



**Edwinstree Middle School**  
A Voluntary Controlled Church of  
England School

**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS &  
CARERS**  
**Week Ending: 15/12/2023**

**Diary Dates:** To support you to manage the Christmas season costs we have placed these in our calendar and we hope this helps.



<b>School Day – 8:40am – 3:10pm</b>	
19/12/23	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Service at St Peter's Church 11am to 1pm Non- school uniform for walkers and spare shoes required. <b>Bakers can you support with a snack dropped off at the office on the day?</b>
20/12/23	End of Autumn Term 1:20pm
04/01/24	Start of Spring Term 08:40am
15/01/24	5A & 5C Academic review via SchoolCloud
22/01/24	5B & 5D Academic review via SchoolCloud
5-8/02/24	Year 6 Mock SATs
19-23/02/24	Half Term
26/02/24	6A & 6C Academic review via SchoolCloud
29/02/24	6B & 6D Academic review via SchoolCloud
18/03/24	Year 5 Foundation Evening in person
28/03/24	End of Spring Term 1:20pm
15/04/24	Start of Summer term 08:40am
22/04/24	Year 6 Foundation Evening in person
06/05/24	Bank Holiday
13-16/05/24	Year 6 SATs Week
20/05/24	Year 7 Foundation Evening in person
27-31/05/24	Half Term
17/06/24	Year 8 Foundation Evening in person
28/06/24	INSET Day
11/07/24	County Transition Day
19/07/24	End of Summer Term 1:20pm

**Last day of term**

Students will be in normal lessons until breaktime. There will be a slightly extended breaktime, with students returning to their tutor rooms until lunchtime. The lunch break will be from 12.15pm until 1.00pm, at which point students will go back to their tutor rooms and wait to be dismissed at 1.20pm.

**Year 5 message from Head of Year**

Please find attached a letter from Mrs Kelly, Head of Year 5 thanking Parents/ Carers and pupils for their wonderful start at Edwinstree.

**Christmas Service's at St Peter's Church  
19<sup>th</sup> of December for key stage 3. Can you help?**

Calling all bakers... Can you help provide a snack for our student's return to school after the Christmas Service, or if you are like me, a quick trip to the supermarket for a cake or biscuits? If you are able to help, please would you bring your donations to the school office on the morning of the service.

Thank you to those who have already offered your support to walk with the students to St Peter's, if there are any other offers of help please contact [s.petty@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:s.petty@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk).  
Year 5 leaving school at 10.50am, returning at 12.05pm  
Year 6 leaving at 12.00 noon, returning at 13.10pm

On the day of the walk, Year 5 and 6 students may wear non-school uniform and need to bring wellies or spare shoes if the weather is bad.

**When does the new term start?**

We return this year to school on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of January and are we look forward to greeting the children ready for a full days learning. Please note that this is different from Freman this year, who return to school on the 8<sup>th</sup> January.

**Afterschool Enrichment Clubs**

It has been great to see so many students take part in extra-curricular activities this term. All clubs have now finished.

New sign-up lists will be available after the Christmas holidays. All clubs will resume the week beginning Monday 15th January.

We would like to gauge interest in a couple of externally run after school clubs (Basketball and Boxing Club), we anticipate a cost of £5 per session. We would appreciate it if you could kindly complete the questionnaire to give us feedback on your interest, before we secure any bookings.

<https://forms.office.com/e/5gVS7Xf6BN>

**Lost Property**

We have a vast amount of lost property in the office without names, including coats. Please ensure that if you are missing items, you visit the school office before the end of term. You are welcome to come at the end of the school day; the office is open until 4.00pm daily.

**Food and Nutrition:**

**Year 5:** A massive congratulations to the cohort on some splendid pizza projects. Some of the designs were incredibly well executed and I look forward to reading and marking the evaluations finished this week.

**Year 6 and 8:** cooking is now finished for the term.

**Year 7:** enjoyed a cake taste testing this week in preparation for their food science experiment which we will be starting in January.

Just a reminder about health and safety - a number of pupils are wearing trainers again - these do not protect feet and are not allowed in the kitchen. Please ensure your child is wearing either leather or hard topped shoes when they have Food, Tech or Science lessons. Also, a number of pupils have false nails and acrylic nails - these are not allowed as they pose a risk during practical's, please ensure these are removed before the next lesson.

