



Diary Dates

	Entry and exit times Year 5 – 9:00am – 2:45pm Year 6 – 8:55am – 2:40pm Year 7 – 8:50am – 2:35pm Year 8 – 8:45am – 2:30pm
30/5/21	Half Term
8/7/21	County Transition Day

Timetable – Week A – available on our website
www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

How are we planning to extend the school day after half term?

As promised, having reviewed the school day and consulted Freman as to their plans for this half term, we are proposing to extend the school day to the following times for the last 6 weeks.

Key Stage 3 - Y7 & Y8 : 8:45am - 2:50pm

Key Stage 2- Y5 & Y6 : 8:50pm - 2:55pm

Year 8 and 6 will enter and exit via bottom gate (normal entrance)

Year 5 and 7 will enter and exit via the pedestrian gate, adjacent to the main school gate and follow the cones.

How are we allocating this extra time?

We are increasing our morning break time and as well as providing a session for well-being and zones of regulation. There will continue to be 3 extended sessions of learning and Collective Worship at the end of the day. In September, we are planning to return to a 5 period day, but as classes are now settled and familiar with their teachers, we do not feel this is advisable for the last seven weeks of term. Students will be made aware of the timetable changes and new timetables will be posted on our website.

Are we bringing back Tutor groups?

Tutor groups will not return this year as this would add another teacher change to a student's day, which would increase the number of staff required to self-isolate in the event of a positive Covid-19 case. We are keen to return tutor time to our system in September and support our Heads of Year, who have shouldered the communication with parents this year.

What about bus students will this cause parking problems with Freman?

We have deliberately avoided finishing at the same time as Freman (3:00pm) in order to reduce traffic congestion. We are clear that the

buses parking at Freman and the students walking up has also made the exit to the school easier and we would like to maintain this in September to allow students the safest exit from the school.

However, due to the later finish time, we are concerned that we would be walking Edwinstree students through the exiting Freman students, which continues to increase risk. Therefore, we have asked the coaches to return to parking in the layby outside the school and bus children will be the first to exit, prior to students who are walking or being picked up by parents.

We will review our plans for September with both Governors and Freman College and will update you in due course.

What enrichment clubs are up and running?

It has been great to see students taking part in extra-curricular sport this week. On Wednesday night we had 29 students stay for Y7 football; however, only half that number had signed up /or phoned the office requesting a place. As we are no longer using paper reply slips, if you wish your child to take part in a club, please sign them up using the link below. Not only is this so we know names of who to expect (and to keep numbers at a safe level), but also to give your permission for them to stay after school. – Thank you

<https://forms.office.com/r/vsfmx4sUVk>

Please note, if your child does not have PE that day but plans to stay for a PE club, they are able to wear their PE kit for the day.

North Herts Film Club film club

<https://hertsbedsfilmclub.webstarts.com/index.html>

When will we get a Data report?

You will receive your child's data report the first week after half term. It will give you an indication of your child's current attainment in the core subject and the progress they have made since the last data collection in December. Next half term, we are planning to produce a written report for all subjects that students have studied this year. We will be offering Year 8 parents and carers the opportunity to book an appointment with the Foundation subjects (non-core) to find out how their child has progressed in these subjects. We recommend that you focus on the subjects that your child believes they will be interested in potentially taking at Freman as a GCSE choice. We are aware that Year 5 parents have not visited the school or

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had an opportunity to share in their child's learning at all during their time at Edwinstree, therefore, we hope to offer an opportunity for parents to view their child's work before the end of term.

Early Parent Consultations will be scheduled during the Autumn term for the current Year 6 and Year 7 for parents to find out about their child's progress.

What about a calendar will we get one for the last half term?

We are proposing to publish a tentative calendar for next half term. Any in-school events will be planned as an outside event and will be reliant on the easing of lockdown restrictions.

How are we helping students to have a little fun?

On Friday, students took part in a competition to sing the song 'Bang' as a class. They had to be word perfect and in time with the music, even when the music was turned down for 45 seconds, and remain in time when the volume was turned back up. We will also video our brave lip-synchers for next Friday afternoon's competition, which will be judged by the whole school community. Please be aware that any singing within the school is in line with Covid guidance. Winners will be rewarded with a fun swim session, which will take place on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday of next week.

If your child's class has won a fun swim next week, we need your permission for them to take part, they will not be able to go unless you have completed the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/U59nSGR20C>

Reading At Home Survey 📖

Supporting students to read in school and at home, is a significant part of our recovery curriculum and our focus for intervention and Summer school (more details to follow) In order to get a picture of how much reading goes on at home, here is a link to a questionnaire about reading at home. We would appreciate if you could take a few minutes to complete. Thank you for your support - Miss C Bailes

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BTrIzduqZ0-r9r2eTDmg8B0YJEFZ-NBHUEIIAJWw_DZUOVFVSDcxT1pDR1ZQR0JBWkM4Uk5DTINJVi4u

Year 6 PSHE

As Year 6 continue to study the topic of relationships, although we focus mainly on the positive aspects, over the next couple of weeks we will be touching on some more difficult issues. This will include when relationships do not work well, such as an imbalance of power like in the case of bullying. We will also cover aspects of grief, always keeping this topic at an age-appropriate level.

Year 8 History

In History this term, we have been looking at the British Empire and the role that it played in the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. In lessons we would like to watch the movie 'Harriet' about the role that Harriet Tubman played in rescuing slaves and using the 'Underground Railway' to bring them to safety. The movie is rated a 12, but I will watch it in advance to ensure that any potentially upsetting parts can be identified. Miss Bustard

Clothes collection for The Gambia

Please see the attached information explaining how you can help.

Stranger Danger – We have been alerted by the Police of inaccurate reports of an alleged white van driving suspiciously in the area, but the alleged incident was in North London. Please remember, the Police will alert us to any concerns and we will contact you via Parentmail. Reports on social media may not always be accurate.

Golden Broom winners – 5C & 8C

Jo Gant

Headteacher

Film Club Flyer

Phone Addiction information

Clothes Collection for Gambia

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