

Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of
England School



**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS &
CARERS**

Week Ending: 10/05/2024.

Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Diary Dates:

School Day – 8:40am – 3:10pm	
13-16/05/24	Year 6 SATs.
17/05/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6B non uniform for winning merit challenge last term. ESA Summer Outdoor Disco 6-8pm All Years - £5
20/05/24	Year 7 Foundation Evening in person.
21/05/24	Year 8 Shakespeare's Globe trip. £36.43 per student.
23/05/24	Cambridge University Careers talk – Day in the life of a university Student Year 7 & 8 (details to follow).
27-31/05/24	Half Term.
12/06/24	Year 7 Shakespeare's Globe trip. £38.43 per student.
17/06/24	Year 8 Foundation Evening in person.
26 & 27/06/24	Show dates for School Production. 6.30pm both nights
28/06/24	INSET Day.
08/07/24	Year 6 Whipsnade Zoo trip (details to follow)
09/07/24	Sports Day
11/07/24	County Transition Day.
16/07/24	Visit from Bishop of St Albans.
17/07/24	Year 5 Queens Park trip £14.50 per student.
19/07/24	End of Summer Term 1:20pm.
02/09/24	INSET DAY.
03/09/24	Year 5 Induction Day.
04/09/24	Autumn Term Begins Years 6-8.
16-18/09/24	Year 7 Residential – Essex Outdoors Bradwell.
28/10/24 – 01/11/24	Half Term.
06/12/24	Occasional Day.
20/12/24	End of Autumn Term 1:20pm.

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When will we receive the Ofsted report?

The report will be given in draft form to the Head next week to check for factual accuracy. It will then go through a process of moderation and should be with parents in late June/ July.

What is the Bike Race and what opportunity does your child has to observe the event?

On the last day before half term, we have been invited to watch the *Ford Ride London Classique* race speed competition that is coming through Buntingford as part of its planned route. This will give your child the opportunity to witness all be it fleetingly, international cyclists competing in an international competition. Students will be walked down to various agreed viewing sites to watch the race. If you would like to support us in taking the children down to watch this event, please email: admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

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School Disco (all years)

The ESA are holding a Summer Outdoor Disco available to all students on the 17th of May. Please click on the following link to register your child.

<https://forms.office.com/e/H46dFCqbAp>

Payment is live on SchoolGateway.

If you can support the disco and attend, please note on the consent form. **Please note** as it is an outside disco, we can allow more students than we would if the event was in the hall. In the event of bad weather, we would postpone for all other year groups except year 6, who will have completed their SATs that week, in order that they have an indoor celebration of all their hard work.

Food and Nutrition (all years)

Year 5: A very big congratulations to 5A, 5B and 5D on their marvellous Pizza Designs - there has been some work of very high standard. Similarly, the cooked pizzas this week were terrific. I hope you enjoyed a slice or two (if you were lucky to get one!) All classes will be completing their first evaluations next week and no ingredients are required.

Year 6: Almost all evaluations are completed for the first dish, and I will be demonstrating reduced sugar cupcakes next week, no ingredients needed.

Year 7: Italy arrived in full force this week. The corridor was alive with the aroma of spaghetti Bolognese. Pupils in 7A, 7C and 7D should be very proud of themselves with over 95% having made both spaghetti and the Bolognese sauce. 7B - you will be cooking on 17 May - don't forget your labelled ingredients.

Year 8: Well done to 8A and 8B for some outstanding protein alternate curries. There were some fantastic offerings of the class demo recipe, but a few outstanding own choice curries too. It goes to show that we do not have to eat animal protein in all our main meals, as we can get sufficient protein from alternate sources. Please keep an eye on Satchel 1 for any homework that needs completing or ingredients needed. Remember you are always able to swap ingredients out for something that you will eat and enjoy. Mrs van Wyk

Year 5 news:

Y5 RE Faith in Queen's Park:

Thank you to those who have completed and returned their forms. Payment can be made via the school Gateway. Payment and consent form should be completed by **Friday 24th May 2024**. If the cost of this visit will cause you financial difficulty, please email the office on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

Pupils will have a collective worship next week where we will go over what the trip will entail and answer any questions they may have. If, as parents and carers you have any questions, I would direct you first to the FAQ page: <https://faithinqueenspark.org.uk/faith-tours/faq/>

If you would like to discuss with me, please email: hoys5@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

We look forward to the pupils having this shared cultural learning experience. Thank you, Mrs Kelly

Year 6 news:

Year 6 SATS Wellbeing

In the run-up to SATS, to support your child's wellbeing:

- Encourage your child to remain in a regular bedtime routine (including the weekend)
- Eat a healthy breakfast.
- Support sleep by turning screens off 1-2 hours before bedtime - maybe read a book or play a board game.
- Use provided revision guides to practise - little and often is best.

SATs week

- Students to arrive at the school hall at 8:30 for a snack and short social gathering.

If you have any concerns or worries or your child is showing signs of stress or anxiety don't hesitate to let us know.

Year 7 news:

The Globe Theatre – 12th June 2024

Are you a Parent willing to support us on the trip to the Globe theatre on the 12th of June – please indicate on the form using this link:

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

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Year 8 news:

The Globe Theatre – 21st May 2024

Are you a Parent willing to support us on the trip to the Globe theatre on the 21st of May – please indicate on the form using this link:
<https://forms.office.com/e/D0nXxxPZCF>

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: admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk 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 liaise with Freman and they 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 they can gain support from. 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.

In the next two weeks 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.

County information to share with you.

Dangers of sextortion

The National Crime Agency says young boys are increasingly being targeted by gangs.

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/nca-issues-urgent-warning-about-sextortion>

Child victims have reported being:

- contacted by an online account that they do not know but appears to be another child or young person. They may also be contacted by a hacked account of a child or young person they do know, but the communication feels unfamiliar.

- quickly engaged in sexually explicit communications, which may include the offender sharing an indecent image first.
- manipulated or pressured into taking nude or semi-nude photos or videos.
- told they have been hacked and the offender has access to their images, personal information, and contacts (whether this is true or not).
- blackmailed into sending money or meeting another financial demand (such as purchasing a pre-paid gift card) after sharing an image or video, or the offender sharing hacked or digitally manipulated/AI-generated images of their victim and making the threat of sharing them wider.

Advice to parents and carers if their child says that someone is trying to trick, threaten or blackmail them online:

- **Don't pay, do stop contact and block:** you may be tempted to pay, but there is no guarantee that this will stop the threats. As the offender's motive is to get money, once you have shown you can pay, they will likely ask for more and blackmail may continue. If you have paid, don't panic but don't pay anything more. Help your child to stop all communication with the offender and block them on any accounts that they have been contacted on.
- **Avoid deleting anything:** try not to delete anything that could be used as evidence such as messages, images, telephone numbers, and bank account details.

Report to the police or CEOP: call 101 or 999 if there is an immediate risk of harm to your child. Or you can use the [CEOP Safety Centre](#) to report any online blackmail attempts.

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

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