



Edwinstree Middle School

A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School

Student News

24th April 2020

Dear Edwinstree Student

Oh my goodness, how weird is the current situation and how amazing you all are. In the space of two weeks, minus the holidays, we have changed from seeing you all daily and supporting you to learn in class, to seeing only 25 students while the rest of you are at home, learning remotely with the new “*Show My Homework*” [SMHW] App or the hard copies that we are producing.

Despite all this unprecedented change and the lockdown due to Covid-19, as I write I feel really proud of the Edwinstree community, you the students, your families and your Parents, because we have set you real learning, that is new and you are going for it! We have sent you the message that learning is the most important part of your life and a skill that you will need for ever, because the world will always change and surprise us, like our own life and we need to be ready to adapt and **never give up**. I understand why the Queen in her speech quoted the Vera Lynn war time song “*We will meet again*”. She wants to evoke the spirit of my grandparents and possibly your great, great grandparents, who fought in the war, the group of countries that we live in never gave up! You have proved it during this week, by trying really hard to get on with your work! Everyone in our school is currently doing some sort of learning, remotely, in school and in special designed packages. We are really proud of you.

Year 8 - You were the first to access “*Show My Homework*” [SMHW] download the subjects and start working – well done! You are now becoming adult learners who can cope with distance learning at home, and this is great news for when you begin your educational journey to Freman College.

Year 7 - We can see the from the “*Show My Homework*” [SMHW] reports that you are going to develop and flourish into a responsible Year 8 group next year, and dare I say, have the potential to be even greater than this one. What do you think?

Year 6 - A special mention to Year 6 and ‘well done’, SATs have been cancelled and you can continue your learning, but remember we don’t learn just for an exam, we learn for life.

Year 5 - Wow, at your age it is a really big change asking you to work independently at home, and you are doing it – amazing keep going!

How can I make sure I make the most of the work beings set and I make it easier for my family and I?

Some people have asked why did we not just get you to follow your normal timetable? We wanted to give you and your family the opportunity to design a timetable that works best for you all, when you have access to a computer and how you and your parents like to work. It meant you had a lot of notifications at the start of the week and a list of work, but this gives you time to plan how and when you are going to do it.

How are we helping you to stay well?

This is a really difficult and unusual time and for all families this is a stressful time. If you are feeling upset, do talk to someone at home. The Learning Zone is also available to help you, if you think you want to talk, however, talking for us at the moment is via email and the address is: learningzone@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk. Please remember, this is a special service, so make sure you really need it. You are very good at respecting the Learning Zone in school, please treat it with the same respect outside of school.

To manage your well-being we are really clear – if everything is too much for you, always read for 20 minutes 5 times a week and do everything you can to complete the Maths, first, English and then Science, the rest is a bonus. Please look after yourself first ,and if you can't learn at the moment we will help when you get back to school.

Stay safe, keep learning and remember to be kind to each other, we are all in this together

Jo Gant
Headteacher

Helpdesk Timetable