

### **Edwinstree Middle School**

A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School

### NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS Week Ending: 14/06/2019

**Diary Dates:** 

20/6/19	Bugsy Malone – 7pm-9pm
21/6/19	Bugsy Malone – 7pm-9pm
25/6/19	5T & 5F Visit Tower of London 8am – 4pm
w/c 24/6/29	KS3 Science Assessments
26-28/6/19	Y6 Residential visit to Norfolk
28/6/19	Inset Day
2/7/19	Curriculum Discussion for Parents 6pm
3/7/19	Summer Music Concert 6pm-8pm
4/7/19	Y7 Big Bang Fair
5/7/19	Sports Day
8/7/19	Year 6 visit Tower of London 8am – 4pm
11/7/19	County Transition Day
18/7/19	Y8 Celebration Evening
19/7/19	End of Term 2:30pm

### How do I report my child's absence?

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

<u>attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk</u> Thank you.

## Can you support the Bugsy Malone Production?

Tickets are now on sale for our first musical production in four years and the students would really appreciate a packed and live audience! Don't forget we are creating a '1920s Nightclub' In addition, we encourage you to dress up in smart eveningwear to get with the Bugsy Malone theme! Cocktails and canapés will be available courtesy of Edwinstree School Association. Cash donations gratefully received on the night.

### Tickets £4 per Adult, £2 per child

aware there will be a full **dress rehearsal Tuesday 18/6/19 from 3:00pm to 5.00pm**. Students will need their costumes and make up. During the dress rehearsal, Sarah Cockerton, a professional photographer will be present to take photographs of the cast, which will be available to purchase.

If you are Parent of a cast member, please be

The images will be posted to a private online gallery between Thursday 20th - Sunday 23rd June. Gallery access details will be distributed at both performances. Parents will be able to view & order mounted 7 x 5" prints of their child and the prints will be delivered to school for your child to bring home. Please note you may only order images of your child and the full production image. If you have any queries please feel free to contact me on **01763 289732** -Sarah Cockerton (Portraits by Sarah)

# What behaviours do we expect from students who are bringing mobile phones into school?

This week, we have noticed one or two KS2 students using their phones on entry into the school to take photos. Some of these photos were not welcomed by the children involved. We will be discussing this with students and explaining that mobile phones are permitted for transport and external communication outside of school hours, but not for use during the school day. Phones must be switched off on entry and handed in to the office, for collection at the end of the day. At the start of term, students will be given a lesson regarding our Online Safety Policy and we will be asking both parents and students to agree to the contract. A copy of the policy is attached for your information.

### What is happening in COWO this half term?

We are continuing with the theme of reverence and we have been exploring the importance of stopping from our frenetic lives and taking time out to breathe and to notice. Students in tutor COWO will be taking part in a variety of child-friendly meditation techniques. We are also looking, through our House competition, to secure a Taize style school prayer, with music. On first attempts, students have responded well and the calmness in the room has been noticeable.

In last week's Collective Worship on Friday 7/6/19, students listened to a song from an old war veteran who sang about the D Day landings, accompanied by some film footage of the event. Our students were struck by the power of the song and the war veteran's experiences. They watched in total silence and were left with a quiet reflection when it finished. We are so very grateful for the commitments these brave men and women made for us all.

### Why might my child get a little wet at lunchtime?

The weather has been miserable this week, which has left students with little or no playtime. We made the decision mid-week to allow students the opportunity to go outside at lunchtime in light rain, as most students were desperate for fresh air and a run around. However, if the rain turns heavy, all students are broughtto inside. Students have responded with relief to this opportunity.

### Year 5

Tower of London visit and changing our practice. The visit arrived back early from London and we posted this early arrival. We are sorry if this left parents in some confusion as to whether to collect their child early or not. We have reviewed our procedures and are clear that in future, if a visit returns early, we will continue to adhere to the arranged pick up times. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused.

### Year 6

Thank you to the significant number of Year 6 Parents who attended the Norfolk visit information meeting. Students are really getting excited. Please note, that prior to the visit, students will still be completing their written SATs Assessment and Teacher Assessments for Science.

It is very **important** that the parental Medical Consent form for the Norfolk residential visit is completed and returned to the school office by 18/6/19.

#### Year 7

A number of Year 7 students have volunteered to help with the preparations and to act as waiters and waitresses during the evening performances of Bugsy Malone. Students will be required to wear a white shirt and black trousers or skirt. Further details to follow.

Mr Galanides commented on how amazing the whole of Year 7 have been on the two computing visits. On Thursday it was amazing to see their level of engagement and enjoyment when attempting some complex Python programming. Students were incredible, so much so that one has been lent a raspberry pi to try out. Several girls were saying 'wow' to programming when they got their buggy to move!

### Year 8

Students have been planning their Celebration Evening on 18th July and have chosen to wear 'smart' dress. They also want to decorate the Millennium Garden, where drinks and nibbles will be served after the main ceremony. Please reserve the date in your diary; they are excited to share their special evening with you! An official photographer will be on site an hour before the event and during, if you would like any photographs taken as a memento. The costs are reasonable and this was a popular option last year. During the last week of term, the photographer has also offered to photograph the Year 8s with their friends at lunchtime - dates to be confirmed. Our Photographer, Sarah Cockerton has volunteered to donate her time

and energy to Edwinstree and will only charge 50p per photograph. The money will be donated to the ESA.

Students are also planning to approach parents about an informal event within the last week of term. They are currently costing the proposed trips and the two front-runners are Thorpe Park or Southend. They will be considering what community service they will carry out to help persuade the teachers to volunteer their time to support the proposed trips. Next week, once costed, all Year 8 will be asked to nominate the trip they would like to attend and to confirm they are able to commit to the payments. They are also considering how to fundraise within their year group to subsidise the costs if necessary. Letters to follow, confirming their proposed informal event and costings.

# What should Edwinstree be teaching 21st century citizens? Do you have an opinion that you would be willing to share with us? Tuesday 2/7/19 at 6pm

We are currently reviewing our curriculum and in particular, the topics we teach in each subject, as well as the skills we think are important for our students to learn. For example the ability to determine fact from fiction on the internet. This term, students have an opportunity to talk and share their ideas and we would like to invite Parents to do the same. If you would like to

attend the meeting to discuss what you think should be in the curriculum and why, please contact the school office or email: admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

# When is Sports Day and what is happening? – Friday 5th July 2019

If you would like to support your child on Sports Day, please note that the school will be open from 11am onwards for parents and carers to come along and cheer on your child, in a variety of sporting events during the day. Cream Teas and ice-lollies will be available and you are welcome to stay during lunchtime to picnic on the field with your child. More information later but book the date and come and join us. We are praying for a day like last year!

Jo Gant Headteacher

Online Safety Policy