



NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 21/11/2025.

Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Homework week: B

Diary Dates:



28/11/25	Lights of Love ceremony at the Manor House Buntingford - 6pm
04/12/25	Year 5 Christingle P4 and P5
05/12/25	Occasional Day
10/12/25	 Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch Day 
11/12/25	Year 5 & 6 Christmas Services (am)
12/12/25	Year 7 & 8 Christmas Services (am)
15/12/25	Freman / Edwinstree Christmas Concert (6pm tbc)
17/12/25	Lister Hospital carol singing
19/12/25	End of Term 1:20pm.
05/01/26	INSET Day
06/01/26	Start of Spring Term
13/01/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 5B English and Maths 5D English and Maths 8C English, Maths, Science
14/01/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 8A English, Maths, Science
15/01/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 7D English, Maths, Science 7B English, Maths, Science
20/01/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 5A English and Maths 8B English, Maths, Science
21/01/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 5C English and Maths 7A English, Maths, Science
22/01/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 7C English, Maths, Science 8D English, Maths, Science
03/02/26	Year 8 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
16-20/02/26	Half Term
24/02/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 6A Maths and English 6D Maths and English
03/03/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 6B Maths and English 6C Maths and English
04/03/26	Y7 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
27/03/26	End of Term 1:20pm.
13/04/26	Start of Summer Term
21/04/26	Y6 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
04/05/26	Bank Holiday
12/05/26	Y5 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
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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How to communicate effectively with the school and ensure that all our community are supported.

Having grown up in our local community and now served as the Head of Edwinstree for 9 years, I know that Edwinstree has a well-deserved reputation of care and community to all. This does not mean that we believe we get everything right, but it does mean that we are open, honest and committed to working with you and learning from mistakes that we make.

I therefore ask that you use our well documented forms of communication for any concern or worry about any member of the community. You can email, and/or call within the school opening hours to get support

When you do approach us, we assure you that we will listen and take your concern seriously. As we say at the beginning of our journey with you in the Summer your child transitions to us, no problem is too small, we are here to listen and help.

Social media is not a method of communication with us and often is a source of inaccurate information about us. They are not effective places to solve problems or concerns with the school. Naming any member of our community, child, parent and/or staff member is damaging to all the individuals involved.

WhatsApp group bullying and why was it the focus of the National Anti Bullying Campaign?

Students have been thinking about group bullying this week. This explores both one line and off behaviour. The students and staff found this slide and definitions of the different characters in a bullying situation can operate really helpful. We will be continuing to explore this next week.



What is our snow procedure?

We are hoping this is pre-emptive, but we have attached our letter explaining snow procedure should we have heavy snow this winter along with a consent form link here to complete <https://forms.office.com/e/3e4m4xZhck>

If your child lives in Buntingford and is KS2, [Year 5 or Year 6] please be aware we cannot release your child from school without a designated person to collect them. Please confirm the name of the designated person[s] permitted to collect your child from school. If your KS2 child has an older sibling in KS3, please indicate that you are happy for both of them to go home together.

If your child lives in Buntingford and is KS3 [Year 7 or Year 8] and you are happy for your child to be released from school, without adult supervision, please give permission for your child to walk home and confirm they have a key to get in. Please indicate if you wish your child to wait for your designated person[s] to collect them from school. Please be aware we cannot release your child from school without written parental consent. Buses maybe early if snow is forecast.

Eyesight

We are seeing an increasing number of children in school who are worried that they are unable to see the board clearly.

We usually contact parents directly but there are currently so many children reporting eyesight concern, we decided to ask, if you could check in with your child and if they have any eye-sight concerns and book an appointment with an optician if you discover they have been worried. Thank you

Supporting families in our local area with the cost of Christmas.

This year at the launch of the advent season, we will be asking tutor groups to collect and create a Christmas hamper for the food bank families, who are struggling more than most with costs of Christmas, more details next week.

