




Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 11/11/2022

Diary Dates – Week A

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
15/11/22	KS3 Autumn Walk
18/11/22	Flu Vaccination catch up - Y5&6  Children in Need £1 for non-uniform
22-23/11/22	School Photographs
25/11/22	Lights of Love Ceremony, Manor House Buntingford – Choir attendance 6PM
30/11/22	Fullness day Global warming – how to save energy and why should we?
01/12/22	Joint Christmas Concert with Freman (more details to follow)
07/12/22	Students Christmas Dinner (lunch will be bookable via SchoolGrid, for a cost of £2.80, deadline for orders is Friday 25th November)
09/12/22	Christmas Jumper day (more details to follow)
13/12/22	Year 5 Christingle afternoon – Parents welcome (more details to follow)
14/12/22	Year 8 –Geography Trip to London to visit Grenfell Tower (letter attached to newsletter)
16/12/22	End of Term Service at Aspenden Church parent volunteers needed. End of term 13.20PM

What events are taking place next week?

Year 7 & 8 Autumn walk are next Tuesday, the 15th November – please read below for details.

Next Friday the 18th November, we will offer a non-school uniform day for those that wish to participate with a voluntary donation of £1 to go towards Children in Need. If your child prefers to stay in school uniform this is always fine. Payment will be available via School Gateway.

How are we managing PE now with muddy fields and muddy students? We request from next week that unless your child has an identified and sensory need – they attend school in their winter uniform, and additionally bring their PE kit with them. This is because we are returning to outdoor games on the field that will mean your children and their kit will be very muddy. Please support us to keep them and the school clean! Thank you. If in doubt and you believe your child will struggle please email admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk and we will get back to you.

What have students been thinking about in COWO?

We have been exploring the value of Reverence and how understanding this value and the virtues it creates in us might help us with our lives. We took time to think about the traditional, and Church meaning to Hallows day and Hallows Eve. We have learnt that whilst it is fun to dress up it is actually a time to celebrate All Saints day – and all Souls day. In particular we thought about the quote below – acknowledging that this can be a time to remember with fondness our loved ones who have passed on

and talking about them keeps them in our hearts and minds.

Luke 20: 38

He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive."

When will the school photos be taking place and will we get them for Christmas?

We will be offering your child the opportunity to have a school photo on the 22nd and/ or 23rd of November. Sibling photos will also be included. The Photography company has guaranteed that if you meet the deadline for confirming that you would like to purchase photos, then they will get them back in time for Christmas.

What is the arrangement for winter play at breaks and lunch times?

We are moving the children off the main play areas on the field as the field becomes too wet and muddy to be safe to play on. Students have been briefed about what is happening. Lunchtime will be split into time spent indoors eating, including packed lunches in sessions 5 & 7 and 8 & 6, then time outside. As we have expanded as a school in recent years, our winter play does not involve football as there is not enough space for them to safely play. Year 5 & 6 will be allowed to bring in tennis balls, and Year 7 & 8 will be allowed to bring basketballs. We will be providing equipment for them to play with as well.

Can you help with Lost uniform?

May we ask you to check your child's uniform name tags at home in case your child has mistakenly bought home someone else's PE kit? This can happen, and does happen often. If you find yourself in this situation please drop items off at our reception and we will return them to the right owner. Please may we stress If you name your child's uniform, it is much more likely to return to you. Thank you for your support.

Flu Vaccinations – Year 5&6 catch-up session

We have been advised that The Nursing Team will be in school on Friday 18th November for a catch-up session for students that missed the initial date.

You can now complete a consent form for your child online. It is important to complete and return the form even if you do not want your child to have the vaccine. Please find NHS letter attached with a link to the form.

Food and Nutrition:

Congratulations to all students who created the most mouth-watering dishes for their first practical's. I have been really impressed at the end products which have been made over the past few weeks! Hopefully parents and carers got to sample the delights.

Please make sure you have read the homework sent home on Satchel 1 - Your ingredients list and Health

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and Safety advice is on the page. **Please remember the correct footwear.**

Year 5 - there is no cooking next week.

Year 6 - 6C you will be cooking Pasta Salad on Tuesday. The other classes will have their demo's next week and cook the following week.

Year 7 - 7A and 7D you will be cooking spaghetti Bolognese. Please remember your additional ingredients as discussed in class. 7B and 7C will have their demo next week.

