



Edwinstree Term dates:

[Term Dates 2025-26 & 2026-27.pdf](#)

Homework week: A

Diary Dates:

04/05/26	Bank Holiday
11-14/05/26	Year 6 SATs
12/05/26	Y5 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
15/05/26	ESA Spring Disco
19/05/26	Human Papillomavirus (HPV) immunisation for Year 8.
25-29/05/26	Half Term
24/06/26	Sports Day
26/06/26	INSET Day
04/07/26	Summer Fair
09/07/26	County Transition Day
17/07/26	End of Term 1:20pm.

Contents

Stopping for a moment to be thankful.	1
What did we explore in COWO this week?	2
Year 5 News:	2
Year 5 RE Trip	2
Year 5 Drama performance - Tuesday 28 th April.....	2
Year 5 Educational Visit – Whipsnade Zoo.....	2
Year 6 News	2
Countdown to SATS?	2
SATs Workshops	2
Year 6 Educational Visit – Whipsnade Zoo.....	2
Year 8 News	3
Year 8 form reallocation.....	3
HPV Vaccine – Year 8.....	3
Food and Nutrition – All Years	3
Year 5:	3
Year 6:	3
Year 7:	3
Year 8:	3
Gardening Club:.....	3
Consultation on road safety outside Edwinstree School	3
Edwinstree School Association	3
School Disco Friday 15th May 6-8pm.....	3
Pre-loved Uniform	4
Name Labels.....	4
Creative Fun at Buntingford Library	4
Celebrate 140 years of the Herts County Show!	4

Stopping for a moment to be thankful.

I just wanted to take a moment in this letter to stop and be thankful for the opportunities you give us to work with your lovely children.

I was reminded of how polite, interested, and caring students are when I visited the different religious faiths and their beautiful building in Bedford with year 5.

I have also had several supply teachers and visitors stop to tell me, how polite the students in the school are, how they hold doors open or wait to let passers-by through.

We have even noticed a growing spread of lots of different children stopping to thank their teacher for the lesson.

Thank you for all your handwork in supporting us to support your child to flourish.

What did we explore in COWO this week?

Tutor COWO moved to assemblies to support the Just Talk Campaign that I mentioned last week, this focused on body image and how all media can distort what are realistic goals and ideals around body shape. Here is a link to the dove campaign video that was used to help students understand. [A Selfie](#)

Although this shows a young- women, examples of pressures on boys and what to do about it were also included.

In COWO in the hall with Mrs Gant, we explored who St George was and why we might choose him as our Patron Saint. We started with the myth, the story of the dragon and the princess being chosen to be staked as the meal for the Dragon, and the classic hero on a charger who arrived to save her.

We then moved the history, George was from Turkey, a Roman soldier, and he is also the Patron Saint of Spain and Turkey. We considered how he had a Christian faith and fought to save Christians from persecution at the time.

We considered George was a leader that fought for the persecuted and weakest in society, and we considered why he was chosen as England's Patron Saint and someone to celebrate and learn from?

Year 5 News:

Year 5 RE Trip

Pupils were able to ask questions, tour and see the Gurdwara, Mosque and Church- alongside seeing these different faiths work together in harmony.

I was blown away with the maturity, koinonia and respect shown by our pupils- a beautiful representation of Edwinstree- well done Year 5, you have made me immensely proud.

A huge thank you also to all the staff, wonderful parent volunteers, ESA and our local councillor- who all contributed time, effort and funding to support this visit. Mrs Kelly – Head of Year 5

Year 5 Drama performance - Tuesday 28th April

On Tuesday morning, we are welcoming some Year 4 students to Edwinstree to watch part of a performance of 'Star Wars'.

This will be during P1 and P2. We have also decided to bring our Year 5 students in to watch it too. Normal lessons will resume after breaktime.

Year 5 Educational Visit – Whipsnade Zoo

We are delighted to be able to offer Year 5 the opportunity to visit Whipsnade Zoo. This will support the children's learning in both Humanities and Science.

