



**Edwinstree Middle School**  
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School  
**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS**  
**Week Ending: 22/7/2022**

**22/07/22 Parent News**  
**Diary Dates – Week B**

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
01-05/09/22	<b>INSET DAYS</b>
06/9/22	<b>Year 5 Induction Day (all other year groups not in school)</b>
07/9/22	<b>Term Begins (all years in school)</b>
28-30/9/22	<b>3 Day Residential Trip for Yr7</b>
29/9/22	<b>Year 5 Parents “Getting to Know You” Meeting 5pm</b>
24-28/10/22	<b>Half Term</b>

Thank you for bearing with us through another year of COVID outbreaks, it has been an absolute pleasure to finally run a term without this disturbance, and as you see from the reports, stability in student and staff attendance has returned many students to good and rapid progress.

**What’s happening in the holiday?**

Home learning – Your children have been working hard, so we hope you find time to have fun and enjoy the long summer, but please remember students should read at least five times a week for 20 minutes. Please use this time to get students into this crucial habit. We don’t mind what they read as long as they read and you have a chance to talk and share what they have been reading. Don’t forget if you are stuck in traffic on a journey to repeat the times tables, it is ok if you don’t know them, they will enjoy your struggle. Seek arithmetic maths in your daily life, budgets, money and change, reading and analogue clock, darts, cards etc.

**What if my child is anxious?**

We have already identified the students we believe will need extra contact with the school during the Summer to support their worries about their return, but if you think your child needs this extra visit or two in late August please email the Learning Zone on [senco@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:senco@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk), staff will be manning this from the 17<sup>th</sup> of August.

**How to keep your child safe on line during the holidays.**

Can we please advise that you continue to monitor the use of your child’s internet activity. We are currently experiencing a number of sites being created that are ranking students. We are working with the internet sites to shut these down, but would appreciate your help in

supporting students to understand that this is damaging to the students who are “ranked”.

**If you are worried about your child’s mental health over the holidays who can support you?**

[Home - Kooth](#)  
[Mental health services - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)  
[Samaritans | Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy | Here to listen](#)  
[Just Talk \(justtalkherts.org\)](http://justtalkherts.org)

**How we will support your child’s mental health at the start of term?**

All students will be given the following refresher courses in their PSHE lessons at the start of next term:

- Mobile phone use and staying safe on line.
- Zones of regulation to support their mental health understanding.

**At the start of term**

We have 3 insets days at the start of term and only year 5 return on the 6<sup>th</sup>. We are looking forward to seeing everyone else on the 7<sup>th</sup> at normal time 8.40am. The reports that have been issued alert your child to their Tutor. When they enter the school through the lower gates as normal, there will be large posters up showing students which rooms to go in for tutor group. The first hour will be with their tutor learning their new timetable.

Please remember that the Enrichment Club timetable will be out in the first Friday newsletter with opportunities to sign up, the clubs will begin on week 3.

The first week of term we do not set homework, while we issue homework timetables.

**September 2022 - Year 7 Residential (current year 6)**

We have now shut down any further opportunity to attend the residential and we have 79 students who will be attending. Please note if your child is not going, we will still be expecting them to be in school and continue with their learning during this time. We hope to provide some enrichment activities to support those who stay behind.

*Attached is the kit list and the food menu for the trip.* Please note that if you are struggling to get any equipment, please talk to us as we have acquired field trip clothing and equipment and will do our very best to help. The link to the centre and the activities your child is participating is here [Essex Outdoors - Bradwell - Outdoor Pursuits Centre in Bradwell-on-Sea, Maldon - Visit Essex](#)

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

**Which teachers leave us this year?**

Ms Bustard who has been on maternity leave, leaves us for a primary school position in her new daughters' school. Ms Devonshire leaves us to become the Assistant Head at Ralph Sadlier, we are really looking forward to growing our partnership with the middle school through her work. We will be saying goodbye to Miss Bailes who goes back to primary school teaching next year. Our new staff we welcome in are Ms Say in Art, Mr Bailey who will be in Maths and Science, Ms Hill who will be working in Humanities and English in KS2.

**What information did County want us to share with you?****ADMISSIONS: Secondary and Upper Transfer in September 2023 – OPEN EVENTS**

*Attached is the Moving On: Open Events leaflet* detailing the open event dates for secondary and upper schools in the autumn term.

- **Current Year 5 pupils** in primary and junior schools
- **Current Year 7 pupils** in middle schools

Please also be aware that this information applies to Hertfordshire children who are currently being educated outside of their normal cohort, i.e. – those in current Year 4 but are chronologically Year 5

**Walk and Talk with your local police officers**

As part of our continuing work to tackle violence against women and girls, females are invited to take part in a walk and talk event with the Safer Neighbourhood Team in Buntingford, to discuss what makes them feel unsafe in the local area.

Friday 29th July - between 6pm and 8pm, Meet at Norfolk Road playing fields

*Please see flyer attached*

**How can we make parental payments from September?**

Due to closures of local banks, we are finding it increasingly difficult to pay money into our school bank.

With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 Edwinstree will become a cashless school. Payments will be requested via school gateway only.

**Best Wishes****Jo Gant****Headteacher***Attachments:**Bradwell Residential Info**Moving On: Open Events leaflet**Police Flyer*

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