



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School
NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 18/11/2022

Diary Dates – Week A

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
21/11/22	Year 5 visit Freman to watch dress rehearsal of Charlie and the Chocolate factory 1.00-2.30pm
22-23/11/22	School Photographs (schedule below)
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
02/12/22	Occasional Day (school closed)
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
16/12/22	End of Term Service at Aspenden Church parent volunteers needed. End of term 13.20PM
05/01/23	Spring Term begins

How can you help to keep your children safe on entry and exit to the school?

I have no idea why someone designed a school to have an exit at the exact point where the bus lanes were created for Edwinstree, for children to exit or enter School where parked vehicles is a risk. To alleviate that, we have moved the majority of buses up to Freman for the end of day collections and students are walked up to get on buses. This allows children to exit with a clear view of the road and how to cross it. Unfortunately, the bus lane is a tempting place for a parent in a rush, and for the last couple of weeks the morning buses have struggled to park, with a variety of cars parked in the bus lane, and then again at the end of the day, cars have been parked where students are exiting creating a hazard.

Can we please ask that you think twice about parking in the bus lane, tempting though it is, there are so many spaces in the Sainsburys car park which would help keep our children safe. Thank you for any support you can give.

How is the school saving energy and how will we use this to support our Fullness day on Global warming?

Students returned post COVID and many were worried about a number of issues including Global warming. Last year we spent time as a school understanding what this issue was, and helping students to think about how they and we (the school) could reduce our Greenhouse gas emissions. The school chose the route of compost tiger worms to reduce our waste. This term we are revisiting Global warming as an issue but looking at how we can all reduce our energy. Students will be involved in hearing how the school is going about this, and what more they and we can do to help. If we get this day correct, they will come home to talk to you with lots of ideas and thoughts on how and why it is important to save energy. As part of the drive to reduce energy, our school has been colder than normal, please may we ask that you ensure that your child comes in with jumpers and coats, we are also happy for them to use their PE hoodie as an extra layer.

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When are the school photos?

Having questioned you about what you felt you were able to spend on enrichment etc, the parents survey confirmed that you would like school photo's this year, Our Photographer will be in on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd of November – please ensure your child arrives dressed to impress in their school uniform! The schedule for the two days is as follows:

Tuesday 22nd November

Lesson	Time	Class
1	8.55am	Siblings
1		Siblings
2		Siblings
Breaktime	10.55am	
3	11.10am	5D
3	11.40am	5B
4	12.10pm	8A
4	12.40pm	8C
Lunchbreak	1.10pm	
5	1.45pm	6B
5	2.15pm	6C

Wednesday 23rd November

Lesson	Time	Class
1	8.55am	7A
1	9.25am	7B
2	9.55am	8B
2	10.25am	8D
Breaktime	10.55am	
3	11.05am	7C
3	11.35am	7D
4	12.05pm	5A
4	12.35pm	5C
Lunchbreak	1.05pm	
5	1.45pm	6D
5	2.15pm	6A

Are you able to support us with year 6 SATs?

We are looking for parent helpers to support us during our Mock SATs week, 30th January - 2nd February 2023. We are also looking for parents to support us during the official SATs week however, we are waiting for the date to be confirmed by the Department for Education. The dates will be confirmed later this month. Duties would involve, supporting children by reading questions to them or prompting them and supporting the class teacher with any administrative needs. If you are able to support us on some or all of the days, please contact us by email at a.earnshaw@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

PE

First and foremost, please pass on a huge well done to the students for coping with returning to changing into their PE kit this week after a significant amount of time. We have been impressed with how quickly they have changed, and how little lost property there has been! To reassure those of you with children who have sensory needs, we will work on an individual basis to meet their need. However, we hope that by Easter all pupils will be changing, both in readiness for transition to upper school and when swimming starts for Year 5, 6 and some Year 7s. We have also attached a simplified copy of our department

timetable which outlines which sports your children are doing and when.

How are we planning to spread a little joy to a grey, grey month!

A substantial number of students have come to the PE department to ask if they would be able to watch the England game on Monday, this is the only opportunity that they will have throughout the cup. My initial response was no, they have lost too much education and then I thought...

