



**17/06/22 Parent News**

**Diary Dates – Week B**

| School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 17-19/6/22                   | Buntingford Summer Arts Festival                                    |
| 22/6/22                      | Yr5 Felixstowe visit  |
| 22/6/22                      | Police Talks Yr7 & Yr8 (Lives not Knives)                           |
| 23/6/22                      | Yr7 Felixstowe visit  |
| 24/6/22                      | Twilight INSET Day – students not in school                         |
| 27/6/22                      | Occasional Day – students not in school                             |
| 28/6/22                      | Yr8 Parent Consultation Foundation Subjects 4-6pm                   |
| 4/7/22                       | Online Safety talk Sessions KS2, KS3, Parents (timings TBC)         |
| 5/7/22                       | Fullness Day  |
| 5/7/22                       | Yr6 Parent Consultation Science & Foundation Subjects 4-6pm         |
| 8/7/22                       | Yr6 Local Field Trip (in place of Felixstowe visit)                 |
| 11/7/22                      | Yr8 visit Felixstowe  |
| 12/7/22                      | Sports Day  |
| 13/7/22                      | Yr6 Theatre Trip to see Wicked                                      |
| 14/7/22                      | County Transition Day   |
| 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 |

**Will students be in PE kit after the weekend?**

Currently the temperature is predicted to drop to below 25° so we will plan for students to return to normal uniform on Monday – however if it changes we will post on Facebook and send a Parentmail.

**Are there any changes to uniform next year?**

No – attached is our list, with just one exception – we have given up the battle to understand the difference between a trainer and a shoe. As long as your child is wearing either black, but not canvas, and no obvious markings we are happy to accept. Please note we can't have canvas due to health and safety regulations in our Science and DT rooms.

**How can you support Edwinstree students at the Layston Garden's Art festival?**

Our choir and our year 7 resident comedians will be performing songs and a comic set of sketches they have created, from 11am to 12noon on Saturday morning. If you have a spare hour they would really appreciate your support. Playing to no crowd is never fun! We wish the Arts festival good luck this year and look forward to seeing you there on Saturday. Please find site map attached.

**When is the school closed to students?**

The school will be closed on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of June and Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of June. We hope you get the opportunity to enjoy the long weekend as families, we will look forward to seeing students again on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June. This is also the Year 8 parent consultation date.

**What day can I attend the parents talk about how to keep my child safe on line?**

You will be aware from the weekly newsletter that the school has been tracking online safety issues a great deal this year. During the height of Covid and more recently, online behaviours of some of our students have remained an issue and so the school subsequently delivered a PSHE programme of study to support years 7 and 8. To further support this, these year groups have watched the BBC documentary titled *Murder Games: The Life and Death of Breck Bednar*.

On July 4<sup>th</sup> 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?

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>

Our guest speaker is Karl Hopwood. Karl is an independent online safety expert. He is a member of UKCIS (UK Council for Internet Safety) and sits on the UKCIS evidence group, education working group and the early warning group as well as on the advisory board for the UK Safer Internet Centre. He also sits on Twitter's trust and safety council and the Roblox trust and safety board where he represents the Insafe network. He was recently part of an expert steering group with TikTok looking at harmful and dangerous online challenges.

Karl has worked for a number of key players in the UK and abroad including CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre), BECTA (British Educational and Communications Technology Agency), the European Commission, the UN and several Local Authorities within the UK and in Europe.

As an ex primary headteacher, he continues to work closely to develop safer online behaviours and the promotion of digital literacy in schools across Europe with children, young people, parents, teachers and governors.

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Karl has been employed for the last 15 years as an in-house consultant for INSAFE which is the coordinating node of the EU Better Internet for Kids programme where he is responsible for the coordination of safer internet helplines across Europe. Karl was the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Marie Collins Foundation for 7 years, a charity which supports young people who have been sexually abused and exploited online and continues to be a trustee of Childnet International and an executive committee member of SACPA (Safeguarding and Child Protection Association). Karl has recently worked with a team developing a national online safety strategy in Rwanda and chaired the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) working group to re-write their Child Online Protection Guidance.

### What is happening on the Felixstowe trip?

Year 5 will be asked to attend the day in PE kit – please keep an eye on the weather, regardless of rain or shine, students will spend the day outside. Year 7 can attend in non-school uniform. We plan to leave once students have registered at 8.40 in their tutor rooms. We should arrive at Felixstowe for 10.30 am. We will walk students along the area of the promenade that they will have access to for the day. Along this walk there will be various teaching staff and volunteer parents and carers who will position themselves at key points to offer activities or to monitor. The activities on offer are:

- Kite flying (we are providing kites)
- Crabbing (we are providing nets lines and bate!)
- Fishing – there is a point for fishing, students will need to sign up to say they are bringing their rod and a sealed container with bait. Students will bring the rods at their own risk.
- Digging to Australia, sandcastles and paddling – please would students bring a bucket and spade if they wish to do this.
- Activities you may wish to pay for – a small fair ground with rides and a pier with all the slot machines you would expect from a seaside beach area.
- Opportunities to buy ice cream and candy floss etc.

