



## Edwinstree Term dates:

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

## Diary Dates:

15-17/07/25	Fishing experience with year 8 for nominated students.
17/07/25	Fullness Day for Dementia Bake sale and non-uniform visit to local care home for voluntary students.
18/07/25	Year 8 Leavers Ceremony 11am at Aspenden. End of Term 1:20pm.
01/09/25	INSET Day
02/09/25	Year 5 induction day
03/09/25	Term begins for Years 6-8
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.

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## Transition Day

A big thank you to our students for welcoming the Year 4 students into school yesterday. It was lovely to see our new Year 5's come into school, and the warm welcome they received from the older year groups reassured and settled them beautifully into the school.

## School Production

A huge thank you to those who came to support the school production! Thank you to the ESA for their help with the event and also to the cast and crew who did a phenomenal job on both shows. We are looking forward to the next one, which will be starting in October. Watch this space...  
Mrs Brock and the Production Team

## What staff changes are taking place next year?

We have two new members of staff joining the teaching team, Ms Nixon (Mrs Banner in September) is an experience primary teacher who will be part of the English team of leaders, supporting us with interventions, to help our students become fluent readers and writers. We also have Mr Browne again an experienced primary teacher who will be working in maths and computing departments next year. They will join the year 5 pastoral team.

Within the school Mrs Heywood who is our Data Manager, runs Resolve and is part of the Senior Leadership Team, will be stepping away from the day-to-day management of these areas. She has been seconded to the SEND team to help us with systems and processes so that our communication internally and externally improves further. We have so many SEND students now with deep need, and the juggle to keep a track of the internal and external services is a large one. We want to get better at this.

Mrs Arnold remains in the SEND team next year however, her role will move to support our most vulnerable families in helping their children to improve their attendance. She will be based in the Resolve room and will lead the day to day running of this area under Mrs Heywood's line management.

## Who will be our SENCO next year?

The SENCO role has expanded dramatically since COVID and now is too large a demand for one individual to meet. Our SENCO email address next year will say SEND team as there will be the following individuals who will create a team to fulfil this role, Mrs Gant, Mrs Heywood, Mrs Carter, Mrs Barrett, Mrs Surrey and Ms Harris

## Who can I contact if my child develops anxiety over the holidays and needs an additional visit before the start of term?

Our SEND team are in school in the last two weeks of the holidays to provide additional support for any child who is anxious about returning to school. We have a list of students already who will need an extra visit, but if your child develops a worry, please let us know by sending an email to the email addresses below after the 20<sup>th</sup> of August, and we will be in touch to arrange a reassuring visit. We have found in the last 3 years these visits have been really reassuring and helpful. Please don't hesitate to ask for one.

[a.harris@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:a.harris@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk) /  
[c.surrey@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:c.surrey@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

## When do our Afterschool Clubs finish for the term?

Please note that all teacher led afterschool clubs have now finished. Sign-up sheets for afterschool clubs will be sent out in September at the end of the first week of term, and clubs will begin in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the new term.

## Books

As we are nearing the end of the year, please may we ask you and your child to check if they have any remaining school library books or English texts (e.g. The Hunger Games) at home and return them to school next week.

## When and what is our last Fullness Day supporting?

A group of Year 7 students are hosting the last Fullness Day of the year, and it fits beautifully with our value of *Compassion* that we have been considering this half term. The charity we are supporting is Dementia UK. Students will be given the opportunity to wear non-school uniform for £1 and to bake something for our last bake off, of the year. If you are one of those wonderful bakers, or someone who like me, pops to the shop to buy a cake, please may we ask you one more time to help us? If you are able to deliver any bakes to the office by Thursday morning we would appreciate it.

Students will also have the opportunity to volunteer to visit our local care home Layston Grove on Thursday afternoon, we hope to then be able to create a lunchtime enrichment club once a month next year.

Thank you for your support with this.

## What happens on the last day of term?

The last day of term will involve walking to Aspenden Green, where our local church and the school will host a leavers celebration.