- We all need joy in our life, particularly in the last 3 years
- They have asked not demanded - should we listen to them?
- Its grey, grim and this is a no expense opportunity to put a little cheer in children's lives.
- It gives us an opportunity to talk about how to watch events, real sporting heroes and the Qatar and FA decision.
- Year 5 are having early lunch on Monday in order to watch a play at Freman so the school day will already be disrupted.

We are planning the following:

Students will go to early lunch at the end of period 3 and will finish lunch at what would be the end of period 4, they will then go into complete their 4th lesson when they would normally be at lunch. Year 5 will go up to Freman to watch the performance. We will then give Year 6-8 students the opportunity to watch the game. Those students who do not wish to watch the game, will continue with their lessons. Any student watching the game will sign up to a commitment to complete the missing period 5 work, this will be posted on SMHW. We hope you agree this gives our children a burst of sunlight and fun, while continuing to focus on recovering from lost learning.

Where is Ms Sanders our Head of Science?

We are saddened to inform you that our Head of Science is currently off ill for an extended period of time and for the remainder of this term. We have therefore secured a teacher who worked at Edwinstree previously, Ms Di Pasquale to cover the Science lessons for Ms Sanders classes this term. The scheme of work and learning will continue as normal and Ms Barrett is supporting Ms Di Pasquale to get up to speed with the classes and students. If your child was one of the children selected for Forest School work this will now be postponed until the return of Ms Sanders.

Edwinstree/Freman joint Christmas concert

We are holding the joint Edwinstree/Freman Christmas concert on Thursday 1st December, please see flyer attached. If you require tickets for the event, please email admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk with a note of how many tickets you require.

Year 5 news:

Y5 - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
Freman College have invited our Y5 students up to watch their dress rehearsal of this production on Monday 21st November. Y5 will have an early lunch and be walked up and supervised by their Edwinstree Teachers. They will be back in time for Collective Worship and a normal school finish.

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 a 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:

Sorry we had to postpone the walk due to such awful weather on Tuesday. The forecast is awful for next week and we have school photographs on the Tuesday so we will rethink!

Year 8 news

Sorry we had to postpone the walk due to such awful weather on Tuesday. The forecast is awful for next week and we have school photographs on the Tuesday so we will rethink!

Please complete and return the form confirming your child's attendance on the visit to London, and if you are able to support on the day, please complete the relevant section.

<https://forms.office.com/r/8RK7QXfdGe>.

If the cost of this visit will cause you financial difficulty, please email the office on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Below is a picture of the South bank market which is less than half an acre in size and has traditional stalls and lots of street food from around the world celebration winter and Christmas food options. It's a great place to seek reasonable and unusual Christmas presents and to take in the views from the Thames.



Enrichment Clubs

Monday 21st November is the last session for Crochet Club
Gardening Club has now finished

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Food and Nutrition:

Please make sure you have read the homework sent home on Satchel 1 - Your ingredients list and Health and Safety advice is on the page. Please remember the correct footwear.

Year 5 - there is no cooking next week. Wonderful responses to your first taste testing session. Well done!

Year 6 - 6A, 6B and 6D you will be cooking Pasta Salad next. Remember the container size needs to be large.

Year 7 - 7B and 7C you will be cooking spaghetti Bolognese. Please remember your additional ingredients as discussed in class and a suitable, large container for the Bolognese.

Year 8 - Some excellent examples of quick, healthy and filling stir fries created this week. Lots of vitamins, minerals, carbs and protein used to create some vibrant meals. Very well done.

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. Here's to another week of tasty dishes!
Mrs van Wyk

Support For Neurodiversity, Autism and ADHD in Hertfordshire

We wanted to let you know that the Autism and ADHD transformation programme, which includes Hertfordshire County Council, NHS trusts, HPCI and local voluntary organisations, has been working hard to improve services for families and young people.

A key area of work has been ensuring you know where you can go to access support in your local area. This will hopefully help you get access to support as early as you can. Some children and young will need some additional support and some reasonable adjustments; you don't always need a diagnosis to access the right help.

To find out more about the support available please watch this 3-minute animation or visit the Herts Local Offer.

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/autismADHDsupporthertfordshire or go straight to www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer to find out about the support being offered

Best Wishes

Mrs J Gant - Headteacher

Attachments:

PE

Christmas Concert

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