



Diary Dates:

10/9/18	Music lessons commence
20/9/18	Y5 Parents meet Tutors 5pm
24/9/18	Y8 Freman Open Evening
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
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

Welcome back, we look forward very much to working with you. This newsletter is designed to keep you up to date on all that is happening in the school. It will be published every Friday via our website and will be sent to you through via Parentmail. However busy you are, we would stress that you take time to read it; in particular, the sections for your child/children's year group.

Please remember, we all believe that a child is most successful when school, home and child are working together and communicating well. No problem is too small; talk to us and we will do our utmost to help. The teaching staff do not all have access to a telephone so our email addresses are the easiest and best form of contact. If your child is absent from school due to illness, please email:

Absence: attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Please see below the list of key email addresses within the school:

Head of Year 5 – hoy5@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Head of Year 6 – hoy6@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Head of Year 7 – hoy7@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Head of Year 8 – hoy8@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Office: admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Learning Zone:

learningzone@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

How is the school moving forward? What are the plans for the year?

As a Church of England school we are asked to ensure that we fulfil the following vision:

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.

Our school plan which sets out to inform all stakeholders as to what we intend for this year follows the vision. It is based around the key themes of **uniqueness, wonderful, flourish and fullness**. If you would like to read the full school plan we are happy to provide you with a copy. For now I have summarised the impact that you should see and feel in your child over the coming year if we succeed.

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If we get it right this year what should you notice, hear, see and feel at home?

My Child is recognised as unique if I notice:

- They are proud of their exercise books and can show and talk about the progress they are making.
- They value the teachers' written comments and respond with the green pen.
- Where they get stuck on their learning, the books show that eventually, they secure this learning. They are never left "not understanding".
- They have confidence that they will be listened to.

My Child is flourishing as I notice:

- They want to share their learning successes
- They want to come to school and when they don't, they are able to speak to someone within the day so the problem can be dealt with.
- They understand the importance of coming into school and celebrate their good attendance.
- Over the year, they are becoming so much better at tackling difficult work.
- They are able to talk about the different strategies they use when they find something tough.
- With challenge homework they choose something they found difficult and have another go at it.
- They know that mistakes are part of learning and are really important.
- They get excited about the big problems they have to solve in school and can talk to you about their ideas and strategies.
- They really enjoy working with older year groups and learning with and from them.
- They reflect on the Christian values and use them. They talk about the values with you.

My Child is able to find their wonderful as I notice:

- They are becoming accepting and proud of who they are, and can share some of their differences and their wonderful with you.
- They want to tell you what they got right during the day or week and you know this from the merit texts you receive.
- They are able to tell you how they helped others and how they led an activities and what they learnt from this.

My child is living life in all its fullness as I notice:

- They are reflecting in deep thoughts about the big questions in life, which might surprise you.
- They use our Christian values to think about who they want to be when they grow up.
- They get angry at injustice, yet are inspired by those that stand out against it.
- They come home from a COWO and they share their thoughts.

- They feel proud that they have chances to help their community.
- You catch them humming and singing hymns and join in.

What is our Collective Worship theme for this term?

Students will have an opportunity to explore the Christian value of 'Creation'. Within this theme they have opportunities to think about:

- **Why are we here?**
- **What an amazing world we live in**
- **How to do we look after this world as God asked us to?**

They will have opportunities to problems solve and create to support the schools environment and the local community. The House competitions will be based around this theme.

What is the Homework for this term?

Please make sure that whatever year group, your child is reading for 5 nights in the week for at least 20 minutes. Do use the passports to support your child's reading by finding the Detective page and making sure that you use the questions once a week to explore with them the stories and to check for meaning.

In your child's planner and or our website is the guide to homework at the school. In summary:

Key Stage 2 - Year 5 and Year 6 should receive one challenge homework and one other homework in English and Maths. They will receive a knowledge based French homework once a week.

Key Stage 3 - Year 7 and Year 8 will receive the same above for the Core. But once every two weeks they will receive a foundation subject homework as well. On our website we record the Key Stage 3 homework on a Friday so that you can click on each subject and see what has been set

The homework cycle for KS3 Year 7 & Year 8 is as follows:

Week 1 homework	Week 2 homework
History	Geography
DT	R E
Music	Art
English	English
Maths	Maths
MFL	MFL
Science	Science

What enrichment opportunities are available and when can students sign up and start them?

The enrichment calendar will go out next week and all After School, and Lunch time clubs will be listed for your child to sign up. We will distinguish those opportunities that are free and run by the school and those that are run by outside agencies who charge a fee. Clubs will commence from **17/9/18. Music lesson commence 10/9/18.**

Places still available for Filmmakers Club sign up at www.youngfilmmakersclub.co.uk

How are students settling in to their new tutor groups? Thank you to those parents who phoned in or emailed to say that despite their initial worries about the class changes, their child has settled well into the new class and enjoying making new friends. Please remember if your child is still a little nervous or concerned, we will review after 3 weeks.

Packed lunches & Snacks - Important

We now have a child at Edwinstree with a severe nut allergy. Please make sure that any snacks and packed lunches do not have nuts in them. Thank you for support.

School Transport

Please be aware that if your child has an Apple phone, with the App 'Airdrop' then they are at risk of receiving unwanted messages and/or pictures without the capacity to block them. This week that has caused a scare for two Year 5 girls who received some unpleasant pictures on their bus journey into school. Thank you to the Parents who supported this. Please note if your child takes the 891 then can we ask you to refrain from packing nut based food as there is now a child with a severe allergy to nuts.

What is Winter uniform?

Winter uniform: A long or short sleeve shirt and a school tie. Ties are purchased from the school at reception. Please refer to your child's ROA.

Formal shoes: it is getting harder and harder to distinguish a formal shoe, but we are clear that we expect students to arrive in black shoes, plimsolls are unacceptable as a winter shoe. These will not support your child through the wet winter months. Following our road safety training last year, we are happy to support any coloured coat during the winter months. In fact the brighter the better, so that they are seen by traffic!

What is happening with PE Kit? Last year in the student voice survey, students told us they wanted a new PE top for the school. The main reason being the House coloured tops meant they were not universal when representing the school in sporting competitions, they did not feel like a team. We listened and with parent advice changed our uniform.

Year 5 should have the new PE uniform, if it hasn't already arrived please make sure that your child has a plain top to wear for the moment.

Jo Gant
Headteacher

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