**

**Diary Dates:**

- 6/3/17 Y6 – Crucial Crew Visit
- 7/3/17 NO HOMELEARNING CLUB
- 7/3/17 Y5 SAT Information Evening 5pm-6pm
- 7/3/17 NO BASKETBALL CLUB
- 9/3/17 Y8 Parents' Evening 3:45pm-6:30pm
- 9/3/17 Choir Festival- Freman College 7pm-9pm
- 13/3/17 Mock SATS for Y6 –Mon to Thurs
- 16/3/17 Normandy Information Evening 5pm
- 20/3/17 Y6 Preparation for SATs 5pm-6pm
- 21/3/17 Y6 Parents' Feedback Meeting - Eng & Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm
- 27-30/3/17 Normandy Visit
- 28/3/17 Y6 Parents' Feedback Meeting - Eng & Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm
- 3-17/4/17 Easter Holidays
- 19/4/17 Y6 NHS Measure Height & Weight
- 8/5/17 SATS Week
- 29/5-2/6/17 Half Term
- 21/7/17 End of Term – School finishes 2:30pm

**Date changes**

- Y8 Parents' Evening - 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017**
- Y6 Parents' Meeting- 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Year 6 SATs Exams.**

Year 6 build up to the SAT exams. Early next week we will be offering a number of pupils an opportunity to attend Saturday sessions in order to support their learning in the build up to the SATs. The sessions will run in the same time slots as the Year 7 catch up programme from **9:30am-10:30am** and from **11:00am-12:00pm**. If your child is invited to attend, we will need a speedy response confirming your child's attendance to secure the place. Alongside this, we are currently considering offering sessions at Easter and collapsing the Year 6 timetable in the two weeks prior to the SATs exams to provide focused SATs lessons in English and Maths in the morning and afternoon activities that are fun, physical and designed to support students to manage their stress.

**Mock SATS week for Year 6**

We will be running a practice SATs week from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March to Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March. It will run exactly as the exams in May, with English papers Monday and Tuesday, maths papers Wednesday and Thursday. Year 6 pupils will be invited to join their tutors and English/maths teachers for breakfast each morning from 8:20am – 8:50am in the school hall. The children will have a ten minute warm up session in their classroom and all exams will

start at 9:15am. Please be aware that all stationery will be provided for the children to complete their exams and so we would not expect them to take anything into the room with them. If you have any questions surrounding these practice exams, please get in touch with your child's tutor.

**Endure the mile:**

As part of our celebration of Lent, we are focusing on endurance and resilience as key Christian Values. Students will have the opportunity to walk and or run the mile in two sessions at lunch time – session one is for Year 7 and Year 6 from 1:10pm to 1:25pm. Session 2 will be 1:30pm till 1:45pm. Our PE team and Mr Rowlands will be leading the sessions and we hope to encourage as many students as possible to get involved. This is based on a Scottish initiative that has seen significant improvements in the fitness and wellbeing of students where it has been delivered as part of the normal school day. Students will also have an opportunity to gain sponsorship for each fifteen minute running session they complete over this term. All funds will go to the students' favoured charity – Cancer Research for Young People and Teenagers.

**Data Collection Reports Years 5-8**

We have received some questions about some children's data sheets, asking specifically about the age related expectations. Each term, the expectation for each age group increases and so where some parents may find that the report in December may read that the pupil is AT (at) or AB (above) age related expectation, the same subject may now read WT (working towards) or AT (at). Although this may suggest that the pupil has not made progress, or has indeed regressed, we are only half way through the term and so many pupils may have made that leap as yet. If you require further details, please do contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

**Enquiries about Uniform, Hair Colour and Make-up.**

For any enquiries about our uniform either visit our website or your child's ROA. A steer for colour and make up is to keep it natural and not obtrusive, for example a bold bright pink hair colour is not acceptable. As a school we believe there is plenty of time to experiment with both when they are young adults, not yet.

**World Book Day**

A big thank you to the Year 8's who volunteered to introduce the Year 5 students to their favourite books, read them extracts and answer questions about their books. Thank you also to the

significant numbers of students who took time and effort with their parents to come in costume. We had fun celebrating our favourite characters!

### **Mobile Phone Reminder**

It has come to our attention that a small amount of mobile phones are coming into school. As you are aware, the policy on mobile phones is that no pupil is allowed to have a mobile phone in school. We do not want children to lose their mobile phone, or to be more vulnerable to cyber-bullying, theft or breakage and we cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage. Therefore, we ask that you do not allow your child to bring a mobile phone to school. If there are extenuating circumstances that you would like us to consider, then please address those to me or to Mrs Allan, Deputy Headteacher. Mobile phones found in school will be confiscated and parents will be contacted to come and collect them. Thank you for your support.

### **Parking**

Parking is free in Sainsbury's car park before 9am and after 3pm. Please refrain from parking on double yellow lines or the verge. Traffic wardens will be monitoring!

**Jo Gant**  
**Headteacher**