#### **Edwinstree Middle School**

A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School



NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS Week Ending: 13/12/2024.

#### **Edwinstree Term dates:**

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



# **Diary Dates:**

18/12/24	Joint concert with Freman College.
	6pm start, held at Edwinstree.
20/12/24	End of Term 1:20pm.
06/01/25	INSET Day
07/01/25	Start of Spring Term
13/01/25	Year 8 HPV Vaccination
14/01/25	7A & 7C - Online Academic Review
16/01/25	5A & 5D - Online Academic Review
21/01/25	7B, 7D, 5B - Online Academic Review
23/01/25	5C - Online Academic Review /
	Year 8 In Person Foundation Evening
03-06/02/25	Year 6 Mock SATs
17-21/02/25	Half Term
25/02/25	6A & 6D - Online Academic Review
04/03/25	6B & 6C - Online Academic Review
10/03/25	6A Parent meeting to look at SATs
	papers (Period 1)
	6B Parent meeting to look at SATs
	papers (Period 2)
11/03/25	6C Parent meeting to look at SATs
	papers (Period 1)
	6D Parent meeting to look at SATs
	papers (Period 2)
20/03/25	Year 7 In Person Foundation Evening
04/04/25	End of Term 1:20pm.
22/04/25	Start of Summer Term
05/05/25	Bank Holiday
08/05/25	Year 6 In Person Foundation Evening
12-15/05/25	Year 6 SATs
26-30/05/25	Half Term
05/06/25	Year 5 In Person Foundation Evening
27/06/25	INSET Day
10/07/25	County Transition Day
	Parent Transition Evening 5-6pm
10/07/25	End of Torm 1.20nm

End of Term 1:20pm

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Thank you to all parents who have supported the Christmas season services with baking goodies for the students, or volunteering for walks.

Thank your donations to the food bank Christmas hampers we appreciate all you do to help the school celebrate this season.

We loved receiving an email from a visitor at Lister hospital after hearing Edwinstree choir singing for patients on the wards this week.

# Timings for the last day

Normal timetable until 12.15pm then lunch. 1pm back to tutor rooms to be dismissed at 1.20pm.

## **Newsletter Focus**

We have included the Curriculum newsletter again that we sent out last week, just in case you missed it, it is well worth a read to update you on all that has been happening this term in your child's learning and how you might wish to enrich this further.

# How have you found the themed newsletter focus?

If you would like to give us feedback on either the mental health, Curriculum and/or Attendance newsletter please use the link here to comment.

https://forms.office.com/e/2qdwc8jN4A

# What is left on our Christmas calendar?

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December** - Joint concert with Freman College. 6pm start, held at Edwinstree.

The Christmas concert is a wonderful opportunity for our students to display their musical talents and spread the holiday cheer. Please note that unfortunately spaces for this event are limited due to venue constraints, and as a result we are only able to offer spaces to families of the students participating in the event.

#### Foodbank Christmas Hampers

We are asking you and your child to gift something to create 16 tutor group Christmas hampers, the suggested items are listed below. Local families have really appreciated the fine gifts you give them, and we thank you in advance for this work.

We will be wrapping and delivering each tutor group's hamper next week to the food bank families in our local area.

- Chocolate Christmas log or non-alcoholic Christmas cake.
- Children's Christmas chocolate e.g. selection box.
- After dinner/adult chocolate (no alcohol filled ones please).
- Small sweets packet (e.g. Christmassy Haribo).
- Fancy sweet biscuits.
- Pringles or similar.
- Cheesy/savoury biscuits or similar.
- Dried fruit (e.g. apricots, figs etc).
- Tinned ham.
- Tinned tuna/salmon.
- Sweet pickles/chutney.
- Jam
- Shower gel, hand soap or shampoo.

# **Individual Attendance Reports**

Individual attendance reports have been issued today via Satchel:one. Reports can be viewed via **parent** Satchel:one accounts using a computer or mobile phone. Below is a short guide on how to open reports using an Android or Apple device: Android

- Open the Satchel:one App and select the red tile labelled "Documents".
- Click on the name of the report (starting with the surname of your child)
- Click on the grey box that has the letters PDF in it.
- Click on the option "PDF reader".

#### <u>Apple</u>

- Open the Satchel:one App and select the red tile labelled "Documents".
- Click on the name of the report (starting with the surname of your child)
- Click on the grey box that has the letters PDF in it.
- This will open a white pop up with your contacts and sharing apps. At the bottom, click on the option "Quick Look".

If you require any assistance accessing your child's report, please email Mrs Heywood:  $\underline{\text{r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk}} \ .$  Thank you.

