Edwinstree Middle School

Voluntary Controlled Church of England School

Headteacher: J Gant

2nd July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7 Visit to Felixstowe – Wednesday 21st July 2021

We are hoping to offer a variety of fun activities for students to make some happy memories during the last week of term.

We are very conscious that your child has not had the opportunities they would normally have been able to take part in at Edwinstree, for example a school production, orchestra, fullness days, sporting competitions, House competitions and educational visits.

However, we have been inspired and motivated to try to put some fun activities into their last week of term and this week's newsletter will outline what that might look like. As part of the week's events, we are planning to take each year group on a day visit to Felixstowe, Suffolk.

Students will have the opportunity to spend time on the beach and the sand dunes. They will be able to crab, swim/paddle and take part in a variety of games. They will also have an opportunity to visit the park and buy an ice cream at the outdoor vending area.

I have chosen Felixstowe as I know this area very well, having visited at weekends for over 45 years. I am also confident that other schools will not be visiting this area, which minimises the risk of mixing and as students are outdoors for the day.

The cost of the trip is £15 and this will need to be paid to the school **by Friday 9th July 2021**. We would prefer all payments to be made via School Gateway, however, we will accept cash via the school office. We would like to make sure that all students can take part in this trip. If you are a Pupil Premium family and/or struggling to make this payment, please contact Mrs Grainger in the school office or email n.grainger@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Students do not need to wear school uniform, but will need to bring the following:

- A waterproof jacket - we will be outside come rain or shine
- A packed lunch with drinks
- Money for an ice cream and a drink (We would recommend no more than £10)
- Sun cream, hat and sunglasses if the sun comes out!
- Swimming costume (optional) and towel
- If your child has a bucket and spade they can bring it with them

Please note; we will provide the nets for crabbing.

We will depart Edwinstree at 8:45am to arrive in Felixstowe at approximately 10:30am, traffic permitting. We plan to return to school at 4:00pm, parents will need to collect students from school unless your child walks home. Those that travel by school transport should make alternative arrangements. We will parent mail our progress on the journey home in order to alert you of our progress.

Norfolk Road : Buntingford : Hertfordshire : SG9 9AW
T: 01763 -271446 F: 01763–274005 E: admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk W: www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

School Games Silver 2016/17
Bronze Eco-Schools Bronze Award
North East Herts School Sport Partnership
Healthy School

Please note that, if a student is facing an exclusion or exhibiting poor behaviour, up to and including the date of the visit, we reserve the right to exclude them from the visit with no financial recourse.

What about the risk of COVID?
In carrying out a Risk Assessment, our two main risks are the students on the coach and access to the beach side facilities. We have made sure that we have extra seating and all windows will be open on the coach whilst travelling. There will be four coaches and students will travel in their class bubble. Once at Felixstowe pupils will be outside close to the nature reserve on dedicated beaches.

Is this wise with a COVID case in school?
Students spend a significant time seated together in class, so travelling on a coach poses the same risk as at school. We have spoken to the County Advisor for school visits, who confirmed we could go ahead with our planned event. We think that providing your child with a memory of the seaside with their friends is important. Our students have missed out on so many opportunities to make memories during their last year with us, we think that giving them the opportunity to explore the beach side activities is important.

In the event we have further cases of COVID-19 this trip will be cancelled and your money will be refunded.

Please complete and return the attached consent slip (and a medical MED1 form if necessary) by **Friday 9th July 2021**.

Yours sincerely

Jo Gant
Headteacher

Please return to the school office by Friday 9th July 2021

REPLY SLIP

Year 7 Visit – Wednesday 21st July 2021
Felixstowe, Suffolk

Name: ..... Tutor Group: .....

I wish for my child to take part in the school visit described on the attached letter, and having read the information, agree to them taking part in the activities described. I accept that for safety and security reasons electrical items, including mobile phones and computer games may not be brought on the visit.

☐ I have paid £15.00 via the School Gateway

☐ I enclose £15.00 cash payment

☐ I will collect my child from school ☐ My child will walk home from school

I consent to any emergency treatment, including the use of anaesthetics, necessary during the course of the event. I accept that no mobile devices are permitted on any educational visit.

Signed: ..... (Parent/Carer) Date: .....

I would like to volunteer as a helper on the visit:

Name : ..... Telephone No: .....