



Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of
England School
**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS &
CARERS**
Week Ending: 29/09/2023

Homework week: A

Diary Dates

School Day – 8:40am – 3:10pm	
03 & 04/10/23	School Photographs
05/10/2023	Edwinstree Open Evening 6pm - 8pm, Headteacher Speaks at 6:15pm
09/10/23	ESA meeting 7pm Venue TBC
13/10/23	ESA Stargazing
17-18/10/23	Year 6 Lancaster Model
23-27/10/23	Half Term
01/12/23	Occasional Day – School Closed
20/12/23	End of Autumn Term 1:20pm
04/01/24	Start of Spring Term 08:40am

Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school please alert as soon as possible by emailing:

attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Parent Governor Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a Parent Governor – would you be willing to devote your time and expertise to support the Governing body?

If you are interested in the position please email:

s.petty@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk If we have more

than one applicant we are obliged to ask parents to nominate their candidate, and candidates will be asked to complete a small pen portrait.

What is happening next week?

School Advisor Visit

Our school advisor is in school on the 3rd and 4th of October supporting our Heads of Department to complete deep dives which involve learning walks, student discussions and book looks to check the progress students have made.

Open Evening

Many parents of Year 5 and 8 will have received letters from us asking permission for your child to help us at Open Evening on the 5th of October from 5.45pm till 8pm. Your child has kindly volunteered to tour parents around the school. We are asking that you return the permission slip that has been sent to you, confirming whether your child will be picked up by you, or walk home alone. Students will need to attend in full school uniform. We are currently compiling a list of Year 6 & 7 students to help with a subject area and parents will receive a letter on Monday.

Year 5 Meet and Greet

Thank you to all who attended the meet and greet evening on Monday. It was lovely to see the pupils so excited to show you their new school.

We hope you also came away more informed about the home learning in Year 5.

If you were unable to make it please do not worry, the PowerPoint is attached to the newsletter.

Mrs Kelly

Year 6 Harvest Thali

Mrs Van Wyk has organised a speaker to talk to all of Year 6 on Wednesday 4th October. This will take place from 11am to 12pm in the hall. Year 6 students will have an early break and then be back in their P4 lessons.

Year 7 and 8 homework

Homework is now being set, attached to the newsletter is the homework timetable. If your child is struggling to organise themselves please remember we have a homework club on Mondays during COWO.

School Photographs

School photographs will be taken in school on 3rd and 4th of October. Please ensure your child is in full uniform, and not PE kit.

Enrichment Afterschool Clubs

Due to our Open Evening, all enrichment clubs will be cancelled on Thursday 5th October. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

*As a Christian school we recognise the unique and wonderful in everyone.
As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*

What did you tell us about how much you are able to pay for trips and or activities this year?

Thank you to all the parents who completed this survey highlighting what you felt was fair and reasonable for trips and enrichment activities. We will be using the most common response as our guide. The results were;

- For discos £5 was seen as acceptable if a drink and food/sweets were included in price.
- The majority were prepared to support 2 x non-uniform days and a cake sale once every half term to support guest speakers, enrichment activities and/or charities.
- £16 – £25 was the reasonable price for day trips.
- Residential for year 6 next year £250 max for the majority of parents responding.
- The number of trips had the most range from 2–5 with the most common 2 or 3 a year.
- You were prepared to support the school with the cost of living crisis by following a similar donation contribution of £5 as to the one asked by Freman.

As we now plan our trips and visits for the year, please remember if the cost of trips and visits will cause you financial difficulty, please email s.marler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

What staff absence is there in the school?

We currently have Ms Hill off for the 3rd week. We are hoping that she will return from Monday the 9th October. In the meantime, we are using a regular and experienced supply teacher and students in her lessons are continuing to follow the planned schemes of work. Ms Kelly the Head of Year has been mindful to support her year 5 tutor group as they begin their journey with us at Edwinstree.

Music France Tour

We are excited to announce that we are going on a joint tour with Freman College to France. This will be in the first week on the summer holidays 2024 and will include concerts and some super fun activities during the day! There are still a lot of details to iron out, but we hope to stay in a Chateau (A French castle) and it will either be full or half board. We expect it to cost around £500 per student, but we are in the early stages, so will hope to confirm the price and give more details around the

October half term. There will only be 50 spaces and, if oversubscribed, we will do a random selection, making sure we cover both choir and orchestra. Therefore, to be in with the best chance of a space, we recommend being in both the music extra-curriculars that we are offering this year.

To register your interest:

This form is to register your interest for the Music tour to France in July. This is not confirmation of a space, nor are you committing your child to going, we simply want to get an idea of numbers. We will send out a separate form to all when price, and other information, has been confirmed. Having spent time discussing, we, as a school, have decided to run this trip for years 6-8.

<https://forms.office.com/e/DQuyLQgGhZ>

Please also see flyer attached.

Edwinstree School Association



Monday 9th October ESA meeting

7pm. Venue tbc. New members are always welcome to attend our

meetings. Parents, grandparents or anyone that has an association with Edwinstree is welcome. Have your say on how ESA events are planned and run and what we should spend our funds on.

Friday 13th October Stargazing.

Pupils and their families are invited to attend for a relaxed evening of stargazing on the field 6pm - 8pm. You are encouraged to bring your own telescopes, binoculars and mobile phones with star gazing apps on. By bringing picnic blankets or similar you can enjoy the darkness of the school field and gaze at the stars. The science staff will be available to support and offer guidance on getting the best from gazing at the stars. The main purpose is carving out some quality time together to observe what is around us every night, but we so rarely get to stop and wonder at. As Year 5 are currently learning about Space and this would be a great enrichment activity to support their learning. The ESA will be selling hot drinks and marshmallows. In the event of wet weather, we will gather in the hall for some Space and Star related quizzes. Spaces are limited to 100, please complete the consent form below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/kcgenkuALz>

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Pre-Loved Uniform

Just to let everyone know that the ESA has an online shop selling pre-loved uniform. You can order anytime and the item will be delivered to the school office for you or your child to collect, usually on a Thursday. Orders can be placed in the school holidays and we will try to arrange a delivery time and place suitable for all. School branded PE T-shirts, hoodies and rugby tops (for year 7 and 8 only) are £3. Being pre-loved quality does vary.

Good quality trouser and skirts are individually photographed and listed at £1 each. We also have plain black hoodies and jogging bottoms suitable for PE, along with rain and winter coats which are not listed online but make appearances at our pop-up events at school parent evenings and some High Street community events. Donations are always welcome.

[Edwinstree School Association Online Shop
\(sumupstore.com\)](http://sumupstore.com)

We also recommend (if you haven't already done so) naming everything - there are already 4 brand new school jumpers unnamed in the lost property cupboard, there are also a dozen pencil cases and swimming bags. Stikins name labels are great for sticking onto everything. If an item is named, staff will do their best to get it back to your child. If you order from Stikins please use our fundraising number 6671 and the ESA will get 30% commission.

[Clothes Name Labels. Stick on School Name Labels,
Name Tags: Stikins®](#)



The Local Offer lets

parents and young people know what special educational needs and disabilities services are available in Hertfordshire, and who can access them.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/the-hertfordshire-local-offer.aspx>

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

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