



Edwinstree Middle School

A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School

NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS

Week Ending: 06/02/2026.

Edwinstree Term dates:

[Term Dates 2025-26 & 2026-27.pdf](#)

Homework week: A

Diary Dates:

11/02/26	Year 7 Lieutenancy Visit
12/02/26	Year 8 Fullness Day with visit from Electric Umbrella Non uniform day £1 voluntary contribution & Bake Sale
16-20/02/26	Half Term
24/02/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 6A Maths and English 6D Maths and English
25/02/26	Author Imran Ahmad visit to Year 8
03/03/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 6B Maths and English 6C Maths and English
04/03/26	Y7 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
27/03/26	End of Term 1:20pm.
13/04/26	Start of Summer Term
21/04/26	Y6 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
04/05/26	Bank Holiday
11-14/05/26	Year 6 SATs
12/05/26	Y5 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
19/05/26	Human Papillomavirus (HPV) immunisation for Year 8.
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.

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What were we thinking about in COWO?

This week in COWO year 8 students launched the Diversity Day which is a Fullness Day on Thursday and in tutor time the students researched the band that is coming in which is the Electric Umbrella choir. [Home - Electric Umbrella](#)

Can you help us raised funds for our Fullness Day on Diversity?

On Thursday the school will hold a Fullness Day to recognise diversity, with the Dynamic Diversity Group. Students will be offered the chance to wear non uniform for those that wish to participate, many of us will be wearing rainbow colours.

On the day students will be able to wear non uniform for a £1 voluntary contribution, hopefully purchase bakes from yourselves donated to the school and meet the Electric Umbrella Band which is a SEND band that is based in Watford and reached the Semi-finals of Britain's Got Talent show last year.

If you are able to help, we would very much appreciate you dropping off your amazing bakes, and/or bought shop cakes and biscuits for us to sell. Thank you so much for your help. **Please remember, we have nut allergies, dairy and gluten intolerance, so please do not bring food with any nut products and do mark up if the bakes are dairy and/or gluten free, so we can get these to the right children.** Unfortunately, we will not have capacity to call home if your child forgets to bring money for the bake sale.

The ESA have already funded the band coming in to school, so we are looking to use the funds raised to support the Dynamic Diversity Group to create a series of outdoor light displays in rainbow colours to represent and remind us to embrace difference. Thank you for any help you can give.

Newsletter focus

Attendance – February 2026

Please find attached to this newsletter our Attendance Focus for February 2026.

Year 6 News

Year 6 SATs

Thank you to all year groups who supported our year 6 this week by moving classes, taking cover in the hall and genuinely remaining as quiet as possible in corridors where tests were being taken.

A huge thank you to both the parent community and wider community for supporting our Year 6 pupils with their mock SATs tests. The adults that came in were an invaluable resource; they made a real difference to both pupils and staff. The pupils really appreciated the support of an adult for reading questions and moral support.

Parents shared that being involved gave them a clearer understanding of the support systems we have in place for students.

We are very lucky at Edwinstree that the SATs have little value for us as a school, as we have 2 and half years longer to support your children to get them ready for upper school, confident and secure in their learning.

If you are a parent that noted your child's anxiety was significant, but you don't think we are aware, please email the Head of Year or the admin team to alert us.

hoy6@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk, admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Year 7 News

Hertfordshire Lieutenancy visit to Year 7

On the 11th of February, Year 7 will have a visit from the Hertfordshire Lieutenancy, to explore the role of the Monarchy in Britain and British and Commonwealth values. This is a very special event as the Lieutenancy are representatives of the King.

[Home - The Lieutenancy of Hertfordshire](#)

Year 7 Lifeskills

As part of our Lifeskills unit in Year 7, we are covering some basic first aid. One of the activities will include the recovery position, and students will learn more on this topic as they progress in future years. Any child that doesn't feel comfortable with doing this will have the option just to watch.

Year 8 News

Folder verses books in Maths

Classes taught by Mr Nash have moved to maths books this week in order to make it clearer to see students' progress between now and Summer. Experimenting with folders and worksheets, we are clear, while evidence from assessments show progress is being made, it was difficult to see in the folders, as the worksheets despite best efforts were not always in order.

Food and Nutrition

Some great news: I have managed to secure some more tinned Alaskan salmon. This should be arriving the second week of March and we will hopefully be making a delicious and tasty salmon potato dish. Edwinstree will provide the ingredients for this and it is likely going to be KS3 classes who get to make it. Once again, the salmon has come through via the Food Teachers Centre, The Fish Heroes Programme, Alaska Seafood UK and distributed by DFDS.

