



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of
England School
**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS &
CARERS**
Week Ending: 07/07/2023

Diary Dates

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
11/07/23	Quin House Fun Swim KS2
12/07/23	Fullness Day – Wild life in the local community and evening event.
13/07/23	County Transition Day
13/07/23	Year 8 Science Consultations via School Cloud 3.30-5.00pm
19/07/23	Evening School Production - The Island that Rocks 6.30pm
21/07/23	End of Summer Term 1.20pm
01-04/09/23	INSET Days
05/09/23	Year 5 induction Day only
06/09/23	Autumn Term Begins for all Years
18-20/09/23	Year 7 Essex Outdoors Bradwell – Educational Visit
05/10/2023	Edwinstree Open Evening 6pm - 8pm, Headteacher Speaks at 6.15pm

The weather continues to be predicted to be warm next week, so students can wear PE kit and we will review mid-week.

Mrs Gant has been absent from the school this week due to COVID, returning today and will be supporting the year 8 sleepover this evening. Please bear with her if she is delayed in responding to emails and/or communication.

Thank you to those parents who attended our Sports Day. This was the first full Sports Day offered since COVID, and we believe that we have a lot to learn to get this right.

Thank you for those of you who alerted us to your frustrations with the event the following is a list of what we will review:

- Managing your expectations, of what events you will see and are available for.
- Where to enter and exit the school for events, signing in/out and which facilities to use.
- Managing and regulating parent use of mobile phones. photos and filming.
- Managing our student’s expectations of the event when they have parents visiting.

We are really aware that our students continue to be higher than high and lower than low during an event that is not part of their normal routine, we continue to work hard to help them to regulate.

Year 8 Science consultations

Mrs Gravelle will be offering appointment times if anyone wishes to speak to her about Science before Year 8 go up to Freman, we are aware this was missed earlier in the year. This will be from 3.30-5.00pm on Thursday the 13th of July using School cloud.

Year 6 SATs

Year 6 parents, please could you complete this short questionnaire regarding the support provided by the school during the SATs process. Your feedback would be greatly appreciated.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BTrIzduqZ0-r9r2eTDmg8F8RSwokmeRDhMnaAtKJ1V1UM1ZPW DZBQUFDNEVUR1VJR0gzNjQ2MkEzNS4u>

*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.*

Key events happening as we lead up to the end of term:

Fullness day – Wednesday 12th July

Students will be continuing to look at how we can as a school and a community, make our lives better whilst maintaining and improving the environment. Before Christmas our day revolved around reducing energy, for this day the students voiced they would like to consider wildlife and habitats and how we look after them. The key theme is always that we can all do a little something to make a difference. Students will be in normal lessons but will be able to volunteer for one of the free talks and activities available on the day. Here is a list of some of the talks they have on offer:

- River Rib talk and action on looking after our local river
- Hedgehog Friendly garden talk and explore
- Food and Farming
- Sustainability in Action
- RSPB Fowlmere
- Eco bricks
- How does a local horse charity, support students to learn about healing through horses?
- Build a bug palace
- Honey Bees and their habitats
- Wild flower restoration and support work
- School clean up Eco warriors of the future
- Growing our own food and how we can use it.

The 'Bug Hotel' building session will be using a range of scrap materials for construction. Do you have any of the following materials at home (that would otherwise be thrown away!) that you would be kind enough to donate?

- Bamboo canes (with holes through the centre)
- Old roof tiles

- Terracotta pots
- Stones/pebbles of varying sizes
- Twigs or loose bark
- Chicken wire
- Bricks or building bricks (with holes running through them)
- Pine cones
- Wooden pallets
- Small planks of wood
- Sticks

In the evening our eco warriors will be presenting to parents and Buntingford dignitaries on what they have learnt about what we can do to protect our local wildlife habitats.

You are very welcome to join us to hear what they have found out and to brainstorm what we can do to make a difference in our local community.

INVITATION

to

Edwinstree Middle School's

Intergenerational Conversation Café – 12th July

2023

(18.30 to 20.30pm)

On this Collapsed Curriculum Day, we are asking our students one of the Key Questions of our time: ***“How can I make a difference to make our local area more sustainable?”***

We are taking groups of students to learn from local farmers, nature reserve wardens, the local chalk stream society and many other sustainability activists so that by the end of the day, hopefully they will have come up with some good answers. To assess their answers, and to add some of their own, we are hosting, in partnership with Peace Child International, an “Intergenerational Conversation Café” – which allows you to have serious conversations with your children about the most effective answers to this crucial question.

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Transition Day Thursday 13th July.

Year 8 Students will have received information on the specifics of transition day, please make sure your child attends in our uniform, if it is hot, this will be PE kit and we will confirm this with you nearer the time. Your child will go straight to Freman for the day.

