



**Edwinstree Middle School**  
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School  
**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS**  
**Week Ending: 06/01/2023**

**Diary Dates – Week A**

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
10/01/23	Year 7 & 8 Nasal Flu vaccinations
16/01/23	7C & 7D - KS3 Geography Course Lesson 1&2
17/01/23	7A - KS3 Geography Course Lesson 4
19/01/23	7B - KS3 Geography Course Lesson 5
30/01-02/02/23	Mock SATs Week
08/02/23	Rescheduled Year 8 Geography visit to London
13-17/02/23	Half Term
30/03/23	Year 8 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
31/03/23	End of Spring Term
17/04/23	Summer Term Begins
27/04/23	Year 5 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
01/05/23	Bank Holiday
18/05/23	Year 7 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
29/05-02/06/23	Half Term
29/06/23	Year 6 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
30/06/23	INSET Day
13/07/23	County Transition Day
21/07/23	End of Summer Term

It was lovely to meet the students on Thursday and hear their excited stories about their holidays. We really hope you are all well and ready to go!

**How do we work together to keep the school open and healthy?**

We notified you on Wednesday, with regard to the NHS information encouraging parents to keep their children home if they are displaying flu and or COVID symptoms. This will help us to minimise the spread of either virus and keep the school open.

**When do Enrichment Clubs begin?**

All clubs will resume the week beginning Monday 16th January. Details to follow.

**When does homework start up again?**

Homework will start from next week.

**What Parents evenings are occurring this term?**

This term offers parents the opportunity to hear how your child is progressing via parents evening. Attached is the information that we sent you about when and what is happening.

Academic Consultations in core subjects start the week beginning Monday 16th January and run over two weeks. On Monday you will receive an email with instructions on how to book your appointments

**Nasal Flu Vaccinations Year 7 & 8**

This has now been confirmed for Tuesday 10th January 2023. The link for the E-consent portal closes at 3.45m on Monday 9th January. The Nursing Team ask for you to complete the form, even if you do not want your child to receive the Flu Vaccine.

If you have any questions, then please contact the Nursing Team direct on the number detailed on the letter attached.

**KS3 only update: Extended Friday Justice**

This time last year, we trialed an initiative called 'Extended Friday Justice'. As a school, we absolutely accept that it is ok for students to make mistakes, but it is also important that students then learn from these mistakes and from their subsequent conversations with their tutor and/or Head of Year.

Starting from Monday 16th January, if your child receives three cards in a half term, you will receive a call from either the Head of Year or a member of the SLT to arrange an Extended Friday Justice consequence. This will be held after school on Fridays until 4pm. Here, they will be supervised by their HOY or member of the SLT and will discuss further the reasons for this consequence. This is more in line with the consequences they may receive in a secondary school setting.

When you receive the email about a card being given, please do have a conversation with your child about what happened and how to prevent a repeat occurrence. If you have any queries about a card, please contact the issuing teacher in the first instance.

This will be explained to KS3 students during Collective Worship time on Monday. We appreciate your parental support with this.

**KS2 Spelling**

We have recently invested in a new programme to help KS2 children to learn their spellings every week. Spelling Frame allows the students to play different spelling games in order to improve and remember their spellings. We hope that encouraging the students to use this programme will positively impact their spelling. For the spelling element of their English home learning, they should be logging on to Spelling Frame to learn the spellings before taking the test the following week as directed on SMHW.

Please make sure your child has their login details and see the attached document on using Spelling Frame.

[www.spellingframe.co.uk](http://www.spellingframe.co.uk)

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

### **KS3 Geography Course**

As part of the KS3 Geography course, students are required to take part in a local field trip to the river Rib in Buntingford.

This visit is scheduled for the following days:

- **7C & 7D** Monday 16th January 2023 during lessons 1 and 2, returning at break time.
- **7A** Tuesday 17th January 2023 during lesson 4 -returning at lunch time
- **7B** Thursday 19th January 2023 during lesson 5 and returning during COWO.

The trip will involve students getting into the river to carry out a number of experiments, therefore, it is advised they wear wellies or suitable footwear.

If your son/daughter does not have wellies, please send them in with a pair of trainers as there are tests that can be carried out on the embankment (Please do not go out to buy wellies especially for the trip!).

I would also advise that students wear practical clothing (a little like practical outdoor science lessons). PE kit can be worn.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact with me.

Kind regards, Miss Mursell

### **Herts for Heroes Christmas Art Competition**

Well done to all students who entered the Herts for Heroes Christmas Art Competition. Unfortunately, the winner wasn't from our school, but all entries were shared with those in His Majesty's Armed Forces who were serving away from their families this Christmas to cheer them up, and I know that your artwork would have definitely done that! It was a great cause, and your efforts were very much appreciated. Well done again! Mrs Say.

You can view the winning entries here.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/news/news-archive/christmas-card-competition-2022>

### **Are you a passionate musician who would like to attend a Free Royal Albert Hall Performance?**

We are lucky enough to have confirmed a performance at the Royal Albert Hall with the Herts Gala. This is a wonderful opportunity and we have 20 student tickets for the afternoon performance on Sunday 30th April at 13:45. Students will need to attend Edwinstree Singers' rehearsals this term after school on Tuesday's, so that they can learn the music. Please register your interest through the link below. If we have more than 20 students sign up then we will do a random draw and you will find the result week starting 16th January, you will then be sent information about the day and how you can purchase audience tickets.

<https://forms.office.com/e/tdTbU1Te6L>

If your child does not want to go to the Herts Gala, but is still interested in Edwinstree Singers then please also use this link. Mr Wainwright-Meekins - Head of Music

### **Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Workshops (January – March 2023)**

Please see attached the Children's Wellbeing Practitioners workshop dates for January -March 2023. Workshops are open to all young people & parents/carers of children and young people who attend a school or are registered to a GP in Hertfordshire. A referral is not needed to access a workshop.

All workshops are currently being delivered online via Microsoft Teams. For more information about what each workshop covers and to book a place onto a workshop, visit the Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Eventbrite page:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-school-nursingservice-hertfordshire-33494371787>

Best Wishes

**Mrs J Gant - Headteacher**

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