Year 8: Hearty congratulations to the year 8's who have handed in some fantastic projects. I have seen a range of projects from simple to intricate and colourful in design. I look forward to marking the last of these and getting the marks ready for Freman.

Year 8 also had the opportunity this week for their final practical with me, to create dishes of their own choosing - whether it was something we'd previously cooked in school or their favourite dish from home. We've had the most amazing results ranging from cookies to cakes, pizzas and chicken wraps, curries, Chili's and a variety of salads, you name it ... even steak and garlic bread! Very well done to the Group 2!



I will be putting a number of tubs out next week for your children to have a look through and see which containers belong to them/you. There are so many that are unnamed that I'm unable to pass them back via the office. Hopefully, if you are missing any, you will have a few coming back your way.

A very big thank you for the donation of chocolate tubs, we have a 'healthy' amount of tubs again which is great. It's just allows pupils who forget a container at home to have the opportunity to take their product with them.

I must admit that I am looking forward to seeing all of the pancake designs that are coming in for MFL home learning next week. Mrs. Therouerde and I love seeing all of the creativity across the school. Just a reminder that if you're not making a pancake itself, you can use any food that is a round shape to create your masterpiece.

Mrs van Wyk

Food & Nutrition/Technology lessons changeover – All Years

After half term Years 5, 6 and 7 will change over tech group week beginning 22nd February. Year 8 make the change week beginning 9th March. SatchelOne will be updated accordingly.

School Runs and Parking at School

Can we ask that you continue to be mindful of the pressures on Bowling Green Lane at the start and end of the day. Please be aware the lollipop man is doing a great job of helping to keep your children safe, he will always allow a bus to pass him on the crossing but will stop cars. He waits until there are a group of children wherever possible before allowing them to cross. Please respect the role he is doing we are so very grateful to have him here.

Please also note that several parents who have parked on the zig zag lines outside of school were fined this week. We must advise that parking on the zig zags outside of school is illegal, and unsafe and that the Sainsbury car park is free before 9.00am and after 3pm.

[Bowling Green Lane | East Herts District Council](#)

Mobile Phone Usage at school

Last week we wrote to you about mobile phone usage in school lessons given our current limited number of school devices and our desire to source more going forward. In particular, we highlighted that there would be occasions when we currently need to use them in Lifeskills lessons, and indeed this is one of the subjects where we study the safe use of phones. We now also recognise that there will similarly be a limited number of computing lessons that may require the use of mobile phones, for example when studying "computer networking." Computing lessons, alongside Lifeskills, is a second place where we study the safe usage of the internet. Your child will not miss out if they don't have a phone as we have a small number of chrome devices but not enough for a class set.

Who is the Man outside school watching traffic

John is a neighbour of the school, who lives in sheltered accommodation and has a key worker to support him. In the 5 years John has been our neighbour, he has shown that he is very interested in traffic counting and the coming and goings of the school. You might see him sat outside with a notebook, he has a fascination with car registrations.

He visits the school for our Summer Fair and concerts and when supervised has enough confidence at these events to say hi to the students. Otherwise, he is normally quiet and calm and has not posed any risk to our community. He finds talking to strangers difficult, so we smile and say hello and that is enough,

National Child Measurement (NCMP) Evaluation

Survey

On behalf of the Health Improvement Lead within Public Health at Hertfordshire County Council we would be most grateful if you could give some feedback on the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) letter that some of you may have received.



This follows on from the height and weight measurements that were undertaken by the school nursing staff in the autumn term.

If you did not receive a letter from the programme, or you opted your child out than you do not need to do anything at this current time.

Please see attached information and the QR code and link below for the evaluation survey for the letter:

Survey Link:

<https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/NCMPfeedback/>

Notice from Director of Education

Since December 2020, the Local Authority has been able to provide supermarket vouchers to families, supported through government funding streams. From October 2021 onwards, this was funded through the Household Support Fund, a national programme from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) designed to help households with the cost of living.

The government has now confirmed that the Household Support Fund will come to an end in 2025. Unfortunately, this means we will no longer be able to issue vouchers to children who are entitled to benefit-related free school meals for the holiday periods.

We understand that this change may be difficult for some families, and we want to reassure you that support is still available. If you feel you may need additional help, we encourage you to visit the Hertfordshire County Council 'Cost of Living Support' pages on the council website, where you can find information about a range of services and assistance options.

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