



Diary Dates:

25/9/18	ESA Meeting 7pm
26/9/19	International Day of Languages
27/9/18	SATs Presentation to Y6 Parents 5pm
27/9/18	Post SATs meeting for Y7 Parents 6pm
4/10/18	Open Evening for Prospective Parents
15/10/18	8H & 8E Parents' Evening 4pm-6:30pm
15/10/18	8E & 8T Educational Visit
16/10/18	8H & 8K Educational Visit
17/10/18	8T & 8K Parents' Evening 4pm-6:30pm
29/10-2/11/18	Autumn Half Term
7/12/18	Occasional day - School closed
21/12/18	End of term 2:30pm finish

Robotics Club introduction Cowo 26/9/18

Break-time Snack Price Increase

Unfortunately, we have to inform you that due to rising costs, the price of break-time snacks will rise from 50p to 80p per item, with effect from 5th November 2018.

How are we supporting students to exit safely at the end of the day?

Edwinstree has been trying for a number of years to get support with a school crossing, but has been unsuccessful. Some of our new parents are concerned about the amount of traffic outside the school. To help support us, please contact Buntingford Council or Hertfordshire County Council regarding child safety outside the school. In the meantime we are completing the following:

- Inviting a Road Safety provider in to help students understand the importance of road safety
- Walking Year 5 students through the exit and how to cross safely away from the buses
- Manning staff at the exit and entrance
- Repeatedly reminding parents that the Sainsbury's car park is free before 9am and after 3pm
- Exploring alternative parking for coaches to reduce the congestion at the gate?

When is Open Evening and what is it about? Is my child involved?

On the 4th October 2018 we will be opening our doors to the public for prospective parents and the community to view Edwinstree. The students have an opportunity to support us by attending the evening, helping out in the classrooms (Year 6 & Year 7) with the subject leaders or conducting tours of the school (Year 5 & Year 8). We are recruiting volunteers to support us, and just like

last year, we are finding that the students feel proud of their school and want to be part of Open Evening. We will notify you if your child has volunteered at the end of the week, but as this seems to be a significant proportion of the school, can we request that you keep this evening free?

Record of Achievement ROA Update

Students have voted for new inner planners but not with the plastic on them. We will keep the plastic on our old planners and use this to create a House competition, based around creating a visual display with all 450*2 sheets of plastic, potentially a stained glass effect display, but they will also be asked to see if they can make their design practical and useful? Could they create all weather bins? Benching? A game to play with them?

Are Enrichment Clubs up and running?

All clubs are now up and functioning and you should have received via email confirmation of what your child signed up to (internal clubs) or information from those enrichment activities that are bought in. We promised a computing club, and we are pleased to have secured a Robotic course for one term, which will involve building and programming a robot. The students will be informed in next week's COWO and information will be coming home to you very soon.

My child has made a class change and they are still a little unsure.

If your child is still feeling unsettled by the class changes, please contact your child's Head of Year via the following email:

- Hoy5@edwinstree.herts.ch.uk
- Hoy6@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk
- Hoy7@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk
- Hoy8@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Can my child have a mobile phone in school?

If you are worried about your child's safety over the winter months and would like to provide them with a low-cost mobile phone, please let me know in writing. Your child will be required to hand the phone into the office on arrival and collected at the end of the day. All phones must be switched off and the school cannot accept responsibility for any loss of damage.

Governor Vacancy

There is a Governor vacancy at Hornead First School, please contact the Head Mr Asher for further details: head@hornead.herts.sch.uk

What is the 'Fullness' day on 22nd October 2018? – Using pull out days to explore our themes.

We use our fullness days to further explore our Christian values. This year, we will be celebrating All Souls Day and asking students to come in clothing that remembers someone who was loved in the family who has passed away. They will also be creating memory charms, linked to our theme of Creativity. To complete this activity, we will be showing them how to use plastic bottles to create something beautiful. So, while we don't want to encourage you to buy any more, we will be requesting you send them in, further details to follow.

Year 8

Congratulations to the Year 8 Leaders who made it past the first cut. Their applications were judged alongside last years' red cards and their attendance record. We will review again after half term for those Year 8 students who were not successful this time. If your child did not make the choice to apply and is now regretting it, it is not too late, we will accept a written letter of application at any point in the term, outlining what value they would represent and why. Year 8 Leaders met on Friday to begin their first assignments and the house competition.

Don't forget all student homework is published on our web site for Key Stage 3, please visit our website KS3 Homelearning to find out more.

Y8 Girls Hockey Club - Freman College PE department have opened their hockey club to our Y8 girls. It runs after school every Wednesday until 4:40pm. If your daughter is interested, please could they let Mr McCarthy, Mr Baines or their Freman PE teacher know?

Year 7

We are so proud of the progress that our students make but, for some students, SATS arrives too early in their educational journey; for others, illness or anxiety prevent them from showing their best in these tests. If your child did not meet the SATS pass mark in one or more subjects in May 2018, you will receive a letter inviting you to come and join us to hear how Edwinstree Middle School is continuing to support your child on their educational journey. If your child has recently joined Y7 from another school and you believe that you would benefit from attending the meeting but don't receive a letter, come and join us anyway. The meeting will be finished by 7pm and there will be an opportunity to talk to staff and to ask questions.

Please remember, all Key Stage 3 homework is published on our web site for parents to find out what has been set.

Year 6 How to support your child through SATs.

Meeting takes place on 27/9/18 at 5pm. Parents of all Y6 students are encouraged to attend this short presentation about the expectations in SATS. We should be finished before 6pm. Parents have found this to be a useful evening, providing clear guidance on how to support their child's academic progress and emotional wellbeing during Year 6.

Year 6 Lesson Trial for Parents We would like to trial inviting you into your child's lessons so you have the opportunity to see them achieving, live! Already this year, we have seen some fantastic achievement and want to be able to share your children's successes with you. Initially, we would like to trial this with 6J, beginning on Wednesday 3rd October. We are opening 6J's Wednesday morning English lesson, taught by Miss Devonshire, up to a maximum of 10 parents in two time slots (5 people in each) of 8:50-9:20 and 9:20-9:50. Parents will be collected from reception by their child, and will have the opportunity to move around the classroom, observe them in action and to ask them questions about their learning.

If this trial is successful, we hope to invite parents into other Year 6 classes, and eventually, classes across all year groups.

6J Parents, please email:

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk with your preferred time on 3/10/18

Session 1. 8:50am-9:20am

Session 2. 9:20am-9:50am. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. We ask that, in an effort for as many children to see their parent as possible, that only one parent per child attends the session. In the case of over-subscription, we will endeavour to create a rota for you to visit in the following weeks.

Year 5

Thank you to those parents who took the time to attend the Parents' Evening. The students take great pleasure in showcasing their work and we know that you appreciate meeting their tutor and subject teachers.

Music News

All Y5 students who applied for the group brass tuition have been successful. This starts on Tuesday in the music room from 3:20pm to 3:50pm. Students will get a Loan Agreement that

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needs to be signed before they can bring an instrument home. There are a handful of lessons left, so if your son or daughter are still interested please let me know. Woodwind lessons will be on a Thursday, not a Monday, from this week onwards – Mr Rowlands, Leader of Music

Parentview

Parentview is the main route for parents and carers to give their views to Ofsted. It also offers a simple way for those who lead and manage the school to find out what parents think of the school. Please visit:

www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk.

Jo Gant

Headteacher

Enc Letter from the Chair of Governors

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