## Edwinstree Middle School A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School



NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS Week Ending: 06/09/2024.

### Edwinstree Term dates:

https://www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk/school/term-dates.aspx

#### Diary Dates:

16-18/09/24	Year 7 Residential – Essex Outdoors Bradwell.
26/09/24	Year 5 "Getting to know you" Parents
	meeting 5pm
30/09/24	Flu vaccinations (all years)
10/10/24	Edwinstree Open Evening 5.45pm-8.15pm
	Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm
16/10/24	Lord Lieutenant visit to Year 7
28/10/24 -	Half Term.
01/11/24	
18/11/24	6A/6C Greek Workshop (more details to
	follow)
19/11/24	6B/6D Greek Workshop (more details to
	follow)
21/11/24	5C/5D Greek Workshop (more details to
	follow)
22/11/24	5A/5B Greek Workshop (more details to
	follow)
05/12/24	Fullness Day – Mental Health/Wellbeing more
	details to follow
06/12/24	Occasional Day.
20/12/24	End of Term 1:20pm.
06/01/25	INSET Day
13/01/25	Year 8 HPV Vaccination
14/01/25	7A & 7C - Online Academic Review
16/01/25	5A & 5D - Online Academic Review
21/01/25	7B, 7D, 5B - Online Academic Review
23/01/25	5C - Online Academic Review /
	Year 8 In Person Foundation Evening
03-06/02/25	Year 6 Mock SATs
25/02/25	6A & 6D - Online Academic Review
04/03/25	6B & 6C - Online Academic Review
10/03/25	6A Parent meeting to look at SATs papers
	(Period 1)
	6B Parent meeting to look at SATs papers
	(Period 2)
11/03/25	6C Parent meeting to look at SATs papers
	(Period 1)
	6D Parent meeting to look at SATs papers
	(Period 2)
20/03/25	Year 7 In Person Foundation Evening
04/03/25	End of Term 1:20pm.
22/04/25	Start of Term
05/05/25	Bank Holiday
08/05/25	Year 6 In Person Foundation Evening
12-15/05/25	Year 6 SATs
26-30/05/25	Half Term
05/06/25	Year 5 In Person Foundation Evening
27/06/25	INSET Day
10/07/25	Transition Day
	Parent Transition Evening 5-6pm

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### Edwinstree Open Evening.

For prospective Parent/ Carers. 10th October 2024, 6pm - 8pm. Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm

# What is the purpose of the weekly newsletter?

This newsletter is designed to help you to know what is happening in the school and why. If you take the time to click on the titles that are relevant to you and your child, we guarantee that it will stop the mad panic when you just find out your child has technology on the morning and needs equipment etc.

## Start of term all years.

Congratulations to you and the students on starting the year so well, thank you for investing in their equipment and uniform so they are ready to learn. We are pleased to announce that everyone went out for the extended Justice Friday play as there were no negative cards this term.

## Year 5 first week.

Wow year 5- what a wonderful start to your time with us! We've really enjoyed getting to know you all and watching you settle into the Edwinstree groove.

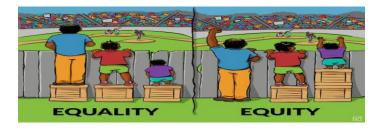
Parents, thank you for putting your trust in us and letting us know of any niggles, worries and celebrations- please keep doing so. Onwards and upwards! Mrs Kelly

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 have we been thinking about in COWO?

It is important at the start of the year and each term to consider what a Church of England school is and what it means. We remind students that COWO is the time for calm and quiet reflection. They managed this beautifully this week. We introduced them to our vision; we recognise that each child is an individual and our role is to support them to find their wonderful and the things that make them tick.

We will introduce them next week to the following picture which explains how we help children to flourish through equity which can get confused with equality. We want all students to leave ready, prepared and excited about their next stage of learning, to get students to this, we provide bespoke programmes of support for children.



#### Costings questionnaire.

Can you help us to find out how much money would be appropriate to budget for a trip for this year please? Since COVID and in recognition of the cost-of-living crisis, we have been asking parents at the start of each to year to complete a questionnaire to indicate how much we can charge for a trip, and reminding them that we normally offer each year group 2 trips per year. We then take the most common response and we set our trips around this price, to maximise the number of students to attend.

We would very much appreciate you completing this questionnaire, which takes a few minutes to do. It is anonymous <a href="https://forms.office.com/e/9CUj3QbPL0">https://forms.office.com/e/9CUj3QbPL0</a>

Once we have the cost limit, we will price up the potential trips to match your capacity to spend, then publish a calendar of trips and a payment window so that you can plan your expenditure, this was suggested by a parent last year.

### SatchelOne.

SatchelOne is the application Edwinstree use to communicate home learning information, academic reports and to view timetables. This year we have expanded our use of SatchelOne to include merit and behaviour notifications.

All new students have been issued SatchelOne PIN codes and registration instructions.

To control what information you wish to be notified of and by what method, please go to the settings menu in the app and select notifications. A list of notification options will be displayed, and you can toggle them on or off as required. We recommend that you enable push and email notifications for 'behaviour points and badges. Please note that SatchelOne requires parents to complete an email verification for security reasons. Please verify your account as soon as you are prompted, to prevent the account being locked.

If you need any further assistance, please contact Mrs Heywood <u>r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk</u>

### When does Homework start?

Homework begins from the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. KS2 (year 5 & 6) receive English, Maths and Science homework. KS3 (year 7 & 8) receive the same and in addition the foundation subjects i.e. Music, DT, Geography, History once every two weeks.

All homework is set online via SatchelOne. If you or your child are having problems logging in, please contact r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

#### Year 7 Residential.

Please may we remind you that final payments for the Y7 Residential in September 2024 was due on 30th August 2024 and is still available on School Gateway.

Thank you to those who have made this payment already. Also please ensure that we have a completed consent form using the link <u>https://forms.office.com/e/FXKUPSFhad</u>

Attached to this newsletter is a kit checklist. Please be aware that on certain activities clothing will get wet and muddy, and all items should be named to avoid loss.

#### Year 7 Drama – Wednesday's.

Please ensure that your child's uniform is appropriate for drama lessons and does not restrict movement.

### Year 7 Maths.

To enable students to study maths from Year 7 to GCSE they will need to purchase a scientific calculator. The current recommendation, which is used at Edwinstree and Freman is the Casio fx-83GTX and can be purchased from Amazon using the following link:

Casio FX-83GTX Scientific Calculator, Black: Amazon.co.uk: Stationery & Office Supplies

We do have a limited number of the previous version of this calculator available at a discounted price to purchase from the school. If you would prefer to do this, please contact Ms Holden in the school office. Please contact the school office if you have financial difficulties purchasing this.

We will expect all students to have a scientific calculator to use in maths lessons by Monday  $7^{th}$  October.

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.

## Year 7 and Year 8 Music lessons.

This half term we are learning the guitar. If your child has a guitar at home, please encourage them to bring it in - even if it is out of tune! We can sort that for them and hopefully encourage them to play it more often at home. Mr Rowlands and Miss Jackson

### Art Competition – All Years.

Please note there is an art competition on SatchelOne noticeboard for any students that would like to submit a design for a mosaic that will be taking place in October.

## Year 8 - Upper School Applications.

Applications for secondary/upper school places to start in September 2025 opened Monday 2 September 2024, for children in year 8 (in middle schools).

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to secondary and upper schools is fast approaching. Parents will need to make an application online or on paper by the closing date of 31st October 2024. We would recommend that parents complete their applications by Friday 25th October, so that if there are any queries, they can be dealt with by the Admissions Team ahead of the deadline.

Parents should apply online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

### Freman Open Evening.

Takes place on Wednesday 25th September, 6:00pm – 8:30 pm. Please find letter attached.

## When do Afterschool Enrichment Clubs start?

Club sign-up sheets will be out by the middle of next week with electronic links to sign up to. On Monday you will receive the list of clubs available this term, so please talk to your child early next week about which they would wish to participate in and get ready to sign up on Wednesday. The link for sign up's will be sent via Parentmail. The majority of clubs offered to students remain free to students. However, we do have some private tuition available advertised below:

#### Edwinstree School Street dance classes.

OPEN TO ALL YEAR GROUPS.

Christina Marks will be offering the students of Edwinstree School Street dance classes **every Monday** after school. Learn the latest dance moves to popular music, these lessons teach a mixture of styles and steps. Classes are taught a team of passionate CMSOPA teachers who all have showbiz CVs and enhanced DBS.

Classes will run from 3:15-4:15pm To register and book please follow the link below. <u>https://christina-marks-sopa.classforkids.io</u>

The ethos lies at the heart of Christina Marks School for Performing Arts is to dream, aspire, achieve, and excel. Christina Marks Email: Christinamarksschoolofperformingarts@hotmail.com

#### Tel 07525850232



# Edwinstree School Association.

Donations of preloved uniform are always welcome. (Branded jumpers, t-shirts, and hoodies only). They can be handed into the school office at any time. Our online shop will be updated upon receipt of donations, and you can order items ready for collection at the school office. Edwinstree

School Association Online Shop (sumupstore.com)

If you are buying new uniform or equipment, please remember to label everything! We get 30% commission on labels at Stikins if you quote our fundraising number 6671 at <u>http://www.stikins.co.uk</u>

The ESA would like to welcome all new families to Edwinstree Middle School. The ESA is really just a PTA, but we like to include more than just parents and teachers. Anyone who has an association with the school is welcome to join us to raise funds to improve facilities and host fun events for our students and families. We will be sharing all the ways you can help raise funds and get involved next week but, in the meantime, please do like and follow our Facebook page, just search for Edwinstree School Association.

Joanne Willett ESA Chair

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk