



**Diary Dates:**

25/11/17	Peacechild Rehearsal 10am-1pm
27/11/17	Y7 Parents' Evening 4pm-6:30pm 6C Maths with Mrs Kitchener
27/11/17	Action Aid Week
28/11/17	Road Safety Y5 & Y6
29/11/17	Road Safety Y7
30/11/17	NO ART CLUB
30/11/17	Action Aid - Non Uniform Day £2
30/11/17	Y7 Parents' Evening 4pm-6:30pm
1/12/17	Occasional Day Peacechild Rehearsal 9:30am-3:30pm
5/12/17	Jack Trelawny - Author
8/12/17	House Rewards Cinema afternoon
8/12/17	School Production
9/12/17	School Production
13/12/17	Christmas Concert
15/12/17	Christmas Jumper Day
19/12/17	Service - St Mary's Church Aspenden
19/12/17	End of Autumn Term 2:30pm finish
3/1/18	Spring Term
29/1/18	7C & 7G - London Visit
2/2/18	7B & 7T - London Visit

**NO ART CLUB 30/11/17**

**When will we receive our first report on our child's progress and attainment?** The first data reports are due out at the end of term, you will be notified by text and the report will be given to your child, so make sure you retrieve it from their bags! In order to produce this data all students will have been set a minimum of two assessments, which will have been marked and moderated with all the subject teachers to ensure accuracy. Attendance and Behaviour will also be included in the report.

**How have our students been engaging with the theme of 'Service' this half term?**

Year 8 leaders have trialled their services in school this week, and after regrouping and tweaking, are ready for the 'Service' competition. From Monday we will be judging the Houses on the impact of their service over a three week period and the number of students in all year groups that engage and support the service.

**Stort** will be decorating designated areas, **Lea** will be trialling Year 8 carrying their bags around the school, after consulting staff through a questionnaire. **Lea** are also including a litter campaign each lunchtime and this has already begun. **Quin** will be providing a safe exit from the school and along the pavement, as the whole school community continues to remain concerned about the traffic congestion. The parked cars outside school make crossing the road difficult at the exit. **Rib** will be supporting a 'games room' in the library at break and lunch. The Year 8 Leaders library service will be out of bounds for the remainder of the term while they engage in the services. Quotes from our leaders as they have listened to the school's ideas,

suggested their own, organised the activities and corralled the staff.

*"I had no idea how difficult it was to lead....."*

*"You have to plan ahead and think around all the problems you might face....."*

*"You were right .....if you consult people they are more inclined to listen and support you...."*

*"Oh my goodness is this what our staff do every day?"*

What I have also enjoyed is seeing students who would never have spoken, engaging and working in teams.

**What is Action Aid and what have Year 7 planned?**

To add to the excitement of our 'service' value next week, Mr Galanides and Year 7 have organised a series of events to raise funds for our 30 year old charity Action Aid. Year 7 have planned the following:

- Bake Off on Monday 27/11/17 - Students are challenged to create a magnificent cake, £1 entry and £5 voucher reward for the winner.
- Tuesday 28/11/17 Cake Sale - Year 7 is contributing and our usual food will not be sold at break time in order to encourage students to buy. Cakes will range from 20p to 50p.
- Thursday 30/11/17 Non-uniform day, Year 7 consulted students as to whether they would be willing to pay £2 for this charity and students agreed that they would. Students are also invited to bring a little bit of extra money to spend on the Action Aid stalls during an extended lunch hour.

Action Aid will raise funds for Seema and Susmita, two children in India currently sponsored by Edwinstree Middle School. Thank you for your support.

**How are we supporting students to become as safe and road aware as possible?**

Having asked and cajoled parents to not park too close to the school in order that students can cross safely, we are still facing daily scenes of students having to cross in unsafe and poor visibility areas. To help improve this situation and to give students an understanding of how to be safe as pedestrian, cyclist and driver we have invited a Haulage Company in to talk to our students on Tuesday and Wednesday next week

Whilst considering keeping our students safe, Mr Baines raised the issue in COWO, how dark coats in winter make students difficult to see and that bright coats would be better. I have considered this and agree, actually a dark coat is hiding students from view. The chair of Governors has given permission to change our dark coat policy, if your child has a bright coat at home, then we are happy for students to wear them, be seen and be safe. Students were informed in COWO today.

**When is Edwinstree's Occasional Day?**

Last year Edwinstree aligned the school calendar with Freman College to support parents who have children at both schools. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December is our Occasional Day and school is closed. However, drama

students will be required to attend the Peacechild rehearsals in school from **9:30am-3:30pm**

### **Due to Occasional Day - No Newsletter next week**

#### **Parent Helpers required – 8/12/17**

Any parent available to assist in escorting students to and from Benson Hall for the Rib House rewards afternoon at 1:45pm, please contact the school office. Your support is invaluable to us – thank you in advance. If you can help, teachers will be able to carry on teaching and no cover will be required.

#### **How can I get involved in the start of Advent?**

The world's largest chocolate calendar arrives in school for the 1<sup>st</sup> December, as we begin the series of Collective Worships following the themes of the Advent in the lead up to Christmas. If you feel in need of a little Christmas spirit, please attend a session, the candles, hymns and music will really lift your spirits. Just let the office know if you wish to pop in.

#### **Ball Multi Skills Club Wednesdays at 8am**

Reminder – The club runs on Wednesday mornings at 8am before school. It's a great opportunity to get warmed up and prepare for the day, as well as honing your skills in dodge ball, basketball, football and more. Many thanks, Miss Devonshire.

#### **NHS Test**

Free eye tests for 3-16yrs in full time education please telephone 01763-273300

#### **Peacechild Poster Winner**

We are delighted to announce Amelia Barrera in 5M as the winner of the Peacechild Poster competition

Runners up are:

Sammi Gold 7G

Isla Eveliegh 7G

Megan De Vera 7C

Poppy Lockyear 8D

Charlotte Dobner 5L

Stan Wennington 8R

**Peacechild Tickets** now available from the school office £2 per person – cash only Performances will be held on:

Friday 8/12/17 and Saturday 9/12/17.

#### **Christmas Concert – 13/10/17 at 6pm**

This year we will be holding a joint concert with Freman College on Wednesday 13th December at 6pm. This will be taking place at St Mary's Church in Aspenden to raise funds for the church. Information about tickets will follow next week, but there will be limited numbers available.

#### **Collective Worship**

As we enter the season of Advent, a reminder that parents are more than welcome to join us for whole school Collective Worships. Details of when they are taking place is listed below, all we ask is that you inform the office if you wish to attend. On Tuesday

19th December we will be holding our now traditional Christmas services; again, you are more than welcome to join us.

#### **Collective Worship Schedule**

Date	Tutor Group	Whole school theme
6/12/17	6P	<b>Advent</b>
16/1/18	8D	<b>Koinonia</b>
23/1/18	7T	
6/2/18	6C	
20/2/18	8R	<b>Endurance</b>
6/3/18	7C	
20/3/18	5E	
24/4/18	7G	<b>Friendship</b>
8/5/18	8B	
22/5/18	5S	<b>Forgiveness</b>
12/6/18	8C	<b>Compassion</b>
19/6/18	5L	
3/7/18	6D	<b>Peace</b>
10/7/17	7B	<b>Peace</b>

#### **Top Books for Christmas for 8-12year olds**

The Accidental Secret Agent	Tom McLaughlin £6.99
Diary of a Wimpy Kid – Double Down	Jeff Kinney £12.99
The Uncommoners: The Crooked Sixpence	Jennifer Bell £6.99
The Witch's Vacuum Cleaner	Terry Pratchett £12.99
Harry Potter and the Cursed Child	JK Rowling £20
The Great Fire Dogs	Megan Rix £5.99
Tom Gates Dog Zombies Rule	Liz Pichon £10.99
Matilda	Roald Dahl £6.99
How to Train your Dragon: How to fight a Dragon's Fury	Cressida Cowell £6.99
The War Next Door	Phil Earle £6.99
The Mystery of the Clockwork Sparrow	Katherine Woodfine £6.99
The Wolf Wilder	Kathrine Rundell £7.99
Sputnik's Guide to Life on Earth	Frank Cottrell Boyce £12.99
Hour of the Bees	Lyndsay Eagar - £7.99

#### **Instrumental Tuition Lessons**

Please be advised that the Music Service will be increasing the cost of instrumental lessons from January 2018. A letter detailing the changes will follow shortly.

#### **School Admissions Consultation 2019/20**

HCC have asked us to publish in our newsletter that Hertfordshire County Council is running a consultation on the proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2019/20 and is seeking responses from parent/carers, schools and community groups.

The proposed changes are:

1.To amend the wording and definition of 'Rule 5 - Nearest School' to include all schools and academies (regardless of status) unless that school or academy

*Our faith supports each individual to flourish and challenges us to live life in all its fullness*

prioritises applications and allocates places on the basis of faith.

2. To include reference to the Shared Anti-Fraud Service in the definitions section in cases of fraudulent address verification.

The consultation period runs until 5 January 2018.

Please visit

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2019](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2019)<<http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2019>> for more information and to respond online.

**Jo Gant**  
**Headteacher**  
**Collective Worship**