Guitar Lessons Change

Guitar lessons will be on Friday next week.

Christmas Lunch

Our Christmas lunch will be held on Wednesday 10th December, please see menu attached. If your child would like a Christmas lunch, please ensure you order via SchoolGrid. Cost is £3.50, payments are made via the SchoolGrid website.

[School Food - It's in Our System - SchoolGrid](#)

Food and Nutrition – All Years

If we could have been a restaurant this week, I think we would have the happiest customers in Hertfordshire. What an impressive week it has been!

Year 5: A hearty congrats to **5A, 5B and 5C** on their amazing pizzas designs! It was absolutely fantastic to see them come to life in the making and baking session. Well done all. **5C** please make sure you bring in your design and your ingredients for your pizza projects. Please remember the design is the most important.

As mentioned on SatchelOne and in class, if the design is not brought in you will not be allowed to cook - the design is more important than the practical this week.

Year 6: We had a theory week, all about the changes to our products by reducing sugar and adding fruit. This worked well with our lesson on the digestive system.

It was quite surprising to some, that the adult small intestine can be as long as 5 metres – wow, how does it fit into such a tiny space??

Ask your child and they should be able to tell you.

Year 7: A delicious, or perhaps not so delicious session of being Food Technologists and trying out 3 different cakes with varying amounts and types of sugar.

Did you know that the Lyles Sticky Loaf Cake is made up of 43% sugar in some form or another – mainly syrup!!!!

Year 8: You've outdone yourselves this week. Stir fry dishes that absolutely smashed the threshold concept. We used a number of donated Lee Kum Kee sauces to enhance our delicious self-designed end products.



Keep up with the uniform requirements – we had a great week this week.

Mrs van Wyk

*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.*

Year 8 News

8D Tutor Group

On Monday I will be launching and trialling the 'Resilience cup' it is a mock up football league focusing on positive reinforcement. The class will be entering as two teams in a trial.

They will take their league card to their lessons and earn a win, lose or draw and points that enter them onto our 'Resilience cup league'. There will be player of the match and opportunities to win prizes. They will work as team to support and encourage positive behaviours in lessons and foster a positive learning environment for all. As well as helping reinforce positive behaviours. It is also an opportunity for those students that consistently show a great work ethic to receive recognition.
Mrs Gravelle – Form Tutor

Year 8 Life Skills

Year 8 are currently looking at emotional and mental Health in Life Skills.

As part of this we will be looking at the following topics:

- Attitudes to Mental health
- Promoting Emotional Wellbeing
- Unhealthy coping strategies
- Healthy coping strategies
- Change, loss and grief.

There will be mention of unhealthy coping strategies such as self-harm and eating disorders and later in the unit we will be touching on grief and death. If you have any concerns, then please email admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk



Edwinstree School Association

Christmas Jumper Swap Shop

Our Christmas jumper swap shop will be back again this year but organised slightly differently.

The Swap shop will be open for business on Tuesday 2nd December in the outdoor classroom between 3pm and 3.30pm. Simply bring in your old Christmas jumper on the 2nd December and at 3pm make your way to the outdoor classroom to swap it for a 'new to you' one. School gates will open at the usual time and parents are then welcome to come to the swap shop as well.

T-shirts and tops are welcome, and you can bring as many items as you wish to swap. Please note you cannot buy the jumpers, only swaps are allowed so do not send any money with your child.

Buntingford Christmas Market

The ESA are planning a Teddie and Chocolate tombola at Buntingford Christmas Market on Friday 28th November to raise funds for the school. We can only make this happen if we get enough donations of teddies and chocolates/sweets. Please donate any chocolates/sweets or pre-loved but good quality teddies to the school office before 28th November. We need your help!

We already have some volunteers between 2pm and 5pm to help set up but really need volunteers to help run the stall on hourly slots between 5pm and 8pm. Last year we raised over £200 for the school.

If you could spare an hour to help, please send a message to 07931516197.

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