



Edwinstree Term dates:

[Term Dates 2025-26 & 2026-27.pdf](#)

Homework week: B

Diary Dates:

21/04/26	Y6 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
22/04/26	Y5 RE trip (all day) - Faith in Queen's Park
23/04/26	6B Merit reward - non uniform day
04/05/26	Bank Holiday
11-14/05/26	Year 6 SATs
12/05/26	Y5 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
15/05/26	ESA Spring Disco
19/05/26	Human Papillomavirus (HPV) immunisation for Year 8.
25-29/05/26	Half Term
26/06/26	INSET Day
04/07/26	Summer Fair
09/07/26	County Transition Day
17/07/26	End of Term 1:20pm.

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Thank you for returning your children to school ready and prepared for the start of term. If your child was missing a little bit of equipment and or a piece of uniform, we have spoken to them and offered support and help.

Snapchat

As part of our regular guidance around social media, attached to the newsletter is a one-page guide about Snapchat: what it is, its' age restriction and why, as well as how you can access support in managing what your child does on this platform. A reminder that if you are allowing your child to have a social media presence, to monitor this on a regular basis.

Just Talk

Is an annual Hertfordshire week devoted to supporting students across county and their mental health. This year the campaign is supporting young people across Hertfordshire to think critically about what they see online, including AI generated and edited content and to recognise when social media maybe affecting their mood, sleep or wellbeing. COWO next week will be replaced by information sessions based around this campaign. Hertfordshire has asked schools to post information on our facebook school page linked to this theme and providing parents with information and links to support groups and guidance on how to help your child navigate safely their on -line screen time.

What were we talking about in COWO this week?

In tutor times we reflected what learning had taken place over the year with our values. In hall time, we reminded ourselves where we were in the calendar year. What our school vision is, our values and virtues are. We also spent time reminding ourselves what spirituality is. I have included this slide for you.

Afterschool Clubs

Further to our Parentmail on Monday, please find attached our list for afterschool enrichment clubs for the summer term, clubs start next week.

Gardening Club:

Club starts on Wednesday, 22 April. Just a reminder that it finishes at 4:15pm. I am looking forward to working with the students and getting our vegetables and flowering plants into the soil once we have turned it over.
If you have any seedlings of any kind, we will gratefully accept them.
Mrs van Wyk

PE Timetable – All Years

Please find attached our summer PE timetable.

Summer Fair:

Please diarise Saturday, 4th of July 2026. More information will be sent home in the coming weeks. Each class group will be running a stall. We look forward to enjoying an afternoon of fun! See you there!

SATs Exam Helpers

Thank you, we have 34 helpers but **remain 12 short** of the target number, so that all students are supported in the SATs who need extra help, with movement breaks, reading and or writing. If you have the time to spare or know someone that can help, please fill in the form below and give a little back to your community. Thank you to all those who have already let us know they can help.

Official SATs Dates: 11/05/2026 -14/05/2026 - 8.45– 11.00am

Duties include supporting teachers in the classroom and working with students as a reader, scribe, or prompt. We will provide a short amount of training for this on the day. Many students require this support, and we are always incredibly grateful to anyone who volunteers, as this ensures that all students receive the support that they need.

If you can help on any of the days, please complete the following form. [SATs helpers for 2026 – Fill in form](#)

Food and Nutrition – All Years

What a busy week! From taste testing to demonstrations and a little theory in between!

Year 5: Well done to all who took part in the taste testing. It can be daunting to try new products, but we had a few pupils push their own boundaries and try new ingredients - awesome! We tried a vegan cheese, a mature cheddar and feta cheese. Ask your child which they preferred. Next week is a demo for cheese straws.

Year 6: Please remember your ingredients for marinated, grilled chicken wraps. Please make any necessary adjustments as per your preferences of chicken or halloumi, your added veggies and your bread choice. The wraps can be eaten for break or lunch on the day they are made. Please do not bring in extra ingredients - only what is required - e.g. 1 chicken breast, not a packet of chicken breasts.

Year 7: Please bring in 2 medium carrots and a medium onion.

Year 8: Protein alternate curry is on the menu next week. Please remember your ingredients and a suitable dish to take it home in! If you require a spice pot, please send me a message on Satchel. Please do not bring in extra ingredients - only what is required.

Important health and safety requirements:

1. Correct shoes.
2. hair tied up and fringes out of the face.
3. no embellished/polished/biab etc nails.

Failure to follow the rules will result in a no cook session. Please remember that our fridge storage is very limited. Please only send the required ingredients in as we do not have safe, refrigerated storage for extra ingredients. Label all of your ingredients, not the bag it is brought into school in. Bags are not allowed in the fridge. If your child was not in the demonstration lesson, they will be given alternate work to complete as they will have missed important health and safety instruction.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch. Mrs van Wyk

Year 5 News:

We are looking forward to the RE trip to Faith in Queens Park Bedford on Wednesday.

Your child will need to bring with them:

- Full school uniform with comfortable shoes. • A packed lunch- **this must be Vegetarian**, - Because the Sikhs have a strict 'vegetarian only' rule inside the Gurdwara [no glass bottles please]
- A small backpack [to be carried throughout the day]
- Pencil case with pencils, sharpener and rubber. • Clothing: *Head scarves or beanie style hats are worn by everyone inside the Gurdwara and by females inside the Mosque. Pupils are able to bring their own headscarf, bandana or beanie hat- they do have some available, if required. Shoes will need to be removed inside the entrance of both the Gurdwara and the Mosque.*
- Any medication [including travel sickness tablets] clearly labelled with their name to be handed to the office by Monday 20th April 2026.

On the day of the visit, students need to arrive at school by **8:15am**, for a prompt departure at **8:30am**. We will leave the venue at 1:30pm and arrive back at Edwinstree at approximately 2:30pm, pupils will be dismissed at the end of the school day in the normal manner.

Year 5 students who are not attending the trip will be expected in school. We will be running classes for these students their timetable for the day will be sent out early next week.

Year 6 News:

6B Non uniform day

6B will have a non-uniform day next Friday 23rd April for winning the most merits last half term.

Year 6 in-Person Foundation Parents Evening

As you will have seen from the Newsletter dates, we have a Year 6 Foundation Evening on 21st April from 5pm until 7pm, this is held in school and is a chance for your child to bring you into school, take you to their classrooms and show you the work they have been completing in their subjects. Foundation subject teachers will be in their classrooms for any questions you may have. You are not required to book a time slot.

Year 7 News:

Year 7 - form group changes for September 2026

After careful consideration we have made the decision to mix up the form groups moving into year 8. The decision to mix them up is due to the dynamics in the year group. Students were informed on Thursday and given some detail about the process. We will send you more information next week. You and your child will be able to recommend friends that they wish to be with in their new class.

The reason we are informing you now is to make sure we give ourselves plenty of time to create the tutor groups going into Y8.

Year 7 Drama – Romeo and Juliet

This term in Drama, Year 7 students will be exploring *Romeo and Juliet* through practical drama activities to support their learning in English at a later time.

Lessons focus on character motivation, decision-making, and how conflicts escalate, using movement, discussion, and structured role-play rather than reading large sections of text. Some work explores themes such as anger, public conflict, and the consequences of poor choices, all in a carefully managed and age-appropriate way.

Clear boundaries around behaviour and physical safety are reinforced at all times; any student who behaves unsafely or disrupts learning is removed from the activity so the rest of the class can work safely and effectively. These lessons are designed to help students think critically, build empathy, and understand how actions can lead to serious outcomes. Mrs Brock

Year 8 News:

Year 8 Transition

We look forward to working with you in the last term as our student's transition to Freman, an information letter will be out soon to explain the process and to ask you to alert us if you think your child may need additional support for transition.

Freman are excellent at offering additional sessions at the school post half term for those students feeling extra nervous about the change.

Year 8 RE Topics

Within RE, in Summer Term, pupils will be looking at the Death Penalty, and the ethical and moral questions surrounding it. At Edwinstree we believe in embracing life in all its fullness, this includes sensitively and appropriately looking at emotionally challenging subjects.

Please be assured pupils will not be shown any footage, images or recordings depicting this practice taking part.

Pupils will be informed that there are several parts of these lessons where they will be confronted with upsetting information. They will be assured that it is ok to be upset, angry or worried, that the classroom is a safe space where we will support each other. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for further resources, please do not hesitate to contact me on a.kelly@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

We thank you for your support, Mrs Kelly

Year 8 Home Learning Detentions

Following feedback from the Year 8 subject teachers, and in an attempt to streamline our expectations of Home Learning with Freman, we are going to pilot Home Learning lunchtime detentions starting this coming Monday 20th April.

This system will be separate from the card system. Any Home Learning detention will **not** be recorded as a card on Satchel One. You will receive a notification your child has received a 'Homework Detention'.

This new process will give your child the opportunity to complete their home learning before receiving a detention, as we understand children do forget and sometimes family situations may prevent the work from being completed.

The process will work as follows:

1. The teacher will set home learning for a particular date.
2. If your child does not show the teacher their work, they will be given 24 hours to bring their work to the teacher. It will be your child's responsibility to find the teacher.
3. If this does not happen your child will be given a 'Homework Detention' on the next lunchtime for 15 minutes. Your child will work on their home learning during the detention.
4. If you feel you have an appropriate reason for your child not completing their work, please contact the school prior to the detention so the subject teacher can be made aware.

There are children in school who have alternative timetables and learning plans. We will contact these parents individually to see how we can best support your child with their transition to Freman and whether this is something that may help this process.

Thank you for your support.

Year 8's last term

Mr McCarthy and Mr Rowlands held an assembly this week on how we want to celebrate and recognise their time with us at Edwinstree.

They are a lovely year group, and we will miss them! We talked about the various stages of transition between now and July, as well as the celebrations such as their trip to Thorpe Park, the Y8 awards, and the campout we will be holding in early July.

This is a lovely way to celebrate the year group, but it has always been by invitation and not a given right to attend the campout. We outlined to students what we want to see in their remaining weeks with us in order to receive that invitation and, if things aren't going well, will make sure that a student and home know what they need to do to get back on track.



Edwinstree School Association.

School Disco Friday 15th May 6-8pm

Tickets are now on sale for our May disco through our Sum Up shop, £5 includes snack and unlimited

drinks: [May School Disco - Link to book Tickets - Please read instructions carefully](#)

This is an outdoor disco but in the event of bad weather will be moved indoors, thus tickets are limited to 350, and are available first come first served until **Wednesday 13th May unless sold out**. When buying tickets, you **must include your child's name**, any **food intolerances** and whether they can **walk home**, or will be **collected by an adult** in the *message for merchant box*.

The ESA can only host a school disco if we have enough adults to help provide snacks, drinks and marshal the event area. Please contact the school office or email edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com if you can help on 15th May. It's a great event to help out at and large enough that you won't embarrass your child with your presence!

Pre-loved Uniform

Donations of preloved uniform are always welcome. (Branded jumpers, t-shirts, and hoodies only). They can be handed into the school office at any time. Our online shop will be updated upon receipt of donations, and you can order items ready for collection at the school office. [Edwinstree School Association Online Shop \(sumupstore.com\)](#)

Name Labels

If you are buying new uniform or equipment, please remember to label everything! We get 30% commission on labels at Stikins if you quote our fundraising number 6671 at <http://www.stikins.co.uk>

Buntingford Army Cadets

Please find attached information regarding Army cadets that take place at Edwinstree School on Tuesday evenings 7-9.30pm.

Next joining date: 21 April 2026

Year 7 and 8 were treated to a visit from the team this week on Tuesday.



Young Carers Offer

From 1 April 2026, Hertfordshire County Council will be bringing support for young carers in-house, when the young carer contract with Carers in Hertfordshire comes to an end, integrating it fully within the council's services.

Support for young carers will continue. This includes assessments, help with managing caring responsibilities, regular reviews, ensuring the voices of young carers inform the support they receive and support in preparing for adulthood.

A new [Young Carers webpage](#) has been developed in collaboration with young carers and their families and includes information about the support available, team contact details, and 'a Day in the Life of' form to register a young carer online so that they can get the support they need.

Hertfordshire County Council will be contacting all registered young carers directly to welcome them, provide updated contact information, details on how to access support, and a link to the new webpage.

If you need to make contact with the team, please email youngcarers@hertfordshire.gov.uk or call 01992 658469.

Could you be a young carer?

If you help look after a friend or family member who needs extra support - you may be a young carer and there's an easy place to get help.

