



NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 18/01/2019

Diary Dates:

25/1/19	Author Andy Mulligan visits KS3
w/b 28/1/19	Mock SATS for Year 6
4/2/19	Young Voices at the O2
5/2/19	Y8 Normandy – Meeting for Parents @ 5pm
6/2/19	Technology Tournament
11/2/19	Parents' Evening 8E/8H
12/2/19	Y6 Parent in school Workshop
13/2/19	Parents' Evening 8K/8T
25/2/19	Parents' Evening 6H/6W
27/2/19	Parents' Evening 6J
4/3/19	Parents' Evening 7C & 7F
6/3/19	Parents' Evening 7R & 7S
12/3/19	Y6 Parent in school Workshop
25-28/3/19	Y8 Normandy Residential Visit
4/4/19	Sex Education Workshop
13/5/19	SATS Week for Year 6

How do I report my child's absence?

To report a student absent please use the direct attendance email:

attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

GDPR Reminder

Please can we remind not to publish names of students on Edwinstree's Facebook page this is a breach of Data Protection. Please contact the school if you have any queries.

Phonecall Scam

We have been made aware of a local business in Buntingford who received a phone call stating that the caller was writing a book on anti-bullying on behalf of Edwinstree Middle School, they requested credit card details to make a donation over the phone.

EDWINSTREE MIDDLE SCHOOL has no knowledge of an anti-bullying book deal and is not involved in any way; if you receive a phone call of this nature please be aware it could be a scam.

Parentmail

We are aware that some parents are not receiving important information via Parentmail, which could include information regarding educational visits, Parents' Evenings, snow days etc. In order to ensure that the emails do not go to your 'junk' folder, please add the following email address to your contacts: info@parentmail.co.uk Any problems please contact the school office – Thank you

PE Kit

Price & Buckland provide all our PE kit except the House Rugby Tops, which can be purchased from the school. Please visit the Price and Buckland website for more information

www.pbparentsonline.co.uk/edwinstree

BBC Children in Need

We are pleased to report that we have received a 'thank you' letter from the team at BBC Children in Need for raising a total of £960.01. Well done to everyone involved in supporting this charity.

Message from the Art Department

Just to let you know that following the recent Poppy Competition prize, we now have four natural daylight lamps in the Art room. These will help with sketching/still life/colour mixing activities, as well as supporting any students with vision impairment.

Can you help support the SATs? It is not exclusive to Year 6 families!

Any help you can offer will really support our most vulnerable students in their exams.

Mock SATs week 28/1/19. If you feel that you would like to volunteer in this way please contact Miss Campany on SENCO@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk. We require approximately ten adults to support our students from 9am-11am on each of these days. You will need to be available for all 4 mornings and also available for **SATs week (13th-16th May 2019)**.

Guidance and training will be given, as appropriate for your role which may be to act as a reader or scribe, or as a supportive adult within a classroom during the tests.

Important message for parents regarding SATs

revision: Many thanks for your ongoing support with children's learning and revision at home. However, we must ask that, if using material published online, that you **do not use any of the SATs materials from 2014 onwards.** We use these as preparation for the real assessments and for the mock SATs. If a student has seen a test before at home, it could invalidate our assessment data and give a skewed picture of their progress, and consequently their areas of strength and areas to work on. There are many fantastic resources online that are in the 'SATs style', so we would steer you towards these, and the revision materials we will be providing, rather than to past SATs papers. Many thanks.

'Talking about sex and relationships with your teenager' Thursday 4th April 2019

Sex education in school is very important and mandatory after 2020. Research shows that parents and carers can help children to grow up to achieve healthy, happy relationships and stay safe by talking about it at home. However embarrassment and fear of 'getting it wrong' and a lack of confidence sometimes get in the way of discussions. This workshop aims to support parents by providing information in a way that is accessible to all, along with tips for starting age-appropriate conversations at home, about loving, consensual, respectful relationships. Further details to follow.

Year 5

Thank you to those parents who attended Parents' Evenings. We appreciate you taking the time to visit us to hear how your child is doing and to find out how

*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.*

you can support your child in the remainder of this year's learning.

Year 6

Mock SATs take place the week beginning Monday 28th January. Students will be invited to enjoy a 'power snack' in the hall from 8:15am – 8:40am. SATS will take place from 8:50am until 10:15am and will be conducted under normal exam conditions

Year 7

Next Friday, Year 7 will have the opportunity to meet the Author Andy Mulligan and discuss his book 'Trash', we are asking for a £4 contribution which can be paid via the school Gateway or in cash.

www.andymulliganbooks.com/trash/com/

During February as part of Y7 Geography study, students will be taking part in a walk along the River Rib in Buntingford. Students will need wellington boots as they will be wading in the river at two points. You will be informed in advance of the visit.

Year 8

Next Friday, Year 8 will meet the Andy Mulligan, visiting Author and discuss his book 'Trash', we are asking for a £4 contribution towards this event which can be paid via the school Gateway or in cash.

www.andymulliganbooks.com/trash/com/ They will also have the opportunity to gain an insight into writing for stage and screen. It is hoped that this will have a positive impact on their own writing.

Transition to Freman

It is around this time in the school calendar, when Year 8 begin to become apprehensive about their move to Freman. Next week we will be talking them through the process of transition and letting them know the following:

- Year 8 is not a time to ease off their learning. Freman will require us to rank order the students for their language lessons and to provide assessment data, which will help to group and set the students in Freman.
- This time next year, they will be selecting and starting their GCSEs. The work they are completing this year has been coordinated with Freman College to get them ready.
- Early transition will take place for those students who, for whatever reason, need a little extra support. A bespoke programme of visits will be organised to begin at the end of April or early May. As a parent, if you think your child is particularly anxious about the transition, and we are not aware, please contact the Head of Year 8 or the Learning Zone.
learningzone@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk
- During the summer term, the Assistant Head and Heads of Year at Freman, will meet to discuss and handover information on each Year 8 student; this includes their behaviour and attendance.

Y8 Normandy Visit Parents Meeting 5/2/19 at 5pm

Please make sure if your child is attending the Normandy visit that you are able to send a representative to this meeting.

USEFUL CONTACTS:

Confidential helpline

Call our free and confidential helpline for support Family Lives offers a confidential and free* helpline service for families in England and Wales (**previously known as Parentline**).

Please call us on **0808 800 2222** for emotional support, information, advice and guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life. Our helpline service is open 9am – 9pm, Monday to Friday and 10am – 3pm Saturday and Sunday. For callers from Scotland, Children 1st run Parentline Scotland and you may wish to contact them on 08000 28 22 33 Monday to Friday from 9am - 9pm. The lines do get very busy, if you are unable to get through, you may want to email for support, advice and information. Please email: askus@familylives.org.uk. Who aim to respond within 24 hours, Monday to Friday.
<https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

Message from the Hertfordshire Constabulary

Please see attached letter regarding parking complaints. Please be aware that Sainsbury's car park is free before and after school.

Jo Gant Headteacher

Enc Herts Constabulary Letter

*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.*