## **Individual Attainment Reports**

Individual attainment reports are being prepared and will be issued via Satchel:one when we return in January. We will notify parents via the school newsletter and Parentmail when they are ready to view.

If you are year 7 and 5, please note that your opportunity to meet online with the core subject teachers will take place in January. We will be issuing opportunities to book your appointment early at the start of the term.

#### Afterschool Enrichment Clubs

Please note that internally run afterschool enrichment clubs will not run on the last week of term except for:

Monday 16th – Concert Band

Wednesday 18th – Maths Home Learning

You will have an opportunity to sign your child up at the start of the term – clubs will be up and running from the  $2^{nd}$  week of term.

# 8C/8D Science

We have begun our learning about waves. In class we have used a virtual oscilloscope to explore the features of waves. Here is the link for the one we have used in school but there are many available. This would enable the student to explore it individually and would add to the in-class learning.

Virtual Oscilloscope | Academo.org - Free, interactive, education.

Enjoy! Mrs Barrett

# What equipment are we asking students to bring in to 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 <u>Casio FX-83GTX Scientific Calculator, Black: Amazon.co.uk: Stationery & Office Supplies</u>
- You may wish to provide highlighter pens.

Any parent that is struggling to manage this please contact s.marler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk
Mrs Marler is there to help.



## Christmas Tree Festival

Edwinstree has entered a tree for the Tree Festival at Aspenden Church, this is being celebrated this weekend. Thank you to Mrs Burches and the art club for creating this.

#### Outdoor Learning with Mrs Barrett

This half term the students have been working hard to clear the front of school of weeds and the pond area of nettles. On Thursday 19th December the outdoor learning sessions will not run and the students will attend their normal lessons. They have all worked incredibly hard in these sessions and we have begun to develop our teamwork and communication skills among others. I look forward to working with them again in the future.

#### Drama Production 2025



We are excited to announce that the school production this year is "Wizard of Oz" by Tom Kirkham. There has been a lot of interest from the students from the sign-up sheets on Mrs Gant's door — if your child is interested in auditioning, please complete the permission form linked below.

Students must be committed to attend full rehearsals on Mondays and Wednesdays until 4.15pm and be available for show week: w/c 30<sup>th</sup> June for technical and dress rehearsals during the school day and the shows on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July. https://forms.office.com/e/FdpkqzGC0s

Thank you, Mrs Brock and Mrs Booth.



# **Edwinstree School Association**

Thank you to everyone who donated bottles and teddies for us to host a tombola at Buntingford Late night Christmas market, we raised £234.05.

Volunteers enjoyed serving hot chocolate and cakes to all the children over the past two days as part of their Christmas church experience. Many thanks to all those who either made or purchased cakes, including Frosted Sensations, we shared some of the wonderful bakes from yesterday on the Edwinstree School Association Facebook page. We remembered the squirty cream this year, so there were lots of happy children (and staff)!

We will be at the Christmas concert on Wednesday 18th from 5.30pm serving refreshments and selling some handmade Christmas gifts by students and staff. It promises to be a lovely way to finish off the term year.

I also would just like to thank both the familiar and new faces who give up their time (even just 30mins to help wash up at the end of an event) to support these events, it wouldn't be the same without you! Wishing everyone a merry Christmas and happy New Year, there will be more FUNdraising events in 2025 including our annual quiz and summer fair. *Joanne Willett ESA Chair* 

## Externally run afterschool clubs

FILMMAKERS is coming to back to school for the Spring Term. They start on Wednesday 8th January 2025. This term is for 12 weeks with 2 extended sessions to equate to 13 hours. focus is on building confidence through teamwork. Learn all about voice projection.



pronunciation, timing, focus and projecting various emotions as you work through each scene and embrace the exciting challenge of acting. You will also learn about camera angles, composition of frame. Looking at music, sound effects, special effects and how to make the story unfold and come to life with the best sounds & effects & backgrounds. Pupils plan & storyboard their ideas in advance of filming their very own blockbuster movie whilst also learning the important roles of Camera operator, Director & Clapperboard operator. Pupils plan/design costumes/props required to add that extra special touch to each scene.

For any queries contact Gill on hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com or 07341305131. Or check out the webpage and see parent feedback and pictures from on set in our other schools.

Payment is split over 3 monthly payments of £32.16 per month which includes 13 session hours and the fully edited film. No Fees due now a Link will be sent in January 2025! Spaces limited to 15. Limited spaces available.

# Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust

Please find attached information regarding Parent/Carer Motor Development Information Sessions

Mrs J Gaut — Headteacher admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk