



**Edwinstree Middle School**  
A Voluntary Controlled Church of  
England School

**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS &  
CARERS**  
**Week Ending: 19/01/2024**

Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Homework Week: A

Diary Dates:

<b>School Day – 8:40am – 3:10pm</b>	
22/01/24	5B & 5D Academic review via SchoolCloud
26/01/24	Non-Uniform for Isobel Hospice – £1 voluntary donation
5-8/02/24	Year 6 Mock SATs
09/02/24	ESA Family Quiz 6.30pm
13/02/24	Bake Sale – cake donations welcome
19-23/02/24	Half Term
26/02/24	6A & 6C Academic review via SchoolCloud
29/02/24	6B & 6D Academic review via SchoolCloud
13/03/24	Fullness Day (details to follow)
18/03/24	Year 5 Foundation Evening in person
28/03/24	End of Spring Term 1:20pm
15/04/24	Start of Summer term 08:40am
22/04/24	Year 6 Foundation Evening in person
06/05/24	Bank Holiday
13-16/05/24	Year 6 SATs Week
20/05/24	Year 7 Foundation Evening in person
27-31/05/24	Half Term
17/06/24	Year 8 Foundation Evening in person
28/06/24	INSET Day
11/07/24	County Transition Day
19/07/24	End of Summer Term 1:20pm



**Non-uniform day Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January for the Isobel Hospice.**

We have a year 5 student whose parent is currently under the care of Isobel Hospice. They are feeling incredibly grateful to the hospice for all their support. The student has asked if the school would host a non-uniform day with a £1 voluntary donation to support the hospice. As we have only one charity fund raising event planned and your parent questionnaire feedback told us you could support two. We will go ahead with this on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January.

**Bake Sale**

On 13<sup>th</sup> of February we will be hosting a bake sale to help raise money to support our first Fullness day. These are learning days that happen throughout the year, 3 in total to explore topics that students have raised as of interest and/or importance. The dynamic diversity group have requested a day to explore and learn about differently abled people and neuro diversity, in order to boost our whole schools understanding of difference. This will take place in March, but to support some outside agency speakers, we would like to raise a little money to help. Hence the need for a bake sale. As always donations can be dropped to the school during this week. Thank you to the amazing bakers and kind buyers who help us to raise funds for projects inside and outside the school.

**Can you help us with a campaign to upgrade our new crossing?**

We have been asking our local Council for a crossing on Bowling Green Lane for years, and this year the Council have provided one. However, it is not to the standard of the crossing we were hoping for, and while the children know it is there, the cars do not. In fact, it is so inconspicuous that parents have remarked that it is almost causing more dangers being there than not. We are looking for an upgrade to a zebra crossing with road markings and flashing beacons which both pedestrians and car drivers can not miss. Could you help? We would like to go back to the Council with a set of signatures advocating for this upgrade. If you are willing to support us by signing our petition, students will be bringing home a copy of our petition signature form next week, and we would ask you to complete the form yourself and ask other interested parties if they would also support us (over 18's only please). Additional signature sheets will be available to collect from the school office. We would appreciate any assistance or ideas to help support our campaign.

**Now the swimming pool is closed, how will we carry out compulsory swimming lessons?**

Currently we do not know. We are looking at the nearest swimming pools and availability. However, the cost of transport is likely to prohibit this and would require a significant time out of the curriculum instead of the hour that we used to have. We understand that there is a movement to support the swimming pool to be taken over and run by the Community and we will look to find out more and support this movement. As a former child of Buntingford, my joy of swimming began at the pool and it seems desperate that the expansion of the town has led to its closure.

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As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*

### Would you consider becoming a Parent Governor?

We are looking to recruit one more Parent Governor. This is a role that requires you to act as a critical friend to the school, and to steer and guide us. We have a strong Governing body who are experienced but who welcome parents' viewpoints. If you think you would be able to commit to three meetings a term in the evening (the majority via teams), then please email Sam Petty my PA at [s.petty@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:s.petty@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk). If we have more than one applicant we will ask parents to nominate. Thank you for the interest and support you show the school.

### Food and Nutrition:

Great news - we are back up and running in the Food Room and look forward to the upcoming KS2 practicals. Please may I ask that you only send in the required ingredients. On some days we have 3 practical lessons running and we do not have space to store excess in the fridges.

**Year 5:** We are currently learning about the variety of nutrients we get from eating a rainbow. Our dish is a tasty fruit salad. Please keep an eye out for your ingredient requirements.

**5C** Monday, 22/01;

**5A** Tuesday, 23/01;

**5B** and **5D** need ingredients on Thursday 25/01.

**Year 6:** Well done to all the chefs in **6D** and **6C** - some awesome results in their fruit alternate sugar reduced cup cakes

**6A** and **6B** ingredients are needed for Tuesday 23/01.

**Year 7:** We managed to complete the practical and analysis components of our Sugar in Baking Food Science Experiment. Please ask your child what their favourite one was as some of the alternate sugars were interesting choices!

**Year 8:** Enzymic Browning Food Science Experiments were conducted this week. No ingredients were needed as the school provided these.

**Please do remember that health and safety in the kitchen is a priority and that shoes, hair and nails rules must be followed in order to take part in the lessons.** Thank you to all the pupils who always comply. Mrs van Wyk

### Herts Music Service

Attached are a series of flyers advertising music tuition groups within Hertfordshire.

### School Reports

This year we are trialling an alternative way to send out school reports. We provide 3 sets of reports, 2 tracking progress and 1 in the summer outlining your child's learning. The first data report for term 1 is due shortly and we are going to trial a new method of delivery electronically and via the Satchel 1 app.

Instead of sending home a paper copy, school reports will be issued through the Satchel One app. The advantage of issuing school reports electronically is that they cannot get lost on the way home, are easier to store and can be viewed by accessing your parent account in Satchel One. We will be providing training through the newsletter, a video link and a help line to guide you on how to access the reports.

We expect the school reports to be issued by the first week of February and will send a Parentmail out to confirm once they have been issued. Your child's school reports can only be viewed via parent Satchel One accounts, so if you have not registered or need to update your details please email Mrs Heywood: [r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)



### Edwinstree School Association

The ESA are hosting a Family Quiz on Friday 9th February 6.30pm at school. Everyone is welcome, you just need at least one child (suggested age 8+) and one adult per team with a maximum of 8 team members, £20 entry per team. Individual tickets are also available to make up a team on the night. There will be a licensed bar and cash prizes to win. Tickets available from [Family Quiz Tickets \(sumupstore.com\)](https://www.sumupstore.com).

Save the date for an adult only evening 15th March, more details to be announced soon.



### SPACE

Please see flyer attached regarding St Thomas of Canterbury's invite to families with SEND to their coffee morning to build up some new contacts and also a community network. SPACE support many families with students who have neurodiversity.

*Mrs J Gant – Headteacher*  
[admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

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