

Edwinstree Middle School

A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 24/06/21

Diary Dates

Change to School entry and exit times			
Y8: 8:45am - 2:50pm			
Y7: 8:45am - 2:50pm			
Y6: 8:50pm - 2:55pm			
Y5 8:50am - 2:55pm			
Inset Day - School closed			
Non-uniform Day £1 donation			
for library books			
Y8 Online Parent Consultation for			
Foundation subjects			
County Transition Day - Cancelled			
Y5 Celebration Event – Cancelled			
Y8 Celebration Evening – Cancelled			
End of Term			
Inset Day			
Inset Day			
Induction Day for New Year 5 ONLY			
Autumn Term begins			

Timetable - Week A available on our website: www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

What impact is the new Delta variant having in Hertfordshire and in particular in schools? Following Boris Johnson's recent announcement for the release of lockdown to be delayed, our plan to hold Celebration Events for Year 5 and Year 8 have been cancelled. We will find time during the last week of term to celebrate their year with us. We are all very disappointed that we are unable to share their journey with you.

Following guidance from the Local Authority, Transition Day has been cancelled. Year 8 and Year 4 students have been notified by letter. The Rib Valley Heads will be meeting to agree a programme of support to make the transition process as smooth as possible, despite not being able to visit.

Year 5 - In light of Year 5 Celebration Evening being cancelled, we would still like to celebrate with students. We have a video compilation made of pictures of their achievements and would like to share this online. If you **do not** wish your child to be featured, please email asap at: admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Year 8 - We intend to plan a celebration and awards event in the last two weeks of school.

New School Governors

Many thanks to all those parents that took the trouble to take part in the elections for three new Parent Governors. The successful

candidates were: Tracy Harper, Alan Gardiner and Frazer Willett. We still have a little more process and paperwork to complete before they take up their positions on the Governing Body, but this should all be complete by the end of term. We also had a vacancy for a Foundation Governor (these governors represent the interest of the Diocese and, as such, require their formal approval) and Leeane Young has kindly accepted my invitation to fill this position. Leanne will take the place of Eric Roseman, who has stepped down from this role a little in advance of the end of his term of office. Many thanks to Eric for all that he has done as a Governor. He will be greatly missed. We welcome all four Governors to Edwinstree's Governing Body and thank them for putting themselves forward to take on these important, but hopefully rewarding responsibilities. Full details of all those who sit on the Governing Body will be available on the school's website in due course.

Should we continue testing for Covid?

Yes please, continue to test at home on Wednesday and the weekend and log with the Government it is providing an additional safety check from COVID. The Government has just provided us with access and released the data on which students are testing, which we will now be able to track.

If your child shows any Covid-19 symptoms, please do not send them to school. It is important that you seek a PCR test and do not rely on the LFT as confirmation that they are negative. In the event your child tests positive for Covid-19 or has to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case, please notify the school via: covid@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

As Miss Bustard begins her maternity leave, who will replace her until the end of term?

Instead of History for the remainder the term, Y8 students will be taught by Mrs Van Wyk and members of the PE staff at Freman College. On the following days, students will be having one of their lessons at Freman and will need to wear their PE kit to school. To remain as COVID secure as possible, students will be using the Astro pitch or a classroom that is not being used by Freman students.

8A	Friday	Friday	Friday	
8B	2 nd July	9 th July	16 th July	
8C	Monday 28 th June	Monday 5 th July	Monday 12 th July	Monday 19 th July
8D	Tuesday 29 th June	Tuesday 6 th July	Lesson in school (Freman Inset)	Tuesday 20 th July

As a Christian school we recognise the unique and wonderful in everyone. As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.

Year 7 students will be taught by Mr Higgins, a Humanities teacher, who has been working alongside Miss Bustard for the last three weeks to secure a strong hand over.

Who is swimming next week?

1/7/21 – 7C Fun swim 6/7/21 – 5C Fun swim

We no longer send home paper reply slips. If your child's class has won a fun swim, they will not be able to go unless you have given consent. Please complete the simple form in the link below in order that your child can attend:

https://forms.office.com/r/FzkAPV18eS

We will be setting mini challenges for those classes that have not yet had a swim reward, as we want to provide all students with the opportunity for some fun.

What are we planning for the last week of term?

We are very aware that students have missed a whole range of 'enrichment and memory making' activities this year. All the elements of joy, that enrich a school curriculum and allow students to flourish, have been absent for a very long time. Therefore, during the last week of term, when assessments have been completed, we propose some off-timetable enrichment activities. This will include our normal end of term church walk to Wyddial, in year groups, for an end of term service and a year group sports day. We also plan to take each year group to the seaside for the day. Costings at £12 per person. This decision has been prompted by the fun swims, where we have seen students take real pleasure in just being children. The sound of laughter and joy inspired us to offer everyone this opportunity.

OnInset Day, staff will discuss the end of term arrangements, further details will follow.

What is happening with Summer school?

Invites to the academic summer school from 23/8/21 – 27/8/21 have been sent to the first cohort of students. Further invitations to follow.

Edwinstree Reading Corner

We are looking to relaunch our wonderful school libraries in September. Our current stock of books is looking a bit tired, old and limited so we are looking to run a non-uniform day on Friday $2^{\rm nd}$ July to raise funds in order to buy some lovely new books. Your child can come in dressed in non-uniform, or dressed as their

favourite book character, for a £1 donation. We would also greatly appreciate any further donations to the library fund you would be willing to give, and would recognise your generosity with a dedication in each book your contribution funds.

Thank you to those who were able to complete the reading surveys – the responses have been brilliant and helpful. The link is now fully functional, so it would be much appreciated if you could take the time to complete the survey if you haven't already.

https://forms.office.com/r/ZTcNTgin6S

It's great to see how much you, as parents and guardians, understand the importance of reading and continue to support the school. All donations to the school office – Thank you Miss Bailes and Miss Devonshire

Jo Gant Headteacher

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