



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 3/09/21

Diary Dates

6/9/21	School Day 8:49am – 3:05pm
6/9/21	Autumn Term begins for KS2 Y8 Covid Testing 9:30am-3pm on site
7/9/21	Y7 Covid Testing 9:30am – 3pm on site Y8 Return to school
8/9/21	Y7 return to school

We very much look forward to working with you this year. Please find below a brief set of questions and answers to help students return to school calmly and with confidence.

What are the timings of the school day for the new academic year?

Registration	8:40am
Period 1	8:50am
Period 2	9:50am
Break	10:05am
Period 3	11:05am
Period 4	12:05pm
Lunch	1:05pm
Period 5	1:40pm
Cow	2:40pm
End	3:05pm

All students will exit and enter via the bottom gate at the same time. Any bus students will be escorted to Freeman to collect their bus which will depart after it has picked up Freeman students at 3.15pm.

Where do students exit from – are there still staggered timings?

No staggered timings. All students enter at 8:40am or before, the gate is open from 8:20am for bus students. Year 6 and Year 8 will exit from the bottom gate, Year 5 and Year 7 from the side gate to the park.

Where do students go on their first day of the new academic year?

All students to enter via the bottom gate and should be at school by **8:40am**. They should make their way to the school field to find their marked tutor group number, ie 7A and wait to be collected by their tutor on the first day.

When will enrichment clubs be up and running?

Early next week we will notify you of the enrichment clubs which will commence from the 13th September. Starlight Stars drama club and Film club are outside providers, who offer reduced rates, as we do not charge for our facilities. Please read the attached flyers for details on fees and how to sign up.

Will there be a homework club?

Yes, but this will be by invitation only. During the first term, this will be ring-fenced to PP students who will receive an official invite. The club will be staffed by English and maths teachers.

What homework will there be in the first few weeks?

Homework begins from the 13th September. KS2 is focused on English and Maths. KS3 students, in Year 7 return with just English, Maths, Science and MFL for the first half term. We will move to all subjects from half term onwards. If your child is struggling to complete homework, please contact your Head of Year. We will ask you to make sure that your child has an opportunity to read for 20 minutes at least 5 times a week. Those students that do have a greater vocabulary and communicate well.

We will continue to use 'Show my Homework'. Advice and training on how to set this up on devices for yourself and your child will be available next week. If you do not have a device there are solutions we can provide for your family, further information to follow

Where can I find the Edwinstree uniform list?

A uniform list can be found on our website and a copy is attached for your information. Ties are available from the school office [£5] and PE kit can be ordered online. We have a policy to go outside rain or shine, so always make sure they have something waterproof on a day where rain is forecast. We use the field as much as possible and as the weather changes, we will be asking for an alternative pair of shoes, either wellies for outside or indoor shoes [or slippers]. Please make sure your child's name is clearly marked on all items.

What about PE kit?

Until further notice, students can wear PE kit to school on the days they have PE lessons.

What equipment will students need?

Students can bring their own equipment for learning, a pencil case with pencils, coloured and plain, rubber, pencil sharpener, writing pen blue and black, green pen for corrections, ruler etc.

Students should also bring a water bottle. We have a policy to go outside rain or shine, so always make sure your child has a waterproof coat if wet weather is forecast.

How do we order school lunches?

If your child would like a school lunch, please remember to book online for the first week of term via the school grid. Year 5s should have received an invite to register with school grid, but please be aware there is only a 24 hour window to activate your account. Any questions please contact the school office.

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As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*

When will testing take place for Year 7 and 8?

Thank you for supporting the school to follow the Government guidance about testing for KS3 [Year 7 & Year 8]. Please see timetable below

	Covid Test 1 at school	Covid Test 2 at School	Return to school
Year 8	Wednesday 1 st September 11am – 3pm	Monday 6 th September 9:30am – 3pm	Tuesday 6 th September 8:40am
Year 7	Thursday 2 nd September 9:30am – 3pm	Tuesday 7 th September 9:30am – 3pm	Wednesday 8 th September 8:40am

When does each year group return to school?

We look forward to seeing Year 5 and 6 on Monday, Year 8 on Tuesday once testing is over and Year 7 on Wednesday. Please note there was an error in one of our timetables at the end of term, but from Monday all students are expected to arrive at the normal time of **8.40 am**.

Who should you contact if you have a worry or concern?

The tutor is the first port of call for any worry or concern, no worry is too small. However, as teaching staff do not have access to a phone during the school day we recommend you email. If you email the Admin team, please indicate your child's name and year group.

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

If you have a concern about learning or a more serious problem, we would recommend you contact your child's Head of Year:

Year 5: hoys5@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk - Mrs Kelly

Year 6: hoys6@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk - Mr Kelly

Year 7: hoys7@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk - Mr McCarthy

Year 8: hoys8@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk - Mr Galanides

If you have a vulnerable child and or a SEND need please contact:

learningzone@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

If you have a concern about dinners, Pupil Premium please contact admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

If you have a query or concern regarding 'Show my Homework' please contact: Mrs Heywood on r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

We will always endeavour to respond within 24 hours and will do our utmost to return a query within 48 hours. If you do not get a response, please contact us again.

Year 5 and Year 6 Swimming

Swimming lessons for students in Year 5 and Year 6 will begin post half term, please kindly complete the online swimming ability form for the P E Department, so they are aware of your child's swimming ability – Thank you

<https://forms.office.com/r/ybvxb42fKB>

Jo Gant Headteacher

Film Club
Starlight Stars
Field Map
Uniform List
Covid Guidance

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