### **Edwinstree Middle School**

A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School



NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS Week Ending: 25/04/2025.

## **Edwinstree Term dates:**

https://www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk/school/term-dates.aspx

## **Diary Dates:**

05/05/25	Bank Holiday
08/05/25	Year 6 In Person Foundation
	Evening 5-7pm. Governors will be
	in attendance
12-15/05/25	Year 6 SATs
16/05/25	ESA School Disco (more details to
	follow)
26-30/05/25	Half Term
05/06/25	Year 5 In Person Foundation
	Evening 5-7pm
12/06/25	Year 5 Felixstowe Trip
26/06/25	Year 5 Felixstowe Trip
27/06/25	INSET Day
05/07/2025	Edwinstree Summer Fayre
10/07/25	County Transition Day
	Parent Transition Evening 5-6pm
18/07/25	End of Term 1:20pm.
09/10/25	Open Evening
	9th October 2024, 6pm - 8pm.
	Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm

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## What messages went out in COWO this week?

We have a year 5 student who is slowly returning to us after developing severe Epilepsy since January. To support her, this week in Collective Worship students were introduced to her condition and how we will treat it, if she did have a seizure. The PowerPoint was designed by the student and her family. Our community reacted with care and compassion, and we are grateful to our students for their responses.

# Do we comply with the new rules coming in about uniform?

Yes, the Government is expecting schools to have moved to only 3 compulsory branded items by September 2026, we already comply with this ruling.

# How do we make the decision about when to move to PE kit if it is hot?

We check the weather forecast each morning and if the temperature is moving to 24/25°C, we notify you and the students that we can go to PE kit.

Why don't we just move them to this in the Summer? I did this once and quickly learnt not to trust the British weather, it immediately moved to the worse Summer I can remember!

Are they in PE kit when they return from the bank holiday? No, the forecast is telling us it will be cooler. So please return them in full uniform with the white shirt.

## **Spring Attainment Reports**

Thank you for your patience in waiting for the Spring reports. Unfortunately, an issue with our new Management Information system (MIS) delayed us from sending these before Easter. Individual attainment reports have been issued today via Satchel:one. Reports can be viewed via parent and student Satchel:one accounts using a computer or mobile phone. Below is a short guide on how to open reports using an Android or Apple device: Android

- Open the Satchel:one App and select the red tile labelled "Documents"
- Click on the name of the report (starting with the surname of your child)
- Click on the grey box that has the letters PDF in it
- Click on the option "PDF reader"

#### <u>Apple</u>

- Open the Satchel:one App and select the red tile labelled "Documents"
- Click on the name of the report (starting with the surname of your child)
- Click on the grey box that has the letters PDF in it
- This will open a white pop up with your contacts and sharing apps. At the bottom, click on the option "Quick Look"

If you require any assistance accessing your child's report, please email Mrs Heywood:

<u>r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk</u> . Thank you.

## Uniform and Equipment Checks

We will be completing a uniform and equipment check next week, if your child is not wearing the correct uniform or is without the required equipment listed below, we will call you to find out how we can support you and your child to get ready for school.

#### Uniform:

 $\frac{\text{https://www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk/parents/uniform.asp}}{\underline{x}}$ 

#### Equipment:

To support your child to learn, please may we ask that you provide them with the following:

- Pencil case
- Blue or black pens
- Green pen
- HB pencils
- Ruler (30cm measured in cm and mm)
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Whiteboard pen/rubber
- Glue stick.
- A small pack of colouring pencils (basic colours)
- Year 7&8: scientific calculator <u>Casio FX-83GTX Scientific Calculator, Black:</u>
   Amazon.co.uk: Stationery & Office Supplies
- You may wish to provide highlighter pens.

### Year 5 Art

We will soon be learning about set design and animation! I would be extremely grateful for any donations of cardboard boxes or shoe boxes for this project. Please hand them in to the office or art room.

Thank you, Mrs Burches

## Year 6 in-Person Foundation Parents Evening

As you will have seen from the Newsletter dates, we have a Year 6 Foundation Evening on 8<sup>th</sup> May from 5pm until 7pm, this is held in school and is a chance for your child to bring you into school, take you to their classrooms and show you the work they have been completing in their subjects. Foundation subject teachers will be in their classrooms for any questions you may have. You are not required to book a time slot.

A slight change from last year - and in response to parent feedback - we will ensure that your child's core books (English, Maths and Science) will be available for you to look at during the evening.

### Year 8 Transition

We look forward to working with you in the last term as our students transition to Freman, an information letter will be out next week to explain the process and ask you to alert us if you think your child may need additional support for transition. Freman are excellent at offering additional sessions at the school post half term, for those students feeling extra nervous about the change.

### **RE Summer Term**

In the Summer Term within RE, pupils will be looking at the Death Penalty, and the ethical and moral questions surrounding it.

At Edwinstree we believe in embracing life in all its fullness, this includes sensitively and appropriately looking at emotionally challenging subjects. Please be assured pupils will not be shown any footage, images or recordings depicting this practice taking place.

