



Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Homework week: A

Diary Dates:

29/09/25	Flu vaccinations – all years
30/09/25	Year 5 “Getting to know you” Parents meeting 5pm
01/10/25	Fullness Day Non-uniform £1 donation & bake sale
08 & 09/10/25	Year 6 Lancaster Model
09/10/25	Open Evening 9th October 2025, 6pm - 8pm. Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm
23/10/25	Year 5 Duxford Educational Visit
27–31/10/25	Half Term
11/11/25	School Photographs
05/12/25	Occasional Day
10/12/25	Christmas Dinner Day
19/12/25	End of Term 1:20pm.
05/01/26	INSET Day
06/01/26	Start of Spring Term
16-20/02/26	Half Term
27/03/26	End of Term 1:20pm.
13/04/26	Start of Summer Term
04/05/26	Bank Holiday
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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Flu Vaccinations – All Years:

Please note that Vaccination UK will be visiting school to administer the flu vaccination to all year groups on Monday 29th September. Please see flyer attached.

Please complete this form, even if you do not want the vaccine.

<https://bed.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/hertfordshire>

Contact the team: Hertfordshire@v-uk.co.uk / 01462 427 008

What is conkers bonkers?

Each year we offer students a little fun in competing in a conkers tournament, this will take place next Friday at lunch time, if your child has a conker worthy of competing, please remind them to bring it tied with string on Friday, ready for the tournament. They compete in key stages.

Edwinstree Open Evening

For prospective Parent/ Carers.

9th October 2025, 6pm - 8pm. Headteacher speaks at 6.15pm

We invite the community and prospective parents into the school to tour and hear the Heads speech. If you are a parent of a year 6 or 8 student, we would like them to attend to help us with the tours of the school, and Year 5 and 7 to help with subject demonstrations. If you are able to support by allowing your child to take part between 6 and 8pm, please reserve the date. Letters and more information will follow next week.

What is a Fullness Day and when is the first one?



On Wednesday 1st October, a group of Year 8 boys will be hosting our Fullness Day, these are days where students practice one of our virtues,

Courageous advocacy and take time to learn and raise funds for a Charity of their choice. Our first group leading the day have chosen Cancer research.

Students will be able to wear non-uniform and bring in a £1 donation. Please note this is not compulsory and some students choose to stay in their uniform. If you are one of those wonderful bakers, or someone who like me, pops to the shop to buy a cake, please may we ask you one more time to help us? If you are able to deliver any bakes to the office by Wednesday morning we would appreciate it.

Please remember we have nut allergies, dairy and gluten intolerance, so please do not bring food with any nut products and do mark up if dairy and/or gluten free bakes so we can get these to the right children

Unfortunately, we will not have capacity to call home on Wednesday if your child forgets to bring money for the bake sale.

On this day we will also be running our first competition event with the winning Tutor group awarded a fun afternoon next half term. The competition is a talent show. If your child is sending in a video it will need to be 1 minute in length and needs to come to us via the admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

If your child is completing a "Live" performance, they will be videoed on Monday, so if they have specialised equipment and or an outfit, they will need to bring this in. We can only video on Monday as the collation of 44 acts is a mammoth task before Wednesday. Thank you for your help in assisting us. Students will view the collated videos in an extended tutor time.

What information did we gain from our costing's questionnaire?

Thank you to all the parents that took part. We try to take the most common answer as our guide to pricing our events.

This year most parents were willing to see their children offered at least 2 events/trips and for Year 7 the residential as well. The pricing selection highlighted that almost all agreed that between £16 – £40 would be the top of the price range for a trip. The residential price you felt was fair was between £200 and £300 and once again you expressed a long payment window for this event. You were also generous in agreeing to a fund-raising event each half term, our first is next week.

We will now use your guidance to price up our trips and activities for this year. If the cost of a visit will cause you financial difficulty, please email the office on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

If your child struggles with trips, we always offer an alternative in school with the expectation that they continue to attend with us.

English Team Updates

To promote and encourage reading for pleasure, we are reintroducing reading in form time in the mornings on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from next week. Students should be bringing their library book and or a reading book of their choice to school for these sessions.

We continue to encourage as much reading at home as possible and will soon be introducing reading records, initially for KS2, to support you and your child to record what reading you are doing. They are never too old for a bedtime book.

Year 5 News:

Ducks, Axolotls and the like!

There are an increasing number of Year 5 students bringing mini figures of animals into school. Whilst they are lovely and some treat them as little mascots, there is an increase in students 'trading' them which is starting to cause issues.

We are encouraging students to keep these in their bags and/or pencil cases and not trade them in school. We can't police this or help in any disputes. We'd be grateful if this message could be backed up at home. Thank you!

What is the Year 5 *Getting to know you* meeting about?

Year 5 'Getting to know you' meeting.

We would like to invite you and your child to the Year 5 *Getting to know you* evening on 30th September 5-6.30 pm.

This parent session is designed to allow you to meet your child's form tutor, view the work they've been doing and hear from our department heads of English, Maths and MFL about the work they are completing this year and how you can help. Your child is welcome to attend with you. Our SEND team will be available on the night and will be based in the hall.

Doors will open at 5pm, English, Maths and MFL will deliver their presentations in the hall at 5:30pm, Form tutors will be based in their form rooms- the pupils should know their way! (5A-Room 4, 5B-Room 18, 5C-Room Art Room, 5D-Room 12) English and Maths books will be available to view in the Tutor Rooms. Either pop up before or after the talk to meet the tutor and hear how they are getting on.

We look forward to welcoming you all.
Mrs Kelly- Head of Year 5.

Year 5 Duxford Educational Visit

We are delighted to be able to offer Year 5 the opportunity to visit Duxford IWM. Our next Science topic is based on Forces and Duxford IWM has a range of exhibits that will enable the children to apply a real life understanding to the theory covered in the lessons. This educational visit will take place on **Thursday 23rd October 2025**. Please find letter detailing the visit attached.

*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 6 News:

Year 6 Lancaster Model – 9th & 10th October

Questionnaire and measuring the height and weight of Year 6 students.

Please see attached, letters from the School Nursing Team regarding the Lancaster Model Questionnaire and Measuring the height and weight of Year 6 students which will be taking place on 8th and 9th October 2025.

Please note If you **do not** want your child to participate in this questionnaire then please contact the school nurse team as soon as possible, Email: hct.shwbswh@nhs.net / Telephone: 0300 123 7572 If they do not hear from you then they will assume you are happy for your child to complete the questionnaire.

Year 7 News:

Residential

Teachers reported having a good time on the residential with your children and we hope they have come back full of stories and pride at their achievements and ready for a good sleep. We have been posting updates on our Facebook page, and photographs will also be posted on our website gallery later today. [Edwinstree School](#)

Year 8 News:

Freman Open Evening

It was lovely to hear how excited year 8 were having visited Freman as they begin to look forward to their future and new school. This year all schemes of work and learning correlates to Freman year 9 and GCSE work and is planned and collaborated on with the Upper school. We look forward to seeing them succeed and build toward their future.

The annual Barkway Literary Festival

The annual **Barkway Literary Festival** (near Royston, Herts) takes place again on **Saturday 4th October**: we have a top line up of authors to entertain and inform!

Bow Books of Royston, the event sponsor, has generously offered to give a voucher (redeemable in the bookshop) to each school from which one or more students comes along!

For older students, prize winning historian and broadcaster Gareth Russell will be talking about his new book **'Queen James'** (the king's contemporary nickname) – King James I & VI being a frequenter of Royston, which has several buildings connected to his visits (not least his residence in the town centre).

'Brings the backbiting and power struggles of the Jacobean court to life with wit and vigour' *OBSERVER*

A question-and-answer session at the end will enable students to satisfy their curiosity and engage with a top historian - something students will love!

For all students, Helen Thomas – co-executive producer of the BBC's **'Walking with Dinosaurs'** – will take us into the world of dinosaurs and how the series was actually filmed. The original

series was the most watched science show of the 20th Century: the audience will be treated to clips from the new series! Co-author of **'Uncovering the Secret Stories of Prehistoric Life'** and in conversation with Ed Sayer (National Geographic), this promises to be a richly rewarding experience. Again, the audience will be invited to ask questions at the end. The full programme is attached complete with primary age children's events. Do feel free to email me with any questions. We hope to see some of your students on Saturday 4th October, where they will be warmly welcomed!
Kind regards Elena Mannion

Families Feeling Safe

Hello from all of us at Families Feeling Safe!

We've been very busy getting ready for a new term of parent courses, training for professionals, and having some really interesting Protective Behaviours (PBs) conversations in the team.

One thing we all agreed on?

We love and hugely value your feedback. It helps us grow, improve, and ensure we're offering the support that really makes a difference.

Over the coming weeks, we'll be sharing some Facebook posts asking important questions – and we'd love for you to join the conversation.

Look out for them on our Facebook page and help shape what we do next - [click here to go to our Facebook page...](#)

What's new?

We're currently reviewing and updating our website – and our PBs Parent Course is evolving too!

We've already adapted our parent course for online delivery, making it more accessible than ever. Now, we're developing the course further so we can train others to deliver it online too, with additional training and support coming in 2026.

What we offer:

- Parent Courses – including open access, commissioned & online options
- Inset training for schools and professionals
- Taster sessions, workshops & refreshers
- Professional training at Foundation, Intermediate and Facilitator levels
- All built around the Protective Behaviours framework

For a list of our parent courses due to start very soon please click here <https://familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk/programmes/>

We have a few places available! (fully funded for parents and carers in Hertfordshire).

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



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