



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England
School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 22/03/2019

Diary Dates:

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| 26/3/19 | Bugsy Rehearsal all Cast 3:20pm-4:20pm |
| 25-28/3/19 | Y8 Normandy Residential Visit |
| | 4:45am for 5am departure |
| 27/3/19 | No Basketball club |
| 3/4/19 | Town Council AGM 6:30pm at Edwinstree Plastic Awareness |
| 3/4/19 | Parent Workshop – Sex & Relationships 7pm |
| 3/4/19 | No Basketball Club |
| 4/4/19 | Action Aid Fete |
| 5/4/19 | Easter Service at St Peters |
| 5/4/19 | End of Term 2:30pm |
| 23/4/19 | Summer Term |
| 23/4/19 | School Meal Increases to £2.65 per day |
| 13/5/19 | SATS Week for Year 6 |
| 27-31/5/19 | Half Term |
| w/c 3/6/19 | KS2 Science Assessments |
| 20/6/19 | Bugsy Malone – 7pm-9pm |
| 21/6/19 | Bugsy Malone – 7pm-9pm |
| w/c 24/6/19 | KS3 Science Assessments |
| 26-28/6/19 | Y6 Residential visit to Norfolk |
| 28/6/19 | Inset Day |
| 19/7/19 | End of Term 2:30pm |

How do I report my child's absence?

To report a student absent please use the direct attendance email:

attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Thank you.

No Basketball Club on 27/3 or 3/4/19

Normandy is finally upon us! Just a few final checks before we go.

- Possible roadworks on Station Road on Monday morning. Please be aware of this and plan your trip to school accordingly.
- Ensure that all Euros have been purchased. I believe the Post Office has the best rate.
- So far the weather forecast is looking positive, keep an eye on this over the weekend and pack accordingly.
- Make sure the alarms have been set nice and early - aim to be at school around 4:45am.
- **Please do not park in front of the main gates** as this is where the coaches will be arriving.
- We have several students with severe nut allergies please refrain from packing anything with nuts.
- We will upload pictures and information daily to the Facebook site.
- Any issues, please contact the **school** direct. The hotel should only be contacted in an emergency. Miss Bustard will check Facebook and Facebook Messenger on a regular basis.
- Don't forget to relax and enjoy a bit of peace and quiet.

Miss Bustard, Leader of Faculty (Humanities)

Year 8 Normandy Visit Information:

Can we please remind you that all Year 8s are expected in school on Friday 29/3/19 at 11am if they have been on the visit.

For those not attending Normandy:

We are clear that the expectation is that students attend school as normal. The few Y8 students not attending the visit will also take on a support role working with Y5 & Y6 for the week. Last year, our Year 8 students fed back how much they enjoyed this opportunity to get to know and support the younger year groups. Students' self-esteem and self-worth were boosted by this process, and will also have an opportunity to cover the key learning taking place in Normandy. Students will register in the Music room.

Are you struggling to find the words to answer those difficult questions your child might be posing about relationships and sex?

You may be aware that sex education has now returned as a compulsory part of the national curriculum. All students take part in sex education during the summer term as part of the PSHCE programme. If you would like help and support in how to talk to your child about this topic, we have arranged for an expert to provide advice and guidance. **The workshop is free and will take place on 3/4/19 from 7pm-8:30pm at Edwinstree.** Please contact the school if you would like to attend.

Are you interested in the Town Council's plan to reduce plastic in Buntingford?

Our Town council will be holding their AGM meeting in Edwinstree at 6pm on the 3/4/19 Our students will be presenting their plans to reduce plastic in our school and create eco bricks. Buntingford Town Council will be launching their big plan to get us really thinking about reducing this waste. If you are interested in supporting and or participating in this movement please, attend the hour long session from 6:30pm – 7:30pm. We would love to see you there.

Home Learning Support

Thank you for your support with Home Learning – training our children to be independent learners can sometimes be a tricky journey. Just remember that we are here to help with this: direct your children, before the deadline, to Learning Surgery (every Monday lunchtime in Room 6), Homework Club (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 3:20pm-4:20pm) or to the teacher who set the home learning.

Are you a great baker and available on the 13th April? The French town of Luynes (Buntingford's twin town) have challenged us to a 'bake off'?

We are planning to grow our support and links with the Buntingford's twin town, courtesy of the Buntingford Town Twinning Association. To begin with, we have a variety of French families visiting over the Easter period. A group of these visitors will be attending Edwinstree from 9:30am – to 11:00am to judge a 'bake off' between volunteer families from Edwinstree who will be set a French baking challenge. Baker swill be given, the recipe, the ingredients and then bakers will have one hour to complete the

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challenge. The winning prize will be Easter themed! Do you have crazed bakers in your family who would be willing to take on the challenge? You will need one Edwinstree child and at least one adult or sibling. Please contact the school office for more information.

Are you available to support the last day of term walk to St Peters Church?

If you are available to support us in escorting students to our Easter Service at St Peter's Church on the morning of Friday 5/4/19, please contact the school office for more information.

