



Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Homework week: B

Diary Dates:

22/10/25	Y7 and y8 Parliament Talk P1 - 7A, 7B, 8A, 8D P2 - 7C, 7D, 8B, 8C
23/10/25	Year 5 Duxford Educational Visit
24/10/25	Harvest Festival - All Years Non-Uniform
27-31/10/25	Half Term
11/11/25	School Photographs
17/11/25	Maya Workshop 5A & 5B
18/11/25	Maya Workshop 6C & 6D
20/11/25	Maya Workshop 6A & 6B
21/11/25	Maya Workshop 5C & 5D
05/12/25	Occasional Day
10/12/25	Christmas Dinner Day
19/12/25	End of Term 1:20pm.
05/01/26	INSET Day
06/01/26	Start of Spring Term
16-20/02/26	Half Term
27/03/26	End of Term 1:20pm.
13/04/26	Start of Summer Term
04/05/26	Bank Holiday
25-29/05/26	Half Term
26/06/26	INSET Day
09/07/26	County Transition Day
17/07/26	End of Term 1:20pm.

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Harvest Service change of date.

The date has changed to Friday 24th October. The school will be walking to Aspenden Church in year groups for our Harvest Festival.

As part of the experience, we get to enjoy the beautiful countryside around us. Students are offered two of the 50 things to do in nature before you are 11½ from the National Trust. They will have the opportunity to complete the run/roll down the hill challenge. [50 things to do before you are 11½ | Kids | National Trust](#)

Students will be required to wear non-uniform on this day and bring a spare pair of boots or shoes that you do not mind getting muddy. We walk whether it is rain or shine, so please keep an eye out for the weather.

To complete this walk, we are asking for parent volunteers to help us. Below is the timetable for the day which shows the timings of your child's year group walk and service. We would really appreciate your support. Please email admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk if you can offer your help on this day.

- Year 5 – depart school 10.15am, 11am harvest service then walk back to school
- Year 6 - depart school 10.55am, 11.40am harvest service then walk back to school
- Year 7 - depart school 8.55am, 9.40am harvest service then walk back to school
- Year 8 - depart school 9.35am, 10.20am harvest service then walk back to school

Keeping children safe online

We are beginning to experience again a number of issues on social media that while they take place after school or at weekends inevitably the problems come into school and children and families require support to sort them out. We will always try our best to deal with the incident, but as parents ourselves we know that part of the education process starts at home.

Please may we ask that you regularly check your child's social media presence and talk to your child about positive and appropriate social media use? There are resources out there to help with this conversation, especially if this is something that you've not done before. There are two good places to start.

[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)
[Social Media & Mental Health | Guide For Parents | YoungMinds](#)

Dynamic Diversity Group

The DDG will be coming into tutor COWOs to complete an activity with students about equity and inclusion. We shall be demonstrating why some tasks in school can be easier for some and harder for others and why we ought to celebrate everybody's accomplishments and that might look different based on our unique abilities and individual 'wonderfuls'.

We shall begin with Year 5 on Tuesday 21st October, 4-5 members of the DDG will assist in each tutor group with Miss Jackson's support. Year 6's session will be after the half term on Tuesday 4th November, Year 7 on Monday 10th November and Year 8 on Monday 17th November. If we do not have time to discuss the reflection questions after the activity, I will post them in a second follow up tutor COWO so students can still have valuable discussion time in classes.

Miss Jackson

Food and Nutrition – All Years

If I thought I was impressed last week, well this week was just as good! Excellent behaviour during practical's resulted in some fabulous end products. Well done all!

Year 5: Massive shout out to all in Year 5 who did their first practical this week. There were some very scared and worried children using knives for the first time. The results spoke for themselves. WOW! What a wonder to behold. I do hope that parents and carers got to try some of the fabulous Dippy Divers. 5C, your practical is on Monday – please remember to bring in your ingredients.

Year 6: Pasta salads have now been made by all classes and enjoyed. I've even been told, "I've made it again for my mum's lunch because she really, really liked it". Lots of skills were learnt in this practical, including knife skills, flavour combinations, handling boiling water and creating a combination food – using food from the food groups in the correct proportions. Excellent results and a wonderful rainbow of colours (and nutrition).

Year 7: All classes will be making Spaghetti Bolognese next week. For those who were absent for the knife skills lesson, please remember to bring your carrot and onion already prepared – small dice. Don't forget your hidden veg to increase nutrition and fibre, winter is upon us, and we need to boost our immune systems.

Year 8: I have been truly impressed with the curries this year. There have been so many different combinations of vegetables and alternate protein products. The pupils have introduced me to a new one on the market too. We looked at the ingredients list on some of the products and found it varied between 3 and 14 different items per product – quite interesting as some of the items were vague in description. We did debate if they are a healthier alternative or just a hype. If you added chicken, lamb or beef when you got home, I do hope you enjoyed that too!

Please be reminded of our Health and Safety Rules in the kitchen. False nails, decorated nails, polished nails, etc are a hazard and your child will be given alternate written work to complete. Acrylic nails are flammable and a big hazard in the kitchen. Both boys and girls are required to tie long hair up and clip fringes back. Shoes need to be of a safe design and preferably leather or a hard plastic – foot safety is very important. No jewellery is allowed – please remove all jewellery including tied bracelets as your child will not be allowed to cook. If a pupil has been absent from a demo lesson, they will not be able to cook as each demonstration has important health and safety information as well as specific rules which need to be followed during the practical.

If you have any questions regarding practical's and ingredient requirements, please do get in touch. Mrs van Wyk

Year 5 News

Duxford Trip

This educational visit will take place on Thursday 23rd October 2025.

Your child will need to bring with them:

- Full school uniform with comfortable shoes or trainers.
- Outdoor clothing appropriate for a winter's day out.
- A packed lunch [no glass bottles please]
- A small backpack [to be carried throughout the day]
- Any medication [including travel sickness tablets] clearly labelled with their name to be handed to the office.

On the day of the visit, students need to arrive at school by 8:40am for a prompt departure at 9:30am. We will leave Duxford IWM at 2pm and arrive back at Edwinstree at approximately 3pm. Therefore, we will be back before the end of the school day.

Year 7 & 8 News:

UK Parliament Talk

On Wednesday 22nd October there will be a talk to all year 7 and 8s about how the UK Parliament works. This will be led by a member of Parliamentary staff. The session will include:

- Democracy and the work of Parliament.
- The role of MPs and the House of Lords.
- How laws are made.
- The difference between Parliament and Government.
- How young people can get involved and have their voices heard.

Reading in form time

To promote and encourage reading for pleasure, we are reintroducing reading in form time in the mornings for all KS3 students on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays after the half term break. Students should be bringing a reading book of their choice to school for these sessions. If your child does not have a book from our library or a book from home they like, please ask them to ask their English teacher for help to find one and we will be happy to help.

Year 8 News:

'Year 8 students will be watching the film 'Harriet' during their upcoming History lessons. This film tells the inspiring true story of Harriet Tubman, who escaped slavery and became a leading figure in the fight for freedom and equality. Watching Harriet supports our curriculum by helping students understand themes of courage, resilience, human rights, and the importance of standing up against injustice.

The film is age-appropriate for Year 8 students and offers valuable historical and emotional learning opportunities. However, if your child feels uncomfortable watching the film, they are welcome to spend the lesson in the Wellbeing Hub if they have a pass or complete an alternative learning activity elsewhere. If you have any further questions, please contact Miss H Jackson Head of KS3 History.'

What were the results of our Parent Governors vote?

We are pleased to welcome the following individuals as parent Governors to our Governing body:

Nichola Lomax

Nicola Harker

Tracy Harper

Percussion group after school

We still have space in the percussion group that runs on a Thursday. We will work with all sorts of percussion; Djembe drums, Boomwhackers, Samba kits, as well as tuned and untuned percussion.

Here is the link to sign

up! <https://forms.office.com/e/HebnxBHmpD>

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk