



Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Diary Dates:

26-30/05/25	Half Term
03/06/25	Year 8 Wellbeing Hub Invite
05/06/25	Year 5 In Person Foundation Evening 5-7pm
12/06/25	Year 5 Felixstowe Trip - £26.10
17/06/25	Year 7 Globe Theatre Trip - £40.67
26/06/25	Year 6 Felixstowe Trip - £26.10
27/06/25	INSET Day
02/07/25	School Production Rehearsal
03 & 04/07/25	School Production Evening Performances
05/07/2025	Edwinstree Summer Fayre
10/07/25	County Transition Day Parent Transition Evening 5-6pm
11/07/25	Year 8 Felixstowe Trip Year 8 Camp Out (more details to follow)
18/07/25	Year 8 Leavers Ceremony End of Term 1:20pm.
09/10/25	Open Evening 9th October 2024, 6pm - 8pm. Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm

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How have we been exploring the value of Thankfulness in COWO this week?

Our students have been working on a creating a verse to fit with the tune of *Reasons to be cheerful one, two, three* from Ian Dury. They explored how we could find his spirituality in the verses he wrote, which showed us he was someone that loved silly phrases, who found beauty in art and literature. Our school band will attempt to convert our verses and mimic the song for a COWO.

Next week we will be working on reasons to be thankful in our community and country, this will feed into our visit from MP Chris Hinchcliff on 6th of June. Students will have the opportunity to meet and discuss with him the current topics of today. We would like to present him with a list of those things we are thankful for.

Year 8 Wellbeing Hub Invite

The Wellbeing Hub warmly invites all Year 8 parents to visit on **Tuesday, 3rd June**.

This visit will provide an opportunity for parents to meet with Wellbeing hub staff and discuss any questions or concerns regarding their child's transition to Freman. Visits will be between 2.30 and 5.00, if you would like to book a visit, please contact a.Harris@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk or c.Surrey@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

This week we have been talking to students about the transition process and how to leave well. We will be offering year 8 a trip to Felixstowe and a camp out on Friday the 11th of July.

Students can sometimes let their behaviour drop a little as they leave us, and we use the trips to help focus them and to reward them for staying on task and working well with us to the end.

Year 8 - final weeks

This week we have spoken to the year group about the final few weeks of their time at Edwinstree, the transition process, and how to 'leave well'. So that you also have similar information, here is an outline of what we have discussed.

Transition process

- Data request from Freman (deadline 16th May) this includes general behaviour/attitude, Music and PE ability
- Joint Freman/Edwinstree meeting to discuss each student in the year group (June)
- Early transition visits arranged with students who may benefit (June onwards)
- Transition day (Thursday 10th July)

Part of the transition process is also the French lessons students have at Freman. This really does help students get an early feel of the school.

Celebration

- Leavers' hoodies
- Year 8 Felixstowe trip / Camp Out – 11th July
- Year 8 awards (last day of term)

Every member of the year group has an invitation to the end of year Camp out and, as part of an assembly on Tuesday, students are fully aware of what our expectations are of them in order to retain that invitation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email HOY8@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk and the most relevant person will be in contact.

Relationships and Sex Education 2025 – All Years

All year groups will soon be starting some RSE lessons in Lifeskills. We purposely adapt these lessons as best as we can to meet the needs of our students, as well as meeting government requirements. We take a great deal of advice from the PSHE Association, who are the national body for PSHE education. This year we have again decided to primarily base our RSE lessons on those supplied by the PSHE Association with a few additions and changes. This helps is to ensure that lessons are appropriate and cover the necessary content.

The following represent the lessons that are planned within the specific RSHE section of the curriculum; the intention is to teach these lessons as a unit.

As we continue to adapt the curriculum, there will likely be further teaching and overlaps that refer to the *Relationships and Health* aspects of RSHE. Although this is not currently expected, in the event of any additional teaching or significant changes that refer to the *Sex* aspect of RSHE, parents will be pre-warned within the school's weekly newsletter.

The lessons that we define as "Sex Education" are highlighted in Red in the table. Within the detailed overview below you will find these lessons within:

- *Relationships 2 - Unit 4 RSHE Year 6 – How a Baby is Made*
- *Relationships 2 - Unit 4 RSHE Year 8 – Contraception and STI's*.

We also attach the Relationships, Sex and Health education (RSHE) Policy. This details your legal right of withdrawal which applies just to the lessons highlighted in red.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Time To Change	Puberty recap	Puberty and emotional changes	Relationship values
Menstruation and Wet Dreams	Puberty: Change and becoming independent	Menstrual wellbeing	Influences on Relationship Expectations
Personal hygiene	Positive, healthy relationships	Healthy and unhealthy relationships	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
Emotions and feelings	How a baby is made	Managing conflict	Consent – avoiding assumptions
Keeping My Body Safe (incl. age appropriate FGM preventative education)	Consent KS2	Introduction to consent KS3	Sexting
Boys Talk/Girls Talk on puberty		Body image	Pornography, Sexting and the Law
		Keeping My Body Safe (incl. age appropriate FGM preventative education)	Contraception/STI's

*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.*

When is the final opportunity to meet the SEND lead this academic year, if we are an EHCP and/or K child on the SEND register?

A Parentmail will be sent out next week to invite you to meetings with our SENCO, Pupil Power unit and Wellbeing Hub next week.

Police Knife-crime Session Year 7 and Year 8

On Monday 19th May the police will be coming in to talk to year 7 and year 8 about knife-crime. Given the high-profile nature of the Netflix series Adolescence, this is particularly relevant this year. If you have any questions, then please email the school on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Food and Nutrition- All Years

Thank you for the return of 3 containers this week – we are still missing 17 chocolate tub containers which were lent out to Year 7 & 8 pupils. Please return any borrowed containers before the half term.

A plea for all classes who are cooking:

- Fridge space is extremely limited, and we cannot store excess ingredients – please only send in what is required
- Please ensure every item is labelled as bags are unpacked into the fridge.
- Remember to pack a suitably sized container for the end product too!

Year 5:

5A, B and D will be taste testing 3 different cheeses in our lessons this week. Please do let the school know of dairy intolerances. **5C** will complete their pizza evaluation bringing the pizza project to a close.

Year 6:

6B and 6D will be making a delicious pasta salad. Please see Satchel 1 for the requirements. Please substitute ingredients so that pupils can make a salad they will enjoy.

Year 7:

Bread rolls are the order of the day. Top tip is to purchase a 500g bread mix – they cost about £1.15. That way there are no extra ingredients needed.

Year 8:

8A, B and C will be making a delicious Stir-fry.
8D will have a demo.

Well done on almost every pupil meeting the health and safety requirements of the Food Room! Please do get in touch if you have any queries with regards to the recipes. Mrs van Wyk.

Year 5 In Person Foundation Parents Evening

On Thursday 5th June the foundation subjects (all those other than maths, English and Science) will be open for you to come into school, meet the teachers and view your child's books. We encourage you to come with your child. We will also ensure that the books are available to view in their tutor rooms for English, Maths and Science, with request slips at the front of reception for anyone that has a query about something they have found in a core book.

Gardening Club

Don't you just love it when a plan comes together? Our garden is taking shape, and we have thoroughly enjoyed watching our plants grow. The greenhouse staging is in, our plants are settling in their beds, and we look forward to a very busy week of seed planting next week. It can be very wet working in the garden so please send extra shoes in.

Can you name all the fruit and veg in the photos?



Parent Questionnaire

Following our curriculum survey in September 2024, we are keen to find out if the improvements we put in place have helped parents feel more informed about our curriculum and how/what students need to do to improve.

<https://forms.office.com/e/r84vkCZ3Wv>

Parent Governor Vacancy

Please find attached details regarding an opening for a Parent Governor for Edwinstree Middle School.

A plea for an appliance.

The Food Room's tumble dryer has dried its last ever load. After 10 plus years of service it has stopped working. If anyone is replacing their tumble dryer at home in the near future, please would you consider donating it to the school. We have put up a washing line over the kitchen garden to improve our eco awareness, but with our unpredictable weather and using up to 50 cloths a day, we do rely on having a dryer. Please get in touch with the school office if you can help us.


Many thanks, Mrs van Wyk

Welcome to Pedal and Play – Sign Up Now!


We're excited to invite you to join **Pedal and Play**, a fun and engaging **6-week cycling programme** designed to boost your cycling skills and confidence!

Session Details:

 **Time:** 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM

 **Duration:** 6 weeks, commences Monday 9th of June 2025

 **Bring your own bike and helmet**

 **Bring a snack** to keep your energy up


If you **don't have access to a bike**, please email us at cityacademyherts@britishcycling.org.uk, and we'll do our best to support you.



How to Sign Up:

 **Only 16 spaces available – sign up now!**

 Parents must **download the Spond app** and join our group via this link: <https://spond.com/invite/AVBOC>

 Once joined, they will be able to register for the sessions

 Please complete the consent form for attending the sessions:- <https://forms.office.com/e/xzxfnsXqn5>

Sign up today and get ready to pedal, play, and have fun on two wheels!  



Hertfordshire Family Lives Summer Term Programme

Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children (6 weeks) Online group

Thursday 15 May to 26 June 9.30am - 11.30am

If your child has ADHD/ASD, or you think they might, join our online 6-week group where you will receive support from other parents and gain a comprehensive understanding of ADHD/ASD and learn strategies to improve life at home and at school.

Getting on with Your Pre-Teen/Teenager (6 weeks) Online group Wednesday 4 June to 9 July 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Is your teen feeling anxious or isolated? Are you concerned about their mental health and struggling to get help? Maybe you have an FFA/CIN/CP in place and need more support. Join our free 6-week online group to learn how parents can best emotionally support their teen and feel confident and prepared for whatever challenges might arise.

Less Shouting, More Cooperation (6 weeks) Online group Friday 6 June to 11 July, 9.30 am - 11.30 am

Do you feel you are constantly nagging or shouting at your child to get what you need? Are you tired of losing your cool and want a calmer house? Join our free online 6-week group to learn how you can change the way you communicate with your child, respond better, and feel more in control.

Sorting Out Family Arguments (6 weeks) Online group Tuesday 10 June to 15 July 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Do you feel everything ends in an argument and you are constantly trying to keep the peace? Join our free online 6-week group to help improve family communication, reduce the reactions which lead to arguments and create a culture of teamwork in your family.

Anxiety around ADHD Online Workshop

Tuesday 24 June 9.30am - 11.30am

A workshop that helps parents understand ADHD and provides strategies to help support you and your child.

Reducing conflict Online Workshop

Monday 16 June 7.00pm – 9.00pm

A workshop that explores different types of conflict between couples and families.

For more information, please contact

Louise or Lesley on

0204 522 8700/8701, or email

services@familylives.org.uk

Please scan our QR code for our referral form.



Mrs J Gant – Headteacher
admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

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