



**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS**  
**Week Ending: 14/02/2025.**

**Edwinstree Term dates:**

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

**Diary Dates:**

17-21/02/25	Half Term
25/02/25	6A & 6D - Online Academic Review
04/03/25	Year 5 Neurodiversity speaker (more details to follow) 6B & 6C - Online Academic Review
05/03/25	Year 6A & 6B Cambridge Science Centre Visit £19.90 per student
06/03/25	Year 6C & 6D Cambridge Science Centre Visit £19.90 per student
07/03/25	World Book Day
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)
13/03/25	Year 8 - Magistrates and the Law speaker (more details to follow)
20/03/25	Year 7 In Person Foundation Evening
21/03/25	ESA Quiz Night (more details to follow)
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
16/05/25	ESA School Disco (more details to follow)
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
18/07/25	End of Term 1:20pm.

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### Afterschool Clubs

Please note afterschool clubs resume from the first week back after the half term break.

### Uniform Check List

It has come to our attention, when carrying out a termly uniform check, that quite a few students are not wearing the correct uniform. Many students are consistently wearing incorrect uniform. Please note:

- All nails must be free from polish, false, acrylic and gel embellishments.
- Socks – must be plain back not white/coloured.
- Trousers – must be plain black or grey not jogging bottoms.
- All shoes must be polishable in design and protect the foot from spills and liquid splashes - fabric trainers and astros are not suitable.
- Jumpers – Edwinstree sweatshirts need to be worn, only Edwinstree PE Hoodies to be worn for PE lessons.

### Reminder for Food and Nutrition, Science and Technology

\* Hair must be tied up and in the case of a long fringe, clipped out of the way. For boys with long fringes, a 'Jack Grealish' headband is suitable.

Please can we ask that your child returns to school after a restful half-term wearing the correct uniform and has the correct stationery as listed below. Thank you.

## Student Equipment

To support your child to learn, please may we ask that you provide your child with the correct stationery that is required for their learning.

Your child will need 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 & Year 8 require a scientific calculator – Casio FX-83GTX Scientific Calculator
- You may wish to provide highlighter pens.

Thank you for your continued support.

## PE Timetable

Please find attached the new PE timetable starting after the half term break.

## Year 5 Deaf Awareness Session

On Tuesday, Knightfield school, a specialist school for deaf children, came into Edwinstree to talk to our year 5's about what it's like to be deaf. Several of the children had cochlear implants whilst others had Bone Anchored Hearing Aids; it was very informative to hear more about how these amazing devices work. It was also really interesting to hear about the challenges that these children can face day to day.

These were some of their tips when talking to deaf people:

- Make sure I am looking at you before you speak.
- Don't cover your mouth or mumble.
- Always look at the person you are talking to
- The most important tip NEVER say 'oh forget it' if someone hasn't heard you.

The year 5's also really enjoyed hearing this fun fact:

- Elephants use bone conduction to talk to each other!
- Elephants will stomp on the ground to let other elephants know they are around.
- The vibrations from the stomps travel through the ground, and then through the other elephant's feet and bones, all the way to their cochlea.
- An elephant can pick up the vibrations from another elephant several kilometres away!

It was a real privilege to listen to Knightsfield and to see our year 5's showing such interest in this important topic.

## Message from Head of Year 5

Well done year 5 and parents/carers- this is, as ever, the longest, coldest and darkest term we have, it is especially tough after the warmth and joys of Christmas. We have limited play areas and grey skies, yet year 5 have navigated this beautifully and brought the sunshine indoors.

I have particularly enjoyed making my positive calls home this term! Wishing you all a happy half term. Mrs Kelly

## Great Athletes event – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

We are very excited to be welcoming Great Athletes to the school on Friday 14th March 2025!

A top GB athlete will be visiting us, and leading a sponsored fitness circuit with all pupils, followed by a motivational assembly, and Q&A session. The aim of the event is to inspire every child to be more physically active, but just as importantly, encourage them to discover and pursue their passion in life.

The event will both connect the pupils to an extraordinary athlete role model and raise money for new sports equipment to improve physical activity in the school, as well as supporting both athletes and para-athletes, so that they can continue to inspire the next generation.

After half term sponsorship forms will be given to your child to use to help raise money for the event. You can also sponsor your child by visiting:

<https://greatathletes.org/>

and clicking on the button "Set up a Fundraising Page". Alternatively, you can scan the QR code to go directly to the online sponsorship page.



As a thank you, pupils will receive the following thank-you gifts for meeting these milestones:

- Raise anything: A5 sheet of motivational stickers.
- Raise £5 or more: sheet of stickers, plus a blue Great Athletes wristband.
- Raise £15 or more: all of the above, plus a red wristband with the athlete's signature.
- Raise £30 or more: all of the above, plus a signed athlete poster.

Please ensure that the sponsorship form and money are returned to the school office 1 week after the event has taken place.

Please also make sure that your children come to school on the event day with their PE Kits!

Thank you in anticipation of creating a terrific and memorable event.  
PE Department

## Tutor merit award

- 1st place - 5B
- 2nd place - 5C
- 3rd place - 6C
- 4th place - 7B

Congratulations to 5B who have won this half term's merit award. They and Mrs Burches will choose a day in the next half term to come in in non-school uniform. This will be communicated in future newsletters. Well done! Totals reset for the next half term.

## Change over- Food & Nutrition/ Technology lessons – all years

Please note that Food & Nutrition/Technology lessons swap after half term as follows:

- Year 5 week beginning 3rd March
- Year 6 week beginning 3rd March
- Year 7 week beginning 10th March
- Year 8 week beginning 3rd March



## Edwinstree School Association

### ESA Family Quiz 2025

Will be on Friday 21st March. Doors open at 6.30pm ready to start at 7pm. Mr Funnell did

an excellent job as question master, so we have invited him back for a 2nd year! New this year is the option to pre-order sharing platters for you to graze on during the evening. If you haven't been before this is a great family night out and each team needs to have at least one child and adult per team. It's great for the Year 6's as we have speciality SATs rounds on English and Maths, but all children over 8 should be able to answer questions that the grown-ups might struggle on.

Tickets and sharing platters are available from our on line Sum Up shop [Family Quiz Tickets](#)

### World Book Day

The event will take place on Friday 7th March. Please use half term to have a look on the bookshelf, under the bed, back of the wardrobe or anywhere else an old book may be hiding.

Children are invited to bring any books they wish to donate to the school hall at the start of the school day. At breaktime children can come to the hall to choose one book to take home. If you could encourage your child to write a 3 word review it can help make choosing a book easier. This could be a post it note on the cover, or a bookmark style piece of paper sticking out of the top i.e. Tom Gates Random Acts of Fun = Funny, doodles, family. If you are able to spare a few hours on this morning between 8.30 and 11.30am to help organise the books please email [edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com](mailto:edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com) or the school office [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

## Families First News

### Families Feeling Safe – course for Dads & Male Carers

Families Feeling Safe have revised the start date of their fully funded online course 'Supporting Families with Protective Behaviours' for Dads and male carers. The new dates are 27th February – 4th April 7.00pm – 9.00pm. Places are funded by HCC for Dads and male carers who may need additional support.

This 6-week course can help:

- Understand how Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour link together
- Understand what may be influencing their child's behaviour
- Respond to a range of feelings e.g. stress, anger, anxiety and worries
- Improve communication to build better relationships

Build on their own and their child's strengths

Learn strategies to help them and their child/ren feel safe

[Please click here for the poster...](#)

For further information and to reserve a place, please email [enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk) or Tel: 07850 518216

### Safer Sleeping training

[Safer Sleep Week](#) runs from 10-16 March 2025. This year we are focusing our programme on giving every child the best start in life through promoting Smokefree homes and Smokefree pregnancies. Exposure to smoking in pregnancy and smoke in the home is a risk factor for stillbirth and Sudden Infant Death (SID). Public Health are pleased to be able to offer free Smokefree training and Safer Sleeping training to frontline professionals that work directly with families, particularly those that visit families in their homes. In February (10th and 27th) our Adult Health Improvement Service is running free online Smokefree training (1 hour long), professionals that complete the training will then receive a link to access free Lullaby Trust Safer Sleeping training during 11-16th March 2025. To register for training [please sign up here](#).

### 'Understanding Trauma' Programme for Parents in Herts whose children have experienced sexual abuse

Trauma Recovery CIC's Butterflies Community are able to offer a funded 6 session Understanding Trauma Programme for Parents in Herts whose children have experienced sexual abuse, with the option of joining a peer support group after.

**It's a free, psychoeducational programme that offers an opportunity for parents to become empowered by understanding their child's trauma, and become equipped with tools and support to aid their child's and their own healing - see full info in attached flyer below (Parents group Feb 25 info)**

First session is 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (online)

Parents/Carers self-refer via the link on the attached information flyer. Please visit [www.trcic.org](http://www.trcic.org) for further information.

## Mental health and neurodiversity support and young people in Hertfordshire

SPARK collaborates with NHS and the charity sector to ensure the support on offer can be accessed free at the point of use. To this end, they have partnered with:

- **Hertford and Rurals Primary Care Network:** New River Health (Castlegate Surgery and Church Street Surgery), Hanscombe House Surgery, Lea Wharf Medical, Watton Place Clinic or Bridge Cottage Surgery
- **Ware and Rurals Primary Care Network:** Dolphin House Surgery or Buntingford and Puckeridge Medical Practice (Standon & Puckeridge Surgery and Buntingford Medical Centre)

PCNs offer all of the services that GP Practices do and more.

As part of SPARK's collaboration with the PCNs, they are offering:

- Up to six sessions either virtually via Whereby or face-to-face, that might incorporate Care Navigation, Health and Wellbeing Coaching, Social Prescribing or other modalities
- Availability of after-school appointments to ensure that our service is accessible
- A weekly drop-in service for 10-18 year olds in collaboration with other members of the collaborative

All without a waiting list! The partnership is about values of providing effective support, fast. They are also excited to be a part of a progressive provider collaborative that would transform access to mental health and wellbeing support for children, young people and families in Ware and the surrounding areas.

<https://www.sparkltd.uk/nhs-partnerships/east-hertfordshire>

## Junior Bake Off Series 11

Applications have recently opened for the 11<sup>th</sup> series of **Junior Bake Off**; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.

Interested bakers can apply online at

[www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk](http://www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk)



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

[Home - Kooth](#)

[Mental health services - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

[Samaritans | Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy | Here to listen](#)

[Just Talk \(justtalkherts.org\)](http://justtalkherts.org)

## School Contact Details

Please remember no worry or concern is too small to share with us via one of these contacts:

- Head of Year 5: [hoy5@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:hoy5@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- Head of Year 6: [hoy6@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:hoy6@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- Head of Year 7: [hoy7@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:hoy7@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- Head of Year 8: [hoy8@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:hoy8@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- School Office: [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- To report a student absent from school: [attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- If you are worried about your child's mental health: [wellbeinghub@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:wellbeinghub@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

**Mrs J Gant – Headteacher**

[admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)