



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 28/01/2022

Diary Dates

| School day – 8:40am – 3:05pm | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 2/2/22 | Y6 SATS Teams Meeting with Parents at 5:30pm |
| 9/2/22 | KS3 2 nd Covid Vaccine - Pfizer |
| 10/2/22 | Y8 Wellbeing Day |
| 11/2/22 | Fullness Day COP26 – Non-uniform optional |
| 14-18/2/22 | Half Term |
| 22/2/22 | Year 8 Foundation Subjects Virtual Parent Consultation 4pm-7pm |
| 28/2/22 | Y6 Mock SATS week |
| 14/3/22 | Y6 Lancaster Model |
| 15/3/22 | Y6 Lancaster Model |
| 9- 12/5/22 | Y6 SATS week |
| 24/6/22 | Occasional Day |
| 27/6/22 | Occasional Day |

What is the latest COVID update? Testing kits were delivered this week and have been given to children in Year 7 and 8. Please continue to support us to keep the school open by making sure your child tests on a Wednesday and at the weekend. Please notify us via covid@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk if your child tests positive. Absence: attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk#

When are the next Covid-19 vaccinations taking place? We have received notification from the NHS Immunisation team that the second Covid-19 vaccination for **Year 8 [and children aged 12 and above]** will take place on 9/2/22. They have confirmed it will be a Pfizer vaccine. Attached is a letter from the Immunisation Team giving details about the vaccine and a link to the consent form. To complete the electronic form you will need this **unique code number EE117554** which identifies your child's school. The electronic link will close at **Noon on February 08, 2022**. Should you have any questions, please contact the office.

Why are the police outside Edwinstree school in the morning?

The police have been supporting the community and school to make sure that parents are not parking on yellow lines or at the entrance to the school. These areas are strictly for buses and not cars. The team of community police officers have been talking to parents, and one or two have said that I have said it is ok to park on these lines. I would like to clarify, I think I am guilty of waving and welcoming parents and students who have parked up last minute to get to school. My main priority is to get them in school calmly, however, I will remind you again in newsletters and when I am on duty, but please be aware, I have no statutory power to change the yellow lines! They are in place to make it safer for children to cross the road, please respect this.

Please remember, the car park is free for an hour and a half, and using it reduces the traffic in Bowling Green Lane and makes it safer for our community. Your children

can walk to and from the car park as we are always there to support them.

Edwinstree's first mini police community group will be working with the police officers on Thursday night and one of their projects is road safety, speeding and parking. Over the next two weeks you will see students working with the officers to record speeds, traffic and illegal parking.

Year 6 SATS update

We would like to invite you to a Teams meeting to update you on our Journey to SATs. The meeting will be held via teams on Wednesday 2nd February 2022 at 5.30pm. Please follow the link to join the meeting:

[Click here to join the meeting.](#)

As part of the meeting we will advise you how we are changing the way we timetable maths, to include one additional lesson a week and ensure that maths is always taught in the morning. We will also be regrouping maths lessons so all Y6 maths lessons take part at the same time. We will place five teachers into the classes in order to reduce class sizes. Our groupings will be based on their current need, which ranges from secure in the Year 6 curriculum and looking to push to potential greater depth, to very insecure and a need to revisit the Year 5 and Year 4 curriculum. Parents will be notified of their child's new class and timetable before the end of term. The new groupings have been based around the students' responses to weekly low stake tests and the larger SATs papers they sat before Christmas and at the beginning of January.

If you have any questions regarding the specifics of English (reading or grammar, punctuation and spelling) or maths, please use the following link to ask those questions ahead of the meeting: <https://forms.office.com/r/BQ0RnpU156>

We would also like to extend our plea for parent volunteers for the weeks of the final Mocks from Mon 28th Feb - 4th March at 8:45am- 10:50am and for the real SATs, from Mon 9th - Thu 12th May 8:45am-10:50am. Please email Miss Devonshire via k.devonshire@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk if you have capacity to support students during this time. Many thanks to those who have already volunteered.

Year 8 Wellbeing Day - Thursday 10/2/22

As part of 'Feeling Good' week and we will hold a Year 8 Wellbeing Day. This will involve sessions on:

- Laughter Yoga presented by an external yogi (☺)
- Food tasting and healthy eating
- A lesson on self-acceptance
- Positive body image

On the day, students will be encouraged to express their positive body image by wearing clothing and make-up (if they wish) that makes them feel positive about themselves. Students who do not wish to take part in this event will have the option to opt out and continue to wear school

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uniform. They will be taking part in a yoga lesson so their clothing will need to be flexible. Further information to follow.

Y6 Religious Education

In two weeks', students will be starting the unit of "Salvation". Within this unit we look at death and how Christians respond to it, this includes watching a short video clip of a Christian funeral taking place. If you have any questions about the unit please contact the Head of RE- Mrs Kelly at hoys5@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

What is our Fullness Day about on Friday 11th February?

The postponed Cop 26 climate change day will take place at the end of term. This has been designed by our lead environmental team at the school. Students will be invited to wear non-school uniform,[non-uniform is optional] with a £1 voluntary contribution to the National Trust.

KS2 Students will learn about climate change, but as KS3 students have already covered this topic, their first session will focus on reducing carbon emissions around the world.

Other topics covered will be climate friendly food, upcycling clothing and the damage that some clothing products can have on our Climate and Environment.

Finally, we will discuss ways in which we as individuals, can all make a small difference with significant impact. They will vote on how Edwinstree can improve its carbon footprint.

Students will be asked to bring in an old tea shirt and provided with resources to upcycle and the clothing will be donated to a local charity shop. They will compete in a House competition to see how many upcycled pieces of clothing are accepted and placed on sale in the shop!

We plan to hold a cake sale to raise additional funds and will provide students with some climate friendly recipes for cakes and biscuits. A cake sale is always well received by students and they will be given all the details about Fullness Day next week. However, it is ok if your child does not wish to participate in the non-school uniform day.

What are our snow procedures?

Please kindly complete the online form, as we need your consent to release your child from school and the named designated person to collect them in the event of a snow emergency! Thank you to those parents who have already provided the required information. We are almost there just a few to go!

[Snow Procedure online form](#)

Jo Gant
Headteacher
NHS Letter

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