



## Edwinstree Middle School

A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School

### NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS

Week Ending: 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017

#### Diary Dates:

14/6/17	Year 5 Visit Kew Gardens
23/6/17	Winston Churchill Day
26/6/17	Inset Day – school closed
28/6/17	Summer Concert
29/6/17	Y5 Parents' Evening
30/6/17	Galactus Jack workshop
7/7/17	Action Aid
11/7/17	Y5 Whipsnade Zoo visit
12/7/17	Scarecrow Festival 3:30pm-4:30pm
13/7/17	County Transition Day
13/7/17	Y8 Visit Airspace - 6pm-7pm
14/7/17	Sports Day
14/7/17	Scarecrow Festival 3:30- 4:30pm
20/7/17	Y8 CELEBRATION EVENING
21/7/17	End of Term – School finishes 2:30pm

#### Collective Worship this half term.

Students have reflected this week on the birth of the Gospel with the Christian events of Ascension and Pentecost. We have also considered what is our faith and is it challenged by the terrorist events. Our conclusions brought us back to blind faith which is not a faith. We celebrated the Ariana concert and focused on the Black Eyed Peas performance of 'One love'. We talked about their faith and how the song promotes this. We concluded with the belief that Ariana using faith, was able to create a concert that brought Manchester together and celebrated Love not Hate even after such an awful event.

For the remainder of the term, each tutor group will be contributing to the Collective Worship by presenting their understanding of each of our key Christian values listed below and giving examples of individuals that exemplify this value:

<b>Reverence</b>	<b>Peace</b>
<b>Wisdom</b>	<b>Forgiveness</b>
<b>Thankfulness</b>	<b>Friendship</b>
<b>Humility</b>	<b>Justice</b>
<b>Endurance</b>	<b>Hope</b>
<b>Service</b>	<b>Creation</b>
<b>Compassion</b>	<b>Koinonia</b>
<b>Trust</b>	

If you know your child is presenting in COWO and you would like to come and celebrate with us, please contact the school office on 01763-271446 or email [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk) to book a seat. Our modern day hymns that we have selected this term are 'Human' – without a faith we are only human and Blacked Eyed Peas – 'Where is the love?' Tutor groups will be selecting traditional hymns that support their value to accompany modern day selections.

#### Breck Foundation Presentation feedback

Thank you to those Parents who stopped on the night and or took time via email to give us feedback on the talk about internet safety and Breck's compelling story. Many of you have requested that we offer students the opportunity to hear the watered down

version and we are currently making arrangements with the charity for a date to offer this opportunity to Year 7 and Year 8. There is a waiting list, but we will book them in. We may ask for a £1 support fee as this was not costed in our academic year budget. Thank you in advance if you are willing to support this.

#### LA Review

A half day LA Review took place this week. As the previous September, November and January and February reviews have concentrated predominantly on our core subjects of English and Maths. The observations this time involved all the foundation (other subjects) and not our core. A summary of results will be with you in due course.

Please be aware we are due a Church of England SIAMS inspection that takes place every 5 years. We will be inspected on the following areas:

- How well does the school, through its distinctive Christian character, meet the needs of all learners?
- What is the impact of Collective Worship on the school community?
- How effective is the leadership and management of the school as a church school?

We will be given a week's- notice and will, as always inform you of when they arrive and share the outcomes.

#### Year 5 Educational Visit to Kew Gardens 14/1/17

In light of the latest terrorist attacks we have followed County and National advice and reviewed the risks of the Year 5 Educational visit to Kew, and we have made the decision to go ahead with the visit. On the day students must be at school at 8:40am to depart prompt at 9am. Expected return to Edwinstree is 4:30pm. Students not going on the visit will be expected to be in school as normal.

#### Year 8 Airspace Event

Mr Carter and the Year 8 team have booked an evening at the Airspace trampoline park in Stevenage on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July from 6-7pm. This is on a reward basis for students who have demonstrated a safe, caring and positive attitude throughout the year. As a potentially large group, Airspace have given Edwinstree a discounted price of £10 per student, which also includes the socks. This £10 payment is unfortunately non-refundable and Mr Carter urges parents to discuss with their children what the terms and conditions are for the evening before paying the deposit. All students are aware this rewards evening is based on good behaviour. A letter will follow after half term, illustrating the evening in more detail. This is an extra event and not to be mistaken for the Year 8 Celebration evening on 20/7/17.

#### Rounders Festival 15/6/17 at Freman College

Freman will be hosting the annual Rounders Festival on 15/6/17, this involves up to 350 children from years 3 – 6 from across Puckeridge, Buntingford and Royston visiting Freman in the afternoon. The event is due to finish at 4pm, but often parents come to watch throughout the afternoon. If you collect your child by

*Our faith supports each individual to flourish and challenges us to live life in all its fullness*

car, and please arrange to meet your child further away from school, either on Ermine Street or in Sainsbury's car park which is free after 3pm. Please be aware the road will be very busy and allow more time. Thank you in advance for your help and patience with this.

### **Lea House Rewards -2pm-3pm**

**22<sup>nd</sup> June Lea House - Year 5 and Year 6**

**29<sup>th</sup> June Lea House - Year 7 and Year 8**

As part of our house rewards system, this half term Lea house students will have the opportunity to have a fun swim at Freman pool or an afternoon sporting activity. Letters will be sent home shortly so please complete and return the reply slip in order that your child can take part in the activity of their choice. On the day please ensure your child has the appropriate sporting equipment.

### **Christian Values Art Project**



As Edwinstree is a Christian school we wanted our best art students to work on a project to celebrate our Christian values. There are fifteen values which are: Peace, Hope, Forgiveness, Humility, Compassion, Reverence, Thankfulness, Trust, Endurance, Creation, Wisdom, Koinonia, Justice, Friendship and Service. The Artwork will be up in the hall for each class assembly – Lois Melvin

### **Scarecrow Festival 12/7/17**

Students will be invited to make a competition scarecrow which will be displayed in the school grounds from 12/7/17 until 14/7/17 and parents will be invited to view exhibits from 3:30pm to 4:30pm on both days.

### **Winston Churchill Day**

During the Christian celebration of Epiphany we spent our time in Collective worship considering whether Jesus is a role model for 21<sup>st</sup> century boys and men? We spent time considering other role models of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. From every famous male role model considered, we learnt that their ability to communicate was important.

During this period of reflection Robbie Burns day took place and Ms Pike lead a discussion on these celebrations. We decided as a school that this year, we would like to celebrate an English male champion and students were able to volunteer suggestions and the most votes came in for Winston Churchill. (Please note next year we will celebrate a female role model) All students were offered the opportunity of planning the day and a small group have been working with us since April planning the event. There theme is to take

children back to the time when Winston was recognised as a hero during the Second World War, to try to experience and study life for a child in school during this time. They have planned the following for the Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of June:

- A series of lessons period 1 – 4 exploring different themes and experiences for children during World War II.
- A house competition to find the winners of the Edwinstree 1940's 'Come Dancing' competition.
- A Street party (playground) in which we hope you forgive us but, students are allowed to bring in 1940's style sweets and they will be provided with a list of acceptable sweets
- A competition to provide the best Victoria Sponge cake.

Students will have the option of coming in 1940's dress, school uniform or their own choice of non-uniform. In order to raise funds for this year's chosen charity – Teenage Cancer we ask for a voluntary donation of £1.

**Jo Gant**  
**Headteacher**

Encl:

*Our faith supports each individual to flourish and challenges us to live life in all its fullness*