



## Edwinstree Term dates:

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

## Diary Dates:

24-26/09/25	Year 7 Residential
29/09/25	Flu vaccinations – all years
09/10/25	Open Evening 9th October 2025, 6pm - 8pm. Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm
27–31/10/25	Half Term
05/12/25	Occasional Day
19/12/25	End of Term 1:20pm.
05/01/26	INSET Day
06/01/26	Start of Spring Term
16-20/02/26	Half Term
27/03/26	End of Term 1:20pm.
13/04/26	Start of Summer Term
04/05/26	Bank Holiday
25-29/05/26	Half Term
26/06/26	INSET Day
09/07/26	County Transition Day
17/07/26	End of Term 1:20pm.

## Table of Contents

Thank you to Parents.....	1
What is the purpose of the weekly newsletter?.....	1
Afterschool Enrichment Clubs .....	2
What have we been thinking about at the start of term in our whole school assemblies that we call COWO? .....	2
How do we know the work we do is successful?.....	2
Satchel One .....	2
When does Homework start?.....	3
PE Timetables .....	3
Year 5 News:.....	3
How to Thrive in Y5!.....	3
Congratualtions Year 5.....	3
Free School Meals .....	3
Year 6 News:.....	3
SAT's results .....	3
Year 8 News:.....	3
Upper School Applications .....	3
Edwinstree School Association (ESA).....	3
New Friends Disco.....	3
Pre-loved uniform .....	3
Freman Open Evening. ....	4
Neighbourhood Alerts system launched by Hertfordshire Police.....	4
Get Your Old Bikes Rolling Again! .....	4

## Thank you to Parents

A huge thank you to Parents – It was lovely to welcome your child back to school this week, thank you for ensuring they were prepared for the new term with uniform and equipment. Homework will start in week 3 of our term. We will publish the timetables next week. **Please may we remind you to place your child's name in all uniform.** remember to label everything! We get 30% commission on labels at Stikins if you quote our fundraising number 6671 at <http://www.stikins.co.uk>

## What is the purpose of the weekly newsletter?

This newsletter is designed to help you to know what is happening in school and why. If you take the time to click on the titles that are relevant to you and your child, we guarantee that it will stop the mad panic when you just find out your child has Technology on the morning and needs equipment/ food etc. May we steer you that while WhatsApp parent groups can be helpful, they are not always accurate in the guidance they give you, so look here first if you are unsure about an event, a Food and Nutrition lesson etc.

## Afterschool Enrichment Clubs

Sign-up sheets for our Enrichment afterschool clubs and a full list of clubs will be out next week, giving you time to sign up before they begin the week after.

## What have we been thinking about at the start of term in our whole school assemblies that we call COWO?

COWO is the time where we come together as a school, tutor group and/or Key Stage to reflect, it is a calm time of the day and takes place from 2.50pm until the end of school. This week in COWO we have been exploring what it means to be a Church of England school. Students have reflected that being a student at Edwinstree does not mean we bash you on the head until you find a faith and believe in God but, while they work in this community they are abiding with God. We use the following bible quote to steer us:

*Live in me. Make your home in me, just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can't bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can't bear fruit unless you are joined with me.* — John 15:4–6 (The Message)

To help students understand what abiding with God is at our school we use a metaphor taken from this quote

### **A vine tree.**



The trunk of the Edwinstree vine tree is our vision: You can see it at the bottom of the page, it's key words are that we recognise all our children and families as *unique*, we work hard to help our students find their wonderful the ingredients that make them special and unique and we encourage them to celebrate and share their greatness. We support our students to *flourish*, this of course includes academic learning, but more. Finally, we live *Life in all it's Fullness* which means we actively plan for fun and joy, but we also talk to students about the tough issues in life and sadness what the Church calls the Salt.

The branches of the tree which help students to *flourish*, are our Christian values that we explore in COWO, to help us think as a community about how we can be the best that we can be. The values are represented in the cross at the back of our school hall and your child will explore a value each half term in their collective worship. Each value is thought about carefully and if we get it right, your children will talk to you about them, as we will be provoking deep reflection.



Finally, the fruit of the tree are our virtues, if the Church of England work is successful, we will see your children displaying the virtues of *respect, commitment, empathy* and *courageous advocacy* – the ability and desire to make a difference.

## How do we know the work we do is successful?

Attached is our recent Church of England inspection report that took place at the end of last term. The inspection team concluded: *Edwinstree Church of England Middle School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish.*

Our students are genuinely happy and want to come to school. Our attendance figures in all year groups bucked the national trend of dropping and were above the national figures in all year groups, and our SEND and Pupil Premium students come to school like their peers.

## Satchel One

Satchel One is the application Edwinstree use to communicate home learning information, academic reports, behaviour notifications and to view timetables.

All Year 5 students will be taught how to access their Satchel One accounts as part of their computing lessons. Parent account registration details will be issued to parents next week, we will notify you when they are sent out.

To control what information you wish to be notified of and by what method, please go to the settings menu in the app and select notifications. A list of notification options will be displayed, and you can toggle them on or off as required. We recommend that you enable push and email notifications for behaviour points and badges.

