

NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS Week Ending: 02/06/2025.

## Edwinstree Term dates:

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

## Diary Dates:

10/06/25	Fullness Day raising funds for the
10/00/25	Phoenix Group for Deaf Children
	& Young Adults. <b>Non-uniform or</b>
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	Pyjamas for the day £1 voluntary
	donation and sponsored silence
12/06/25	Year 5 Felixstowe Trip - £26.10
	Years 6, 7 & 8 Life Skills visitor
	the Entitled Sons - We are asking
	for a <b>£1 voluntary donation</b> , and
	non-uniform day.
17/06/25	Year 7 Globe Theatre Trip - £40.67
20/06/25	7A non-uniform day for merit
	competition
25/06/25	Sports Day
26/06/25	Year 6 Felixstowe Trip - £26.10
27/06/25	INSET Day
02/07/25	Reserve Sports Day
	School Production Rehearsal
03 & 04/07/25	School Production Evening
	Performances
05/07/2025	Edwinstree Summer Fair
10/07/25	County Transition Day
	Parent Transition Evening 5-6pm
11/07/25	Year 8 Felixstowe Trip
	Year 8 Camp Out
	(more details to follow)
18/07/25	Year 8 Leavers Ceremony
	End of Term 1:20pm.
09/10/25	Open Evening
	9th October 2025, 6pm - 8pm.
	Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm

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## What is our COWO value for this term?

This term our value will be *Compassion,* and students will spend time with their Tutors and in the school hall, exploring this theme during our Collective Worships.

This week they heard a story of how Mrs Gant had to really use her value of compassion to manage the holidays. *Please note check the issue date on your passport as well as the expiry date if you plan a holiday!* 

Please may we remind you that you are welcome to come to any COWO that takes place in school from 2.45pm. If you need a little cheering up, we recommend the Friday hymns session, it is beautiful and always puts a smile on our faces. All you need to do is call the office or email us, to let us know you are coming.

Reverend Kirsty Wainwright held a COWO to share the story of Pentecost and the birth of the Church with our year 5, 6 and 7. It was lovely to hear, and see the students spontaneously give her a round of applause, she is a great storyteller.

## Why do we run Fullness days?

We are asked to support children to understand and use courageous advocacy as part of the work for a Church of England school. The idea that if you have a problem or something that you think is unjust, with compassion and commitment you can make a change.

Our Fullness days are examples of this work, with children suggesting charities that they wish to support for various reasons, almost always because they have been impacted in some way by a circumstance that the charity supports. We appreciate and thank you all for your support with this. We have two fundraising events this half term, one at the start and one at the end of term.

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> of June, students will be raising funds for The Phoenix Group for Deaf Children & Young Adults, with a sponsored silence and activities during the day. We will be asking for a voluntary donation of £1 for non-uniform or Pyjamas.

Children will be able to pay a voluntary contribution to be sponsored by family and friends to be silent for a lesson. If you are willing to sponsor your child, the amount is up to you, but please provide them with this money also for the day. At the end of the day, they will compete in a competition to see which tutor group can lip read best.

<u>About Us - The Phoenix Group - The Phoenix Group for Deaf</u> <u>Children</u>

## What is happening on Sundays at 11am at Edwinstree?

Currently we have St Peters Church completing their Sunday service at the school. If you ever felt like hearing the voice of God but were nervous of perhaps setting foot in a Church, you are very welcome to any service at School.

# When is our INSET day and what will staff be doing in school?

During our INSET day on 27<sup>th</sup> June, all staff will be carrying out our 3-year compulsory training on Child Protection. We will also be working with the Rivers Educational Support team looking at neurodiversity and the use of language in the classroom to support students who are neurodiverse.

## What roles are we seeking in the school?

We are advertising for a Teaching Assistant for 3 days a week to start in September the advert will be on our website next week.

Have you considered the role of a Parent Governor? We are seeking a new appointment to join our Governing body. Please find attached details.

#### Year 5 & 6 Felixstowe Visits

- Year 5 12<sup>th</sup> June
- Year 6 26<sup>th</sup> June

Mrs Gant visited Felixstowe over half term to complete a final check of the area, in doing this we have made the final tweaks to the day. We would prefer the students to wear PE kit, so that they are easily identifiable. We are also allowing up to £20 for the day, although they do not need this, they can bring a pack lunch and snacks and perhaps just £3 for an ice cream, there are plenty of activities that do not require money.

Please look out for a Parentmail and/or check our Facebook page, where we will update you around 4.30pm on our estimated return time which is predicted to be 5–5.30pm.

Please note, if it is a rainy day they will need a waterproof, as the activities take place whatever the weather and the majority are outdoors.

Students will have a chance to see the container ships and containers that come into the docks in the managed viewing area for visitors. As our largest docks in the UK, the site is well planned and has safe viewing points for children and staff.

They will then be transported to the pier at Felixstowe and will be given managed time on either the beach area, pier and/or outdoor ride area. These will all be monitored by adults and although I haven't measured it, they are around 400 metres apart. All of these sites will be managed by staff and parents. On the beach, Mrs Gant will closely supervise crab fishing and paddling.

Please allow the children to bring road trip/travel games for the coach, example UNO, Top Trumps and Monopoly Deal. Please remember that they are **not** allowed to bring mobile phones.

## Current Year 6 Residential for September 25

A gentle reminder that the 3<sup>rd</sup> payment for the Y7 Residential in September 2025, deadline was due 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025, and 4<sup>th</sup> payment is due 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Thank you for those who have made payment already. If you have not already done so, please complete the consent form below <u>https://forms.office.com/e/dDb9bL4Xvh</u>.

Should you have any questions, please contact the school office.

## Transition from Year 6 to Year 7

The Year 6 team and the Senior Team have been considering for a while about the transition to year 7. Sometimes we make a major shuffle, sometimes we don't. We have decided that this year we are going to keep existing classes moving from year 6 to year 7.

We recognise that we need to balance the associated upheaval and current needs and anxieties around change for all the children, against the benefit of practising a class move and making new friendships, that will be necessary when they eventually move to Freman. If you have any comments or concerns, then in the first instance please contact admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

## Life Skills Update Years 6,7 and 8

On 12<sup>th</sup> June the *Entitled Sons* have confirmed they will be playing live to our year 6,7 and 8 students. (Year 5 are on an educational visit this day) *The Entitled Sons are a vibrant and talented band composed of four brothers (and their dad) who are the sons of the well-known TV presenter Sarah Beeny. Together, they form a family band that blends their individual talents seamlessly into one harmonious sound.* 

They will be playing some of their hits and also talking about Mental Health, Neurodiversity, Bullying and male role models. We are asking for a £1 voluntary donation, and it will be a nonuniform day. We recognise this is an additional and unexpected cost so therefore have made this voluntary but the opportunity that arose this week to see the band seemed too good an opportunity for the students to miss.

## Year 7 The Globe Theatre – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024

We are delighted to be able to offer Year 7 the opportunity to visit *The Globe Theatre*. Our English unit in the summer term is based on Shakespeare's *'Romeo and Juliet'*, and The Globe offers a fantastic interactive workshop that will enable students to explore the play's characters and themes. The cost of this visit will be £40.67 per student, which includes the workshop, coach hire and parking.

#### Year 7 & 8 RE Books

This week, Year 7 & 8 RE books will be available for pupils to take home after their RE lesson, if they so choose. Please look through their learning. If you wish to make a comment in their book, on any learning you particularly enjoyed exploring together, we would love to hear from you- please then sign this. Pupils <u>must</u> bring their books back for their lesson next week. Kind regards, Mrs Kelly

## 7A Non-uniform award – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June, pupils in 7A will have the opportunity to wear non-school uniform as a prize for winning the merit competition this term. We hope this will be a well-earned treat for all of their hard work collecting lots of merits and they feel proud of this excellent achievement

#### Year 8 History

This term, Year 8 students will be beginning a sensitive but important topic in History: the Holocaust. Through carefully planned lessons, students will explore what happened, why it happened, and how we remember it today. As we navigate this complex subject, your child may come home with questions or wish to discuss what they've learned. This is a natural part of their learning and reflection, and we encourage open conversations at home.

If you have any questions or would like recommended resources to support these discussions, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you for supporting your child's learning of this significant part of our shared history.

### Year 8 - Transition to Freman

Is your child in need of additional support to make the transition to Freman? As well as the transition day, Freman offer, post half term, additional and bespoke transition visits for those children who are worried and anxious, or who have a particular need that means they would benefit from extra visits.

If you believe your child would benefit, can we please ask you to register by sending an email to: <u>admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk</u> to identify your child and what particular need or worry they have, and how they would benefit from the additional visits. Once we have gathered the list of names, we will liaise with Freman and they will offer us timetable slots for your child to attend during school time (with their peers), to view the school and meet some of the staff there, who will support them. Freman like us to drop your children off with them, during these visits and not to accompany them, so that they can begin to get used to the new team of people who will be working with them.

We will be talking to your child about their transition and the next steps and will send you further information on the process and how we hand over to Freman.

## Food and Nutrition.

A very big thank you to the McLean family for their generosity of purchasing a brand-new tumble dryer for the Food Department. It has been very gratefully received and very, very much appreciated!

Year 5: Cheese straws are on the menu this week – please ensure you bring your ingredients and minimum 1 litre sized container to take the end-product home in. Small takeaway containers are not big enough for this product.