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As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*

## Edwinstree School Production

This year's school production will be Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies which is based on the legend of Robin Hood. It was written by Craig Hawes who wrote Pirates of the Curry Bean which was really enjoyed by the students. Students who have expressed their interest should have received the audition materials on SMHW already. Please would you give parental consent for them to attend the auditions by completing the form below.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BTrlzduqZ0-r9r2eTDmg8JkTlhgl36lNu6omsa6qfB5UMk5RVERVWUY5RUk4NUtJUzI5WDdSNDBDSS4u>

Thank you, Mrs Brock and Mrs Booth.

## All Years PE

After Christmas in PE, the girls will be playing football. Please ensure your child has football boots and shin pads. In the event of poor weather, we will be inside so trainers will also need to be brought. If you are struggling to provide these, please contact [s.maler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:s.maler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk). We know how much the cost of living crisis and Christmas can put a strain on finances so please ask. Spring PE timetable attached.

If you have any old boots or shin pads you no longer need, we would be grateful to receive all donations.

## Year 8 RE

In the New Year within RE, Year 8 pupils will be looking at the Holocaust and Islamophobia as part of a scheme on prejudice and discrimination. At Edwinstree we believe in embracing life in all its fullness, this includes sensitively and appropriately looking at emotionally challenging subjects. Please find attached a letter that has been sent to Year 8 Parent/Carers.

## What were the results of the parent questionnaire and our response to listening to your view points?

Attached are the results of our parent questionnaire and our responses to your voice. Please note, if you are a parent with a child on the SEND register, we will be looking to send you a follow up questionnaire post-Christmas.

## Herts Beds FilmMakers club

FilmMakers club will be returning to your school for the Spring Term 2024. EVERY WEDNESDAY 3.10PM - 4.15PM for a 10-week term. Starting January 10th 2024. This term there will be 4 extended sessions equating to 12 hours.

What do we do? We focus on building confidence, being creative, making memories & building new friendships! We work with an HD Camera, Green Screens, Clapperboard. The children are fully involved in the story planning, script writing. We plan costumes, the set and any props that are needed for filming. Actual Filming is done by the children with the guidance of Gill. Each child will learn the role of Film Director ensuring filming runs smoothly & everyone is where they should be. Children also learn the role of Clapperboard operator, a key role in any film ensuring the scene is labelled. Children also take on the roll of Camera operator. At the end of this club, your child will have been part of a fantastic, fun, creative and inspiring experience. From their very 1st written word in a script to performing the scenes with their friends. All the footage is then taken away and fully edited and on completion you will get a copy of your Childs work to enjoy with Family and Friends. Over the years we have worked on the most amazing films such as The

Greatest Showman, Spy School, BBC News with live reporting, The School of Earp Vim, Super Hero School, Pirates of The Caribbean, Hogwarts The Elements of Destruction, School of Rock, Christmas Adverts, Men in Black, The 5 Realms (written by a child in Hatfield) & I'm A Celebrity Get Me Outta Here to name a few!!

SPACES ARE LIMITED TO 14 CHILDREN PER TERM.

Payment is split into 3 direct debits spaced 1 month apart. £29.33 x 3. 1st payment not due until JANUARY and subsequent payments February & March.

Each child will receive a Certificate at the end of term and there will also be 3 children chosen for our SPECIAL AWARDS, where your Childs name will appear on our webpage for the entire term plus they will receive an additional gift. CLUBS tend to fill up once notification goes to the parents. If you cannot secure your Childs place, please email or message Gill so that your child can be put on the Waiting list. If there are any questions on this, you can contact Gill on 07341305131 or email on [hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com](mailto:hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com) or type NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE AND BEDFORDSHIRE FILM CLUB into Google and check out our webpage or click here <https://www.hertsbedsfilmclub.com/bookings?r=1702466806775> here you will see Parent Feedback, Pictures from On Set and also most importantly our BOOKING PAGE! Or it's even easier now - SCAN THE QR CODE ON THE ATTACHED FLYER

## Would you like to get fit or maintain your fitness and help others? Junior Parkrun

Free, weekly 2k run 4-14year olds.

Looking for a group of volunteers to help bring junior parkrun to Buntingford. Please contact [sue.millward@parkrun.com](mailto:sue.millward@parkrun.com)

We do hope that you find peace and comfort this holiday season and we look forward to working with you in the New year.

*Mrs J Gant – Headteacher*

[admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

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