



Edwinstree Middle School



A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School

November 2018

*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.*

We are really pleased to announce that after a rigorous and full two day inspection, Ofsted have graded the school as 'Good' and that we are well on the way to returning Edwinstree to Outstanding. We would like to take the opportunity to thank the Community for their support. If you heard a large cheer this Friday coming from Edwinstree Hall, it is because we took the opportunity to celebrate with our students!

We started our year with a celebration of our amazing earth by considering and reflecting on the value of Creation. We have explored what makes our world so wonderful and the responsibility we have to look after the earth. As part of this reflection, we have also considered the WOW in our human capacity to solve problems and we have celebrated the life of ordinary people who have become extra ordinary. At Edwinstree, we celebrate the fact that the next generation of problem solvers and successful people are here in our school and in the Community.

Remembrance Day

As part of our Remembrance, Edwinstree Middle School took part in the SAA's 'Paint a Poppy Challenge' in partnership with the Royal British Legion, to commemorate 100 years since Armistice Day. Students, staff and parents were encouraged to paint and donate a poppy in order to create a display in the school hall. Our Art club students, with Mrs Chipperfield, created our display. We are pleased to announce that we were awarded second place in this national competition. Our prize : a lovely set of art materials for our Art department.



All Souls' Day

Edwinstree Middle School celebrated 'All Souls' Day' prior to half term. This is the date in the calendar when we stop and spend time remembering and celebrating friends and family members who have died. We spent a lovely afternoon sharing our memories and creating our memory catchers. These were based on the American Indian dream catchers but, instead of dreams, we captured our memories. These are now displayed as a back drop to our stage wall. The date coincided with mental

health week and we supported our students to begin to understand that talking about sadness and loss are important in keeping us well and that, in talking we find opportunities to be thankful for the lovely times we spent together. This is one of the Christian values that we celebrate regularly.



Motor Neurone Disease Day

In the Summer, one of our students with help from his friends, organised a fund raising day for the MND Charity. In total the school raised £605.47. The cheque was presented to Roger Widdecombe MInstF(Dip), the Regional Fundraiser for East of England Motor Neurone Disease Association. Thank you to everyone involved.

Year 8 Visit Oliver Cromwell's House in Ely

Our first set of enrichment trips took place on 15th & 16th of October. As part of our learning about the English Civil War, Year 8 visited Ely. Whilst there we visited the Oliver Cromwell house and learnt about the type of person that he was. We also looked around the beautiful historic town of Ely and looked for evidence of the Reformation of the Church and the Dissolution of the Monasteries. We had a lovely day and our learning was greatly enhanced as a result of it. Once again the local community remarked on the good behaviour and enthusiasm that our students displayed throughout the day.



Edwinstree Choir



In continuing to improve our links with the community, Edwinstree Choir took part in a concert at St Mary's Church in Standon, with Choirs from Roger de Clare School and Little Munden School. Thank you to those parents who supported this event.

House Rewards

Thank you to Buntingford Town Council who one again hosted a House reward afternoon for Stort, the winning House for this half term. We calculated all the positive rewards that were given out in the first 8 weeks and Stort just pushed ahead. Students spent the afternoon watching 'Freaky Friday' munching popcorn!

Advent

We are looking forward to Advent as always and would like to remind the Buntingford Community that if you feel in need of a little festive cheer, you are welcome to join us on Friday afternoons for our Collective Worship. This is the time when the whole school community come together to sing and celebrate ending the week on a positive and joyful note. Please contact the school office on 01763-271446.

Jo Gant
Headteacher