



## Edwinstree Term dates:

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

## Homework week: B

## Diary Dates:

24-26/09/25	Year 7 Residential
29/09/25	Flu vaccinations – all years
30/09/25	Year 5 “Getting to know you” Parents meeting 5pm
08 & 09/10/25	Year 6 Lancaster Model
09/10/25	Open Evening 9th October 2025, 6pm - 8pm. Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm
27–31/10/25	Half Term
11/11/25	School Photographs
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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## Newsletter Focus - Attendance

From week 2 every half term, on a weekly basis, we will have a focus/ theme to the newsletter.

We start this week with Attendance. Other focus areas are Wellbeing, Sports and Enrichment, Church of England work and the Curriculum. We hope you find these informative.

## Costings questionnaire.

Can you help us to find out how much money would be appropriate to budget for a trip for this year please?  
Since COVID and in recognition of the cost-of-living crisis, we have been asking parents at the start of each to year to complete a questionnaire to indicate what would be an acceptable charge for a trip? We hope to offer each group 2 trips per year. We then take the most common response, and we set our trips around this price, to maximise the number of students to attend.

We would very much appreciate you completing this questionnaire, which takes a few minutes to do, and is anonymous <https://forms.office.com/e/iz2MhB5NdQ> Once we have the cost limit, we will price up the potential trips to match your capacity to spend, then publish a calendar of trips and a payment window so that you can plan your expenditure, this was suggested by a parent last year.

## Smart Watches

If a pupil can play games, make/accept phone calls, make/receive texts or access the camera then they will need to either hand in their watch as they would a phone or disable those features during school hours. Thank you for your support in this. In past we have found students are still learning how to use these devices well and have mistakenly video recorded other students and or staff and posted on social media sites without any permission from the individual being filmed.

School Photographs

The school photographer is booked for Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

Sibling photos will take place first, followed by individuals. Please may we ask that your child comes in with clean uniform wearing their Edwinstree School sweatshirt and hair has been styled if necessary.

Urgent Reminder - Nut Allergy

Can we please remind you that we have a number of children attending our school who suffer from nut allergies and can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction, just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties).

First aid staff in the school are trained to use the Epi-pens (an injection of adrenalin) which is required immediately if this happens.

Please may we ask that you have no nut products in lunch boxes or brought into the school as treats.  
For example:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate spreads
- Cereal bars
- Some granola bars
- Cakes that contain nuts
- Biscuits / Cookies that contain nuts
- Peanut butter cakes
- Some Asian food, including satay
- Sauces that contain nuts

This list is not exhaustive, so please check the packaging of products closely.  
We appreciate that this is an additional thing to check, and we know that you recognise the importance of it.

Why will there be more supply cover in school next week?

Our year 7 students and teachers will be attending their residential and to support this, our own teachers and two experienced and known cover teachers will be taking lessons in place of the staff on the trip. We have started prepping students on the changes.

Year 5 News:

What is the Year 5 Getting to know you meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> September about?

This is a time for Year 5 Parents to come and meet the tutor and hear how the tutor group are settling in. You will also hear from the mental health and SEND team and the Head of Maths, and English about what learning your child will be doing this year. Your child is welcome to attend with you.

Year 6 News:

Year 6 Lancaster Model – 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> October

Questionnaire and measuring the height and weight of Year 6 students.

Please see attached, letters from the School Nursing Team regarding the Lancaster Model Questionnaire and Measuring the height and weight of Year 6 students which will be taking place on 8th and 9th October 2025.

Please note If you **do not** want your child to participate in this questionnaire then please contact the school nurse team as soon as possible, Email: [hct.shwbswh@nhs.net](mailto:hct.shwbswh@nhs.net) / Telephone: 0300 123 7572 If they do not hear from you then they will assume you are happy for your child to complete the questionnaire.

Year 7 News:

Year 7 Residential – 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September.

We are looking forward to spending time with the students. Attached to this newsletter is additional information for the residential. Please be aware that on certain activities clothing will get wet and muddy, and all items should be named to avoid loss.  
Please ensure any medication is handed to Reception and a Med1 form completed.

Year 7 timetable for Students not attending the Residential

Please may we remind students to bring their PE kits

YEAR 7 IN SCHOOL	REG	LESSON 1	LESSON 2	LESSON 3	LESSON 4	LESSON 5	COWO
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	RM 28 DOSANIH	MR ART BURCHES	MRS COMPUTING ROWLANDS	MR RM28 FILM MRS MARLER	MR OUTDOOR KELLY (MEET IN RM 31)	MR ENGLISH/CRAFT RM 31 MR KELLY	MR RM 28 DOSANIH
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	MR RM 28 MR CHIWEREZA	MR OUTDOOR ACTIVITY KELLY (MEET IN RM 30)	MR ENGLISH KNIGHT RM 4	MRS MUSIC ROWLANDS	MR MR QUIZ KELLY ROOM 31	MR CRAFT JACKSON RM 32	MR MISS RM28 CHIWEREZA
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	MR RM 28 DOSANIH	MR CRAFT BOOTH	MRS RM 28 ACTIVITY KELLY (MEET IN RM 31)	MR ART BURCHES	MRS MRS SCIENCE BARRETT	MRS MRS MURSELL RM 29	MR RM 28 DOSANIH

Parent Governor Vacancies

Please find attached details regarding an opening for a Parent Governor for Edwinstree Middle School. Deadline Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of September

The Department for Education produces some useful guidance about being a school governor including a list of some of the ‘soft’ skills school governors need.

**Committed** – For instance, devoting the required time/energy to the role and ambitious to achieve best possible outcomes for pupils. Prepared to give time, skills and knowledge to developing themselves and others to create highly effective governance.

**Confident** – Of an independent mind, able to lead and contribute to courageous conversations, to express their opinion and to play an active role on the board.

**Curious** – Possessing an enquiring mind and an analytical approach and understanding the value of meaningful questioning.

**Challenging** – Providing appropriate challenge to the status quo, not taking information or data at face value and always driving for improvement.

*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.*

**Collaborative** – Prepared to listen to and work in partnership with others and understanding the importance of building strong working relationships within the board and with executive leaders, staff, parents and carers, pupils/students, the local community and employers.

**Critical** – Understanding the value of critical friendship which enables both challenge and support, and self-reflection, pursuing learning and development opportunities to improve their own and whole board effectiveness.

**Creative** – Able to challenge conventional wisdom and be open-minded about new approaches to problem-solving; recognising the value of innovation and creative thinking to organisational development and success.

If any parents are interested in becoming a governor and have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch via email ([chairgb@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:chairgb@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)) with your contact details and I will do my best to get back to you promptly.

John Boulter – Chair of Governors

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