

The Edith Borthwick School Newsletter

Newsletter – Autumn Half Term 1

Head's update

Welcome to the first newsletter of this academic year!

I was going to send this the week before half term but I also wanted to let you know about the new Interim Headteacher, which I am now in a position to do! On the Thursday before we broke up **the governors, the local authority, the SLG and I interviewed for my replacement, for whilst I am away on secondment for two years. We have successfully recruited an experienced Headteacher, Samantha Lawrence.** Samantha will be joining us from an independent special school in Essex and I look forward to working with her over the next few weeks to do a thorough handover.

After our rocky start to term in the car park, **our security fencing has been completed**, apart from a couple of little bits that need finishing. Gates the right size are finally in – meaning that we are back to two cars being able to go through at the same time! **The new fencing will make our site much more secure during the day and will be controlled by the staff on reception**, who will buzz people in and out.

We have had several Parent Support Group coffee mornings this term, which are run by Tasha H, our Family Worker Manager and Tasha P, one of our parents. Our coffee mornings are very informal and are a fantastic opportunity to meet other parents to chat. **Our next coffee morning is Friday 7th November from 9.30am – 11.00am. Everyone is welcome!**

Our kitchen team have been thinking up new ways to support our learners to enjoy their dinners and to try new foods by introducing theme days! So far, we have had Autumn Favourites and Halloween Spooky Specials. Watch this space for more over the coming year, as well as our very popular Christmas dinner in December!

Earlier in the term, **Gatwick held a coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Research, raising over £200!** Thank you to everyone who sent in cakes and money. **They will be running another cake sale during our Disney-themed day next Wednesday, so please donate cakes if you can and send in money for your children to purchase a sweet snack. We will be dressing up on the day to make sure that it is really enjoyable and fun!**

During our inset day on Friday 24th October, we said goodbye to our lovely caretaker Allen. We held a quiz all about Allen and celebrated his time at our school. The day before, the 24x7 drivers gave him a special tribute by beeping him in unison! **We recently welcomed John (who is replacing Allen) into the Estates team, and Helen also joined our Estates team at the start of term and has fitted straight in!**

We will not be fundraising for Children in Need this year because we are fundraising for one of our families instead, through our Disney-themed day next week. We will be dressing up, selling cakes and having a Disney Dancathon! Details on how to donate will be sent out this week.

We are selling poppies as usual and they are available to purchase in reception.

On Wednesday 10th December, we will be holding our annual Christmas Fair, so please save the date! As usual, our learners will be selling items that can be purchased with tokens. **Details will be sent out shortly but please donate any unwanted toys and gifts that you may want to get rid of before Christmas.** As usual, our learners will be making craft items, and we will also have the ever popular raffle, soft toy tombola, second hand toy stall and refreshments. **If you know any businesses that would like to donate raffle prizes, please ask them.** We are always very grateful!

Another way that you and your family can support the school is through volunteering. We are always looking for members to join our Friends of Edith Borthwick (FOEBS) or to drive our minibuses to take our learners on trips - please let Tracey in the office know if you are interested. We have had to cancel a few trips including swimming due to not having enough adults to take them. **Swimming helpers are always gratefully received! Our FOEBS AGM will be happening over the next couple of weeks – more information to follow.** Have a say in what our fundraising money is spend on!

Finally, a couple of weeks ago the fire alarm went off twice – one just before the end of the school day and one just as the learners were coming out. **If this happens again, we may have to take learners who are being picked up by parents into the playground, so that we can check them off. If a fire alarm happens in the morning, we will leave your children with you to enable us to support the learners on the buses** - hopefully this won't happen, but we have made a plan in case!

Have a good few weeks and we will be in contact with you again soon about all the lovely things that are going on in school between now and Christmas!

Best wishes,

Maggie

At The Edith Borthwick School, we **respect**, **encourage**, **achieve**, **care**, and **have fun!**

Edie's area

Word for the next
half term



adventure

Signs of the half term

Zero Waste Week
(Litter/Rubbish/Waste)



Star Trek Day
(Space rocket/ship)



International Sudoku Day
(Maths)



Rosh HaShanah
(Horn)



The International Day of Sign Languages
(Makaton)



National Teaching Assistants' Day
(Thank you)



Black History Month
(Celebrate)



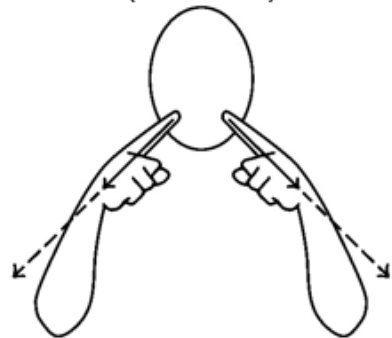
World Vegetarian Day
(Vegetarian)



World Dyslexia Awareness Day
(To know)



World Teachers Day
(Teacher)



Diwali

(Light shines)
Bunched hands in front of body
'spring open'



Halloween
(Halloween)



ECO Club

We are now an 'Eco school' and have our Eco-Schools Green flag accreditation!

A massive **THANK YOU** for all donations for our Christmas hampers in exchange for wearing Halloween costumes on Wednesday 22nd October!

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Dates for your diary

Parent/Carer Support Group

Friday 7th November 2025 9.30am – 11.00am

Armistice Day

Tuesday 11th November 2025

Disney Fun Day

Wednesday 12th November 2025

Christmas Fair

Wednesday 10th December 2025

Chameleon class made fruit cars in Art and Design! They designed, sanded, painted, decorated, drilled, and fitted wheels, before they finished their cars with a driver.



[Play now](#)



Can you donate a raffle prize this Christmas ?

Our team and students are hosting a raffle to raise vital funds for our school.

Any prizes donated are hugely appreciated. Thank you!

please contact zoejasztal@outlook.com

Thank you !

Heathrow class did pumpkin carving!



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