How can I help my child in Year 7 prepare for the Action Aid day and PSHCEE lessons?

Edwinstree have been supporting Action Aid for about 35 years and have sponsored many children, mainly from India. We have raised almost £30,000 during this time and we currently sponsor a boy and a girl from the country of Myanmar. Their names are Min Khant Soe and Thu Zar Maw. To assist Mr Galanides and Year 7 with this fantastic endeavour, over the next couple of weeks we will use our Year 7 PSHCEE lessons to gather ideas for stalls, resources and make posters etc. As always, we appreciate any help our parents can give and, in this instance, please don't be surprised if your child(ren) come home and raid your shoe cupboard for the 'Welly' throwing stall or start squirrelling away your make-up for the face-painting stall! In all seriousness, any craft donations for activities or sweets for prizes will be gratefully received and, in this way, we will be able to maximise our donations to Action Aid. Nearer the time, we will also be asking for donations of cakes for the cake stall from our fantastic bakers. Thank you in advance for all your support. Any queries, please contact Mr Galanides or Mrs Keohane via the school office or through the ROA as normal. Action Aid will take place on Thursday 4th April and all donations should be delivered on the morning, including any cakes!

Starlight Stars Drama Club

Congratulations to all the children that took their LAMDA Acting Exams last Saturday. We would like to invite parents to watch some of the examination work on Monday 1st April at 4pm in the school hall. The usual drama class will take place at the usual time for the students to prepare. We look forward to seeing you.

Inspiring Stars Team 01763-287691 inspiring@examstars.co.uk

Year 5/6 Science with Miss Ealet

(5C, 5P, 6J and 6W) will be conducting a space research project in science whilst Miss Ealet is supporting the Year 8 visit to Normandy next week; part of this project includes creating an alien using a variety of materials.

If you have any of these materials at home that you don't use and don't mind sharing, it would be very helpful. This is a good opportunity to re-use some plastic as well!

- 2L soda bottles
- Paper plates

- Balloons
- Googly eyes
- Fabric
- Egg cartons
- Old, clean jars
- Construction paper
- Cotton batting or stuffing
- Socks
- Buttons
- Wax paper
- Tin foil
- Plastic wrap
- Cardboard boxes
- Paper towel tubes

Thank you for your support!

Year 7 Update and what is happening next week

Due to the Normandy visit, Year 7 have a few supply lessons next week. In order to support them, Mrs Gant will be taking groups of classes to explore a Geography challenge. Can they compete with the street children of Myanmar? Students will be exploring what life is like for many children in poverty in Myanmar. This relates to their Action Aid fund raising for two children from Myanmar. Students will compete by experiencing what it is like to work in the informal sector, and modelling how to build a shanty town house in a slum area of Myanmar. To do this, they will need to bring in any old newspapers for their first lesson with Mrs Gant and any cardboard, plastic or cleaned rubbish that could be modelled into a small basic model hut. Please note they will not be given any glue or scissors to create this task, so they will also need to be inventive as to how they will tie their rubbish together. Attached below are the times and dates when they will need each item. **Information attached with Newsletter**

UK Maths Challenge

Four Year 8 children took part in the Regional Final of the UK Mathematics Trust competition, Maths Challenge. This was held in the Mathematical Institute at Cambridge University. Ben, Isaac, Sophie and Sam were incredible as they competed against the best mathematicians in the region, against teams that were older than themselves.



Some of the questions were completely mind-bending but here are two more straightforward questions for you to try:

1. How many minutes were there from 19:20 on Monday 9 January 2019, to 20:19 on Tuesday 10 January 2019?

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2. Five positive integers have mean 7, mode 8 and range 14. One of the integers is 3. What is the product of the five integers?

Mr Galanides

Year 8 Transition

Please note attached is a letter with regard to early transition, notifying all parents of our process. If you have already alerted us to the fact that your child will need additional support, you should have received a letter from us about the fact the process will begin post Easter.

FilmMakers Club

The term commences after the Easter break & runs for 10 weeks. We focus on confidence, script writing, planning costumes and planning the set. Spaces are limited to 14. Please **contact Gillian on 07341305131 or to book, visit the website www.northhertsyoungfilmmakersclub.webstarts.com**.

School Production – ‘Bugsy Malone’

Rehearsal on 26/3/19 is for the whole cast from 3:20pm to 4:20pm.

Music news

Thank you to those who came to support the concert this week. Our students were a real credit to themselves and the school and it is really good to see Year 8s taking a lead in ensemble performances - well done to everyone involved!

The last choir rehearsal for this term will be on **Thursday 28th March**. The last orchestra rehearsal will be on **Friday 29th March**.

Alongside the Summer Concert, we are looking to give students who learn an instrument in school, the opportunity to perform to their parents. This inclusion into one concert would be a marathon, so we are looking to have different instruments performing on different evenings. Further information after Easter.
MrRowlands, Head of Expressive Arts

Jo Gant

Headteacher

Timetables

Film Club info

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