Please note that Satchel One requires parents to complete an email verification for security reasons. Please verify your account as soon as you are prompted, to prevent the account being locked. If you need any further assistance, please contact Mrs Heywood [r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

*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.*

## When does Homework start?

Homework begins from the 15<sup>th</sup> of September.

KS2 (year 5 & 6) receive English, Maths and Science homework.

KS3 (year 7 & 8) receive the same and in addition the foundation subjects i.e. Music, DT, Geography, History once every two weeks.

All homework is set online via SatchelOne. If you or your child are having problems logging in, please contact

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

## PE Timetables

Please find attached our Autumn PE timetable for all years.

## Year 5 News:

### How to Thrive in Y5!

Year 6 pupils have spent time this week creating a guide for our new Year 5 pupils, they detail some useful pointers and remind them that we are all here to help. Please do use with your child and enjoy hearing from our pupil 'experts!' Please find the guides attached to the newsletter.

### Congratulations Year 5

Congratulations on navigating your first week with us. We know it is daunting, so many new faces and rooms! Thank you for trusting us, for telling us when you are not ok and for sharing your needs. We look forward to getting to know you all more and discovering your 'wonderfuls'!

### Free School Meals

If you are entitled to Free School Meals, please would you email [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk) to ensure our records are correct.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

## Year 6 News:

### SAT's results

They were much lower than the national, is this something that will happen again? What does it mean?

Yes, they were, but this was a very distinct year group with a large proportion of students who did not sit the SATs exam due to their needs. These are included in our statistics.

We do not expect to see these results again, and because we continue with these children into year 7 and 8, we can spend time supporting them to reach the national standards this year and next. By July a small proportion of students had already tipped to standard, and these improvements will continue this year.

## Year 8 News:

### Upper School Applications



Applications for secondary/upper school places to start in September 2026 opened Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025, for children in year 8 (in middle schools).

Please be aware that the deadline for applications to secondary and upper schools is fast approaching. Parents will need to make an application

online or on paper by the closing date of 31st October 2025. We would recommend that parents complete their applications by Friday 24th October, so that if there are any queries, they can be dealt with by the Admissions Team ahead of the deadline.

Parents should apply online

at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions)



Edwinstree School Association  
(ESA)

### New Friends Disco

The ESA are proud to start the school year with a 'New Friends Disco' on Friday 19th September 5-7pm. Tickets cost £5 which includes snacks and unlimited drinks.

The event is limited to 200 spaces so please book early to avoid disappointment using this link.

[School Disco - Please read instructions carefully](#)

We do require a few parents to help at this event (washing up, serving drinks and snacks etc) so please email the ESA team, or the school office if you are free.

[EdwinstreeSchoolAssociation@outlook.com](mailto:EdwinstreeSchoolAssociation@outlook.com)

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

### Pre-loved uniform

Thank you to every who donated and purchased pre-loved uniform over the summer holidays. We sold 70 items raising £206. The online shop is updated as items are donated so do keep checking regularly. Orders are usually ready to collect from the school office the following Tuesday.

[Edwinstree School Association Online Shop](#)

If you are buying new uniform or equipment, please remember to label everything! We get 30% commission on labels at Stikins if you quote our fundraising number 6671 at <http://www.stikins.co.uk>

*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.*



## Freman Open Evening.

This year's Open Evening will take place on Wednesday 24th September from 5.30pm. The Headteacher will speak at the end of the evening, 7.30pm.



## Neighbourhood Alerts system launched by Hertfordshire Police

Herts Connected is a really useful tool and allows residents to receive the latest crime or emergency updates and alerts, as well as information about policing events in their area. Local residents can get involved in helping to make their local area a safer place, tell us what police should be doing in their area, shape the initiatives that help to keep people and property safe, and tell us what matters are causing local communities harm.

To sign up to receive alerts, please use this link

<https://www.hertsconnected.co.uk/>



## Get Your Old Bikes Rolling Again!

Community Bike Drop Returns to Hertford Rugby Club on Sunday 14th September.

Nearly three years ago, something amazing happened at Hertford Rugby Club. Our brilliant local community came together and donated a whopping 165 bikes. Thanks to the fantastic team at Herts Disability Sports Foundation (HDSF), those bikes were lovingly refurbished and rehomed across Hertfordshire.

Some became a child's very first taste of cycling freedom. Others helped adults commute to work, reducing car use and giving our planet a well-deserved break. The impact? Healthier people, a greener environment, and a stronger, more connected community.

Now, we're doing it again and we need you.

Got an old bike gathering dust in your shed, garage or garden? Don't let it rust away; let it ride again.

Join us on Sunday 14th September, from 9am to 1pm, at Hertford Rugby Club, Hoe Lane, Ware SG12 9NZ for our second Big Community Bike Drop.

Every bike donated will be refurbished and given a second life – whether it's helping a child learn to pedal or helping someone get to work.

So, dust off those wheels, pump up those tyres (if you can), and bring them along. Let's make this another two-wheeled triumph!

For further information please contact Lucy Hunter:

lucy\_hunter38@yahoo.co.uk

Together, let's keep our community rolling.

Mrs J. Gant – Headteacher  
[admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

*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.*