



Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Diary Dates:

04/03/25	Year 5 Neurodiversity speaker (more details to follow) 6B & 6C - Online Academic Review
05/03/25	Year 6A & 6B Cambridge Science Centre Visit £19.90 per student
06/03/25	Year 6C & 6D Cambridge Science Centre Visit £19.90 per student
07/03/25	World Book Day – Book Swap 5B Tutor merit award – Non-Uniform Day
10/03/25	6A Parent meeting to look at SATs papers (Period 1) 6B Parent meeting to look at SATs papers (Period 2)
11/03/25	6C Parent meeting to look at SATs papers (Period 1) 6D Parent meeting to look at SATs papers (Period 2)
13/03/25	Year 8 - Magistrates and the Law speaker (more details to follow)
14/03/25	Great Athletes event
20/03/25	Year 7 In Person Foundation Evening
21/03/25	Comic Relief Day – Non-Uniform and £1 voluntary donation ESA Quiz Night (more details to follow)
28/03/25	Fullness Day for charity - £1 donation for non-uniform & Bake Sale.
04/04/25	End of Term 1:20pm.
22/04/25	Start of Summer Term
05/05/25	Bank Holiday
08/05/25	Year 6 In Person Foundation Evening
12-15/05/25	Year 6 SATs
16/05/25	ESA School Disco (more details to follow)
26-30/05/25	Half Term
05/06/25	Year 5 In Person Foundation Evening
27/06/25	INSET Day
10/07/25	County Transition Day Parent Transition Evening 5-6pm
18/07/25	End of Term 1:20pm.

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What was our value last term?

We considered the value of wisdom last term as a school; we learnt the following:

Wisdom is not knowledge; it is about deeply understanding the true meaning of life.

To find Wisdom we looked at the messages Jesus sent through his stories the parables.

Children and young adults in year 8, really engaged with these stories. If you have moment, ask them to tell you about one of the following parables:

- Rich fool
- Vineyard grower
- Prodigal Son
- Good Samaritan
- The Talents

We all found these stories deeply meaningful with layers, and layers of meaning.

Living Life in all its Fullness

How are our students and your children living life in all its Fullness this half term. What spends will you need to be aware of?

As a school we are committed to enriching your child's school day and supporting them to be courageous advocates in doing something about a cause they are passionate about. This half term is jam packed with activities, so please make sure you have read the calendar of events. In terms of spends we are asking for the following:

- **14th of March** – students can participate in a sponsored fitness activity – see additional information below.
- **21st of March** - Comic Relief Day. Students can attend in non-school uniform and there will be a voluntary contribution of £1. *Strictly Come Edwinstree* dance competition will also take place on this day.
- **28th of March** - We will be raising funds for Cancer at the request of a number of year 7 students who have lost relatives to this illness. £1 donation for non-uniform and we will be asking all bakers for support in helping us with a bake off.

Have you taken a minute to look at the stars this week?

It is well worth it. Around 6.30pm as dusk hits there are a number of planets visible with the stars in the sky. Seven planets align in UK skies this week for last time until 2040 - BBC News

Can you help us to find out how you feel about the school and steer us if we need to make changes?

Last year Ofsted arrived in April, and a parent questionnaire was sent out to ask your opinion about the school. Would you please support us by taking 2 minutes to answer the attached anonymous questionnaire?

Thank you for any time to you can spare to do this.

<https://forms.office.com/e/NJGCFHEgQ2>

World Book Day

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we are holding a Bookface Competition. This involves pupils taking a picture of themselves with a book covering their face, to make it appear as if they are part of the book cover picture. There are lots of ideas on the internet for possible poses (just search for Bookface competition), but a good starting point is to find a book with a face or some other appropriate portion of a body on the cover.

Please send entry photographs to admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Satchel One - changes

You will have noticed some changes to Satchel One since half term and see that attendance is now part of the app, allowing you to see both AM and PM registration marks.