Pupils will be informed that there are several parts of these lessons, where they will be confronted with upsetting information. They will be assured that it is ok to be upset, angry or worried, that the classroom is a safe space where we will support each other.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for further resources, please do not hesitate to contact me on <a href="mailto:a.kelly@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk">a.kelly@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk</a> We thank you for your support, Mrs Kelly

## Food and Nutrition – all years

All I can say is WOW! What an amazing week of cooking. This week we made roughly: 28 pizzas, 432 fruit alternative cupcakes, 228 portions of spaghetti Bolognese and 60 portions of alternative protein curry! You should all be very proud of your achievements in Food and Nutrition. Outstanding work! Next week we will be cooking with the classes who did not cook this week, except for 8D, 5C and 6A who will cook the following Monday.

#### Year 5:

Those who made their pizzas will be continuing their pizza projects with evaluating their practical — a critical part of cooking, which they will learn about over the next few years at Edwinstree. **5A** please make sure you bring in your design and your ingredients for your pizza projects. Please remember the design is the most important part of the project. As mentioned on SatchelOne and in class, if the design is not brought in you will not be allowed to cook - the design is more important than the practical this week. **5C** will be cooking the following week.

#### Year 6:

**6A** due to the bank holiday, you will only be cooking 12/05/2025.

#### Year 7:

Please remember to bring all borrowed containers back to school. It is an expectation that the containers will be washed, ready for another pupil to use. Unfortunately, I have had dirty containers returned this week — this shows that washing up with hot, soapy water did not take place and has allowed bacteria to grow.

#### Year 8:

**8A** and **8C** you will be creating a curry of your own choosing using a protein alternative – no beef, chicken, pork, fish etc. Spice pots will be made up for those who would like one – please let me know via SatchelOne if you require a premade pot – no chilli is included in the spice pot. Oil is provided, you do not need to bring this in. **8D** you will cook on 12/05/2025.

- Please note that unless otherwise informed, if your child was absent from the demo lesson, they will not be cooking - alternate work is always provided.
- All ingredient requirements are on SatchelOne. Please remember that if your child has an allergy/intolerance or food preference to change an item, you can send that in as we want pupils to enjoy their own cooking creations.
- ALL INGREDIENTS to be named and dropped off outside the food room first thing on the day of your practical outside the Food Room. No shopping bags are allowed in the fridge, so please label all ingredients.
- Please send in only the required amount of ingredient. There is only 1 fridge in the Food Room and if 4 classes are cooking on the same day, space is very limited.

REMEMBER you are welcome to make changes and adaptions as necessary to recipe requirements so that you can enjoy the product you are creating. Please send through any questions via SatchelOne.

Kindly return any borrowed containers – this week 17 were

handed out and so far, only 2 returned. Mrs van Wyk

## The Dynamic Diversity Group

The Dynamic Diversity Group is a collective of unique individuals from a range of backgrounds celebrating our cultures, religions and individuality – everyone is included and warmly welcomed. To ensure fairness and to allow everybody the space for their voice to be heard, we are offering a finite number of places to ensure that the DDG can function effectively.

If your child is interested, please complete a paper copy of the application attached including your full name and form and hand it to either Mrs van Wyk or Miss H Jackson by Wednesday 7th May. You will receive an email if we are able to provide a space for you. Paper copies are available from both teachers. The first meeting of the Diversity Collective will be on Monday 12th May at 3:15-4:00pm If we have more people apply than spaces available, we will rotate them out on a termly basis.

## Gardening Club:

With the hot weather this week, I think we may have watered ourselves a little more than the plants. Please do feel free to send an extra pair of shoes you don't mind getting wet.

We have had a welcome surprise of 4 potato plants which have sprouted - we thought we had harvested all the potato pots last year, but it seems we didn't so are quite grateful for the blessings!

We have planted butternut, green and yellow courgettes and pumpkin plants this week. Our pea obelisk has gone up and we have another to build along with an arch for our gem squash. If there is anyone available to help out next gardening club and help build these for us, we would be grateful for the help. (WEDNESDAY 3:15-4:14pm) We have been fortunate in receiving a few tomato, aubergine, lettuce and pepper plants - and a loofah plant which we will grow in our green house.

We'd love to plant a few flowers for the Fair on the 5th of July and would be grateful for any topsoil or compost (if you have any spare) to get us started. week. Mrs van Wyk

## Do you have good quality Lego that you now don't use?

We have a Lego club starting up and would benefit from second hand Lego that is of good quality, and we would be able to build with. Can you help?

If you are willing to donate to us, please would you drop your Lego off to the school office over the next few weeks. Thank you for all donations available.

#### **Edwinstree Vacancies**

Please find details regarding our current SENCO vacancy on our website, link below:

 $\underline{\text{https://www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk/school/vacancies.asp}}\underline{x}$ 



## **Edwinstree School Association**

### School Disco Friday 16th May 6-8pm



Tickets are now on sale for our Spring disco through our Sum Up shop: May School

Disco - Please read

instructions carefully!

This is an outdoor disco but in the event of bad weather will be moved indoors, thus tickets are limited to 350, and are available first come first served until Wednesday 14th May unless sold out. When

buying tickets, you **must include your child's name**, any **food intolerances** and whether they can **walk home**, or will be **collected by an adult** in the *message for merchant box*.

The ESA can only host a school disco if we have enough adults to help provide snacks, drinks and marshal the event area. Please contact the school office or email <a href="mailto:edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com">edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com</a> if you can help on 16th May. It's a great event to help out at and large enough that you won't embarrass your child with your presence!

Tickets cost £5 each which includes a snack and unlimited drinks and helps raise money to enrich our children's time at Edwinstree.

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk