



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 16/09/2022

16/09/22 Parent News
Diary Dates – Week A

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
19/9/22	Bank Holiday – School Closed
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

Dear Parent/ Carer

As you will be aware, we will close on Monday for the Bank Holiday and the state funeral and reopen on Tuesday 20th September at normal time. This week we have continued to follow the lead of the Church of England, we have used their resources for Collective worship which involved celebrating the Queens life. We talked to students about what will happen at the funeral, and why funerals are important. We have continued to emphasise that the Queen lived a long life so it is important to celebrate. We have been using the following bible quote as the guide to how Christians manage a funeral and thoughts around death.

“Do not be worried and upset” Jesus told them.
“Believe in God and believe also in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so. And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am.” (John 14: 1-3)

Any child who is currently experiencing loss was able to sit on the carpet, visit the prayer room or go to the Learning Zone if the COWO's were too much this week. Next week we will return to thinking about the year ahead, and our plans to help students learn well, have fun, flourish and live life in all its fullness.

Resources we have been using link:
<https://www.churchofengland.org/remembers-her-majesty-queen#prayer>

How can I find out about the school and what my child is learning?

Year 5 parents will have a “Getting to Know You” Meeting at 5pm on the 29th of September. We would encourage you all to come. You will have an opportunity to hear from the Head of Maths, English and French about the learning that is taking place this year, and how you can support with homework. You will also have an opportunity to meet the tutor and to view your child's books. The event should take no longer than an hour. Please note we actively encourage you to bring your child with you.

Year 6, 7 and 8 - We are currently finishing the calendar for parents evening and will be offering one CORE evening of Science, English and Maths and a Foundation evening in Key stage 2. At key stage 3 we will offer the more traditional parents evening opportunities that you would see in a secondary school, with a booking system to see a variety of subjects on one night. Dates will be published by the end of September. At all parents' evenings we will encourage you to bring your child, their books will be available.

Year 6 - We will be offering an introduction to the SATs meeting post half term – where our Deputy lead for teaching and learning and the maths and English teams will talk you through how they prepare your child and how you can help.

Open evening takes place on the 6th of October and while this event has in the past been for prospective year 5 parents, we are happy to welcome all year groups, particularly year 6 and 7 parents who have had very little opportunity to experience the school. More information to follow.

This year we will be offering opportunities for parents to visit in the morning to experience lessons and get a feel for learning in the school. More information in the next couple of weeks.

Our website displays each subject and the year group learning for you to access. We will be streamlining this but start by looking at the curriculum maps and threshold statements.

What homework will my child be receiving from Tuesday?

Attached are the timetables for homework for each year group, this can also be found on our website. We will begin to follow these in earnest from Tuesday. Week beginning Monday 19th September is **WEEK A**.

All homework will be set using our Show My Homework App and you have received a letter with regard to this. If you are struggling to set this up at home, or if you are

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struggling with providing your child with the equipment or power to access their learning online, please contact: admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

What homework will take place for French in KS2 and 3?

Year 5 and 6 will receive a weekly reading task about French culture, geography and history From Tuesday 20th September.

Year 7 and 8 will be given vocabulary to practice and they will be tested on it every second week.

To support them in their learning the vocabulary will be on Quizlet, attached is a form explaining how to sign up to Quizlet (free). All home learning can be found on SMHW

Enrichment

An updated version of our clubs list is attached to the newsletter. You can sign your child up to each club using the hyperlink. For clubs that have limited numbers, we will contact you to confirm a place, or that your child is added to a reserves list. Art, Pokémon and Gardening clubs are already full.

We are still confirming when KS2 (Yr. 5&6) football will take place.

We do ask that you alert us to whether your child is walking home or not, when you sign up to the club. External run clubs for Film and Drama operate a separate sign up system and register as they are run in school but by external services.

What additional year group news is there?

Next week we will be asking you, to help us understand what you think is affordable for trips and fund- raising activities during the cost of living crisis, however, we give the following year groups advance notice of costs coming up.

We will be running a Maths Adventure day for year **5 and 8** and asking parents to contribute £4 for this. We will also be running a year **5 and 6** day for Humanities which will cost £2.

Year 7

Information on the year 7 residential – Letters have gone out this week to confirm the final arrangements for the trip. If your child is not attending, we will be expecting them in school but we are planning a one- day trip of fun to enrich them during this period. Timetables for those staying will be out next week.

Year 8

Don't miss the Freman Open evening next week. See dates above.

Other News

Cost of Living Support

With the cost of living on the rise, Herts CC have put together some key links for local people which offer advice and practical help to manage finances and make savings, these can be viewed on this page:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/families-first/news-and-campaigns/cost-of-living.aspx>

COVID-19 Guidance

Since returning in September we have had very few COVID-19 positive students and staff. However, as the guidance is updated regularly, clarification of the most recent guidance taken from the NHS website is as follows:

Children

Children who test positive for COVID-19 should isolate for three full days starting from the day after the test was taken. They may return to school after the three-day period is over, as long as they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to return. They do not need to test again before returning to school.

Staff

Adults who test positive for COVID-19 should isolate for five full days starting from the day after the test was taken. They may return to work after the five-day period is over as long as they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to return. They do not need to test again before returning to work.

Attendance

As we learn to live with COVID. We thought we would republish the school's procedure for attendance in order to help you understand the statutory duties we carry out to help you get your child into school. Please take the time to read the attached letter.

Starlight Stars Speech & Drama Club

Please be reminded that the class will not run on 27th September, and therefore an additional session is booked for 13th December.

Edwinstree School Association

The ESA are hosting a pre-loved clothing and uniform sale, all money goes to Edwinstree School Association. Sunday 18th September - 10am - 11.30am, Attend2Health, 27 High Street, Buntingford SG9 9AH Everyday jumpers, hoodies, t shirts and hats, Coats, School uniform and shoes. £1- £5 cash or card

Best Wishes

Jo Gant - Headteacher

Attachments:

Homework Timetable

Enrichment Clubs

Attendance Letter Sept 22

Quizlet Signup

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