



**Edwinstree Middle School**  
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School  
**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS**  
**Week Ending: 01/07/2022**

**Diary Dates – Week B**

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
4/7/22	Online Safety talk Sessions KS2, KS3, Parents
5/7/22	Fullness Day (non-uniform – ideally clothing that represents a different culture or your own culture £1 donation to support the cost of the steel band who are coming into school to present and work with the children on the day)
5/7/22	Yr6 Parent Consultation Science & Foundation Subjects 4-6pm
7/7/22	Pirates of the Curry Bean Production
8/7/22	Yr6 Local Field Trip (in place of Felixstowe visit) They will need a picnic lunch and will have normal lessons in the morning and then out in the local area, create a natural dam in a river – please provide a towel and clothing and shoes you don't mind getting wet.
11/7/22	Yr8 visit Felixstowe – please see accompanying letter
12/7/22	Sports Day – timetable out next week. Parents welcome for picnic lunch and the athletics events.
13/7/22	Yr6 Theatre Trip to see Wicked
14/7/22	County Transition Day – year 8 go up to Freman for the day
15/7/22	Yr8 Camping Sleepover – letter out on Monday.
22/7/22	End of term 1:20pm finish - Service to be confirmed with the new Reverend.
28-30/9/22	3 Day Residential Trip for Yr7

**Who has visited us this week?**

Year 5 and 6 were treated to a show by Image Musical Theatre on Tuesday morning. This interactive experience allowed them to get to the heart of the story, and enabled everyone to be involved. The production will offer a review writing opportunity in English lessons, giving a valuable opportunity to critique and celebrate each other's' performances.

On Tuesday, The Gideon bible team came in for their annual visit, to distribute their bible to the year 7 students in COWO. They wrote back to us to congratulate the year 7's on their behaviour and politeness.

**Why are we extra proud of Year 5 and 7 after last week?**

Thank you again to all the parents who continue to support our trips out. We spent two terrific days with the students in Felixstowe and were delighted on both days to have a number of kiosks, pier and general public stop to comment on how lovely our students were, and how polite and caring.

**What is happening towards the end of term?**

We now begin an even busier period than normal in July with lots of events taking place over the coming weeks, below is a summary to keep you informed.

*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.*

We are preparing all students for each event in advance, and in tutor morning slots. The learning Zone will also prep our more vulnerable students so that they are clear before each event. If you have any concerns please contact the learning zone by emailing [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

**What whole school events are taking place next week?**

**How can I support my child to be safe and secure online?**

**4<sup>th</sup> of July talks:**

We have invited in an independent online safety expert, Karl Hopwood, to talk to our students and parents about online safety. There will be a session for KS2 students and a separate session for KS3 students. Although we haven't finalised the exact content it is likely to include the following:

- The importance of thinking carefully about what you post.
- Who am I talking to online and why does this matter?
- Fake news and mis/disinformation online.
- Scams – how to spot them and how to deal with them.
- Cyberbullying – what to do if it happens and the importance of being an upstander as opposed to a bystander.
- Issues around screen time.
- Should I report concerns and how do I do it?

At the moment we have a limited response to the Parent session. We have sent reminders, but have now extended our invite to Parents of local schools. Parents are invited into the school between 5.30-6.30pm to attend a talk based around keeping your child safe on the internet. If you wish to attend, please complete the following form <https://forms.office.com/r/CypSkUB4EL>

**Fullness Day – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July**

Our Dynamic Diversity group will be hosting a Fullness day on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> of July – we will be asking students to contribute £1 to help support the steel band that is coming to the school for the afternoon. Thank you for your support with this. If the students can come to school in something that represents a different culture or their own culture that would be great. If they do not want to dress up, then they can come in general non-uniform.

During the day, students will follow their normal timetable but will have lessons on our BAME community's history, sporting achievements, food, art and culture. They will also have an opportunity to experience a steel band. The £1 supports the cost of the steel band experience. We are really proud that our BAME students have a voice and are growing in confidence about their wonderful and diverse communities.

### **Pirates of the Curry Bean performance**

#### **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of July pm**

One night only! Parents of cast members have been sent a Parentmail to secure tickets for the performance. Tickets are free. The ESA will be providing refreshments on site at the interval and you will be able to donate to future performances. Start time 6 pm estimated finish 8-8.30pm.

#### **Water Fun Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of July**

Students have requested some water fun. It looks hot on Friday of next week, so we will move students into PE kit, if the weather forecast continues to predict this, we will notify you next week. We have devised what we feel is a reasonably sustainable way to have water fun, with each year group having a bin of water and a series of sponges to play with. There will be year group zones for this at lunch time. Students do not have to take part, if they do, we are recommending a towel and a change of top. We will Parentmail you next week if the weather is good enough for this to go ahead.

#### **Year 8 Felixstowe Trip Monday 11<sup>th</sup> of July**

We have left the consent form and payment request for the Y8 Felixstowe visit, open until Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

We still have a number of outstanding responses for either payment, consent or both.

Thank you to those who have already paid and given consent, as mentioned before, if this is still on your 'To Do' list, please complete the link in the letter (see attached) and make payment via School Gateway.

We are also still in need of volunteers so if you are available to help on these days, then please complete that area on the form and the visit leader will be in contact next week to confirm arrangements. Thank you again for those who have already volunteered. Should you have any questions, then please contact the office.

#### **Sports Day Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of July**

Parents are invited to bring a picnic and join their child at lunch time and stay for the athletic events in the afternoon – we are just confirming timings but it looks like a 12.30pm lunch. Students will be able to purchase additional drinks and lollies from the ESA during this day. In the morning students will take part in a rotation of activities that are designed to involve and engage all students, although no one will be forced to participate only encouraged. The afternoon events are for our serious track superstar students to race it out together while the school cheers them on!

#### **Year 5 events**

KS2 LEA students have a fun swim on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of July – so do any dancers involved in the Edwinstree Strictly competition, please use the link to confirm your attendance at this.

<https://forms.office.com/r/PdvSC6Pg4h>

#### **Year 6 events**

KS2 LEA students have a fun swim on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of July – so do any dancers involved in the Edwinstree Strictly competition, please use the link to confirm your attendance at this.

<https://forms.office.com/r/PdvSC6Pg4h>

The Year 6 residential at the end of September has currently just under one third of the year group signed up. We will Parentmail and contact you next week to check if you wish your child to attend, or not. We will be unable to secure this trip unless we are able to increase numbers. If we can't we will look to rebook and give a longer lead in to funding the residential. Please, if you do want your child to go, follow the link or contact the school office.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July, Year 6 will need a picnic lunch and non-school uniform as they will be coming out of school to take a picnic lunch in the local area, and take part in an activity to dam a river! This is one of the activities they signed up to from the *50 activities to do before you are 12*. More information at the start of the week.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July - Wicked theatre trip to London.

More information to follow next week, but we are still looking for parents who are happy to accompany and support us on the trip. If you can support please email [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

When will the SAT results come out for year 6?

The school will receive all SAT results by Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> of July. Our normal process for the end of term reports is to include your child's May result alongside their report for July. We will send these home in the last week of the term. We think to continue to release the results this way is best.

As we have spent the year working with you to minimise the pressure of these exams, and explained as a middle school we continue to learn with them, and the school is planning a two-year programme to help them catch up.

#### **Year 7: Are there any more individual events for year 7?**

No, they will participate in all the whole school events, but they have now participated in their two trips this year.

#### **What have Year 8 decided to do for their End of Year Leaving Event?**

Year 8 have asked for a camping sleepover to be held on the school field. We are just finalising the details but plan for this event to be overnight on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July. Please keep this date free in your child's diary and we will forward details shortly! Thank you to the ESA who are going to provide substantial help to support this event and to the staff who are willing to sleep (we wish) over!

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**Lea House Reward Fun Swim**

KS3 LEA students have a fun swim on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> of July – so do any dancers involved in the Edwinstree Strictly competition, please use the link to confirm your attendance at this.

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

**How can you support the Library?**

Core text return- Year 6 Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

Thank you to those of you who have searched high and low and returned your core texts and library books to us. We are still 75 books short of 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief', which is over half of our stock. We expect the odd book to go walkabout, but we cannot budget for replenishing this many books year-on-year. Year 6 studied this book in the spring term so could I ask you to do a big search for this book in school bags, under beds and in cupboards and to return them to school so we can prepare for the new academic year.

**Opportunities with the National Youth Orchestra this summer**

The National Youth Orchestra are coming back to Saffron Hall this summer, and this time they have offered a special NYO Inspire afternoon the day before the concert! Please see attached flyer

**Jo Gant**  
**Headteacher**

*Attachments:*

*Year 8 Trip to Felixstowe*  
*National Youth Orchestra*

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