The whole school will attend and year 8 are given their awards at the event. All parents but particularly year 8 are welcome, and the service should begin just after 11 am. We will leave school between 10 – 10.30 and return to school for 12. If you have good walking shoes and are willing to help us by volunteering to get the students there and back safely, please would you email [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

## Tutor Groups for next year

Please see below the tutor groups for next year. Pupils move up to the next year group but stay in their respective form, i.e., 6A move to 7A etc.

	Head of Year	A	B	C	D
Year 5	Mrs Kelly	Mrs Knight	Mrs Banner	Mrs Burches	Mrs Hill
Year 6	Mr Galanides	Miss Bull	Mr Funnell	Mrs Van Wyk	Miss Company
Year 7	Mr Kelly	Mrs Theroulde	Mrs Taylor	Mrs Thomas	Mrs Bright
Year 8	Mr McCarthy	Miss Jackson	Mrs Booth	Miss Mursell	Mrs Brock/ Mrs Gravelle

## Food and Nutrition – All Years

It is a mixed week of emotions for me knowing that it's the last time I will be cooking with our current Year 8's. After 4 years with them, I wish them nothing but the best in the kitchen. If there are any recipes they would like, please ask them to pop to the Food Room on Monday for me to organise copies.

**Year 5** had their second 'cook and feast' in class, which in the majority has gone down extremely well. It is something that I've trialled this year based on a pilot scheme with Leith's Education Culinary School. I will try and fit Dippy Divers, missed from our regular curriculum, into the beginning of Year 6.



**Year 6** all classes have completed the most complex skilled practical lesson, and I sincerely hope they enjoyed their marinated, grilled chicken wraps this week.

**Year 7** the corridor was filled with an amazing scent of carrot cake on both Wednesday and Thursday. Well done to all who baked. The results spoke for themselves. I have experimented with both a courgette, lemon and poppy seed cake as well as a beetroot alternative to the regular recipe and both were successful - we will offer the 3 options next year.



**Year 8** - it might be mid-summer, but it was Christmas in the corridors this week. The gingerbread smell was amazing - I hope parents and carers got to try at least 1. A plea for the return of the tubs that were borrowed and have not made it back yet. It does mean we are short for the beginning of the new school term.

If you have sent containers with ingredients in and they haven't come home yet, please ask your child to come and collect them from the Food Room. Named containers are always returned to pupils via the school office but unnamed ones seem to gather dust in the Food Room. I hope you have a wonderful summer filled with culinary delights, both from your kitchen and those that prepare food for you. Mrs van Wyk.

## When do we return to school?

Staff return to school on the 1<sup>st</sup> September for an INSET day. We will welcome Year 5 into school on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 8.40 am. School starts for year 6,7, and 8 on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

## Yr 6 SATS RESULTS

Individual results will be sent home with your child today. We have spoken to Year 6 to say not to worry if they did not make standard in May. For our school and them this does not matter. Students are with us for another two years and we are totally committed to making sure they are ready for the next stage of their education. Year 6 should be proud of their efforts and commitment this year, that is more important than anything.

SATS RESULTS 2025	Percentage of the total number* of students in Year 6 who reached the test standard	Percentage of the number of students who took the test* and reached the test standard	Percentage of the total number* of students in Year 6 who achieved greater depth	Percentage of the number of students who took the test* and achieved greater depth	National Standard (All Year 6 students nationally) 2025
Reading	62%	67%	13%	14%	75%
GPS	54%	60%	8%	9%	73%
Maths	61%	66%	18%	19%	74%
R,W,M Combined	43%	46%	1.6%	1.8%	62%

Writing T/A	61%	62%	9%	9%	72%
Science T/A	94%	97%			82%

\*Not all of our students in Year 6 took the KS2 SATS tests in 2025. We are required to report results including students who were absent or did not sit the tests.

## What does my child need to be ready for the start of a new year?

### PE Reminder

For PE next year, all classes will need a mouth guard, black football socks, shin pads and football boots in order to safely participate in hockey, football, and rugby lessons. Charity shops and second hand online are great places to seek these items.

### What is our Uniform reminder for next year?

Our uniform list can be found here [Edwinstree School](https://edwinstree-school-association.sumupstore.com/). Please do not forget the ESA offer a nearly new service for parents, please find link here to their website: <https://edwinstree-school-association.sumupstore.com/>

### What equipment are we asking students to bring into school with them next term?

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 -
- [Casio FX-83GTX Scientific Calculator, Black: Amazon.co.uk: Stationery & Office Supplies](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Casio-FX-83GTX-Scientific-Calculator-Black/dp/B000061888)
- You may wish to provide highlighter pens.

Any parent that is struggling to manage this please contact [s.marler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:s.marler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)  
Mrs Marler is here to help.

*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.*



### Why are we asking students to bring stationery equipment?

We have found that students who are prepared for lessons are also prepared for learning. As we begin to introduce our new ethos of 'commitment' we will be asking students to be committed to their learning by being fully prepared. We appreciate your support with this.

### School Shoes

Please ensure you consider the safety requirements of footwear in the practical subjects. In order for pupils to be safe in Science, Food and Nutrition, and DT lessons they are required to wear hard topped, polishable shoes. This is to prevent them from being scalded by hot water, burnt by acid if dropped or injured from falling sharp objects. We have to plan for such events and ensure the safety of every child. Please support your child to take part in these practical subjects by ensuring their feet are safe. Here are some example shoes that will meet the needs of these subjects.



## Events

### Food and Farming Visit 2025

It was an incredibly hot day at the Dunstable Show Ground but that didn't stop us from having an amazing time. We were quite fortunate to rub shoulders with our Mayor of Buntingford who explained



a number of huge farming vehicles to us, but even luckier to be in the same tent with HRH, Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh (thrice)!

We learnt so many things about where our food comes from, saw and interacted with farm animals, looked at wheat farming, growing our own crops (planting our own tomato plants), to eating enough strawberries, raspberries and blackberries we could fit in our bellies. We also cycled to make blenders run to make our own smoothies, watched dancing sheep and managed to fit a few (ok, maybe more than a few) amazing sausages in too. There were too many wonderful things to see and do that go into our food production and the pupils had a good insight into this. The pupil's behaviour was impeccable, and we have been invited back next year. Mrs van Wyk



### Edwinstree Summer Fair



A marvellous afternoon was held at school last Saturday as we enjoyed our annual school fair - we even had a visit from the Mayor of Buntingford! Although smaller in size this year, it was nonetheless a successful afternoon. We are still finalising the monies raised, but it was in the region of

£750. With this and some remaining monies from last year, we're hoping to buy a few benches for the playground for pupils to sit on during break and lunchtimes and 2 gazebos for additional shade. These will be used at various functions throughout the year.



A very big thank you to everyone who donated prizes or goodies and to everyone who helped at the fair, whether setting-up, running stalls or bringing everything back inside at the end. Another thank you to all who attended our event - without you, we would not be able to raise funds for various projects and

items. We must also say thank you to the ESA for all their contributions - very much appreciated! We hope you enjoyed the various stalls, teas, crafts, games, cycling, tabletop sale, art exhibition and of course the dog show.



We look forward to next year's fair, for which planning has already started. Mrs van Wyk



### Edwinstree School Association

The ESA are very happy to have been able to support the Wizard of Oz production on 3rd and 4th of July. It was a highly successful event that made £889.

We are still finalising the totals for Summer Fair, but want to say a special thank you to Emily for baking the scones and a general thank you to everyone who helped with the school production and summer fair. We hope everyone had a great time.

If you are worried about your child's mental health over the holidays, who can support you?

[Home - Kooth](#)

[Mental health services - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

[Samaritans | Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy | Here to listen Just Talk \(justtalkherts.org\)](#)

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

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