



Diary Dates:

- 14/12/16 **Christmas Concert – 6pm-7:30pm**
- 15/12/16 **Christmas Concert – 4:30pm-6pm**
- 16/12/16 **Christmas Jumper Day**
- 21/12/16 **Pupils’ Christmas Dinner**
- 21/12/16 **End of Term 2:30pm finish**
2017
- 4/1/17 **Inset Day**
- 5/1/17 **Pupils return to school**
- 9 & 16/1/17 **Y5 Parents’ Evening: 12:15pm-4:30pm**
One to One appointments
- 19 & 26/1/17 **Y6 Parents’ Evening 12:15pm-4:30pm**
One to One appointments – 15 minutes
- 2/2/17 **Y7 Parents’ Evening Eng/Maths/Sci**
only 3:45pm-6:30pm
- 7/2/17 **Y7 Parents’ Evening Eng/Maths/Sci**
only 3:45pm-6:30pm
- 2/3/17 **Y8 Parents’ Evening 3:45pm-6:30pm**
All subjects
- 14/3/17 **Y6 Parents’ Feedback Meeting - Eng &**
Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm
- 21/3/17 **Y6 Parents’ Feedback Meeting - Eng &**
Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm
- 27-30/3/17 **Normandy Visit**

We are currently recruiting for an LSA or HLSA to support Maths and English intervention. Please contact the school office for further details.

Snow Days and Closure

What do we think about when making this decision and how will you be informed as a Parent if we have to close?

As a Head and Governing Body we have to consider the following:

- How safe is the site and if unsafe, how long will it take to clear the site?
- How safe are the access routes to school and how quickly can they be cleared?
- How many of our staff are able to get to school?

In the event of significant snowfall and disruption the Edwinstree site staff and SLT team are alerted. Key staff will be contacted by 6:30am to assess the situation and, wherever possible, the bus companies. Local Heads will be consulted in order to make a decision to close. We commit to alerting you to closure at the latest by 7:30am via the Website and Parentmail once we have exhausted avenues to keep the school operational.

Year 8 Parents’ Evening.

We are looking forward to meeting with parents tonight at the parents’ meeting. Just a gentle reminder that the subject meetings in Year 8 and Year 7 are to see subject teachers, and not the tutor or the Heads of Year. We are happy to arrange another time for you to meet with either the tutor or the Head of Year. We welcome feedback about the evening from you in the parents’ questionnaire.

Data Reports

Data reports will be with you before the end of the Year. Year 6 students will be receiving additional

information from English and Maths on how they can support their child at home with the learning that is taking place in class.

Year 8 Parents’ Evening will be reporting back on the progress of students to date and will show in the December Data Report

Homework

Since changing our Homework Policy and moving to English and Maths for Year 5 and Year 6 and a two weekly timetable for foundation subjects in Year 7 and Year 8, as well as weekly Maths, English and MFL, we have noticed that the number of students completing homework has reduced in our upper year groups. We are also experiencing a higher rate of planners being signed without students completing the homework. Can we please ask for your help? Please make sure you are familiar with the new timetables which we have republished with this letter. Please make sure students show you their homework and don’t tell you that it is completed without you seeing it. In the next two weeks, we will be vigilantly logging every incident of no homework- to ascertain exactly how many students have slipped into this category.

Thank you for all the support you can give.

Year 7 Catch Up

As requested by Parents, we have commissioned two different tutors to support a ‘catch up’ programme for the year, which will begin in the new year. (I was hoping to get this operational prior to Christmas but the securing of tutors has taken more time than anticipated).

Students will be prioritised on the basis of their exam results last year, but will be targeted for various interventions, depending on their need. The tests they sit in English and Maths lessons next week are SAT exams, and this will also support our understanding of what students still need to address. Students will be selected for the appropriate intervention and you will be notified formally before Christmas of the first tranche of students.

Literacy interventions are currently scheduled for Saturdays. Maths interventions are scheduled for 8am-9am and 3pm-4pm during the week. Sessions will be by invitation only, however if a child fails to attend they will forfeit their place and it will be offered to the next student in line.

Christmas Concert

Concert tickets go on sale to the whole school from Monday 5/12/16 and the allocation is 2 tickets per family. Please send the cash in an envelope clearly marked with your child’s name to the school office. Thank you.

Jo Gant
Headteacher

Incl HW Timetables

V Hayward – Children in Need article