



# St. Edward's Church of England Academy

Westwood Road, Leek, ST13 8DN

Telephone: 01538 714740

Principal: Mr. T. Hutchinson

<http://stedwards.academy>

16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## Updates for this week:



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a year it has been! Looking back to September when we had the BBC in school and my messages of hope and excitement for the new year seem a long time ago and yet only yesterday.

We are saying goodbye to my first Year 8 cohort who joined the school at the start of my first full year as Principal and I am immensely proud of each one of them. How they have grown physically, mentally and spiritually (although they might not realise it) is amazing and I am very proud to have led the school and had a small part in their lives. I wish you all well as you go on to your next stage of education, we love to know how you are getting on so keep in touch and share your celebrations and achievement with us. Equally, you know that we are here should you need our help if life isn't going so well, or you just need someone to talk to.

As far as saying thank you, there are a large number of people who I would like to thank and wish a restful and restoring holiday.

Firstly, to the rest of the pupils. Please have a wonderful holiday and stay safe whatever adventures you get up to!

Secondly to all the staff and the Trustees of the Academy. Thank you for all that you do and have done, I hope and pray that 2021-22 brings about a level of normality and a resemblance of the school and its functions that were pre Covid!



Companies House number: 08316327

Thank you also to the support staff who will be working hard through the holiday to ensure the Academy is set up and ready to run in September.

Finally, to you as parents and carers, without your continued support for your children and the Academy we would not be the community we are. Thank you for your help and patience as we have faced so many challenges and changes to the guidance.

So, thank you to you all. You are all 10:10 people and make the Academy amazing!

I will leave with a poem that has helped me reflect during the last 2 years and is one of my favourites.

It is 'If' by Rudyard Kipling: Please click on the link below to listen. I think it sums things up very well.

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/play/77063>

God bless and have a lovely holiday.

Mr. T Hutchinson

### **Covid Testing and Positive Cases during the holiday.**

You will need to inform us of a **positive case only** up until Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July for the general school population and Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July for those pupils who have attended the Year 5 and 6 Summer school.

Please log a positive case using the Contact Form only on the website (please **do not** directly email the office@ email or a personal email as this may not be monitored) should any action be required the Academy team who are on duty over the holiday will contact you and any other close contacts.

### **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**. The form below has been set up specifically to collate this information:

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

### **Voices for a Green Future Competition**

The National Grid is running a competition to allow pupils to have a voice and be heard by the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26).

The competition invites pupils to respond to the following question:

"If you were in charge of the country, what would you do to help look after the planet?"

If successful a film of their speech will be made and presented to the COP 26 summit and they will win £150 worth of national Books Tokens and STEM related toys as well as a £5000 grant for the Academy.

Rules are as follows:

- Submissions should be no more than 200 words and to be submitted via the website
- The closing date is Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August with shortlisting by the 1<sup>st</sup> September.

More details can be found at [www.nationalgrid.com/voicesforgreenfuture](http://www.nationalgrid.com/voicesforgreenfuture)

### **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.

### **Congratulations on your new posts:**

As of September 2021, the following staff have been promoted into new positions within the Academy:

Mrs D Haydon: Vice Principal  
Mrs A Simpson: Vice Principal  
Mrs J Simm: Assistant Principal  
Mrs R Rose: Wider Curriculum Leader.

### **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\*\*](#)

### **PE Kit – September 2021**

Pupils will wear their PE kit to school on the days when they are timetabled for PE. This must be school PE kit, all available to purchase from Supersport:

- St Edward's PE t-shirt
- St Edward's PE shorts
- St Edward's PE hoodie
- St Edward's PE socks
- Optional: plain black leggings
- Optional: plain navy base layers

## **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](#)

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

## **Home Testing Information Year 7**

A detailed letter with further guidance on this has been sent out to Year 7 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 & 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