



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 13/05/2022

Diary Dates – Week B

School day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
16-20/5/22	Walk to School Week
17-20/5/22	Year 8 CATS at Freman
17/5/22	Yr6 Parent Consultation Foundation Subjects 4-6pm
18/5/22	Yr5 Visit Science Museum
19/05/22	Live performance from solo artist Lex Gibbon
30/5/22 – 3/06/22	HALF TERM
14/6/22	Yr7 Parent Consultation Foundation Subjects 4-6pm
22/6/22	Yr5 Felixstowe visit
23/6/22	Yr7 Felixstowe visit
24/6/22	INSET Day
27/6/22	Occasional Day
28/6/22	Yr8 Parent Consultation Foundation Subjects 4-6pm
8/7/22	Yr6 visit Felixstowe
11/7/22	Yr8 visit Felixstowe
13//7/22	Open afternoon 2pm-7pm
13/7/22	Yr6 Theatre Trip to see Wicked
22/7/22	End of term 1:20pm finish
28-30/9/22	3 Day Residential Trip for Yr7 (current Yr6) more details to follow

How do I report my child absent?

If your child is unwell or has a medical appointment, please notify the Attendance Team via attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk or you can leave a message on 01763-271446. In the event your child tests positive for Covid-19, please email: covid@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

A huge thank you to parents for their support this week and last. Thank you to those parents who have kindly supported the trips out of school, the SAT's exams and finally the disco tonight. Your support helps us to run these events at low cost and means that when they are in school hours we are able to reduce the number of supply teachers needed in school. We appreciate the kindness and commitment to the school we have seen in the last two weeks.

Congratulations to Year 6 and a thank you to the remainder of the school community. Year 6 have stayed calm and committed throughout their SATs exam. They have worked hard over the week and managed their wellbeing. The rest of the community have been very considerate and supported them by staying quiet during the morning movement between lessons.

Hertfordshire County Council notice: Walk to School Week 16-20 May 2022

With so many children leading sedentary lifestyles, we want to encourage active school journeys which can help towards children achieve 60 minutes of activity every day.

Government guidelines recommend that children and young people should get 30 minutes of their daily physical activity in the school day and 30 minutes outside of school. In a recent study, children that exercised before school had improved

concentration levels in school. With regular physical activity children improve cardiorespiratory fitness, build strong bones and muscles, control weight and reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression.

Hertfordshire's Walk to School Week has previously won a National Award for Excellence in Walking with Modeshift STARS which recognises an excellence in cycling, walking and other forms of sustainable travel. Over 50 percent of Hertfordshire primary schools took part, encouraging active travel to school.

Please support Walk to School Week and ask children to walk, cycle, scoot or use any other forms of sustainable travel they can think off.

Years 5-8: Live performance from solo artist "Lex Gibbon"

On the 19th May 2022, as part of a review of online behaviours and risks, we will have a Live performance from solo artist "Lex Gibbon" followed on with a talk on Mental Health, Body Image/Cyber Bullying & a live Q&A for all students.

Year 5 and 6 session from 9.50-10.50
Year 7 and 8 session from 11.05-12.05

Originally from Hertfordshire, Lex is the first plus size teenager to walk the catwalk in London, New York & Paris Fashion week. Lex was badly bullied at school which led to her having her own mental health / body image issues, so she feels she is in the perfect position to speak to young people about these very important issues that teenagers face. Her talks look to inspire others to believe they can achieve anything – but to be conscious and wary of oversharing on social media and the impacts this can have. Further talks will be offered in July to students and Parents based on how to stay safe online.

When is Year 6 Science and Foundation Parents Evening and what is happening?

This will take place on Tuesday 17th May, running from 4pm until 6pm. Unlike the Maths and English evenings, there are no booked appointments. You come to school at any time between 4pm and 6pm and it is an opportunity for your child to take you to their classrooms and show you what they have been doing this year. Class teachers will be in classrooms to answer any questions you may have about the subject or their learning. If you feel you may need a longer conversation with a subject teacher, you will be able to leave your contact details on the way out. The ESA will be looking to hold a loved not new sale of uniform during this event.

How did the students manage their SAT's for the first time in 3 years?

Wellbeing has been a key focus for the school this year, it was lovely to see how all the students in school were supportive of Year 6 and quiet and respectful during the exams each morning. The Year 6 students managed the week well, giving it their best shot but confident whatever the outcome, they have been making progress with us and these exams have little impact on their learning in Year 7 onwards at a Middle School.

*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.*

What is happening at the disco? A huge thank you to the team of ESA and staff who come together tonight to host our first outdoor disco in a long time. We are sorry that we had to set a cut-off date of Monday night, but we had to ensure that we have enough staff to support the number of students coming into school and we cannot do this until we know final numbers. You will have received an email outlining the procedures for tonight but if you missed this, we have attached it with the newsletter. We are looking forward to seeing them have fun! Please do not send your child into school if you did not make the deadline of Monday night for payment, we will unfortunately be sending them home. There will be more opportunities we promise for them in the future.

What are we learning about in COWO? We have been exploring the value of Friendship this term and we are learning that friends are the people who help you to be the best that we can be. We enjoyed exploring the following quotes from the bible in Collective worship.

Wounds from a friend can be trusted. But an enemy multiplies kisses can't – Proverbs 27.6

When can my child sign up to mini police? Your child is able to sign up to mini police from this week onwards and the new club will be after half term on a Friday. Well done to the year 5's with year 7 support who fed back to their peers about what they had been doing and what they had learnt.

What are our plans for the jubilee? We are looking to host a red, white and blue non-uniform day on the last day of term and to hold an outdoor picnic party at lunch time. A special menu is being created by the canteen and will be announced at a later date. We are looking to hold a good old-fashioned band and sing along to celebrate the queen's platinum jubilee in style.

What is the arts festival in Buntingford and how can your child get involved? We are keen to support the Art festival in Buntingford and there is a flyer attached. This takes place on the 17th – 19th inclusive in May, and all events centre around Layston Gardens. As part of this event we have been invited to run a story writing competition which celebrates the platinum jubilee. We will launch next week, but students will be encouraged to write a story that they could read at the arts festival that begins with the sentence... The Queen and I met when.....

Fun Swim Sessions Who has an opportunity to swim next week?

On 16th May, Ms Theroude's Year 8 class will have an opportunity to swim based around their reducing food waste, worm warrior work.

The rescheduled Fun swim for The Best T-Shirt Design Competition for Fullness Day winners will now take place on Monday 23rd May at Freman Pool, a link via Parentmail will be sent to relevant Parent/Carers to give consent. Please remind them they can sign up for a friend to come with them.

How is the school trip affecting Art Club and film club? NO session for both clubs as the Year 5 are out on a trip.

Orchestra - Friday 20th May

There will be no Orchestra on Friday 20th May

Filmmakers Club Notice

No session on 18th May due to school trip. Sessions on 25th May & 8th June will run from 3.05PM TO 4.35PM.

Chewing Gum

We have noticed an increase of chewing gum being brought into school, can we please remind students that this is not allowed in school, we will start using the behaviour system in repeat instances.

Year group updates:

Year 5: We are very much looking forward to the trip next Wednesday to the Science Museum. Students will have the opportunity to visit "Wonderlab" - Spread across seven different zones, there will be lots of opportunities to interact with real scientific phenomena. The students will experience a lightning strike before their eyes, play with forces on giant slides or travel through space under a canopy of stars. They will also visit the space gallery where they will see rockets and satellites, probes and landers. This gallery showcases some out-of-this world objects.

Year 6: Congratulations to the Year 6 students who were all in school, calm and ready to give the SAT exams their best shot. As wellbeing has been our priority this year, it was so great to see that all the students were managing this stressful week well. Whatever their results, which will be out mid-July – please remember we are working on a 2- year recovery and we will be tracking their progress back to national standards and beyond over the next year. All are making progress.

Now the exams are over the focus moves to the in-school assessments of their books which is based on evidencing their standards in writing. This will form the key part of their English lessons in the next month.

Year 8:

CATS

Tuesday 17th May – 8B - At Freman from 10am to 1pm
Wednesday 18th May – 8C - At Freman from 11am to 1pm
Thursday 19th May – 8D - At Freman from 11am to 1pm
Friday 20th May – 8A - At Freman from 11am to 1pm

Jo Gant

Headteacher

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