

Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of
England School



**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS &
CARERS**

Week Ending: 19/04/2024.

Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Diary Dates:

School Day – 8:40am – 3:10pm	
22/04/24	Year 6 Foundation Evening in person.
23/04/24	Year 5 Whipsnade Zoo trip.
24/04/24	Current Year 6 residential information evening for parent/carers 5pm
26/04/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Student Exam Stress Workshop assembly. Year 8 Thorpe Park trip.
03/05/24	Parent Sleep Workshop 9am
06/05/24	Bank Holiday.
13-16/05/24	Year 6 SATs Week.
17/05/24	6B non uniform for winning merit challenge last term.
20/05/24	Year 7 Foundation Evening in person.
21/05/24	Year 8 Shakespeare's Globe trip (details to follow).
23/05/24	Cambridge University Careers talk – Day in the life of a university Student Year 7 & 8 (details to follow).
27-31/05/24	Half Term.
12/06/24	Year 7 Shakespeare's Globe trip (details to follow).
17/06/24	Year 8 Foundation Evening in person.
28/06/24	INSET Day.
08/07/24	Year 6 Whipsnade Zoo trip (details to follow)
11/07/24	County Transition Day.
16/07/24	Visit from Bishop of St Albans.
17/07/24	Year 5 Queens Park trip (details to follow).
19/07/24	End of Summer Term 1:20pm.
02/09/24	INSET DAY.
03/09/24	Year 5 Induction Day.
04/09/24	Autumn Term Begins Years 6-8.
16-18/09/24	Year 7 Residential – Essex Outdoors Bradwell.
28/10/24 – 01/11/24	Half Term.
06/12/24	Occasional Day.
20/12/24	End of Autumn Term 1:20pm.

What happened in the inspection – what is the result?

Your children were exemplary during the inspection warm and considerate to the inspectors an open, honest, enthusiastic, and proud of the school. In particular, they felt the curriculum choice was really strong at the school and when the teachers are in and well, their learning is effective. They were very vocal about how proud they are of the diversity in the school, and how they are encouraged to be individual and to share and own what makes them unique and wonderful.

What happens now?

After the two-day inspection, The Chair of Governors and SLT are informed of the provisional judgement and this is then taken through a moderation process which will take up to half term or just after, when Ofsted publish the report. As soon as this report comes to us, we will issue it to you. In the meantime, we wait, digest, and look forward to continuing to work with you. In particular, I am so pleased to be back in the school after Long Covid and continuing to work in the community I originate from and care deeply about.

Are there any teachers still absent?

Mr McCarthy and Ms Sanders have returned from their period of ill health last half term, Mr Wainwright-Meekins remains absent.

When will we get the sign-up sheets for new afterschool enrichment clubs?

Sign-up sheets will be sent out early next week for students to sign up for new clubs, before they start on Monday 29th April, with the exception of Film Club, Drama and Homework clubs that are running next week.

School Reports

School reports will be issued week commencing the 29th April via Satchel One. Please check that you have access to your parent account as you will need this to view your child's report. If you are unable to access your parental account in SatchelOne and need a new parent PIN code, please email Mrs Heywood r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

Once the reports have been uploaded to SatchelOne a Parentmail will be issued to confirm. Thank you.

*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 5 trip on Tuesday to Whipsnade what is happening?

Your child will need to bring with them:

- Full school uniform with comfortable shoes or trainers (there will be lots of walking)
- Weather appropriate additions, raincoat, suncream, hat – depending on what the weather forecast is.
- A packed lunch [no glass bottles please] and snacks.
- A small backpack [to be carried throughout the day]
- Pocket money to visit the Gift Shop and or purchase additional drinks, ice cream etc – no more than £10 if their tutor group has opted to spend time in here. If not here is the link to the online shop [Gifts for Animal Lovers | ZSL Shop](#)
- Any medication [including travel sickness tablets] clearly labelled with their name to be handed to the office on Monday.
- A mobile phone/ small game device and/or traditional games cards etc are welcome for the journey to and from – however we will ask students to keep their phones locked on the coach whilst the students are in the Zoo.
- If your child wishes to take photos, please purchase a throw away camera. Please however note staff will have cameras to capture memories for tutor groups which they will share with them and you.

On the day of the visit, students need to arrive at school by 8.40am for a prompt departure at 9am. We will leave Whipsnade Zoo at 2.00pm and arrive back at Edwinstree at approximately 3.30pm. Alternative travel arrangements need to be made for those who use school transport. We will update via Parentmail and Facebook our return journey estimate arrival, so please monitor these forms of communication.

What happens if my child is not attending the trip?

We will be expecting students to attend school and they will follow a timetable and lessons for the day.

What is our Year 6 news:

Foundation evening takes place for year 6 on Monday 22nd April, this is the evening where you are invited to attend with your child from 5pm to 7pm. Your child will tour with you around the school and to the foundation subject rooms, here you can meet their

teacher and review their books. Please note this is an informal session with no booked appointments.

Current Year 6, Residential Information for Parents

Due to Mr McCarthy's ill health we are aware year 6 parents have not had a talk about the residential we are offering. This talk will take place on Wednesday the 24th of April in the hall at 5pm, if you would like to attend and hear more about what is on offer.

A plea for help from our community for SATs.

On the week beginning 13th May, Year 6 are sitting their SATs. This year we have identified an increased number of pupils who need an adult to sit with them and read them the questions. Could this be you? If you have free time of a morning that week (Monday - Thursday) and could support a pupil, we would be really grateful. Having a reader allows pupils to feel calmer, more confident and stay focussed on the tests. You could make a real difference to how our pupils experience the SATs. It might even be that you can't help us, but you know of a grandparent or other family member who could help us. We will support you to ensure you feel confident with the rules around the tests and how you can support pupils.

If this is something you could help with, please email, or call the school office and they will put you in touch with me Mrs S Barrett - KS2 Science Lead
admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Year 6 SATs – Student Exam Stress Workshop assembly

Pupil exam stress workshop will be on Friday 26th April pupils will be given strategies to help prepare them for the SATs.

Year 8 update on the Thorpe Park trip

We are looking forward to an exciting day at Thorpe Park on Friday. The pupils have been asked to sort themselves into groups (maximum of 8 pupils) who they will spend the day with. They will then be assigned a member of staff that they need to check in with throughout the day. This allows them to have some independence throughout the day but also allows us to ensure their safety. Although Thorpe Park feels like a big place from previous years' experience the pupils are never far from a member of school staff. The pupils will be briefed on this, so it is clear to them as well.

*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.*

It will be a non-uniform day and students will need to bring the following:

- Secure shoes (rides can dislodge shoes!)
- A waterproof coat
- Money for lunch or a packed lunch [no glass bottles or sweets please]
- Snack for later
- Water bottle
- A small backpack to hold all items (they will need to carry this throughout the day)
- Money to visit the Gift Shop – no more than £10.
- A disposable camera is welcome, but for safeguarding reasons, **no Electronic Devices** please (including mobile phones).
- Any medication [including travel sickness tablets] clearly labelled with their name and completed Med 1 form, to be handed to the office.

Most of the outlets at Thorpe Park are card only so it is easier if students have a bank card with available money on it.

On the day of the visit, students need to arrive at school by 8:40am for a **prompt departure at 9 am**. We will leave Thorpe Park at 4.30pm and arrive back at Edwinstree at **approximately 6.30pm**. Alternative travel arrangements need to be made for those who use school transport. We will aim to use the school Facebook page to update you on our return time should the traffic cause us issues.

Mrs S Barrett - KS2 Science Lead

Food and Nutrition

So lovely to see so many pupils following the health and safety rules, with the correct uniform in the kitchen this week. Still a few sets of false nails and incorrect shoes which I am hoping will be rectified before their next lesson.

We are starting with practical's soon in all year groups so need to be safe in the kitchen.

YEAR 5: Great taste testing sessions with 2 classes this week. 5C and 5A have started their pizza project journey. 5B and 5D are not far behind!

YEAR 6: Please remember your ingredients for your pasta salads. ALL INGREDIENTS to be named and dropped off first thing on the day of your practical. No shopping bags are allowed in the fridge, so please label all ingredients. If your child is eating their salad for lunch, please ensure you send 2 containers in.

YEAR 7: Delicious and healthy bread rolls are being made this week. Please have a look at the top tip on the H/L when it comes to ingredients needed.

YEAR 8: 8D and 8C will be embarking on salmon fish cakes on Monday - no ingredients are required as we have had a fabulous donation of salmon which we will be using. Keep an eye on the FB page for some of the results from this lesson.

Please do get in touch if you have any difficulty in obtaining any ingredients. Mrs van Wyk



School Production Programme Competition

Calling all artists! As you know the school production will be showing in June this year.

The cast and I would love to put something in the school newsletter to encourage people to come and see it and have a lovely picture on the programme we give to the audience.

The production is called: "Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies".

which is a fun version of the legend of Robin Hood. Please find further details attached.



Mental Health Support Teams Parent Workshops

Parent Sleep Workshop- Are you struggling to support your child with healthy sleep patterns? This is a growing concern for Parents nationally, come and listen to the experts help to advise about what can make a difference.

3rd May at 9am

If you would like to attend the parent sleep workshops, please email a.harris@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk to book your place.

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

*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.*