



**Edwinstree Middle School**  
**A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School**

## **Student News**

**22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020**

**Dear Year 8 Student**

How are you? I am really pleased to see that even though you are getting closer to your time to leave us, you are not giving up on your learning at home and are continuing to work hard at your Maths, English, Science, MFL and the foundation subjects of your choice. You are showing really determined resilience as it has been a long time since you have been in school. You are also showing how independent and ready you are for Freman College. Remember, the learning you do, is the care you show yourself and the investment you are placing in your future. We are so very proud of you!

In the meantime, the teachers and I have all been navigating the new world of teaching online and for me, this has meant trying to catch up with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and the new way of working! Last week we carried out a TEAMS meet as a school and we completed a COWO together via the internet, in our separate classrooms. We explored the value of Koinonia and how this might help us to understand the 'Black Lives Matter' campaign. Many of us have been moved, disturbed and upset by what has been happening, but all of us want to share in the knowledge that racism is utterly intolerable in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

This week we are going to complete a second COWO on the theme, and we are inviting all students at home to join us, if you would like to. I will send a link on Tuesday morning via SMHW, so you can log in to the 'LIVE' COWO from 1:30pm. If you would like to see what we are up to and to share ideas and thoughts via the chat facility, hopefully that will be available. Please look out for the SMHW notification on Tuesday.

We are currently exploring how we celebrate your time with us, and we know as stated in the last letter that we will have a formal and joyful goodbye to you, with your Parents, when we are not having to socially distance, but we are also looking to offer you the following:

- The 'Spirit of Edwinstree' award and the board at the back of the hall will be dedicated to the Year 8 group of 2019 – 2020. Rather than nominating one individual, we feel you all need to be honoured for your resilience and ability to keep on learning throughout this period.
- We are also looking to create a ceiling hanging of all of you! Mrs Booth will be writing to you next week to request an A4 picture, motif, symbol of you which you will be able to send in remotely or via a hard copy. We will then photocopy this onto a fabric A5 sheets, we are then going to sow them altogether (our key worker groups are going to help) and then we will be hoisting the display on to the ceiling to cover a significant part of the central area of the hall. We feel you will be forever Edwinstree – the group that never left us! So we want to honour you with a permanent display.
- Mr Galanides and Mrs Cockerton (professional photographer who would have taken your photos) are planning to help your tutors and your tutor group create an online video to commemorate your time with us. They will write to you shortly to let you know how you can help
- We will prepare the normal Rewards for Year 8, and although we will save the trophy presentation until your formal leaving event, individuals will be notified during the last week of term

I believe that Freman College will contact you very shortly with more information about your transition. The SEND team and your Head of Year have been in conversations to make sure that Freman College have all your information and know what a great group of students they are inheriting. We will be passing on all the SMHW information at the end of July, so that they are fully aware of the amazing learning that you have completed at home. Well done!

Stay safe

**Jo Gant**  
**Headteacher**

*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.*