Last year those who were lucky enough to go on the trip really enjoyed themselves and a traditional day at the seaside we can't wait to spend time with them having fun.

Please note students don't need money to enjoy the trip, there are enough activities for them to do. But if you are providing them with some, please no more than £20.

### Parent/Carer Volunteers

In order to reduce the cover supply teachers in school, we are keen to seek support from our parent and carer

community to help with the up and coming trips. Do you have a day you could spare us to come and support our students? We will of course pay for your journey there and back. If you do volunteer we will be asking you to support the teachers in manning one of the station activities on offer. When giving consent for your child to attend the events you will be able to select the option of supporting. <https://forms.office.com/r/krRQMg9ZCv>

**Food and Nutrition** - if your child is cooking, please ensure they have the correct shoes for the lesson. All ingredient lists are on Satchel One.

**Year 5** - Please remember your ingredients for your fruit salad. You need 5 different varieties. School will supply orange juice to prevent enzymic browning, if you prefer other fruit juice, you need to provide 50ml. **No kiwi fruit allowed due to allergies**. Please ensure you are bringing in a suitable container to take your completed products home in.

**Year 6** - Ingredients needed for sugar alternate cupcakes - make note of the date you are cooking. If bringing in butter, please leave it out of the fridge the night before or it will be too hard to use. Please ensure you are bringing in suitable a container to take your completed products home in.

**Year 7** - No ingredients needed. After a great taste testing session of different cakes made with sugar alternatives, it is your turn next week to start the food science experiment. Ingredients are provided by the school for this.

**Year 8** - Research project. Please make sure you are completing your H/L in preparation of putting your projects together in class next week. I will supply card if you need it. Printing can be done at school.

### Fullness Day – 5<sup>th</sup> July

Our Dynamic Diversity group will be hosting a Fullness day on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July – we will be asking students to contribute £2 to help support the steel band that is coming to the school for the afternoon. Thank you for your support with this. We will also be asking our great baking community to get baking for the event. Do you have traditional family recipe that represents who you are and your origins?

### Lea House Reward Fun Swim

A fun Swim session for KS2 Lea pupils has been booked for Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July and KS3 Lea pupils on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July from 1.50pm – 2.45pm.

### Year 7 Parents' Evening

It was lovely to see Y7 parents in school again on Tuesday. It would be great if you could fill in this survey to help us understand more about the evening and to identify any improvements we may be able to make. <https://forms.office.com/r/MXBv7WXEMA>

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**How can I find out about activities for my child to take part in, during the Summer?** A number of Summer providers' have asked us to advertise the clubs available and we will be placing flyers in our reception area for you to look at.

#### **Drawing and Talking Therapy**

We have a member of staff trained in Drawing and Talking Therapy. If you would like to discuss Drawing and Talking Therapy further please email

[SENCO@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:SENCO@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

#### **Do you have a few library books sitting at home?**

We are looking to make sure we are fully stocked with our core texts for September. Please would you have a check at home for any books your child has taken home and not yet returned and send them in, either with your child to their English teacher, or to the school office.

We are especially looking for copies of The BFG, Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, Skellig and The Hunger Games. Thank you for your support

#### **How can you help us to gain National Book Tokens**

Our school needs you! Help us win £1,000 of National Book Tokens and a membership to the School Library Association to help rebuild the library and encourage reading for pleasure - plus you could win £100 for yourself! Enter here:

<http://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools>

#### **Information from Herts County Council**

##### **Supporting Families with Protective Behaviours Courses**

Please find attached flyers and parent registration form for 2 online courses 'Supporting Families with Protective Behaviours' that are fully funded starting after half term. They are funded by HCC and there are some eligibility criteria which I mentioned at the end of the Level 1 course.

The dates and times are:

- For Dads, Step-Dads and male Carers:

Tuesdays 7th June – 12th July 7.30pm – 9.00pm

- For Mums, Dads, Step-Parents & Carers:

Thursdays 9th June – 14th July 7.30pm – 9.00pm

**Jo Gant**

**Headteacher**

*Attachments:*

*Uniform*

*HCC Flyers*

*Buntingford Summer Arts site map*

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