



**Diary Dates:**

- 7/2/17 **Y7 Parents' Evening Eng/Maths/Sci only 3:45pm-6:45pm**
- 7/7/17 **Basketball Club Cancelled**
- 10/2/17 **Non-Uniform Day**
- 13-17/2/17 **Half Term**
- 21/2/17 **Action Plan Meeting 6pm**
- 24/2/17 **BBC 'Any Questions' at Edwinstree**
- 27/2/17 **Y8 Visit National Gallery**
- 2/3/17 **World Book Day**
- 2/3/17 **Y8 Parents' Evening 3:45pm-6:45pm**
- 6/3/17 **Y6 – Crucial Crew Visit**
- 7/3/17 **Year 5 SAT Information Evening**
- 7/3/17 **Y8 Parents' Evening 3:45pm-6:45pm**
- 9/3/17 **Choir Festival- Freman College 7pm-9pm**
- 14/3/17 **Y6 Parents' Feedback Meeting - Eng & Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm**
- 20/3/17 **Year 6 Preparation for SATs event**
- 21/3/17 **Y6 Parents' Feedback Meeting - Eng & Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm**
- 27-30/3/17 **Normandy Visit**
- 3-17/4/17 **Easter Holidays**
- 29/5-2/6/17 **Half Term**
- 21/7/17 **End of Term – School finishes 2:30pm**

**Reminder**

Please remind your child about road safety. They should always enter and leave the school via the bottom gate, at the beginning and the end of the day. Next week the top gate will remain closed. It has also come to our attention that some students are wearing Apple Iwatches to school, these expensive items of equipment should not be worn to school. We will update our policy on mobile phones to include these items.

**LA Review**

A summary of the mini inspection report will accompany next week's newsletter. In advance of this, our advisors concluded that the school as continuing to make good progress and from September there is clear and significant progress in the books and the lessons. Your children's behaviour was described as very close to outstanding. Please congratulate them.

A number of students were spoken to about their thoughts with regard to the school. Below is a summary of their key points:

- Edwinstree is caring and warm school now
- The lessons are good
- There are less clubs at the moment but the teachers are working on the new national curriculum so we should expect this. (I disagree that this is a good enough reasons, but am amazed at their sympathy)
- The teachers are strict but fair and some of them are funny
- They are serious about writing and cursive handwriting

- There is quite a lot of homework so you had better get used to it
- The English target sheets really help to improve your writing
- Literacy is supported in History, Geography and some Science
- Collective Worship has a lot of information about God – for Year 8 this is almost too much

**Preparation for Lent and Fundraising for charity.**

Students will be voting for their favourite charities next week in order to prepare for Lent. As part of the ceremony of Lent, each child will be asked to give up something. We will provide sponsorship forms and challenge students to engage in raising money for our agreed school Charity. As a reward for students' good behaviour, we will also host a non-uniform day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

**Are you reading with your child?**

Please can we encourage you to keep going with your child's reading, 20 minutes, five times a week, will support their overall learning. We attach again the Reading Detective questions that support your child's reading. If you use these to engage in a conversation with them about their reading, you will be supporting their comprehension and inference skills. Attached is a list of alternative reading sources that are available for students, which can give them a broader reading source and perhaps engage further in a subject. We will be looking to source additions of these in the Library. If you already subscribe to an appropriate magazine and are willing to share with the school, we would be happy to receive copies once you have read them, please pass to Mrs George our Librarian.

**Year 6 SATs Information Evening – 20/3/17**

The date has been rescheduled in order to ensure the latest assessments have been marked. This will provide parents with the most up to date information about what their child needs to do to improve.

**Buntingford Film Festival**

Tickets will be on sale at the school on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. For films being shown during half term.

**Jo Gant**

**Headteacher**

Incl : Reading material  
Educational publications  
Key Detective