As a school, we are in the process of changing our Management Information System from SIMS to Satchel One. One of the last stages of this move was transferring contact information to Satchel One, which took place over the half term. We are aware that students received a notification about this; the notification was unexpected, but the information transferred was provided by yourselves when your child first enrolled in the school. There is no change to who can access your child's information as access codes are sent out manually by the school.

Whilst teaching staff have been using Satchel One for a number of years, this is new for the Administration team at the school. They are learning to use it in 'real time' so please be mindful of this. However, moving everything onto one Information System is more beneficial and will streamline our systems.

In order to make sure that your child's app is up to date, can we please ask that they log out and then log back in using the 'Sign in with Microsoft' option. Not only does this add an extra layer of protection but also makes sure that their account is aligned with the school system. In case they are unsure what this login is, it is the username they log into the computers with plus the school email address: for example, username@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk. The password is the password they use to log into the school computers.

Any queries please don't hesitate to contact the school.

RSHE Policy

Attached is our RSHE policy – this is a consultation document and is a policy that we are specifically required to consult you on. If you would like to comment on the proposed document prior to it going to the Governing body, please send an email to admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk Titled RSHE policy commentary.

Can you help us with the mud?

We would like to ask if you are able to provide a pair of slippers or spare shoes in order to help us protect the school against the mud. If students can begin to bring these in from next week we would appreciate it. They will be stored in tutor groups.

Changeover - Food & Nutrition/ Technology lessons – all years

Please note that Food & Nutrition/Technology lessons swap after half term as follows:

- Year 5 week beginning 3rd March.
- Year 6 week beginning 3rd March.
- Year 7 week beginning 10th March.
- Year 8 week beginning 3rd March.

Food and Nutrition – All Years

It has been a wonderful few months for all year groups in the Food Room. Marvellous creations, astonishing smells and full tummies have been the order of the day. We've tried new foods, experimented with tastes and flavours and even done some science experiments. We've learned all about healthy eating and the Government's recommendations through the Eatwell Guide. It has been a fabulous journey with all the pupils who have had food over the past few months. I certainly enjoyed teaching you all and hope you had a fab time in the kitchen learning new skills and finding out about Food and Nutrition.

Our groups in **Year 5,6 and 8** swap over next week, **Year 7** have one more practical before swapping w/c 10 March.

I hope I have been successful in reuniting parents with lost containers - thank you to all who named them as it made it a much easier task.

Year 7 - a Parentmail has been sent out for your final practical next week - the choice of either a Greek Salad or Design your own cupcakes. Please remember to return your book before your next practical.

I look forward to welcoming the D&T pupils into the Food Room. Parents/Carers, please keep an eye out for the information email which should be with you within the next 2 weeks - it tells you what your child will be cooking, points out the health and safety and uniform requirements and offers tips for working on a budget.

Mrs van Wyk

Year 5 News:

Mrs Bull Return after Maternity Leave

On the 10th of March, Mrs Bull will be returning from maternity leave to her year 5 class 5A, she will be taking over Ms O'Neill's classes from this date. We would like to take time to thank Ms O'Neill for all her hard work and support for both children and staff at the school.

Tutor merit award - 1st place - 5B.

Congratulations to 5B who won last half term's merit award. They have chosen Friday 7th March as their non-uniform award day.

Year 5 Neurodiversity Workshop

Neurodiversity is the idea that people's brains work in different ways, and that these differences are normal and valuable. It includes conditions like autism, ADHD, dyslexia, and more. Instead of seeing these as problems, neurodiversity recognises them as part of human diversity, just like eye colour or height.

Next Tuesday 4 March an outside specialist will be talking to each of our year 5 classes about neurodiversity.

Year 6 News

SATs Information Days

We would like to invite parents/carers and or a relative of Year 6 pupils to come into school at the times below. We will provide you with some brief information about the upcoming SATs and you will have a chance to go through your child's recent mock SATs papers. Both your child's English and maths teachers will be available during these times. In the past parents have fed back that this has been helpful in understanding what the children are required to learn and how you can help.