Our current unit in Year 5/6 Humanities has a Geography focus. We are learning about different climates, biomes and the unique plants and animals that live within them. Visiting the zoo will help bring to life this learning. Whipsnade is the UK's biggest Zoo and is home to 3,626 animals, many of which are endangered in the wild. The children will experience the heat and humidity of the tropics in the butterfly house, meet giraffes from the African savannah face-to-face at the custom-built high-level viewing platform and walk through the new Monkey Forest habitat.

Year 6 News

Year 6 Countdown to SATS?

Thank you to families who have kindly found a willing volunteer to support with the SATS. We are now only 9 volunteers away from being able to support all students who have a vulnerability and need help. If you or a family member can help the dates are:

Official SATs Dates: 11/05/2026 -14/05/2026 - 8.45– 11.00am

Duties include supporting teachers in the classroom and working with students as a reader, scribe, or prompt. We will provide a short amount of training for this on the day. Many students require this support, and we are always incredibly grateful to anyone who volunteers, as this ensures that all students receive the support that they need.

If you can help on any of the days, please complete the following form. [SATs helpers for 2026 – Fill in form](#)

Year 6 SATs Workshops

Pupil exam stress workshops will be taking place P1 and P2 Monday and Tuesday next week, pupils will be given strategies to help prepare them for the SATs.

Year 6 Educational Visit – Whipsnade Zoo

We are delighted to be able to offer Year 6 the opportunity to visit Whipsnade Zoo. This will support the children's learning in both Humanities and Science.

Our current unit in Year 5/6 Humanities has a Geography focus. We are learning about different climates, biomes and the unique plants and animals that live within them. Visiting the zoo will help bring to life this learning. Whipsnade is the UK's biggest Zoo and is home to 3,626 animals, many of which are endangered in the wild.

The children will experience the heat and humidity of the tropics in the butterfly house, meet giraffes from the African savannah face-to-face at the custom-built high-level viewing platform and walk through the new Monkey Forest habitat.

Especially for year 6, Whipsnade Zoo offers a fantastic opportunity to bring their science learning on inheritance and evolution to life. As pupils explore the different animal habitats, they can observe how species have adapted to their environments over time— whether it's the camouflage of big cats or the specialised features of giraffes. Seeing related species side by side helps pupils understand how traits are inherited and why adaptations within a species is important for survival.

Year 8 News

Year 8 form reallocation.

Please find the link below to nominate the three students your child would like to be placed with next year. As with previous years, students are aware that while there are three choices we are only able to guarantee one. There is also an optional box to identify any students that would not be a good choice. Please fill this with the name and form (if known) of any students that your child with which your child should not be placed.

If you can discuss the options with your child and complete the form by the 8th May to allow time for the groups to be created. Your child will be given their new form allocation as early as possible after half term.

[Year 7 into 8 Form Peer Choices. – Fill in form](#)

Kind regards, Mr Kelly - Head of Year 7

Year 8 - HPV Vaccine

The immunisation team will be visiting our year 8 students on 19th May. The HPV vaccine helps protect against human papillomavirus (HPV). It is recommended for children aged 12 to 13 years old. Please keep an eye out for correspondence via email/text which contains a link to the consent form. **You will need to respond even if you do not wish for your child to receive the vaccine - there is an option to decline.** Correspondence from the vaccination team will be sent to parents via the following:

Vaccinations in Schools :

vaccinations.in.schools@notifications.service.gov.uk (email)

NHSUK (text message)

If you have any queries, please contact the vaccination team directly on 0300 5555 055.

Food and Nutrition – All Years

Chef's kiss! It certainly has been a bumper filled week in the Food Room! We've had a cheese straws demo in Yr5 and Grilled Marinated Chicken Wraps cooked by Yr 6. Yr 7 has completed their French Vegetable cutting skills and Yr 8 have created the most fabulous looking, tasting and smelling protein alternate curries. Wow – some excellent results!

