



Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Homework week: A

Diary Dates:

03/03/26	Academic Consultation 4-7pm 6B Maths and English 6C Maths and English
04/03/26	Y7 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
05/03/26	World Book Day Year 7 – Good News for Everyone COWO visit to present and distribute bibles
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
11-14/05/26	Year 6 SATs
12/05/26	Y5 Foundation Evening 5-7pm
19/05/26	Human Papillomavirus (HPV) immunisation for Year 8.
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.

Contents

Why did we remind our students that we are there for them after school, if they have a worry or concern? 1

Why did I make a change to the 100% attendance non uniform day this Friday, and include all students? 2

What is happening in COWO this half term? 2

What is happening on World book Day? 2

 World Book Day - Thursday 5th March 2

 Dress-Up or Character Object..... 2

 Reading Streak Challenge (26th February – 26th March)..... 2

Dynamic Diversity Group 2

Food and Nutrition – All Years 2

 Year 5, 6 and 7 2

 Year 8 2

Year 5 News 3

 Year 5 RE Educational Visit Wednesday 22nd April 2026. 3

Year 6 News 3

 SATs Workshops 3

 Are you able to support us with the SATs? 3

Free Bike repair Workshops..... 3

Why did we remind our students that we are there for them after school, if they have a worry or concern?

A small note went into the morning power point for teachers to remind students that the office is there for them if they are worried by something, as they exit the school in the afternoons.

We did this because the evening before, we had two year 5’s who became scared after walking from the park to the tree outside the entrance gate. An elderly man was walking behind them, and they looked behind, he said “hello, how are you?” they ran to a year 7 girl and let her know, and then to their parents’ car and reported the incident.

My Deputy spoke to the students and parents the next day. We always recommend that parents log any concern in the community with the police.

As this incident was a confused picture and it was difficult to see a risk, I decided to complete a light touch reminder to students about how to stay safe and to wait for the newsletter to explain to parents. In making this decision, I am always considering risk verses creating anxiety for your children that heightens situations unnecessarily.

The following day, we received several anxious emails about what had happened from parents, this prompted us to send a Parentmail.

Why did I make a change to the 100% attendance non uniform day this Friday, and include all students?

When your child transitions to us, I will always tell you that we are human, we make errors, but we are a school that recognises this and will make amends. I made an error at the end of last term, in making a speedy decision to reward students who had 100% attendance with a non-school uniform day.

One of my Achilles heels is that when I am most tired, I can make snap decisions, this is what happened, and it was a poor one. I did not recognise how we try to work as a school with equity, looking at individuals, and supporting in different ways to help our students meet the goal of equality, all ready to leave the school.

I had not considered the multi-faceted reasons for absence, and/or looked at the reduced timetable students who wouldn't have received 100% attendance but could have been in school for all the time.

Thank you to those who have contacted us about this, we heard you and acted.

What is happening in COWO this half term?

We have begun the season of Lent, and the build up to the story of Jesus entering the wilderness and being tempted.

In tutor COWO, students have revisited this story and what it means to Christians. In the hall out tutor COWO with Mrs Gant, they heard about World Book Day from year 8 and then were introduced to the new Archbishop of Canterbury. They discovered that she had been a nurse first, and that when she became a Christian at 16, she never dreamt that she could be Archbishop of Canterbury.

"I am the Bishop I am today because of that first vocation to nursing, and compassion and healing are constants at the heart of who I am." Sarah Mullally

What is happening on World book Day?

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March

We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day with pupils on Thursday 5th March. Below is an outline of the activities planned for the day and how families can support at home.

Dress-Up or Character Object

To help pupils take part in a fun and inclusive way, they are invited to choose one of the following:

Come in PJ's and or comfy non uniform.

Dress up as their favourite book character or

Bring in one small object linked to a book character (for example, a golden ticket for Charlie and the Chocolate Factory).

During form time, pupils will have the chance to share their character or object, and classmates can try to guess who it represents.

This option is designed to reduce pressure on families; no full costume is required, and creativity is encouraged.

We do ask that students **do not bring any inappropriate items** such as toy swords, guns or similar accessories.

If they just wish to attend in non-school uniform this is fine.

We are asking for a £1 donation to support our drama team and the school production, with new costumes and tech and to fund our book club with new books. Thank you for any help you can give.

Reading Streak Challenge (26th February – 26th March)

As part of our Year of Reading, we are launching a Reading Streak Challenge, running from Thursday 26th February to Thursday 26th March.

Pupils are encouraged to read for 10–15 minutes every day.

Each day read can be ticked off on a reading-streak bookmark.

Parents/carers are asked to sign the bookmark to confirm reading has taken place.

Pupils will receive small rewards or certificates for reading streak milestones (e.g. 7, 14 and 21 days)

Pupils who read every day for the full month will receive a small prize.

The challenge will be introduced to pupils in school, and we would really appreciate your support in encouraging regular reading at home.

Thank you for supporting World Book Day and helping us to promote a love of reading. We are looking forward to a fantastic celebration of books and stories!

Dynamic Diversity Group

We have got some exciting ideas up our sleeves to show off our Unique, Individual, Wonderful selves, but we need your help. We need to collect 16 pretzel barrels (with lids) - the large, clear, plastic ones that are from Costco/Amazon. Do you by any chance have any empty ones, or ones that are nearly there that we could have? Please would you send them to school rather than recycling them, as we have a project that requires 1 barrel per class. More will be revealed when we have all the containers.



Food and Nutrition – All Years

Year 5, 6 and 7: Welcome to Food and Nutrition! Our first lesson was getting set up in the classroom and familiarising with the environment. There will be a couple of theory-based lessons to get used to the kitchen and learn about health and safety and why it is important. Demonstrations will be starting soon, so keep an ear out for excited pupils who will be requesting ingredients. Letters to all years will go out next week with hints and tips to save money and what your child is cooking until July (subject to change). Please do get in touch if there are any allergy requirements you have not already let the school know about. Please be aware we are a nut free school, so no nut products are allowed in the Food Room at all.

Year 8: Your task for next week is to create a dish using an egg and a piece of bread. We are looking at coagulation, denaturing of proteins and syneresis of eggs. You can create a dish of your own choosing - I demonstrated scrambled eggs and French toast (eggy bread), but you could fry, poach, coddle or try something different. You have 30 mins for the practical as we will eat our dish once we have completed it. You will be marked on creativity and presentation. You can bring in additional ingredients to create your dish but **DO NOT OVERCOMPLICATE YOUR RECIPE**. School will provide herbs, salt, pepper and oil. There are still a few Chinese sauce flavours we didn't use, these will be available too. Happy meal planning!

*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 5 News:

Year 5 RE Educational Visit Wednesday 22nd April 2026.

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 pupil visitors last year still reflect upon their visit (they particularly liked the bandanas in the Gurdwara and ceiling in the Mosque!)

Please see attached letter and PowerPoint presentation regarding the trip.

Year 6 News

SATs Workshops

We would like to invite parents into school to look at SATs papers with children on the following dates. Teachers will be there to answer any questions you may have.

If you are unable to make the session we will be sending papers home.

- 6C 9-9:45am 16th March
- 6A 10-10:45am 16th March
- 6B 9-9:45am 17th March
- 6D 10-10:45am 17th March

Are you able to support us with the SATs?

Official SATs Dates: 11/05/2026 -14/05/2026

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](#)

Free Bike repair Workshops

HCC's Reuse Shops are hosting six free bike repair workshops this spring/summer. They are offering minor repairs and advice on bikes for sale in store or on customer's own bikes.

The image shows three posters for free bike repairs. Each poster has a red header with 'FREE BIKE REPAIRS' in white. Below the header, it lists the dates and times for the workshops. The first poster is for Stevenage, the second for Stevenage Recycling Centre, and the third for Ware Recycling Centre. Each poster also includes the text 'Offering minor repairs and advice. Drop in with your own bike or ask for free advice on bikes for sale in store.' and 'DROP IN OR BOOK A SLOT AT: WWW.DR-BIKE.CO.UK/BOOK-A-SERVICE-CONTACT/'. At the bottom of each poster, there is a logo for 'The Reuse Shop' and 'SPONSORED BY CORY DR BIKE Hertfordshire'.

Location	Date	Time
STEVENAGE	SAT 28 MARCH	10-5
WARE	SAT 25 APRIL	10-5
WGC	SAT 23 MAY	10-5
WARE	SAT 27 JUNE	10-5
STEVENAGE	SAT 25 JULY	10-5
WARE	SAT 8 AUG	10-5

Mrs J Gant - Headteacher
admin@edwinstree.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.*