



NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS
Week Ending: 28/06/2024.

Edwinstree Term dates:

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

Diary Dates:

School Day – 8:40am – 3:10pm	
03/07/24	Year 6 First Aid Training. Parents Communication Consultation Meeting 5-6pm.
05/07/24	9am - Parenting workshop on Managing Disruptive Behaviours.
08/07/24	Year 6 Whipsnade Zoo trip. £30.61 per student.
08/07/24	Water Safety Police Presentation to Year 7 & 8 (more details to follow).
09/07/24	Sports Day.
11/07/24	County Transition Day.
16/07/24	Visit from Bishop of St Albans.
17/07/24	Year 5 Queens Park trip £14.50 per student.
19/07/24	End of Summer Term 1:20pm.
02/09/24	INSET DAY.
03/09/24	Year 5 Induction Day.
04/09/24	Autumn Term Begins Years 6-8.
16-18/09/24	Year 7 Residential – Essex Outdoors Bradwell. £295.60 per student.
28/10/24 – 01/11/24	Half Term.
06/12/24	Occasional Day.
20/12/24	End of Autumn Term 1:20pm.

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Will my child be able to wear PE kit on Monday due to the weather?

The weather is cooling down over the weekend and our new uniform is cooler than the previous, so we will ask students to return to their normal uniform from Monday.

Who will be the Heads of Year next year for my child?

- Year 5 will be Ms Kelly
(hoy5@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- Year 6 will be Mr Galanides
(hoy6@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- Year 7 will be Mr Kelly
(hoy7@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- Year 8 will be Mr McCarthy
(hoy8@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

What is happening on Sports day?

A more detailed account of the day will be published in next weeks newsletter.

We will run the day with tutors sporting activities in the morning, where the whole school will go out to circulate the field and participate in several sporting activities. These activities are completed in tutor groups and contribute to house points for the four houses of Rib, Quinn, Lea and Stort. We will then have lunch. In the afternoon the Relay races take place for our signed-up runners.

The ESA will kindly be selling juices and soft drinks as well as ice creams.

How do we safeguard the sports day event?

We would firstly ask that you refrain from taking photos at the event. We have a growing number of parents who are hesitant about photos of their child being taken and displayed without permission. Despite asking each year for photos taken to be stored privately, this hasn't always been adhered to, so we think this is the best solution.

We will instead have a resident photographer who will take a team shot of each tutor group, that you will be able to access. If you are attending, we will ask you to come through the main reception area where there will be class lists for all year groups –please register in and out with us without fail.

Extra Transition Visits available to current Year 5,6 & 7.

If you feel your child will struggle coming back into school after the holidays, please book in for a visit before they return. From 27th August, Mrs Harris will show them the classroom they will be going into; can go through their new timetable and talk about any worries they may have.

Please email Mrs Harris to arrange a time and date a.harris@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

How can we communicate more effectively with you?

Would you help us to improve our communication by attending a consultation session on the 3rd of July from 5 to 6 pm?

We will be offering all parents, the opportunity to come and consult with us about our communication practices in school. We will be focusing for part of that consultation on SEND, but we are keen to hear from all parents.

We will cover the following topics:

- What information do you wish to know?
- How often?
- What works currently, what doesn't and what reasonable adjustments can we make?

Topics that we will cover are:

- Newsletter
- Parents evening
- Report writing
- Books home
- Emails & Administration
- Facebook page
- Finance
- Trips
- SEND contacts.

If you are able to attend, could you please register on the link here: <https://forms.office.com/e/BcHrajmy5s>

The evening will begin with an introduction from Mrs Gant, outlining the constraints and parameters within which we can make any changes to the school, i.e., reasonable expectations for a teacher to attend parents' evenings during year. You will then work with a member of the SLT and a Governor to answer the questions and provide your feedback.

Food and Nutrition (All Years).

Please note that whilst ingredient lists are sent home, you can adapt the products to suit your taste and budget. There is nothing worse than buying what is on the list if you know it will not be eaten. All recipes have possible adaptations - please do get in touch if you are unsure if your adaptation will work.

Year 5: Well done to all classes - there was a truly delicious cheese straw aroma around the food room this week. I do hope that some made it home. The pupils were very excited to try them, and I think one turned into two, turned into three, oops they're all gone!

Year 6: Who thought raw broccoli could make a delicious salad? Year 6 Tried it this week - and classes will be making this in their next lesson. Please keep an eye on SatchelOne as your cooking date may not be next week. 6D your practical is on Monday 1 July.

Year 7: We are well into our food science experiment: creating cake with alternate sugars - will they adversely affect the outcome? No ingredients are required as school provides them all.

Year 8: Healthy Eating Project are now entering their second week of research; please ensure you are completing the required amount of home learning - all on SatchelOne.

Please can I remind parents that false/acrylic/painted/gel nails are not allowed in the kitchen. Please ensure your child has removed these before their next practical.

Mrs van Wyk

*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.

