



Diary Dates

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
30/04/23	Herts Gala Music at the Royal Albert Hall (choir students)
01/05/23	Bank Holiday
02/05/23	Strike Action
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
22/05/23	Year 5 Felixstowe trip
29/05-02/06/23	Half Term
08/06/23* New Date	Year 5 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
29/06/23	Year 6 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
03/07/23	Year 6 Felixstowe trip rescheduled
13/07/23	County Transition Day
21/07/23	End of Summer Term 1.20pm
01-04/09/23	INSET Days
05/09/23	Year 5 induction Day
06/09/23	Autumn Term Begins for all Years
18-20/09/23	Year 7 Essex Outdoors Bradwell – Educational Visit

When is the next strike day and what is happening?

Tuesday the 2nd of May is our next strike day, and for Year groups **5,7 and 8** we continue to be unable to staff the school, we therefore require a repeat of the other strike days where students study from home. Please make sure your child logs onto SatchelOne to see what staff are able to provide a live lesson. Where we are unable to cover a lesson, and no work is set, please direct your child to the distance learning on our website where they can select work to do that fits alongside their schemes of work and lessons that would have been running that day.

<https://www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk/learning/distance-learning.aspx>

Year 6 on strike day – Tuesday the 2nd of May

For student wellbeing, we have organised for the school to be open for Year 6 on the morning of Tuesday the 2nd of May. We have discussed this with Unions and wish to support the students as there is one week to go before their exams

Please can students arrive in school uniform as usual. The normal timetable will be followed for periods 1-4. Lunchtime will be in school - please provide packed lunch or order a school dinner. At 1:45pm we are asking for students who can, to go home - we have limited teacher availability for P5. We appreciate that this might be difficult for some so we will run a P5 session for those that need it.

Please follow this link so we can see how many students we need to cater for in the afternoon and to confirm how your child is leaving for home at 1:45pm.

<https://forms.office.com/e/wNn1LBC1UA>

Many thanks for your patience and persistence with the strikes. The teachers think long and hard before making this decision and are now really feeling the pinch as they lose their 5th day of pay.

Year 6 SATS Wellbeing

In the run-up to SATS, to support your child's wellbeing:

- Get into a regular bedtime routine (including the weekend)
- Eat a healthy breakfast
- Support sleep by turning screens off 1-2 hours before bedtime - maybe read a book or play a board game
- Use provided revision guides to practise - little and often is best

SATs week

- Students to arrive at the school hall at 8:30 for a snack and short social gathering

If you have any concerns please let us know.

School reports

These have been handed out to students in Year 5, 6 and 7 this afternoon, please check your child's bag. Due to the school trip, Year 8 reports will be handed out next week. If your child is absent, we will keep their report until they return

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Teams Lessons

Thank you to the small number of parents who contacted the school to let us know that students are experiencing difficulties logging into live lessons on strike days using Teams. Please see the below information which may help:

- Links will be set up in advance and posted on Satchel by the morning of the lesson.
- If the link appears in blue and it's underlined, this means it is a direct link and you can click or press the link to be taken to the lesson.
- If the link appears in grey it needs to be copied and pasted into the browser.

You can do this on a computer: by holding the left mouse key and dragging it over the link. On a mobile: you press and hold on the link and select "copy", ensuring that the whole link has been selected.

- Once the link has been copied it needs to be pasted into the browser.
On a computer: In the internet search bar at the top of the screen right click with your mouse and select "paste".
On a mobile: Open the internet browser and in the search bar either at the top or bottom of the screen clear the current address by clicking the X and then press on the search bar and select "paste" or "paste and go".
- When Teams opens it will either have the option to "join now" or it will prompt you to login. All students have been issued with a school email address and have set their own passwords. The format of school email addresses is:

Firstinitial.Surname@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

If your child still has difficulties connecting to the live lessons, support is available on the day by contacting the school office, but please try the links as early as possible to allow enough time to resolve any difficulties before the lesson begins. If your child is still unable to connect to the lesson, please remember that there is distance learning available on the school website which they may access instead. The distance learning can be found at the bottom of the "Learning" tab and is accessible in PDF and Word formats for every year group.

Swimming Lessons

6C & 6D will begin their swimming lessons on **Wednesday 3rd May**. This is a curriculum requirement. Your child will need a swimming costume/shorts, a swimming hat (for hair below shoulder length) and a towel for the lesson. The lessons will be run by a member of staff, a swimming teacher and a lifeguard will be present. They will be structured, based on existing swimming ability and aim to have your child swim "competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres".

Due to unforeseen circumstances **5B & 5C** will begin their swimming lessons on **Thursday 11th May**, therefore they will require **standard PE kit for Thursday 4th May**.

Payment details will be updated in due course on SchoolGateway.

What about Year 7 who missed swimming lessons and still need support?

We will be offering a catch-up programme in July and September for those Year 7's who require support due to missing out during COVID.

Food & Nutrition – All Years

Year 5

5B and 5D please remember your cheese straws ingredients on Thursday.

Year 6

6C (Tuesday) and 6A (Wednesday) please remember your pasta salad ingredients.

Year 7

7A and 7B remember your bread rolls ingredients for Wednesday.