Year 5: You will make your cheese straws next week. Don't forget your ingredients, including your favourite cheese! 5B will be doing a cook-a-long session, don't forget your ingredients.

Year 6: Next week we have some theory to complete on our wraps as well as our sensory analysis.

Year 7: Excellent skills with your carrots! Demo next week for spaghetti Bolognese.

Year 8: Simple evaluations and theory on the dish we cooked this week.

Please continue adhering to our uniform and health and safety rules. Mrs van Wyk

Gardening Club

The weather was glorious for our first day back. We spent almost 40 minutes weeding before we realised how long we had spent in the beds – We have turned some soil and will continue next week. We have got some planting of seeds to do, so fingers crossed we have good weather.

Thank you for the donations of courgettes, they will go in next week as they are acclimatising in the greenhouse. We are always very happy for donations of seedlings or seeds as well as potting compost.

We are starting with our plants for the Summer Fair and are hoping to have a great selection like last year. Mrs van Wyk.

Consultation on road safety outside Edwinstree School

We are writing to remind families about the public consultation on proposed improvements in Buntingford town centre, which we shared previously. The consultation is open until Sunday 26 April, and we wanted to highlight a proposal that may be of particular relevance to our school community.

The revised plans include:

- A proposed zebra crossing outside Edwinstree School
- A 20mph speed limit on surrounding streets
- Additional measures to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility

These proposals aim to make journeys to and from school safer for children, parents and carers, particularly for those walking or travelling through the town centre.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to respond, we encourage you to take a few minutes to view the plans and share your views before the consultation closes. The online survey is brief.

You can find more information and take part here:

<https://letstalktransport.hertfordshire.gov.uk/buntingford>



Edwinstree School Association.

School Disco Friday 15th May 6-8pm

Tickets are now on sale for our May disco through our Sum Up shop, £5 includes snack and unlimited

drinks: [May School Disco - Link to book Tickets - Please read instructions carefully](#)

This is an outdoor disco but in the event of bad weather will be moved indoors, thus tickets are limited to 350, and are available first come first served until **Wednesday 13th May unless sold out**. When buying tickets, you **must include your child's name**, any **food intolerances** and whether they can **walk home**, or will be **collected by an adult** in the *message for merchant box*.

The ESA can only host a school disco if we have enough adults to help provide snacks, drinks and marshal the event area. Please contact the school office or email edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com if you can help on 15th May. It's a great event to help out at and large enough that you won't embarrass your child with your presence!



Pre-loved Uniform

Donations of preloved uniform are always welcome. (Branded jumpers, t-shirts, and hoodies only). They can be handed into the school office at any time.

Our online shop will be updated upon receipt of donations, and you can order items ready for collection at the school office. [Edwinstore School Association Online Shop \(sumupstore.com\)](http://www.edwinstore.com)

Name Labels

If you are buying new uniform or equipment, please remember to label everything! We get 30% commission on labels at Stikins if you quote our fundraising number 6671 at <http://www.stikins.co.uk>

Celebrate 140 years of the Herts County Show!

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY SHOW
140th ANNUAL SHOW
23rd & 24th MAY 2026

SPECIAL OFFER DISCOUNT CODE

How to use your code
Visit www.hertsshow.com
Select your tickets
submit code **hertsschools26**
Complete your purchase and enjoy the show

Creative Fun at Buntingford Library 🎨

Over the Easter holidays, we were delighted to welcome local children and families to Buntingford Library for a fun, creative drop-in session. This followed a similar activity with students from Edwin Tree Middle School.



During the sessions, children painted rocks while finding out more about the local consultation on proposed improvements to Buntingford town centre, and the results were fantastic!

The beautifully decorated rocks are now on display in the library window, and we've already received some really lovely comments about them.

If you're passing by the High Street, do pop in and take a look! There's still time to view the plans and share your thoughts as part of the Buntingford consultation:

<https://letstalktransport.hertfordshire.gov.uk/buntingford>

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make it such a positive experience

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher
admin@edwin tree.herts.sch.uk

*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.*