



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 09/09/2022

09/09/22 Parent News
Diary Dates – Week B

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
w/c 12/9/22	HPV Immunisation for Year 8
28-30/9/22	3 Day Residential Trip for Yr7
29/9/22	Year 5 Parents “Getting to Know You” Meeting 5pm
21/9/22	Freman Open Evening 6-8.30pm / Headteacher speaks at 8.00pm
6/10/22	Open Evening Thursday 6th October 6.15-8.00pm / Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm
w/c 10/10/22	Open Mornings all week. 9.55am – 10.55am (more details to follow)
24-28/10/22	Half Term
31/10/22	Deadline for Upper School Applications for 2023

Enrichment clubs begin the week of 19th September with the exception of Drama club which starts next week.

Dear Parents,

Thank you for sending your child in ready for school, battling their anxieties and getting them equipped and in school uniform. If your child is missing a piece of uniform, don't panic we will talk to you and help if necessary. Please note we love brightly coloured winter coats that help your child to stay safe and stand out in the dark winter months.

How is the school talking to children about the Queen?

At these times we feel extra lucky to be working with the Church of England, as the monarch is the Head of Church, we will take the lead from them and the resources they produce which can be found on this link:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/remembering-her-majesty-queen/resources-and-liturgy-death-hm-queen>

Today we have delivered three messages which are:

This morning and this afternoon we have an opportunity to begin to think about the Queen. Why do this?

While you are young and at the beginning of a new life, for many people in this country who are older, the Queen has been there in their life as a constant. Whether your family is pro the monarchy or not, she was respected as someone who had a deep faith and worked hard for Britain. The death of any royal can often trigger emotion and thoughts about all loss we experience in life.

However, when it is the death of an elderly person who has been well loved, we have an opportunity to celebrate and think about the best of them. This morning we will start the celebration of the Queens life with two thoughts.

*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.*

Dear Friends,

The death of our beloved monarch, Queen Elizabeth, impacts on us all. My prayers are with you as in your school community you give thanks for her life and service over so many years. My memories of celebrating her Platinum Jubilee are still fresh in my mind. As we give thanks for her, we remember those values and virtues that were at the heart of her life. Among them duty, service and love, along with her living Christian faith. May we honour her by reflecting them in our lives. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. - From the Church of England. A message from our Diocese.

A poem from Philip Larkin:

In times when nothing stood
But worsened, or grew strange,
There was one constant good:
She did not change.

While we wait for further guidance, on Monday we will use the power points produced by the Church of England, to support our school to celebrate and be thankful for the Queen and the work she did. Please use the link above to access these. They have also provided a series of mindful and gentle power points and reflections for the funeral and the future and our new King.

We wish you well this weekend and as we all reflect on the end of an era and the start of a new.

Can my child wear PE kit on the days that they have PE?

Yes, full PE kit should be worn on PE days, if you have any questions please contact the school office on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Swimming Years 5 & 6

We are aware that the school and home are unlikely to be as warm as previous years, Swimming has now been moved to the Summer term, we think the Summer is a better time to swim! Where you see Swimming on the timetable remember it is PE.

What is Show My Homework (SMHW) and when will we need to know how to use it as parents and children?

Homework starts from the Week beginning 19th September. If you are a PP parent we offer support to help your child in school at breakfast club or homework club to complete their homework at the end of the day. We will be training students on how to access their homework.

[Show My Homework/Satchel One – Home Learning App](#)

Show My Homework/Satchel One is software that we use to issue home learning to students. The app can be downloaded to any mobile device or students can use the SMHW website to log in using a computer or laptop.

The software provides total visibility of homework, sends reminders about upcoming deadlines and has the facility for students to message their teacher if guidance is required. It also has a link to student timetables and an overview of attendance.

All students in Year 5 have been issued with a letter which provides instructions on how to get started and set up an account. If your child has joined us in another year group or lost their set up letter please ask them to go to Resolve, where we are able to print them a copy.

If you have any difficulties or require any further information please email Mrs Heywood r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk for support.

Why we really appreciate information about your child no matter how small?

A couple of parents this week have apologised for giving us additional information about their child. They thought they “were bothering us” or being a “pushy parent” their words not ours. Please stop apologising, this is what we need you to do. We really mean it, when we say **no problem is too small**. If you have a worry, pick up the phone or even better email the admin team, HOY and or Learning Zone and someone will do their best to get back to you within 24 hours.

Year 6 news

It's lovely to welcome the students back, they have made a good start to their year.

Year 7 news

Your children were kind and compassionate this week to our new year 5 students, and made a positive start to the term. The residential to Essex Outdoors Bradwell is approaching fast. We will be following up with more detail in an letter early next week, but please find attached the kit list for the visit.

Can you help us on the residential?

Yes really, we have two paid spaces for any parent or carer who is willing to support the school and attend the residential. By taking parents this really helps us reduce the supply costs. We may be asking for above and beyond but if we don't ask...

Year 8 news

HPV injections take place week commencing 12th September we have a list of all those parents who have agreed to this.

Please note the calendar for Freman open evening and the deadline for submitting your application form.

Freman college made the decision in the Summer to not run German once their teacher retired. This has meant that we will no longer offer year 8 an opportunity to go to Freman to learn another language. To support year 8, we will be looking to explore other opportunities to help students feel familiar and comfortable with Freman students and teachers.

Open Evenings

Freman College Open Evening will be held on Wednesday 21st September 2022, 6pm - 8.30pm. The Headteacher's talk will be at 8pm in the Hall. Parents and students are very welcome to visit the college for a tour with Ms Loughran, the Headteacher, throughout September and October. Please call the college on 01763 271818 to book a tour.

We are delighted to announce that this year we are planning our Open Evening as a live event for the first time in 3 years. Our Open evening will be held on Thursday 6th October 6.15-8.00pm Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm. Open Mornings will take place week beginning 10th October. These will be bookable appointments Monday to Friday from 10-11am. Numbers will be limited. Please see our website for more information nearer the time. We look forward to welcoming you into our school.

As part of the open evening we will be asking for student helpers and students tend to volunteer in droves, please keep the evening free so your child might show their school to others. If you are a parent that due to COVID did not see the school, you may wish to join us on the evening and or take part in the tours of the school that will operate during the open mornings (more info to follow).

What is a cashless school and how do I pay?

Edwinstree is now a cashless school, payments to the school including ties can now be made via the School Gateway app.

Best Wishes

Jo Gant - Headteacher

Attachments:

Essex Outdoors - Bradwell Kit List 2022

Freman Open Evening Invitation

Moving On Open Events 2023 - FINAL

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