



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of
England School

NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 12th May 2017

Diary Dates:

- 17/5/17 Report Feedback Meeting 11am with Mrs Allan**
- 25/5/17 E-Safety Presentation by the Breck Foundation at 6pm**
- 29/5-2/6/17 Half Term**
- 6/6/17 Final Shropshire Payment £75 due**
- 14/6/17 Year 5 Visit Kew Gardens**
- 26/6/17 Inset Day – school closed**
- 28/6/17 Summer Concert**
- 29/6/17 Y5 Parents’ Evening**
- 7/7/17 Action Aid**
- 13/7/17 County Transition Day**
- 14/7/17 Sports Day**
- 20/7/17 Y8 CELEBRATION EVENING**
- 21/7/17 End of Term – School finishes 2:30pm**

School Gateway

The school Gateway issues have now been resolved. Any queries please contact the school office on 01763-271446. Refunds will be made to all who paid for Big Band tickets as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience.

Forecast Letters

Yesterday school meal letters were sent home with your child. Please ensure that all debts are cleared and your child’s account is kept in credit. Thank you.

Medical Appointments

In order to support the Admin Team, if your child has a medical appointment during the school day please write the appointment time in your child’s ROA and ask them to come to the office at the appropriate time. Valuable office time is being lost looking for children who are not ready when parents arrive to collect them.

Reminder Inset Day 26/6/17 – school closed

Class Changes for September.

We are contemplating a change to classes as Year 5 transfer into Year 6 and Year 7 transfer to Year 8. Year 6 data currently tells us that there is an even spread of students and abilities, so only minor changes will be made with both parent and child agreement. Our process will be to consult students on a friend they would like to remain with, but be aware we reserve the right not to put them with that child if they are not good working partners as well as friends. We will shuffle the classes so Year 6 and Year 8 return in September to new form groups. If as a parent you have any concerns about the changes taking place ie Please don’t put my child with..... because, please email your Head of Year before the end of term. New classes will be considered and collated during the first couple of weeks of the term.

E safety presentation from the Breck Foundation – Thursday 25th May 6pm-7pm– message from Mrs Allan

Last term I was invited to my son’s primary school to listen to a presentation given by Lauren Lafave, the founder of the Breck Foundation. Before I went, I already knew the terrifying details of her story. She does not scare-monger, but gives a measured and reasoned delivery of her very personal story. She lived with her young family in a middle class area of Surrey, and although she knew that Breck was being groomed on the internet. She was unable to stop the tragic outcome, and at the end of the presentation I immediately spoke to her and asked if she would come to Edwinstree to give our parents this important message. It is not about stopping your children play games and communicating on line, but it is about how we can, as parents and teachers, ensure that they are doing it safely.

Please spare some time to join us on the evening of Thursday 25th May when Lauren Lafave will be delivering a compelling presentation based around her own experience. She is the mother of Breck Badnar who was a 14 year old boy from Caterham, Surrey, who loved technology and online gaming. He was groomed via the internet and murdered on 17th February 2014 by someone he met online. Lauren has used her own drive to set up the Breck Foundation charity in his memory; its sole purpose it to help other young people who enjoy playing online but, crucially, to be aware of some simple rules to stay safe. This time, it is not suitable for your children to join us and, although she can deliver the message to children, **this evening is aimed at parents and carers only.** We can’t recommend it highly enough if you wish to come please notify the school office via email or telephone by 20th May. The original letter is attached and is also available on our website.

Reports

Just a gentle reminder Mrs Allan would really like to hear your opinions about our parents’ evening and report systems this year. Her second event will take place on Wednesday 17th May at 11am. Thank you to those parents who were unable to attend the first event but emailed instead. We are really keen to hear your views before we shape and complete our end of year reports. Next half term we have one final Parents’ Evening for Year 5 on Wednesday 29/6/17

Uniform

Advanced notice – although no major changes to uniform are planned, we are hoping to wipe out the odd pair of jeans that sneaks into the uniform as school trousers, and/or the increased use of black trainers for September. In order to support your uniform choice, we will be publishing clear photographs of what is and isn’t acceptable before the end of term. None of our choices will be expensive and will not come as a surprise to you. We look forward to seeing the students return in September, smartly dressed, ready and prepared for learning.

Dates for next Academic Year

Please be aware that we will be aligning our end and start dates with Freman College and all our Inset Days will match wherever possible. Our dates for next year align completely and will be available shortly.

Year 6

Year 6 Students were remarkable this week, please take time to read the letter that was sent home today praising their efforts. All year groups were compassionate and considerate around the year group, which was lovely to see.

Jo Gant
Headteacher

Encl: Breck Foundation Letter