

Edwinstree Middle School
A Voluntary Controlled Church of
England School



**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS &
CARERS**

Week Ending: 07/06/2024.

Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Diary Dates:

School Day – 8:40am – 3:10pm	
17/06/24	Year 8 Foundation Evening in person.
20/06/24	Money Session: Year 7, visiting each class between lessons 2 to 5
22/06/24	Edwinstree Summer Fayre
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. £30.61 per student.
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. £295.60 per student.
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 is our inset day this term?

Our Inset day is on Friday 28th of June, this is the same day as Freman's Inset day. Staff will be spending the day considering our plans post Ofsted, looking at supporting students with bereavement and/or trauma and training for our new information management system for behaviour reports.

Can you support us to review our communication in particular our SEND communication?

Would you be willing to spend 1 hour and 15 minutes with us on the 3rd of July talking to us about communication between the school and home? We are looking to host an information gathering session for parents, between 5-6 pm that evening. Our Senior Leadership Team and Governors will be present to listen to your viewpoint. The evening will focus on SEND communication in particular, but we wish to hear about general communication also. We will publish in advance the questions we are looking to explore, and our current constraints within the service we offer. If you are willing to attend, could you please sign up using this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/BcHrajmy5s>
Thank you for any support you can offer us.

*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.*

Come and support our Summer Fayre

Please join us next Saturday at our Summer Fayre (Saturday 22 June 2024 from 2pm to 4:30pm). The stalls are being run by school pupils who are all trying to raise funds for various projects around the school.

We would like to thank you for the wonderful donations we received today - we are going to have a fabulous Fayre! In addition to the class collections, please could we ask for donations of cakes for the cake stall, plants for the plant stall and teddies for the teddy tombola.

We have quite a few excited pupils who are looking forward to what is going to be on offer. This year we are adding a dog show to the afternoon too - this is open to all well-behaved dogs! Look out for the parent mail early next week with more information.

We hope to have a fun filled day led by our wonderful students who would appreciate your support. Many thanks, Mrs van Wyk

Sports Day (all years)

This year's sports day will take place on Tuesday 9th July 2024, and will last the whole day.

Children will need to come to school in their PE kits (PE shirt, black shorts, white socks, and trainers) and will not need their school uniforms or books.

As children will be outside for the full day, please ensure that they are suitably equipped for the weather. Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle, sun cream and a cap if it is sunny, and their hoody if it is cold.

The school day will begin and end at normal times. Parents are welcome to attend sports day from 11:00am. This will give you the opportunity to see your child compete in a minimum of four of the activity rotations. Access will be via the bottom gate only and the events will be taking place on the field and in the tennis courts.

During the day, children will rotate around activities in form groups competing against each other in their houses. Following the morning's activities, we will hold a picnic lunch on the school field from 12:45pm. **Please remember we are a nut free school.** Following the picnic lunch, we will host a number of relay races which the pupils have signed up to compete in. If your child signed up, you will receive an invite to stay after the picnic lunch to watch.

School Production

Tickets for Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies are now available from the ESA online shop. Pre-show and interval drinks can also be ordered to avoid the queues. [Products | Edwinstree School Association \(sumupstore.com\)](https://www.edwinstreeschool.org.uk/products)

Snacks

Please may we ask for you to supply your child with a healthy snack for break times.

Food and Nutrition (all years)

We seem to have crossed the globe this week - carrot cake from Gothenburg, Feta from Greece, and stir-fry from Asia - it certainly has been a culinary adventure!

Year 5 Well done on the cheese taste testing. Who knew vegan cheese had 14 ingredients and that cheddar only had one? We will be watching a demo on cheese straws this week coming. No ingredients needed.

Year 6 We will be marinading and grilling next week. Please look out for the ingredients list on Satchel 1.

Year 7 There was a sublime smell of carrot cake this week - some excellent examples went home. We even had one beetroot and orange cake made. Well done all. Cake taste testing next week - looking at the differing amounts of sugar in shop bought cakes and how we can use alternate ingredients to achieve a sweeter taste.

Year 8 Well done to **8A & 8B** for some marvellous dishes today! **8C and 8D** will be cooking this dish on Monday 17/06. Ingredients lists are on Satchel 1.

Please remember your health and safety requirements - they are there to keep you safe! Mrs van Wyk

Science and Technology Lessons

Please may we remind you to supply your child with a hairband to tie long hair back for safety and hygiene reasons.

Gardening Club

Whilst we are all yearning for some sunshine and drier weather - the plants seem to be enjoying themselves. We've recovered the potatoes, upped the levels of soil on quite a few beds, planted more sunflowers and added some colour with some geraniums. We had a feast of strawberries as a reward for our hard work this week. nothing better than fruits of our labour enjoyed right from the garden.

Whilst we have an abundance of slugs, we are thoroughly grateful for the baking in Food and Nutrition, we are able to dry the eggshells and use them as deterrents to slugs and snails. Once crushed, the sharp edges keep the critters away from our young plants.

We look forward to showing off our wonderful veggie patch at the Fayre! Mrs van Wyk

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New School Uniform

Please find attached a flyer from Price & Buckland regarding information about the cut-off date for online orders. To help ensure all pupils are in uniform for the first day of school, they request that parents who require delivery before the start of the new school year, please place their orders before 1st August.

The early cut-off date enables parents to return any unwanted items in good time where necessary and, by spreading the workload in our warehouse, enables us to provide parents with the best possible service.

School Telephones

We are upgrading to a new phone system on the 27th of June, this is likely to cause some disruption to our phone system for the day. Please can we ask that you use the admin email as the main point of contact. We will remind next week and send a Parentmail reminder the day before. Thank you for your patience.

Year 5 news:

Faith in Queens Park – 17th July 2024

We are delighted to be able to offer Year 5 the opportunity to visit "Faith in Queen's Park" in Bedford. The RE Educational visit will entail a tour of a Mosque, Gurdwara and Church.

Payment can be made via the school Gateway. Payment and consent form should be completed by Monday 17th June, thank you to those that have already completed the consent form and payment, please indicate using the form if your child does not wish to attend, they will be expected to attend school that day. If the cost of this visit will cause you financial difficulty, please email the office on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

Year 6 news:

Whipsnade Zoo – Monday 8th July 2024

We are delighted to be able to offer Year 6 the opportunity to visit Whipsnade Zoo. Our next unit in Humanities has a Geography focus. We will be learning about different climates and biomes and the unique plants and animals that live within them. Visiting the zoo will help bring to life this learning. Whipsnade is the UK's biggest Zoo and is home to 3,626 animals, many of which are endangered in the wild. The children will experience the heat and humidity of the tropics in the butterfly house, meet giraffes from the African savannah face-to-face at the custom-built high-level viewing platform and walk through the new Monkey Forest habitat which opened at Easter. Each form will decide where they will visit and move around the zoo together attending talks that the Zookeeper team offer throughout the day.

Payment can be made via the school Gateway. Payment and consent form should be completed by Friday 21st June, thank you to those that have already completed the consent form and payment, please indicate using the form if your child does not wish to attend, they will be expected to attend school that day. If the cost of this visit will cause you financial difficulty, please email the office on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

Year 7 news:

Money & Budgeting workshop

It's never too early to learn to look after your money!

On Thursday 20 June *The Money Charity*

<https://themoneycharity.org.uk> will be coming into school to do a workshop about day-to-day Money & Budgeting to our year 7s. Money and finance is one of the topics that our students said they wanted to learn more about, so we covering this in all year groups in PSHE, as well as offering this special workshop for our Year 7s.

Year 8 news:

HPV Vaccinations

Please find attached a letter from the NHS regarding our HPV immunisation taking place for year 8 on Tuesday 18th June.

A response is required. You must accept or decline this vaccination by completing the online form in using the link in the letter. The electronic link will close at 2PM on Monday, June 17, 2024

Please note the form will not work on some mobile phones and tablets. Please call 0300 555 5055 if you are unable to complete it online.

Year 8 Foundation evening

This takes place for year 8 on Monday 17th June, this is the evening where you are invited to attend with your child from 5pm to 7pm. Your child will tour with you around the school and to the foundation subject rooms, here you can meet their teacher and review their books. Please note this is an informal session with no booked appointments. We will have a Governor representative available for part of the evening who is keen to hear your views on the school and to talk to you.

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

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