



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 25/2/2022

Diary Dates – Week A

School day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
28/2/22	Y6 Mock SATS week
28/2/22	6A Fun swim
4/3/22	World Book Day
7/3/22	6D Fun swim
14/3/22	5D Fun swim
14/3/22	Y6 Lancaster Model
15/3/22	Y6 Lancaster Model
24/3/22	Year 5 Science visit
25/3/22	Y8 Thorpe Park visit
9- 12/5/22	Y6 SATS week
24/6/22	Occasional Day
27/6/22	Day in lieu of Queen's Jubilee

What is the latest COVID update?

Last night, we finally received notification from Public Health that we are no longer an Outbreak school. The one exception is 6D currently have two cases. Until posting negative results, 6D will be asked to eat their lunch in their classroom rather than the hall. We can now make the following changes:

- Students are no longer required to wear masks, but can continue to if they wish. This includes no masks on public transport.
- We can release segregation of students so that they can eat lunch together in the hall, this will begin next week.
- Students no longer required to complete mandatory testing twice a week.
- Staff or students who test positive for Covid will no longer be legally required to self-isolate but are still advised to stay at home and avoid contact with others for at least five full days.
- Routine contact tracing will end, so fully vaccinated close contacts and those under 18 will no longer be legally required to test daily for seven days

What measures continue?

Schools continue to be advised to mitigate against the likelihood of students and staff getting COVID by making sure that we promote:

- Good hygiene for everyone with a focus on hand washing and respiratory hygiene – 'catch it and bin it!'
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated
- Continue to follow all Public Health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases.

After the 24th February can COVID measures be stepped up?

Yes. If our numbers were to increase we would be expected to consult with Public Health and all measures can revert to an Outbreak plan level. ie masks return.

Have the children been told about the changes?

Yes, students were informed today, but as it was a busy Fullness Day, we will take them through the changes again on Monday morning.

How do I report my child absent?

To report your child absent for all other reasons other than COVID, please email:

attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

If your child tests positive for COVID, please email: covid@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Year 5 Educational visit

Today, you should have received a Parentmail inviting your year 5 child to attend a visit to the Science Museum. This letter can be found on our website under the Parent tab 'Letters home' page.

Year 5 'Get Playing' - Hertfordshire Music Service

Further details will be sent out for parents. Those parents who signed their child up for music lessons will receive an email with further details next week.

What happened to the Year 5 Musical Theatre?

Unfortunately, due to the company staff being struck down with COVID they postponed their visit and will reschedule once all clear of symptoms.

Year 6 Mock SATs week – How can you support your child?

Next week, our Year 6 students take their mock SAT tests. We will be using this opportunity to give them a trial run of the day. Please ensure your child has a good, early night's sleep, free from interruptions from devices and other technology that might impede their wellbeing and performance, for the duration of the week. Please ensure that your child arrives at school by 8:30am so they can have their 'power snack' in the hall and have some time to chat with their friends before we settle them and take them to their classrooms. The exams will take place first thing in the morning and be over by break time. Attached is a copy of their mock timetable.

*As a Christian school we recognise the unique and wonderful in everyone.
As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*

Finally, please take some time to allay any concerns or anxieties they may have about the tests and support us by repeating our mantra, *'It's just a test, don't be stressed, just relax and do your best'*.

Year 8 educational visit to Thorpe Park

Today, you should have received a Parentmail inviting your Year 8 child to attend a visit to Thorpe Park. This letter can be found on our website under the Parent tab 'Letters home' page.

Year 8 Fullness Day

We are sorry that the simulation game we had booked for Year 8 students did not go ahead today. This was due to significant ICT issues from both ends and the children were unable to access it. However, students learnt about:

- How our food contributes to greenhouse gases and what we can do
- How the school will be moving to zero food waste with tiger worms
- Upcycling and the impact fashion can have on our environment

We raised a total of £320.46! Thank you for your support.

Can you help us with a Year 8 Physical Education Survey?

Miss Petts is currently completing an educational course, and as part of this study, she is required to undertake a survey on Year 8 physical education lessons. The online survey will take part during an ICT lesson, but as we require parental consent for students take part. Please kindly complete the online consent form – Thank you

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

Will we be celebrating World Book Day?

Edwinstree will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 4th March 2022. We invite all students and staff to join us by dressing up as their favourite book character and donating £1 towards improving our school libraries. Please note, if your child does not wish to take part they are welcome to attend in uniform. There will be fun activities for both KS2 and KS3 based on your book character, so please come into school prepared to talk about your character!

Will HCC School Meals increase in the new financial year?

As from the 1st April 2022 school meal prices will increase to £2.80 per day. Please ensure

your child's meal is booked before 8:55am daily. If your child is unwell, please cancel the booked

meal for the day as you will still be charged. Herts Catering Limited is a Nut Free service; however, if your child has any other allergy please register this directly with HCL using the following link: <https://hcl.co.uk/allergy-overview>

Which class have won a fun swim?

Due to Ward Freman Pool making a double booking, the date for the fun swim for 6A has changed:

6A – Monday 28/2/22

5D – Monday 07/3/22

6D – Monday 14/3/22

Please complete the online consent form in order that your child can take part in the event – Thank you. We hope that every class will have an opportunity for a swim.

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

Jo Gant
Headteacher

*As a Christian school we recognise the unique and wonderful in everyone.
As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*