



Diary Dates

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
01/03/23	Strike Action see Parentmail 23 rd Feb.
02/03/23	World Book Day
08/03/23	Rescheduled Year 8 Geography visit to London
15 & 16/03/23	Strike Action see Parentmail 23 rd Feb
24/03/23	ESA Family Quiz
30/03/23	Year 8 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
31/03/23	ESA Easter Egg Hunt
03-14/04/23	Easter Break
17/04/23	Summer Term Begins
27/04/23	Year 5 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
01/05/23	Bank Holiday
08/05/23	Additional Bank Holiday - Coronation of King Charles III
09-12/05/23	Year 6 SATs
18/05/23	Year 7 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
19/05/23	ESA School Disco
29/05-02/06/23	Half Term
29/06/23	Year 6 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
13/07/23	County Transition Day
21/07/23	End of Summer Term

What are the plans for the next strike?

We wish to inform you that the school will be closed to all year groups on the following strike action days.

- 1st March
- 15th March
- 16th March

We are unable to safely staff the school during the strike action. Any teacher who has not chosen to strike will attend school and will be offering a live lesson that your child can access through the Show My Homework App. If your child has no lessons offered on that day or few, they are able to access distance learning from our website www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk/learning/distance-learning.aspx, this provides lots of different activities

in all subject areas. Please note this is not cover or a planned remote lesson.

What about if I am really struggling to find child care for any of these days?

We are looking to support no more than 25 students to attend school and carry out the above learning in the ICT room. However, can I please stress, priority will be given to key workers, and this is only to be used as a last resort. If you would like to apply for one of the places for your child please contact Sharon Marler on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March. This year, the theme is, reading for pleasure and comfort, so pupils are invited to come into school on this day in their cosiest pyjamas, along with bringing in their favourite books to share.

KS2 pupils will be given a book token and KS3 pupils will be given a QR code to scan to receive a voucher. These entitle children to one £1 World Book Day 2023 book or £1 off a book and can be used at local booksellers and most supermarkets. You can help your child choose their £1 book by showing them the exciting 'Look Insides' at worldbookday.com/books.

There will be other activities in school throughout the week to celebrate books and encourage a love of reading: The library will be open for students at lunch times with various activities happening each day and children will be invited to a 'Book Tasting' event to see and sample the exciting new books we have had delivered for our library. There are so many benefits to reading. Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's success - more than family circumstances, their parents' educational background or their income (World Book Day.com). Thank you for your continued support with World Book Day, reading and encouraging your children to read at home.

Mrs Hayes

When are the next round of face to face foundation Parent evenings? (all the subjects except Science, Maths and English)

Foundation parent evenings start this term and are in person, dates are below:

Foundation Evenings		
In-person evenings – 5pm to 7pm		
Date	Year	Subjects
Thursday 30 th March	Y8	French, History, Geography, Computing, Technology, Art, Music, PE, RE
Thursday 27 th April	Y5	Science, French, Humanities, Computing, Technology, Art, Music, PE, RE
Thursday 18 th May	Y7	French, History, Geography, Computing, Technology, Art, Music, PE, RE
Thursday 29 th June	Y6	Science, French, Humanities, Computing, Technology, Art, Music, PE, RE

School Production – The Island that Rocks

The play has now been cast! If your child wasn't successful this time please take time to support them with their disappointment and build their resilience, reminding them that there will be opportunities in future productions. The cast was for 35 people and we had over 70 children audition.

For those that were successful, it is important that they show commitment and attend all rehearsals they are called to where possible.

Rehearsals will take place on Mondays starting on 27th February 3.15pm - 4.15pm with the whole cast being called the first week.

There will be a rehearsal schedule posted on Show My Homework and on the noticeboard outside Room 2. This will be updated regularly with at least a week's notice before any significant changes. If your child has a singing role, we will also make their backing tracks available to them on Show My Homework – this will also help all students practice their dances. – Mrs Brock

Year 6 Parents SATs Information Evening

We would like to invite you to a Year 6 Parents SATs information evening on Thursday 2nd March 2023.

The meeting will start at 6:30pm and finish at 7:30pm and will take place in the School hall. We look forward to seeing you.

Year 6 residential at the start of year 7

After the success of the visit last year, we are currently confirming the dates for a residential to Briscoe seaside centre for our current year 6 who will move into year 7 next year. More information soon.

What about year 5 and trips ?

We are currently sourcing a coastal trip for year 5 in the Summer which will combine with this terms Geography /Humanities scheme of work based on coastal landscapes.

Year 8 London trip.

We are looking forward to finally getting Year 8 to London where they will visit the Grenfell Tower Memorial site, the Community Church and a survival and recovery talk from the Community. They will travel on to St Pauls where they will have an opportunity to cross the river and explore the South bank. Teachers and parent volunteers will support the children to explore Borough Market, Tate Modern, the OXO tower, Globe Theatre, The Shard and other fabulous sites on the River Thames.

A further detailed letter will accompany next week's newsletter. Thank you to the staff and parents who are supporting this trip.

Self-esteem and confidence building workshop,

Miss Harris our mental health lead and our Year 8 wellbeing champions will be running a self-esteem and confidence building workshop, once a week for 8 weeks at lunchtime. If you feel this is something your child may be interested in, please email a.harris@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

All pupils will be informed and can sign themselves up.

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

Edwinstree School Association (ESA)

We hope you all had a good half term and that years 5 and 6 completed lots of helpful jobs, filling their Smarties tubes with 20p's which will help raise money for the outdoor classroom fund. If you haven't returned your tube yet please do so as soon as possible.

Our next fundraising event will be a family quiz night on Friday March 24th, doors open at 6.30pm, (refreshments will be available to purchase), the quiz night starts at 7pm. £20 entry fee per team (up to 8 people). Entry fees will be split 50/50 between our fundraising campaign and the quiz prize fund. The more teams that enter, the bigger the cash prize! We would also like to hold a raffle at the quiz and if anybody has any gifts they are willing to donate, please pass to the school office marked for the attention of the ESA. If anybody would like to help out on the night please email us on

EdwinstreeSchoolAssociation@outlook.com

Volunteers are also needed to help with an Easter Egg hunt on 31st March and a Spring Disco on Friday 19th May (not 12th as previously advertised). More details about these events will follow soon.

Lost Property - Coats:

Any coats that are un-named in lost property will be placed on the coat hooks outside Resolve for 2 weeks. After 2 weeks they will be moved to the rails on the stage. If not claimed from the stage the ESA will collect them to sell.

If your child has lost their coat, parents are welcome to check themselves at the end of the school day.

The ESA will be selling pre-loved uniform and coats at regular times throughout the school year.



The CYPMH Commissioning team are currently in the process of setting up two Wellbeing Cafes for children and young people aged 10-18 yrs. We are looking for students to provide their suggestions by completing a short survey to name and design the layout of the café. All students that complete the survey will be in with a chance to win a £25 amazon voucher!

The Wellbeing Café will provide a space for Children and Young People aged 10-18yrs to go where they can receive face to face emotional and wellbeing support and guidance. It will be a drop-in service but with the option of booking 1-2-1 sessions with appropriately trained practitioners.

The Cafés will be open from approx. 3.30pm – 8.30pm Mon-Thurs and 1pm-5pm on Sat & Sun. They will initially be opened in Watford and Stevenage with the possibility of expansion into other areas following the initial pilot.

We would like to ask Children and Young People in Hertfordshire to support us in naming the service and designing the space. To thank them for their time, if they complete their name and email details by 8th March, we will enter all names into a draw for someone to win a £25 Amazon voucher.

Access to this survey can be found using this link:
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/V0Q1SR/>
or by QR code:



Thank you very much

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SPACE Hertfordshire

[Neurodiversity Services – SPACE Hertfordshire](http://spaceherts.org.uk)
(spaceherts.org.uk)

SPACE is a certified provider of the QbCheck for ADHD screening

What is the QbCheck?

The QbCheck is a screening assessment that can contribute to the diagnosis of ADHD. It is a computer-based test for people aged 7+, that objectively measures the three core characteristics of ADHD – activity, inattention and impulsivity. The test taker's result is analysed and compared with people of the same age and gender, who have ADHD and those who do not. Each test lasts 20 minutes for adults (18+ years) and 15 minutes for children (7-17 years).

The test taker is observed during the assessment by one of our Chartered Clinical Psychologists. The overall comparative test score, based on robust objective data, indicates the likelihood that the test taker has ADHD.

Please note the QbCheck does NOT provide a formal diagnosis. An ADHD diagnosis can only be made by a qualified medical professional who conducts a thorough assessment, the QbCheck is only one part.

Best Wishes

Mrs J Gant - Headteacher

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