- Monday 10th March
6A: 09:00- 09:50 / 6B: 10:00 – 10:50
- Tuesday 11th March
6C: 09:00 – 09:50 / 6D: 10:00 - 10: 50

Please confirm your attendance by completing this short form using the link provided

<https://forms.office.com/e/9Vkk54qD5f>

We may not be able to provide your child's papers on the day if you don't complete the form. We look forward to seeing you.

Great Athletes event – 14th March 2025

We are very excited to be welcoming Great Athletes to the school on Friday 14th March 2025!

A top GB athlete will be visiting us, and leading a sponsored fitness circuit with all pupils, followed by a motivational assembly, and Q&A session. The aim of the event is to inspire every child to be more physically active, but just as importantly, encourage them to discover and pursue their passion in life. The event will both connect the pupils to an extraordinary athlete role model and raise money for new sports equipment to improve physical activity in the school, as well as supporting both athletes and para-athletes, so that they can continue to inspire the next generation.



Sponsorship forms will be given to your child to use to help raise money for the event. You can also sponsor your child by visiting:

<https://greatathletes.org/>

and clicking on the button "Set up a

Fundraising Page". Alternatively, you can scan the QR code to go directly to the online sponsorship page.

As a thank you, pupils will receive the following thank-you gifts for meeting these milestones:

- Raise anything: A5 sheet of motivational stickers.
- Raise £5 or more: sheet of stickers, plus a blue Great Athletes wristband.
- Raise £15 or more: all of the above, plus a red wristband with the athlete's signature.
- Raise £30 or more: all of the above, plus a signed athlete poster.
- Please ensure that the sponsorship form and money are returned to the school office 1 week after the event has taken place.

Please also make sure that your children come to school on the event day with their PE Kits!

Thank you in anticipation of creating a terrific and memorable event. PE Department

*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.*

Gardening Club

A lot has been going on in the background with getting the soil ready for planting our crops later this year. The beds have had lots of compost and mulch turned over in them. Our earthworms are really healthy and helping to create a very fertile and well-nourished soil. We will hopefully have our greenhouse soon and can start on our seed trays.

Gardening Club will start up again on Wednesday 19th March. If your child is interested in getting their hands dirty and learning about gardening, please complete the application form using this link <https://forms.office.com/e/6bf3wfembN>. There are a set number of spaces available for this club and if oversubscribed we will rotate participation. The club will take place on Wednesdays and will run from 3:15pm to 4:15pm. Mrs van Wyk



Edwinstree School Association

ESA World Book Day – 7th March

We will be holding a book swap for World Book Day on Friday 7th March. Children are invited to

bring any books they wish to donate to the school hall at the start of the school day. At breaktime children can come to the hall to choose one book to take home.

If you could encourage your child to write a 3 word review it can help make choosing a book easier. This could be a post it note on the cover, or a bookmark style piece of paper sticking out of the top i.e. Tom Gates Random Acts of Fun = Funny, doodles, family. If you are able to spare a few hours on this morning please email edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com or the school office admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

ESA Quiz Night – 21st March

<https://edwinstree-school-association.sumupstore.com/product/family-quiz-night>

Please see flyer attached

DSPL3 SEND Coffee Morning – 19th March.

DSPL3 are excited to invite all parents and carers of children with SEND to a relaxed and supportive meeting designed to offer valuable information and networking opportunities. This gathering will serve as a welcoming space for you to connect with other parents and carers, share experiences, and gain insights into various topics that matter to you. Whether you are looking for practical advice, emotional support, or simply a chance to meet and chat with others in a similar situation, this event promises to be both informative and enriching with a range of professionals available to you. Light refreshments will be provided, and we encourage you to bring any questions or topics you would like to discuss. We look forward to seeing you there and fostering a strong, supportive community together!



Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk