



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of
England School
**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS &
CARERS**
Week Ending: 03/11/2023

Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school please inform us by emailing: attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk



Poppy Appeal

Our Student Leaders will be selling poppies at break and lunchtimes next week.

Homework week: B

Diary Dates:

School Day – 8:40am – 3:10pm	
08/11/23	Open Morning 10am booking via School Office
10/11/23	ESA Family Fun Night – Escape Challenge
14/11/23	Maya Workshop for Year 5
15/11/23	Open Morning 10am booking via School Office
16/11/23	Maya Workshop for Year 6 8A Academic review via SchoolCloud
17/11/23	Non – Uniform Children in Need
21/11/23	8C Academic review via SchoolCloud
22/11/23	Open Morning 10am booking via School Office 7A & 7C Academic review via SchoolCloud
23/11/23	8B Academic review via SchoolCloud
24/11/23	Non-Uniform Day – Chocolate donation to ESA
28/11/23	8D Academic review via SchoolCloud
29/11/23	7B & 7D Academic review via SchoolCloud
01/12/23	Occasional Day – School Closed
04/12/23	Year 5 Science trip to Duxford
05/12/23	Year 6 Parent SATs Information Day 6A: 9:55- 10:55 6B: 11:10 - 12:10 Year 5 Christingle
06/12/23	Year 6 Parent SATs Information Day 6C: 9:55 - 10:55 6D: 11:10 - 12: 10
07/12/23	Christmas Concert (venue TBC) 6pm
13/12/23	Festive School Lunch
15/12/23	Year 7 & 8 Christmas Service - 11am to 1pm
19/12/23	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Service - 11am to 1pm
20/12/23	End of Autumn Term 1:20pm
04/01/24	Start of Spring Term 08:40am
15/01/24	5A & 5C Academic review via SchoolCloud
22/01/24	5B & 5D Academic review via SchoolCloud
26/02/24	6A & 6C Academic review via SchoolCloud
29/02/24	6B & 6D Academic review via SchoolCloud
18/03/24	Year 5 Foundation Evening in person
22/04/24	Year 6 Foundation Evening in person
20/05/24	Year 7 Foundation Evening in person
17/06/24	Year 8 Foundation Evening in person

As we lead up to an expensive Christmas time what costs will you be asking of us as a parent?

- 14th Nov – Year 5 Maya Workshop £2.
- 16th Nov - Year 6 Maya Workshop £2.
Please note the ESA kindly donated towards the cost of the workshop in order to reduce the cost to you and the school. We will continue to lean on their fund raising to help us buy in special events like this.
- 17th Nov – Children in Need £1 donation for wearing non-uniform.
- 24th Nov – Chocolate donation for the Buntingford Christmas Fair in exchange for wearing non-uniform.
- 4th Dec – Year 5 Educational Visit to Duxford £15.00.
- We will be asking students to provide non-perishable food for a food bank Christmas hamper that each tutor group will collect over the Advent period.
- On the Christmas walk and service we will ask parents to donate cookies and cakes for a stop off point on the walk, to receive hot chocolate and a treat.

Please remember with the exception of trips, and workshops all contributions are voluntary and no one will ever reprimand a child if they are unable to contribute.

Year 5 & 6 Maya Workshops

As part of our new topic on the ancient Maya, Past Productions will be running workshops for all Year 5 and 6 on Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th November 2022. The workshops will provide the children with a real insight into the ancient Maya and will bring their learning to life! Please see attached a letter outlining all details. you were sent this in advance yesterday. A big thanks again to the ESA for making the cost more manageable for parents and the school.

Year 5 Science Educational visit to IWM Duxford

We are delighted to be able to offer Year 5 the opportunity to visit IWM Duxford. Our next Science topic is based on Forces and IWM Duxford has a range of exhibits that will enable the children to apply a real life understanding to the theory covered in the lessons. Please see attached a letter outlining all details.

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As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*

Year 6 SATs Information Days

We would like to invite parents of Year 6 pupils to come into school at the times below. We will provide you with some brief information about the upcoming SATs and you will have a chance to go through your child's recent mock SATs papers (to be completed in November). Both your child's English and maths teachers will be available during these times.

Tuesday 5th December

6A: 9:55- 10:55

6B: 11:10 - 12:10

Wednesday 6th December

6C: 9:55 - 10:55

6D: 11:10 - 12: 10

Please confirm your attendance by completing this short form using the link provided.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BTrlzduqZ0-r9r2eTDmg8F8RSwokmeRDhMnaAtKJ1V1UMUUhKQU1BRTdJQlIxN1A5OFIJMk83UTczTy4u>

We may not be able to provide your child's papers on the day if you don't complete the form.

We look forward to seeing you.

Mrs Earnshaw - Leader of Maths

How can you support your child with the basic equipment and tools for learning in school?

We have seen a decline in the equipment students are bringing into school. Please help us to help them learn, by making sure they leave ready for school with the following:

- Pencil case
- Blue or black pens
- Green pen
- HB pencils
- Ruler (30cm measured in cm and mm)
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Whiteboard pen/rubber
- Glue stick
- A small pack of colouring pencils (basic colours)
- Year 7&8: scientific calculator (available to purchase at a discount from school)
- You may wish to provide highlighter pens.

Any parent that is struggling to manage this, please contact s.marler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

PE Autumn Timetable

Please find attached PE timetables for this half term.

Enrichment Clubs

Our Enrichment clubs continue again this half term. If your child has signed up for a club and no longer wishes to participate, please would you let the office know so we can free up the waiting lists admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

How can you help us to save energy this Winter?

Like homes, the school is struggling to fund the cost of heating again this year. To help us, the students voted to turn the heating off at midday again this year. With so many students in the school, we were able to remain warm last year, however to support your child please make sure they bring a warm coat and when appropriate hat and gloves, we will allow them to wear them in class if they feel a little cold. We are also a school that goes out in the rain so please make sure that they have a waterproof for wet days.

Again, if you have any difficulties funding these items do not hesitate to share and ask for support.

s.marler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk Thankyou

Satchel One – which supports our homework on line – information and changes update:

Satchel One email verification

To improve security and support GDPR practices, Satchel One have implemented an email verification system for parent accounts. The majority of parents have completed this process but for those that remain unverified you will receive an email from noreply@teamsatchel.com informing you that your parent account will be deactivated. Please note that this is a genuine communication.

What do I do if I missed the deadline and my parent account is deactivated?

In order to recover your account, you need to obtain a current Parent PIN Code and complete the sign-up process again. You do not need to contact the school to get a new PIN code, a new one can be accessed independently via your child's Satchel One account by following the steps below:

Obtaining a Parent Code

Obtaining a Parent Code will allow you to create a new parent / guardian account or recover an existing account you have lost access to.

Please follow the guidance below to obtain an up to date Parent Code (please note that Parent Codes expire 3 months after being generated).

Via the mobile app

You can access your Parent Code from your child's account on the mobile app. To do this, go to Settings > Parent Code.

There is a short guidance video explaining the process which can be viewed following this link: [Obtaining a Parent PIN](#)

If you are still struggling to recover your parent account after following these steps please email Mrs Heywood r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk for assistance.

Mrs Heywood.

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ESA Events

Family Fun Night

Please join us for a family fun escape room style challenge on Friday 10th November. Teams of 6 people £20. Doors open at 6pm the challenge starts at 6.30pm. Be the first team to find and solve all the clues to walk away with the pirate booty! Book tickets and pre order drinks at Edwinstree School Association Online Shop (sumupstore.com). Everybody welcome (not just Edwinstree families) suitable for ages 8+. Haven't got a team? Buy a single ticket and form a team on the night. Please see attached leaflet for more details.

Non-Uniform 24th November

This year, for non-uniform day we are asking for donations of sweets or chocolate to go on our Chocolate Tombola stall at the late-night shopping event taking place in Buntingford on 1st December.



**Buntingford
Swimming Club**



Buntingford Swimming Club - Calling all swimmers who have passed Swim England Learn to Swim Framework Stage 7.

We have been running as a voluntary coaching club since 1976 at Freman swimming pool and have seen our numbers rise and fall across the years as swimming and the support for the sport has gone in and out of fashion. Funding for swimming lessons received a significant boost after the 2012 Olympics but as you will be aware that has long since been cut and numbers have dropped to an all-time low. Many schools are no longer able to offer swimming lessons and with Covid and a cost of living crisis many small teaching clubs are closing and young swimmers are not being given the opportunity to develop further. The benefits of swimming need no explanation and it's a key life skill every child should experience.

We are doing all we can to keep the club financially viable and keep things ticking over and we desperately need new members in order for this to happen. We've taken the decision to offer 6 weeks free swimming to any newcomer who wants to give us a try. We are a coaching club and not a teaching club so there is a minimum standard of skill level required.

Come and have a trial and free sessions from 2nd November until the Christmas break. We swim on Thursday evenings in 2 sessions split by ability/ age. Register for a trial on www.buntingfordsc.co.uk

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

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