Year 6: Well done to pupils for completing another H&S step and learned how to work safely with boiling water. Theory week next week.

Year 7: We start our next project and this time a Food Science project where we look at the effects different sugar sources have on the final cake product outcome. The school supplies all ingredients for this one and the products are eaten at school.

Year 8: We finished up on our Stir Fry theory this week – a handful of pupils still need to complete the work; they are aware of what the requirements are. We move onto a Healthy Eating Project next week.

Please do remember that if you are absent from a demonstration, you are unable to cook due to health and safety being discussed in class – alternate work will be provided. Please ensure the correct footwear, hair and nail requirements are followed for each Food lesson.

### When is Sports day?

We will be sending out details of Sports day early next week, but we have checked with the local school calendars, and we will look to host, weather permitting on the 25th of June.

Our event involves a rotation of activities to support as many children to participate as possible and then our athletes take part in relay races in the afternoon.

### Gardening Club

Another busy week for repotting - purple toad flax for the Fair – a plant of dark green, tall stems and wonderful purple flowers at the end. We have about 15 pots available. We've also tried some rooting powder on the geraniums, and we will see if they take.

Our pumpkin patch is doing particularly well, we have quite a few varieties this year. Thank you very much for the donation of plants – we have popped them in the spare bed – it will be fabulous if they start fruiting before the Fair. Our peas are starting to shoot, our lettuce is going crazy, our turnips are getting to be a good size, and our strawberries are ripening in abundance. Our tomato plants are taking a while to get going so I don't think we will have the same bumper crop as last year. The weather has kindly done our watering this week and hopefully the gentle rain will encourage some more growth.

## School Summer Fair

#### SAVE THE DATE - Saturday 5 July - 2-4pm

We are planning our Summer Fair and are hoping to see you there. Information will be going out shortly to each class with regards to help needed. The more support we get, the better the event, so please do get involved. Our Fair will include stalls run by pupils, games to play, books, tombola's, plants, refreshments, raffles and a dog show. The choir will perform, and we will have an art exhibition this year. We are planning on having a table-top sale too – so if you are interested, £10 will secure you a table on the day. Tables are limited and can be booked and paid for through the ESA Sum-up store using this link <u>Table top stall at the Summer Fair 5th July</u>. There will be more information coming through in the next week, so do keep an eye out. Posters will be going up in town on Monday – see if you can spot them. If you'd like to get involved, please email into the office and Mrs van Wyk will be in touch.

#### The Mental Health Support Team of East Herts Warriors of Wellbeing Camp

WoW (Warriors of Wellbeing) Camp will be held at Simon Balle school Monday  $4^{th}$  August for the week. The attached flyer contains the link for registering interest. WoW camp is open to ages 8-12

## Family Lives Summer Programme - SPACES STILL AVAILABLE

Family Lives are delivering online parenting groups and workshops listed below (via MS Teams), funded by Herts County Council in the Summer term for targeted parents/carers who live in Hertfordshire or who have a child attending a Hertfordshire school. Full details attached.

All our programmes provide support, information and resources to parents/carers and adult family members so they can help their child reach their full potential.

- Getting on with your Pre-Teen / Teenager Online Wednesday 4 June to 9 July 7.00pm to 9.00pm
- Sorting our Family Arguments Online Tuesday 10 June to 15 July 9.30am – 11.30am
- Anxiety around ADHD Workshop Online Tuesday 24 June 9.30am – 11.30am
- Reducing Conflict Workshop Online Monday 14 July 7.00pm to 9.00pm

# Solution Welcome to Pedal and Play – Sign Up Now!

We're excited to invite you to join **Pedal and Play**, a fun and engaging **6-week cycling programme** designed to boost your cycling skills and confidence!

 Session Details:
Time: 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM
Duration: 6 weeks, commences
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2025
Bring your own bike and helmet
Bring a snack to keep your energy up
If you don't have access to a bike, please email us at

cityacademyherts@britishcycling.org.uk, and we'll do our best to support you.

#### 📢 How to Sign Up:

Only 16 spaces available – sign up now!

✓ Parents must **download the Spond app** and join our group via this link: <u>https://spond.com/invite/AVBOC</u>

- Once joined, they will be able to register for the sessions
- Please complete the consent form for attending the sessions: -

https://forms.office.com/e/xzkfnsXqn5

Sign up today and get ready to pedal, play, and have fun on two wheels! 🚴 🔴

## DSPL3 SEND Coffee Morning – 11<sup>th</sup> June

Please find attached an invite to attend the next SEND coffee morning taking place at Millfield First school on  $11^{\text{th}}$  June at 10am.





X.PETTE

Edwins