Our new year 4 students have received an email alerting them to what is happening on the day. For year 5,6, and 7 their timetable and day remains the same, with the students having opportunities to meet the youngest students at lunch time.

Safeguarding talks with outside agencies

To prepare students for the long Summer – In the last weeks of term we have invited One Chance to come and talk to KS3 on the following topic:

- **County lines – 19th July 2023 for KS3**

See letter attached

School Production - The Island that Rocks 19th July 2023 6.30pm.

or one night only, we will be showing the musical “The Island that Rocks!”

The students have worked so hard, despite the limited rehearsals, and we would love you to come and see their hard work! Catchy songs and a message of sustainability; this is a great show and we are sure you will be impressed by the talent the students have brought to the performance!

The performance will start promptly at 6.30pm on 19th of July with a 20-minute interval. There will be refreshments available and a raffle (thank you ESA members) and we ask a suggested donation of just £3 per seat ticket.

We would like to thank all the students (and the staff) for their hard work this year and look forward to next year’s show!

Mrs Brock and The Production Team

End of term walk to a local Church

The last day of term will involve a trip to a local church hopefully Wyddial. If you have good walking shoes and are willing please help us by volunteering to get the students there and back safely, please can you email admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Maths Home Learning Club

Thank you to all those who have attended the club this year. There will be no maths home learning club during the last two weeks of term as I will be at a meeting in Letchworth next week and there will be no home learning set during the final week of term. Mrs Earnshaw

How to get ready for next year?

Please remember we have a change to uniform occurring this year – with us moving away from ties and from jumpers to logo sweatshirts. You can purchase the new sweatshirts and our PE tops from Price and Buckland.

If you are a parent who is going to struggle to make the change to the sweatshirt top, in the first instance and/ or you have perfectly good jumpers that need out-growing we will allow students in year 6,7 and 8 to wear jumpers in the first term until you are ready to buy the sweatshirts.

Please remember that if you are choosing a black plain pair of trainers as your child’s footwear, please make sure it has a hard surface top, in order to allow them to take part safely in Science experiments and Tech. These subjects are also keen to ensure that students avoid rings, hoop earrings and false and fake nails as these can cause extra risk and harm.

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Note from Price and Buckland Uniform provider

For parents wanting delivery before the start of the new school year, please place your orders before

1st August.

This will help us to ensure all pupils are in uniform for the first day of school

[Primary_Leaflet_Brochure_CUT_OFF.pdf](#)
(mcusercontent.com)

When do we return to school? What are the inset days for next year?

Staff return to school on the 1st and 4th of September for two days Inset.

We welcome Year 5 into school on Tuesday 5th September.

School starts for year 6,7, and 8 on Wednesday 6th September.

Colours of your flag day

Thank you for all your support for the Non-Uniform Day and Bake Sale that took place on Wednesday, 28th of June. We raised £454 that will go towards our Fullness day to celebrate diversity within our school in October.

Outdoor Learning Shed

In the last 2 weeks of term, Ms Sanders with the help of some Year 8 students, are looking to shelve out and put up hangers in the outdoor learning shed.

We would really appreciate it if anyone could donate strips of wide wooden shelving, anything from 1m to 2m long and 0.3 to 0.5 m wide. Plus, shelving brackets to fit these. Wood screws long enough to take the weight of these shelves any 2 by 4 or 4 by 4 batons and broom handles. We need this really quickly, donations can be dropped into school or contact me via the school office and I'm happy to collect if needs be. Thank you so much for your help and support. Ms Sanders

SchoolGrid

Please ensure your SchoolGrid account for Year 8's is in credit/cleared prior to the end of term.



ESA

Thank you to all the students who entered the **Wildlife competition**, take a look at the winners in the

attachment. All entries are on our Facebook page and they made a stunning display at the Summer Tree't, where the ESA raffle raised £93 for the outdoor classroom campaign. Our total continues to grow with several generous donations from local businesses. Many thanks to Bars & Belles, Complete Gardening, Mark Bliss, Riverside Taxis, Herts Ices, Hatch Construction and Attend2IT who between them have donated £770.

Refreshments sold at **sports day** raised £219.89 and we will be back again selling refreshments (including the alcoholic variety) at the school musical on 19th July along with a raffle. We hope to see you there!

National Book Tokens

Help your school #rebuildthelibrary – plus win a £100/€120 National Book Token for yourself!

Please nominate the school, and if yours is one of the five winning entries, you'll also win a £100/€120 National Book Token to spend in your favourite bookshop!

[WIN £1,000/€1,000 for your school's library!](#)
(nationalbooktokens.com)

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