Edwinstree Middle School A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School



NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS Week Ending: 21/03/2025.

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

Diary Dates:

26/03/25	Easter Services in school:
//	8.55 - 9.55am Year 8 and Year 5
	9.55 - 1055am Year 7 and Year 6
28/03/25	Fullness Day for charity - £1 donation
, ,	for non-uniform & a Bake Sale.
	Student choice Cancer Research
01/04/25	Wellbeing Hub open afternoon 2-
, ,	5pm
04/04/25	End of Term 1:20pm.
22/04/25	Start of Summer Term
23/04/25	Year 5 RE Educational Visit to Faith in
	Queen's Park Bedford - £14 per
	student
25/04/25	Year 8 Science Visit to Thorpe Park -
	£45.50
05/05/25	Bank Holiday
08/05/25	Year 6 In Person Foundation Evening
12-15/05/25	Year 6 SATs
16/05/25	ESA School Disco (more details to
	follow)
26-30/05/25	Half Term
05/06/25	Year 5 In Person Foundation Evening
27/06/25	INSET Day
10/07/25	County Transition Day
	Parent Transition Evening 5-6pm
18/07/25	End of Term 1:20pm.

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Please take time to read our Curriculum Newsletter.

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Please take time to read our Curriculum Newsletter.

The 2nd edition of our curriculum focused newsletter is attached and is designed to give you an insight into what students have been learning and how you can support them at home. I would have really valued this as a parent at Edwinstree when my daughter was here, it is well worth a look.

Parking outside School

Please refrain from parking in the School Bus lay-by. The school coaches need to pull up in the Lay-by for Morning drop off and Afternoon pick up but have been unable to do so.

Due to Parent's parking here, the School Coaches cannot park for the Edwinstree children to have a safe walk into school, and they are having to drop them off at Freman College which means the School Coach children have to walk to Edwinstree unsupervised. Thank you.

Comic relief

Thank you for all your donations today, we managed to raise £340.64.



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.

Forthcoming Events

Easter Services

Our Easter Services, led by Reverend Kirsty Wainwright, will be taking place in the school hall on Wednesday 26th March. If you would like to attend, the services times are 9-11am

- 8.55 9.55am Year 8 and Year 5
- 9.55 10. 55am Year 7 and Year 6

28th of March – Cancer relief

We will be raising funds at the request of several year 7 students who have lost relatives to this illness. £1 donation for nonuniform and we are asking all bakers for support in helping us with a bake off (nut free please).

Wellbeing Hub

We are inviting all parents to meet the Wellbeing Hub staff. The staff can show you around the new wellbeing hub and talk about services that are available to your children, should you need them. If your child is already under the wellbeing hub, we can explain how the hub now works. A member of the NHS Mental Health Team will also be available for you to talk too.

The Wellbeing Hub will be open on Tuesday 1st April from 2.00pm until 5.00pm. If you would like to book an appointment to visit the hub or speak to the mental health team, please email a.harris@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Lockdown procedure

As part of our safeguarding procedures in the school, we have a lockdown policy that staff have practised in training after school. We will now be introducing this to students before we break up for Easter. This will be done through an assembly rather than a real practice and will talk through what will happen if the alarm sounds, both in a classroom and at break or lunchtime. The alarm sound will be played so students hear what it sounds like.

We believe that, with the age of our students, a full practice would not be appropriate. Being talked through what is expected - and with periodical reminders - is what we will be doing in the first instance.

The assembly will take place in the last week of term; we will confirm the day(s) in next week's newsletter.

Great Athletes event - Fundraising

Today was the last day to raise money for the sponsored Great Athletes visit from Steve Frew. Please make sure your child's sponsorship form is returned to the office and any donations are paid via the online fundraising page.

The money raised will help us purchase new sports equipment, which will help to bring a new excitement to sport and improve levels of physical activity and mental wellbeing across the whole school.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Clubs led by school staff will not take place in the last week of term. Sign-up sheets for clubs will be released during the first week after the Easter holidays. Edwinstree clubs will begin in the 3rd week of term. Private clubs i.e. film club start earlier, and you will be informed by the private leads.



Basketball Training for Edwinstree pupils One time only Thursday 3rd April, 3:15 - 4:15pm at Edwinstree School Cost: FREE!!! Sign up: https://forms.office.com/e/1F0Q244xuk

Film Makers Club

Film Makers Club is coming to back to your school for the Summer Term. We start on Wednesday 23rd April 2025. This term is for 12 weeks with 2 extended sessions to equate to 13 hours. We focus on building confidence through teamwork. Learn all about voice projection, pronunciation, timing, focus and projecting various emotions as we work through each scene and embrace the exciting challenge of acting. We also learn about camera angles, composition of frame. We look at music, sound effects, special effects and how to make our story unfold and come to life with the best sounds & effects & backgrounds. Pupils plan & storyboard their ideas in advance of filming their very own blockbuster movie whilst also learning the important roles of Camera operator, Director & Clapperboard operator. Pupils plan/design costumes/props required to add that extra special touch to each scene. For any queries contact Gill on hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com or 07341305131. Or check out our webpage and see parent feedback and pictures from on set in our other schools. Payment is split over 3 monthly payments of £32.16 per month which includes 13 session hours and the fully edited film. Spaces limited to 16. Just 2 Spaces now remaining.

Gardening Afterschool Club

Gardening Club is running again on Wednesday's. If your child is interested in getting their hands dirty and learning about gardening, please complete the application form using this link https://forms.office.com/e/6bf3wfembN. There are a set number of spaces available for this club and if oversubscribed we will rotate participation. The club will take place on Wednesdays and will run from 3:15pm to 4:15pm. Mrs van Wyk.

Mosaic Unveiling

Some of our students were involved in the creation of the Buntingford Mosaic that was unveiled at the top of Church Street, Buntingford in February, we are very proud of their amazing work.



Year 5 News

Year 5 RE Educational Visit – Wednesday 23rd April

We are delighted to, once again, be able to offer Year 5 the opportunity to visit "Faith in Queen's Park" in Bedford. The visit will entail a tour of a Church, Gurdwara and Mosque. Being able to see places of worship alongside different faiths working together is a wonderful learning experience for all our pupils. Many of our student visitors last year still reflect upon their visit (they particularly liked the bandanas in the Gurdwara and ceiling in the Mosque!) Please see visit letter attached.

Year 8 News

Year 8 Thorpe Park – Friday 25th April

All Year 8 Students are invited to Thorpe Park to look at energy transfers on the roller coasters. They also thoroughly deserve some fun to reward them for all their hard work in science this year. Please see visit letter attached.

Parenting Courses and Workshops

Family Lives are delivering the below free parenting workshops, funded by Herts County Council, in the Spring term for parents/carers who live in Hertfordshire.

All Family Lives 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

Empowering Parenting

Tuesday 11 March 9.30 am- 11.30am

A programme designed to equip parents/carers with the knowledge skills and confidence to effectively address the challenges of parenting, including managing challenging behaviours, setting boundaries and implementing consistent consequences. It also promotes the importance of parent selfcare, providing strategies for managing stress and maintaining good mental health

Reducing Conflict

Tuesday 18 March 7pm – 9pm

This online workshop will help you to understand what causes conflict within our own families and being able to promote a cooperative and collaborative approach in resolving it

It's a Dads Life

Thursday 20 March 7pm – 9pm

This online workshop is for dads to help build strong attachments and relationships with their child. It aims to empower fathers with the knowledge and skills to develop deep connections with their children, enhancing their parenting journey.

Navigating the Storm - Teens

Tuesday 25 March 9.30am - 11.30am

A programme designed to support parents of pre-teens and teenagers facing challenging behaviours. It aims to equip parents with effective strategies and tools to manage the complexities of raising adolescents, fostering a positive parent-teen relationship

To book a place please click here <u>Family Lives Workshops</u> <u>Referral Form</u>

Please visit <u>Parenting courses | Hertfordshire Directory</u> for further courses

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

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