Wow, what a bumper crop of veggies we have now. Our turnips, lettuce, beetroot, and radish all seem to be ready to be harvested this week. Our tomatoes are coming on strong with a few bright yellow flowers - not sure of the yield yet, but it's looking positive. After 4 coverings of soil, our potatoes are in their last two weeks of being planted. We will dig them up soon. Our beans - both runner and French, seem to be very slow this year, hopefully the warmth of this week has given them the boost they need. We harvested our strawberries last week - it was the biggest harvest we have had in the past few years - we all enjoyed them as a refreshing snack at the end of club.

A few wheelbarrows of soil need to be put into the beds outside the main office to fill them, and some left over plants from the Fair need planting.

We will keep pottering this week with general maintenance before our next harvest. Mrs van Wyk

School Fair.

A huge thank you to all the pupils who helped in every way to make our Fair the successful day it was. From the stall holders to craft makers, face painters to cake sellers, ice pop stand to library and of course the raffles, sweets, teddies, plants, and sports games - you should all be extremely proud of your hard work. A big thank you to the ESA who kept everyone hydrated!

The weather was incredibly kind, and it added to the fabulous atmosphere! Mrs van Wyk

DDG Newsletter.

Attached is our newsletter from the Dynamic Diversity group explaining their work this year.

Parenting workshop on Managing Disruptive Behaviours.

This will be delivered by the Mental Health Support Team on 5th July at 9am at Edwinstree, they can give you strategies on managing challenging behaviours that may occur at home. If you would like to attend, please email a.harris@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

Year 5 news:

Homophobic language

We have noticed a small rise in homophobic language within the year group. Ms Kelly is addressing this with students but if you could be mindful of this and listen out. Many students are using terms taken off social media without any understanding of what they mean.

Year 6 news:

Whipsnade Zoo

The trip will take place on Monday 8th July. We are looking forward to year 6 enjoying the magic of the safari park and the amazing animals that live there.

Please note students are expected to attend in uniform, they can bring a device for the coach, however it will be left locked in the coach during the day. Tutors will take photos of the day and will share with students and yourself.

Next week students will be planning their routes around the zoo with their tutors as they will spend the day in tutor groups touring the park looking at the animals they want to see. There will be an opportunity to visit the shop, but we advise no more than £10 for the day. There are small cafes where students can purchase café food, but we would encourage a pack lunch in case they are very busy.

Year 6 Tutor Group Changes

Please be aware that Mr Galanides is currently looking at the tutor groups for next year, it is year 6 where we make the change as they step into year 7 and key stage 3. All students will be asked for a friend they would like to be with, and where possible, unless this is a poor choice, we will honour this, if we are unable to honour the change, you will be informed, and the child will be asked again.

PSHE News - First Aid Training for Year 6

On Wednesday 3rd July, we are delighted that The Red Cross have agreed to deliver introductory first aid sessions to the whole of year 6. This is a great opportunity for your children to learn such an important life skill and to be delivered by such a wonderful organisation. Please note that students will see photos of first aid situations.

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Year 7 news:

Future Year 8 Leaders

We will be talking to year 7 about taking up the opportunity to become a leader in year 8.

This is an opportunity for students to give something back to the school and support younger members of the community. Students will be able to apply from next week for the role.

Year 8 news:

Camp Out

Year 8 have requested the annual camp out at Edwinstree as their end of term event. This is due to take place on the 5th of July.

Since COVID this has become the annual rite of passage for year 8 leaving the school, all students in year 8 are welcome. We ask students to group together as friends and to see who has tents, in the past most friends have been able to find a family tent between them, but we do have 5 x 2-man tents if students do not.

We will ask you to pitch their tent on Friday afternoon any time after 4.30pm on the school field, we will be there to show you where to do this. Your child will then return to school for the sleep over from 7.30 pm. Pick up the next day is 8am from the back gate.

Any phones the students bring will be stored in reception for the event. We will be costing up the price of a shared pizza from the local high street, along with hot chocolate and marshmallows for the campfire and juice, croissants, and fruit for breakfast that you can sign up your child to enjoy, alternatively your child can bring their own food.

During the evening there will be activities including a water slide and disco – so please make sure they have a change of clothing and a towel. We will also host a farewell ceremony at 12 midnight where the annual school awards are announced. You will be able to attend our end of term ceremony at Aspenden if you would like to say goodbye, more details to follow.

If you would like your child to participate in marshmallows and hot chocolate at the campfire and a breakfast, we are asking you to contribute £5 for this. If you would like your child to have a half share in a medium vegetarian or meat pizza this will be a cost of £5

Please use the link to confirm your child's attendance and whether you wish to participate in any of the food offers.

<https://forms.office.com/e/arxWb4LHWf>

Edwinstree School Association.

Thank you to everyone who has supported events over the last few weeks.

The Summer Fair raised £1,327.68! This was only possible by the generosity of donations of sweets, bottles, chocolate, prizes from parents, the support of children/teachers/parents running the stalls and the community attending and spending!

We were then treated to two nights of excellent acting and singing by Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies. Ticket sales, raffles and refreshments raised £1009.64.

If you would like to get involved to decide how to spend this money and help raise further funds, please get in touch. We are already thinking about events for the start of the next school year: Disco, Family Fun Night Puzzle Challenge and Christmas Jumper Swap Shop
edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

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