Year 8: no cooking this week.

Please ensure you have the correct footwear for your practical sessions and a suitable container to take your end product home in.

Edwinstree's Got Talent winner

On the last day of term, we had the opportunity to share some of the talents that our students have in the school. Students voted on their favourites and winners were announced in COWO. Well done to everyone who took part.

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Enrichment Clubs

Please note that Yoga Club takes place on a Wednesday afterschool and not Thursday as previously advised, if you wish to sign up, please email

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Gardening Club

A very big thank you for the wonderful donation of pansies and compost. We have already planted the pansies and they have added a wonderful spot of colour to our planted bed. The compost has been utilised to re-pot our tomato seedlings and seeds ready for sowing when stronger. We would love some more compost or soil if anyone has any for our new beds.

What are our plans to celebrate the Coronation?

On Friday the 5th of May we are inviting students who wish to participate, to attend dressed in the colours of the Union flag. We would love help from our bakers to help us celebrate at lunch time with scones, cream and jam, cakes and biscuits to celebrate our national identity and diversity. On the day we will be completing an afternoon session celebrating Charles life and passion for nature. Looking at where we can plant a coronation garden and what that might look like. We will continue to plan for this through student's "student time" COWO's this term and we will be completing a fund-raising bake sale and non-uniform day, to help pay for this. In the afternoon we will host a Strictly come Dancing event based on the Swing dances of the 50's, Charles birth decade. We hope to place a lasting legacy with a new garden area lined with trees in our school and a memory for our children. We are looking to commission a photo for the whole school, but this will now take place later in the term.

Year 8 transition to Freman,

From early June, Freman will be offering additional visits to students who are most anxious about their transition. We have identified a number of SEND and PP students who would benefit from this, but if you have a child who you know is particularly worried about the change, please email S.Marler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk to alert us that your child would like to take this opportunity.

Year 5 – Trip to Felixstowe

Year 5 are studying coasts and will be taking their trip to Felixstowe on the 22nd of May, please ensure that you have made your payments via SchoolGateway, and completed the consent form by Friday 5th May.

House Awards – Lea House

Fun Swim session have been booked for Lea House, winners of the hula hoop challenge. Please complete the form (link below) to give consent for your child to attend.

KS2 (Yr. 5&6) – Tuesday 16th May 1.45-2.45pm

<https://forms.office.com/e/01MKik5JZf>

KS3 (Yr. 7&8) – Friday 19th May 1.45-2.45pm

<https://forms.office.com/e/FyHYh7LaNp>

NSPCC In-Person Parent Sessions

The NSPCC will be hosting a parent session on Thursday 18th of May at 4.30pm at Edwinstree School. This is intended for parents of children of any year group (first, middle and upper school) *This takes place at the start of our Year 7 Parent Evening.* This session will only run if we have sufficient numbers, please ensure you signup using this form: <https://forms.office.com/e/N5bJrp2B80>

Topics to be covered are:

- Internet Safety
- Parental controls
- Online bullying
- Online pornography
- Social Media

What is the uniform for next year?

We have posted the uniform list on the website for next year. Please remember the key change is that the children will no longer wear ties and we move to a polo shirt that can be bought from any supermarket and the branded sweatshirt that will be sourced from our supplier, the link to purchase is here <https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/edwinstree>

We have listened to your voice and agreed that for Year 5 they move directly to the sweatshirt in September, and for all other Year groups we are giving you "growing out time", so that sweatshirts are purchased when students have outgrown their jumpers. Black trainers can be worn if polishable material.

Please note rugby shirts will not be compulsory for Year 5 and 6.

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Parent Questionnaire

The school is keen to encourage you to complete the annual survey of how you are feeling about the school and the work that it does. If you are willing to participate, please complete the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Msk88F8GHr>

School Car Park

We ask that when collecting pupils after clubs in the afternoon, please do not park in the school car park - it is not safe for pupils crossing the car park to get to parents at the gate when there are moving motor vehicles.

ESA News

We want to host another *Family Fun Night* in June after the success of our family quiz, but would like to know what parents and students would like to do first. Bingo or an Escape type Challenge (be the first team to find and solve all the clues). Please complete our feedback form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/BhV3bbkcdD>

ESA Summer Term Disco

This will be Friday the 19th of May 6-8pm.

£5 per child includes unlimited drinks and a snack.

If your child would like to participate in the End of SAT's disco and the start of Summer celebration please complete the form via this link

<https://forms.office.com/e/x73ChNJhvx>

Payment will be via School Gateway and will open next week. Parent volunteers are needed to help on the evening.

Please email us if you can help in anyway.

EdwinstreeSchoolAssociation@outlook.com

Pre-loved Uniform

We will be selling pre-loved uniform, coats and shoes at the upcoming parents' evenings in May and June. If you have any outgrown branded PE t-shirts or hoodies to donate we would be very grateful, these always sell out fast when we have them in stock!

Hertfordshire County Council and BeeZee Bodies - April

April is stress awareness month. Please find attached the BeeZee Bodies April newsletter.

NESSie Workshops

Emotional based school avoidance workshop is Wednesday 10th May from 10-11.30am. Parents can find the workshop at [Home - NESSie IN ED, CIC](#).

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

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