WELCOME

- Be part of a young carers community
- Friendly welcome from the young carers team

Support for the whole family

- Friendly chats to consider everyone's needs
- Check ins to make sure you're doing ok
- Help as you grow up and move into new stages of life

A new young carers webpage

- Clear information on what help you can get
- Links to opportunities, activities & wellbeing support
- Designed by young carers for young carers

Get involved

- Conference designed by young carers, workshops, fun sessions, meeting others
- Opportunities to have your say
- Work with SEND Youth Councils

Additional support

- Support in your school / college
- Meet other young carers
- If you're eligible for free school meals, you can get discounts with a Herts Card
- Free activity camps in school holidays - HAPpy Camps

How to get support

- Ask an adult in your family to help you get in touch
- Speak to your teacher or a trusted member of staff
- Visit the website or call 01992 658469

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/youngcarers

Parenting when separated for parents of SEN children - free online group

Coram Family Lives are delivering the below online parenting groups, funded by Herts County Council for parents/carers who live in Hertfordshire.

All programmes provide support, information and resources to parents/carers and adult family members so they can help their child reach their full potential as well as access to the wraparound support provided by our helpline, live chat and website.

The six-session programme is specifically tailored to help separated parents navigate the complexities of co-parenting and provide the best possible support for their SEND child. This is a valuable opportunity to enhance co-parenting skills, support children's development and build a strong foundation for the future.

Parenting when separated for parents of SEN children.

Date: Wednesday 22, 29 April and 6, 13, 20 May and 3 June 2026
Time: 9.30am to 11.30am
Platform: MS Teams

Parenting when separated for parents of SEN children.

Date: Thursday 23, 30 April and 7, 14, 21 May and 4 June 2026
Time: 7.00p to 9.00pm
Platform: MS Teams

To book a place please click here for our online referral form [Parenting when separated for parents of SEN children](#) or call Louise on 0204 522 8700

Parenting when separated for parents of SEN children - online programme

Come along to our six-session programme, specifically tailored to help separated parents navigate the complexities of co-parenting and provide the best possible support for their SEND child. This is a valuable opportunity to enhance co-parenting skills, support children's development and build a strong foundation for the future.

The programme includes:

- Understanding skills and its impact on children and family dynamics
- Effective communication skills
- Managing emotions and stress
- Collaborative problem solving
- Building a support network
- Creating a unified parenting approach

Dates and times

Online Wednesday 22nd and 29th April, 6th, 13th and 20th May and 3rd June 2026
Time: 9.30am to 11.30am

Live Thursday 23rd and 30th April, 7th, 14th, 21st May and 4th June 2026
Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm

This will be delivered online via MS TEAMS

For more information or to make a referral, scan the QR code, email services@coramfamilylives.org.uk or call 0204 522 8700 or 0204 522 8699

We build better family lives together

www.coramfamilylives.org.uk

Partners: Hertfordshire County Council, Hertfordshire NHS Foundation Trust

FREE Herts County Council funded healthy lifestyle programmes

Breeze Youth, Ready to make a change?

Please see flyer attached regarding an 8-week health and wellbeing programme.

Breeze Families

12-week programme

Breeze Families

FREE Healthy Lifestyle support for families in Hertfordshire

Our FREE 12 week in-person and online programmes start on 27th April 2026, with an intro call beforehand

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
HATFIELD Birchwood Avenue Primary School, AL10 0PS 5:00 - 7:00pm	CHESHUNT Oakview Primary School EN7 6LB 5:00 - 7:00pm	STEVENAGE Oval Community Centre SG1 5RD 5:00 - 7:00pm	WATFORD Chater Junior School WD18 0ND 5:00 - 7:00pm
** NO SESSION **	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD Hobletts Manor Junior School HP2 5JS 5:00 - 7:00pm	BOREHAMWOOD St Michael's & All Angels Church Hall WD6 5EQ 5:00 - 7:00pm	** NO SESSION **
ONLINE (10 weeks) (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	ONLINE (10 weeks) (ages 5 - 8) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm (ages 9 - 12) 6:30 - 7:30pm	ONLINE (10 weeks) (ages 9 - 12) 5:30 - 6:30pm	** NO SESSION **

Sign up today!

BZInfo@maximusuk.co.uk

01707 248 648

Hertfordshire

Our programmes are for children above their stated weight, see our website for more information.

*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.*