Edwinstree Middle School A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School



NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS Week Ending: 20/06/2025.

Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Diary Dates:

25/06/25	Sports Day subject to temperatures.
26/06/25	Year 6 Felixstowe Trip - £26.10
27/06/25	INSET Day
30/06/25	Non-Uniform in exchange for
50/00/25	donations to our Summer Fair
02/07/25	Reserve Sports Day
02/07/25	Reserve Sports Day
	School Production Rehearsal
03 & 04/07/25	School Production Evening
	Performances
05/07/2025	Edwinstree Summer Fair
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.
01/09/25	INSET Day
02/09/25	Year 5 induction day
03/09/25	Term begins for Years 6-8
24-26/09/25	Year 7 Residential
29/09/25	Flu vaccinations – all years
09/10/25	Open Evening
	9th October 2025, 6pm - 8pm.
	Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm

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What was the outcome of our SIAMS inspection?

Just like Ofsted, the judgement and report will go through a moderation process, before it can be confirmed and/or released, this should take around 3 weeks and be available before the end of term.

What I can tell you is how impressed our Inspector was with your children, their openness, vibrancy and understanding of equity – how each individual is nurtured at our school in order to reach equity, everyone is ready to leave prepared for their next destination. It was lovely to hear the word "Fabulous" used to describe our community. Thank you to staff and parents for their support during this process.

What is happening on Sports day. Will it go ahead?

Yesterday the school's temperatures were over 28°c for the majority of the afternoon, and despite shade and rooms for students, some struggled with the heat, we are just not used to these temperatures.

At the moment we are fortunate that the forecast looks to be cooler reaching 24 °c for Sports Day on 25th June, however, should it increase back up to high temperatures, we will consider a shorter and early morning session rather than all day. We will notify you on Tuesday if this is the case.

Children will need to come to school in their PE kits (PE shirt, black shorts, white socks, and trainers) and will not need their school uniforms or books.

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.

Sports Day Cont'd.

If sports day takes place all day, children will be outside for the whole duration, please ensure that they are suitably equipped for the weather. We ask that that your child has a named water bottle, sun cream and a cap if it is sunny, and their hoody if it is cold. The school day will begin and end at normal times. **If you have a gazebo that you are willing to loan to us for the day, we would be most grateful.**

During the day, children will rotate around activities in form groups competing against each other in their houses. Parents are welcome to attend sports day from 11:00am. This will give you the opportunity to see your child compete in a minimum of four of the activity rotations. Access will be via the bottom gate only and the events will be taking place on the field and in the tennis courts. **Please sign in and out of the school.**

Following the morning's activities, we will hold a picnic lunch on the school field from 12:45pm. Please remember we are a nut free school.

Post the picnic lunch, we will host several relay races which the pupils have signed up to compete in. If your child signed up, you will have received an invite to stay after the picnic lunch to watch. Otherwise, we will ask you to leave at the end of lunch as your child returns to lessons.

Deodorant in School

For reasons of safety, please may we ask that if students bring deodorant into school, that it is a roll-on version and not an aerosol.

How are we working with the Woodland Trust?

A group of our student environmentalists have been working with the Woodland Trust, to plan for our Avenue of Trees at the bottom gate, to celebrate the Kings Coronation. This work has expanded to support extended woodland areas close to our pond, hedging around our tennis and basketball courts, and an orchard along the perimeter we share with the park. The first trees arrive in November, and a team of students will be working with the Trust to plan them.

Would you like to support in planting your own trees?

Your Tree Our Future is back for 2025, returning for a fourth year, after around 12,000 residents claimed over 191,000 trees in the first three years of the free tree scheme.

You can now apply for free trees on the Your Tree Our Future webpage. Like in previous years, you can choose from up to eight different species of trees, specially selected to suit Hertfordshire's geography and climate, or a hedgerow pack, made up of a mixture of species. There are a limited number of trees, and they are available on a first-come-first-served basis, so act quickly and please share details of the scheme with friends, family and your local community.

https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/recycling-waste-andenvironment/countryside-management/news-andcampaigns/tree-giveaway.aspx Once you've applied, you'll receive an email confirmation of your order within two working days.

Food and Nutrition:

Year 5: We looked at date marks and the storage of food this week and found that some food can still be eaten after its best before date, but that it is in fact illegal to sell food after its use by date. We will be cooking and eating together next week with pupils making a simple, yet delicious portion of French Toast. Ingredients required are: 1 egg, 1 slice of bread (thick if possible) and 2 teaspoons of sugar. There is an option to add a banana or a handful of berries of your choice. School will provide the milk, oil and cinnamon.

