



## St. Edward's Church of England Academy

Westwood Road, Leek, ST13 8DN

Telephone: 01538 714740

Principal: Mr. T. Hutchinson

<http://stedwards.academy>

9<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### Updates for this week:



Dear Parents and Carers,

The end is in sight, the end of term, the end of bubbles, and the end of all the other Covid-19 restrictions. Well, at least soon they will be. I would like to reiterate my thanks to you all for being so patient and supportive over the past few months with all the challenges that we have faced together this year. We are currently putting all the plans together for September in readiness to support our pupils and regain some level of normality.

I have written a separate letter outlining the Department for Education guidance on 'Step 4' and the reopening of schools in September. If you have any queries about this please read the detailed guidance from the Government website and if you still have a query contact us via the Contacts Page.

#### **Social Media App Warning: Omegle**

Please be aware that the Omegle website allows users the ability to socialise with random strangers without supervision. What you need to know about Omegle:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-omegle-what-parents-need-to-know/>

#### **Academy Prefects:**

Congratulations to the Year 7 pupils who have been selected to be the new Year 8 Academy Prefects for 2021-22. From these pupils, the Academy Senior Pupil Leadership Team will be selected to represent the school and these pupils will be announced once the process is completed.

#### **Dignity in Care Award:**

Congratulations to our House Leaders: Mrs Mulroy, Mrs Matthews and Mrs Mountford, who have been nominated for a Staffordshire Dignity in Care Award. We are very proud of you.

#### **Hello and Goodbye**

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Mrs Cooper, Miss Martin, Mrs Bailey and Mrs Kelter who are moving on to pastures new and welcome Miss Farr, Miss Rawson, and Mrs Boughey to our Academy in September.



## **Confirmation:**

The Team Parish of Leek and Meerbrook is hoping to hold a Confirmation Service in November which will be conducted by Bishop Matthew, who is the Bishop of Stoke and Stafford. Confirmation is a public acknowledgment of the Christian faith where candidates affirm for themselves the statements of belief that were made by their parents and godparents at their Baptism. If candidates have not been baptised this can also happen as part of the service. Those who are confirmed enter into full membership of the Church of England and are then able to receive the bread and wine during Holy Communion.

We would like to offer all pupils currently in Years 6, 7 and 8 the opportunity to be Confirmed if they wish. A five-week preparation course will be run in the Autumn and details of this will be arranged nearer the time to suit those who want to attend. After completing the course, candidates will need to come to a rehearsal at the church.

Please complete the form below so that we can arrange your child's participation.

## **Confirmation Form**

### **ParentPay**

Could Parents/Carers please ensure that all lunch balances are cleared before the end of term.

### **Sports Shirt Day Fundraiser**

Sports shirt day raised **£270.50**. Well done to everyone involved. It was great to see so many different sports and activities represented by our pupils and staff!

### **Big PTA Summer Raffle 2021**

Remember to buy your tickets for the Big PTA Summer Raffle 2021! Each £3 ticket gives you 12 chances to win up to £5000 while raising money to support The Friends of St Edward's Academy.

To buy your tickets, go to [www.bigptaraffle.co.uk](http://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk) and search for 'St Edward's C of E Academy Leek ST13' (**please take care to select our school**). The closing date for the raffle is Sunday 11th July.

Further details regarding the raffle can be found:

[Big PTA Summer Raffle letter](#)

[Big PTA Summer Raffle poster](#)

### **Year 7 and 8 Pupils: Reporting Lateral Flow Test Results:**

Please can parents/carers remember to send in your home testing results to the link below and not the Academy contact form unless you have a **positive result**. This form below has been set up specifically to collate this information:

[Year 7 and 8 Lateral Flow Home Testing Result Form](#)

### **Home Testing Information Year 7 & Year 8**

A detailed letter with further guidance on this has been sent out to Year 7 and 8 parents/carers. Information on this has also been posted on the Academy website. A Video and links with further information can be found below.

[How to do a Covid self-test video](#)

[Informing the Academy of your result](#)

[Informing the NHS of your result](#)

[Testing at Home Y7 & Y8 Letter](#)

[Privacy Notice for Staff/Pupils Testing at Home](#)

New guidance from the Government informs us that from now on, if a positive result is recorded for a lateral flow test. Then a confirmatory PCR test must be arranged either using the online facility or by calling 119. If the PCR test result returns negative the pupil/s will be able to return to the Academy. We politely request that you make us aware of all of these results and we will continue support you and your children during this process.

### **Mobile Phones:**

We are happy for pupils to have their mobile phones with them as they are a piece of equipment that keeps them safe on the journey to and from school. However, we do not allow phones to be used in school and will be reminding pupils about this. If phones are seen in school, they may be confiscated and held in the Academy office until they can be collected by a parent/carer. Evidently, we wish to avoid this situation to reduce the risk of transmission through unnecessary visits to the Academy office. To avoid this please can parents/carers reinforce that mobile phones are not to be seen or used in school.

### **Spare PE kit donations**

Please can I request if any parents/carers have any spare Academy PE kit or serviceable trainers at home that pupils have grown out of and you would like to donate could pupils bring it to their PE lessons, where we will quarantine them. We will give house points for donated items and redistributed them to pupils who need it or keep it in school as spare kit.

### **Pupils with medical needs and/or diabetes who are returning**

If your child has medical needs and requires medication (e.g. inhaler and spacer, Epipen, diabetic kit), please ensure that your child brings their medication to school with them ready to hand in at the school office on their return.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's medical needs, please contact us via the contact form on the Academy website.

### **Before and after school club**

Kids Space before and after school club will resume as per the arrangements prior to the Christmas break. If you require any further information regarding this, please call Lyn on 07534 839280.

Thank you for your support in helping us to keep everyone as safe as possible at school.

Yours sincerely,



Mr T Hutchinson  
Principal