Year 8 All classes are cooking Stir Fry. Remember there is no set list of ingredients, you are adapting the recipe to your own family's taste. All information and suggestions are on Satchel 1.

Please remember to bring in containers that are suitable in size. If you have previously borrowed a container, please return it to school. Please do get in touch if you are having any difficulty in obtaining ingredients. I look forward to another round of fabulous dishes! Mrs van Wyk

Science request

In Science we use small toy cars in our practical's. We are running a bit short of small toy cars so if any families have a couple laying around at home unused then we would love to rehome them.

Year 5&6 news:

Thank you to the parents who supported the Autumn walk. They had a muddy, wet and fun time! We will be using the walk to help your child to understand OS maps, and we will be starting with contours having just completed the hill walk! This learning will take place in their Humanities lessons.

Year 6 news:

What are we doing to support year 6 students on their journey to SATS?

On Wednesday 7th December we are intending to hold SATs workshops for year 6 students and Parents/Carers. The aim of the workshops is to support you and your child with their English and Maths SATs. At the workshop, you will find out some of the expectations of the students and have the chance to look through recently marked practice SATs papers (English and Maths) with your child, with the support of their English and maths teacher.

The timings of the workshops are:

6C and 6D - Mr Funnell, Miss Bull and Mrs Mayne (8:55-9:55 - P1)

6A and 6B - Mr Nash and Miss Bull (9:55-10:55 - P2)

Please would you fill in the short survey to give us an idea of parent attendance. If you are a friend of parent who can't make it, we are happy for you to support their child as well.

<https://forms.office.com/r/Gdt6m0g5uE>

Year 7 news:

Autumn Walk

Takes place on Tuesday afternoon, thank you to all volunteers. Please make sure your child arrives in non-school uniform (clothing that you don't mind them getting muddy). Please get them to bring a change of shoes, wellies etc that again you don't mind them getting muddy.

If you have a spare plastic bag that they can carry conkers in, please send them in with this also. Thank you. If you are a grandparent, carer, or parent who could spare the afternoon, we would really appreciate your help. Would you be willing to help us out with the walk? It would start at 1.30pm and we will be back for 3pm. Please use the following link to sign up.

<https://forms.office.com/r/RNAFCUruHp>

Message from Mr Galanides – Head of Year 7

Year 7 have had a really positive start to Key Stage 3, probably more so than any other year group I've ever seen at Edwinstree - and bear in mind I've been at the school since about four or five years before these students were born! I have really started to enjoy getting to know them as their new Head of Year.

One thing I'm keen to do is to celebrate their successes. To really encourage what we as a school call "prosocial behaviour" at an individual and class level within year 7 we are trying out two weekly awards between now and Christmas:

- Weekly, year 7 tutors will individually nominate a single child who has really gone beyond in any way at all.
- Weekly, the year 7 class with the largest number of merits will be invited to wear non-school uniform the following Friday.

We are trying this out until Christmas but would also really welcome you emailing myself at hoy7@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk with any other ideas that you feel would encourage your child and their year group.

Year 8 news

Autumn walk

Takes place Tuesday afternoon, thank you to all volunteers. Please make sure your child arrives in non-school uniform (clothing that you don't mind them getting muddy in). Please get them to bring a change of shoes wellies etc that again you don't mind them getting muddy in. If you have a spare plastic bag that they can carry conkers in, please send them in with this also. Thank you. If you are a grandparent, carer, or are a parent who could spare the afternoon, we would really appreciate your help. Would you be willing to help us out with the walk? It would start at 1.30pm and we will be back for 3pm. Please use the following link to sign up.

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Geography Trip to London

Attached is the accompanying letter for the Christmas Geography trip for year 8 on the 14th December, please read and complete the link if you wish for your child to participate.

Co-op Community Fund

A huge thanks goes to the Co-op and everyone who supported the fundraising campaign during the last twelve months. Thanks to your support, the campaign ended with over £4700 being raised which will be used towards our outdoor classroom project. Special thanks to the two students and Mr Rowlands who represented the school beautifully during the presentation. With the assistance of the ESA, we will continue to fundraise until we reach our target!



Best Wishes

Mrs J Gant - Headteacher

Attachments:

NHS Flu Letter & Med1 form

Year 8 letter

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