Year 6: We looked at food provenance – where does our food come from? Is it grown, reared or processed? Did you know that almost half the food we eat is imported into our country? Demo this coming week for grilled chicken wraps.

Year 7: The cakes smelled divine but will the alternate sugars we used have a positive or negative impact on the final product. We continue being food scientists next week when we carry on our investigation.

Year 8: All projects are due – please check your due by date. There are no extensions on this as I need to get the assessment marks ready for reports and Freman. Failure to hand your project in will result in a no cook session on the last practical. You have had 2 sessions in school and 2 home learning sessions which is ample time to get it done. I have already had the pleasure of marking some projects which have been full of detail and eye catching in design. Most impressed by the quality of work so far. Mrs van Wyk

Year 6 News

We are excited to take your child to Felixstowe next week, they have been prepared and shown photos of the area and the sites they will see. Year 5 loved the trip, and we know year 6 will too. Please be reminded that students are to attend the trip in Edwinstree PE kit (red PE top).

Thank you in advance to all those parents who have kindly committed their time to come with us. This helps lower the cost of the trip and supports only limited supply cover needed in school on that day.

Year 7 News

We noticed a decline in the uptake of the Globe trip, and while those that went had a fab day, this indicates perhaps a rethink on our trip and the distance we take to visit a theatre. We will look into local theatres for next year to help lower the costs.

Year 8 News

Deadline for payment and consent for the Felixstowe trip on $11^{\rm th}$ July is ${\rm Friday}~27^{\rm th}$ June.

What will they need for the Camp out?

We will be asking students next week to sign up for our Celebration event, which is a camp out on the school field, the evening of 11^{th} July.

Students can sign up in groups, we ask Parents to provide the tents and come onto the school ground after school on the day and pitch the tent and take it down the next morning at 8 am. For a cost of £5 we will provide hot chocolate and marshmallows roasted on our campfire during the evening, and breakfast and juice. Students have the option of ordering in a pizza to share between 2, this is ordered from the local shops for approximately £7.50, we will check prices for this year with our normal provider.

To attend the event, students have a target to limit their red cards and if your child is at risk of not being invited, we will alert you and support them with a plan to recover. Our intent is always to offer this to all.

In the last 5 years this has become a tradition that the students love, and the midnight ceremony of awards is a magical end to their time at Edwinstree.

Gardening Club:

Wow, what an amazing sight! Our pumpkins are growing marvellously, and we already have about 8 yellow and 4 green courgettes. Our pea obelisks keep falling over, so we are going to have to stake them into the ground to keep them upright. Our cucumbers have eventually got some flowers, but they are not growing taller, let's hope they settle soon as the tendrils need to hang onto the arch. Our gem squash and chilli plants we started as seed have taken off. The purple toadflax is looking good, but the geraniums, don't seem to be very happy and out of the 8 we planted only 3 have survived.

Year 6 will be enjoying the bounty of our lettuce crop soon when they make their grilled chicken wraps – as we have grown sufficient lettuce for all pupils.



We would love for a few plants to be donated towards our stall at the school Fair on the 5th of July. We are happy to accept any plants, whether flowering or vegetable. Mrs van Wyk

Edwinstree Summer Fair – 5 July 2025



Please join us on 5th July between 2pm and 4:30pm. We look forward to another successful event and would like to invite you all to join us on the day.

The stalls are being run by school pupils who are all trying to raise funds for various projects around the school. There will also be a tabletop sale organised by the ESA, please click link for more details <u>Table top stall at</u> <u>the Summer Fair 5th July</u>, and

several information stalls covering local community interests.

We will have a non-uniform day on Monday 30 June and in return ask for donations towards various stalls we will be having. Please could:

- Year 5 donate bags of wrapped sweets
- Year 6 donate bags lollipops or chocolates
- Year 7 donate bottles anything from beetroot to body wash to bubbles! If alcoholic, please ensure it is delivered to the office by an adult for safe keeping
- Year 8 to donate prizes for the raffles and tombola stalls

Please would you bring all donations into school as soon as possible. I know that there are quite a few excited pupils who are looking forward to what is going to be on offer. We hope to have a fun filled day led by our wonderful students who would appreciate your support. Many thanks, Mrs van Wyk.

Pedal and Play Cycling Programme

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

Session Details: Edwinstree School, meet at the playground near the BMX track entry

🔯 Time: 3:20 PM – 4:20 PM

Duration: 6 weeks with potential to extend further into the summer, depending on the turnout

P 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. We also have a selection of BMX bikes to progress riders.

- How to Sign Up:
- Only 16 spaces available sign up now!

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

- Once joined, they will be able to register for the sessions
- Please complete the consent form for attending the sessions:
 <u>https://forms.office.com/e/xzkfnsXqn5</u>

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

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

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