




**Edwinstree Term dates:**

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

**Diary Dates:**

29/11/24	Lights of Love ceremony, Manor House, Buntingford.
03/12/24	Year 5 Christingle at St Peters
06/12/24	<a href="#">Occasional Day.</a>
11/12/24	 Christmas Jumper Day Christmas School Lunch £3.35
12/12/24	Year 7 and Year 8 Christmas Services at St Peter's
13/12/24	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Services at St Peter's
18/12/24	Joint concert with Freman College. 6pm start, held at Edwinstree.
20/12/24	<a href="#">End of Term 1:20pm.</a>
06/01/25	<a href="#">INSET Day</a>
07/01/25	<a href="#">Start of Spring Term</a>
13/01/25	Year 8 HPV Vaccination
14/01/25	7A & 7C - Online Academic Review
16/01/25	5A & 5D - Online Academic Review
21/01/25	7B, 7D, 5B - Online Academic Review
23/01/25	5C - Online Academic Review / Year 8 In Person Foundation Evening
03-06/02/25	Year 6 Mock SATs
17-21/02/25	<a href="#">Half Term</a>
25/02/25	6A & 6D - Online Academic Review
04/03/25	6B & 6C - Online Academic Review
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)
20/03/25	Year 7 In Person Foundation Evening
04/04/25	<a href="#">End of Term 1:20pm.</a>
22/04/25	<a href="#">Start of Summer Term</a>
05/05/25	<a href="#">Bank Holiday</a>
08/05/25	Year 6 In Person Foundation Evening
12-15/05/25	Year 6 SATs
26-30/05/25	<a href="#">Half Term</a>
05/06/25	Year 5 In Person Foundation Evening
27/06/25	<a href="#">INSET Day</a>
10/07/25	County Transition Day Parent Transition Evening 5-6pm
18/07/25	<a href="#">End of Term 1:20pm.</a>

**Contents:** please click individual titles to take you to the relevant section in the newsletter, please ensure you open the document in pdf reader to use this function.

[Inset Days](#)

[Car Park](#)

[Music Events](#)

[What else are students up to over the season?](#)

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

[Attendance Focus – November 2024](#)

[Meet the team:](#)

[What are our snow procedures?](#)

[Year 6 Science – next week](#)

[Food and Nutrition – All Years](#)

[Year 5:](#)

[Year 7:](#)

[Year 8:](#)

[Edwinstree School Association](#)

[Afterschool Clubs](#)

[Add-vance Courses.](#)

[Delivering Special Provision Locally \(DSPL\)](#)

**[Inset Days](#)**

An eagle-eyed parent has spotted and questioned the fact that Edwinstree have 6 days INSET this year and asked why? This is because both Edwinstree and Freman (with whom we align our inset days with) have an additional day in order to support the significant training that is taking place for the school as we transfer our management systems over to Satchel One. The main transfer will be taking place in the Spring and Summer term. I apologise that I did not make this clear at the start of term and thank you to the parent who prompted me.

**[Car Park](#)**

We are increasingly concerned about the safeguarding of children, due to the number of non-staff cars using the school staff carpark during and after school hours. Therefore, we have decided to trial keeping the school gates closed both during and after school with effect from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November. We hope that this will discourage parents and other users, currently using the carpark and encourage them to walk onto the school site using the pedestrian gate. Please note it is illegal to park on the zig zags outside the school. Please use the Sainsburys car park or scout car park next to Norfolk Road pump track/park. Many thanks for your support.

## Music Events

As we approach the season of Advent and head towards Christmas, we would like to share with you the music events that are coming up between now and the end of term.

- **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November** - Lights of Love ceremony, Manor House, Buntingford. The school choir are leading the singing. All are welcome to come, sing some carols, and take part from 6pm.
- **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** – Year 5 Christingle at St Peter's. Year 5 students make their own Christingles during the day and then walk down to St Peter's for a short service with Reverend Kirsty Wainwright. If there are any Year 5 parents who wish to support the walk/service, please would you contact the school on [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)
- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 7 and Year 8 Christmas Services at St Peter's. Timings to be confirmed but services between 10am and 12pm.
  - Can you help in getting the children there?  
We always have a cookie and/ or cake treat during the Christmas service and a hot chocolate.
  - Can you help?  
Bakers to the ready, we will need some treats to hand out and you are always brilliant at this.
- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Services at St Peter's. Timings to be confirmed but services between 10am and 12pm.
- **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December** - Joint concert with Freman College. 6pm start, held at Edwinstree. All welcome!

## What else are students up to over the season?

In COWO next week we begin the build up to Lent and we start by exploring the advent value of Joy. Next week the theme of Joy will help us to explore the true meaning of Christmas and the gift of giving, we will launch our annual Christmas hampers for the food bank. We are asking you and your child to gift something to create 16 tutor group Christmas hampers, the suggested items are listed below:

- Chocolate Christmas log or non-alcoholic Christmas cake.
- Children's Christmas chocolate e.g. selection box.
- After dinner/adult chocolate (no alcohol filled ones please).
- Small sweets packet (e.g. Christmassy Haribo).
- Fancy sweet biscuits.
- Pringles or similar.
- Cheesy/savoury biscuits or similar.
- Dried fruit (e.g. apricots, figs etc).
- Tinned ham.
- Tinned tuna/salmon.
- Sweet pickles/chutney.
- Jam.
- Shower gel, hand soap or shampoo.



### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

**Christmas jumper day**, and **school Christmas lunch** are taking place on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

The Christmas lunch is available to book on SchoolGrid at a cost of £3.35. Please see below a message from the ESA regarding the Christmas Jumper Swap Shop.

## Attendance Focus – November 2024

This week our newsletter focus item is on school attendance. We hope that you find the attached information informative.

### Meet the team:

- **Mrs Gant** is the Headteacher of Edwinstree school and she is also part of the attendance team. Mrs Gant attends attendance meetings, conducts meetings with parents and supports students who might be struggling with attendance.
- **Mrs Heywood** is the attendance lead. She chairs the attendance meetings, meets with the local authority Attendance Officer and oversees the processes in school.
- **Ms Harris** is the schools Mental Health lead. Ms Harris helps families overcome barriers to good school attendance and works closely with students to support them too.
- **Mrs Wagstaff** organises and processes the day-to-day attendance registers. She is the lovely voice that you hear on the end of the phone when you call the school to notify an absences.
- **Mrs Marler** is our school nurturer! She is known throughout the school community as someone who is warm and has a natural ability to connect with students. She conducts regular check-ins with students who need a little gentle encouragement and praises them often.

### What are our snow procedures?

Please see attached to this newsletter our snow procedures, along with a consent form link to complete.

If your child lives in Buntingford and is KS2, [Year 5 or Year 6] please be aware we cannot release your child from school without a designated person to collect them. Please confirm the name of the designated person[s] permitted to collect your child from school. If your KS2 child has an older sibling in KS3, please indicate that you are happy for both of them to go home together.

If your child lives in Buntingford and is KS3 [Year 7 or Year 8] and you are happy for your child to be released from school, without adult supervision, please give permission for your child to walk home and confirm they have a key to get in. Please indicate if you wish your child to wait for your designated person[s] to collect them from school. Please be aware we cannot release your child from school without written parental consent. Buses maybe early if snow is forecast.

### Year 6 Science – next week

Our current topic in science is all about the circulatory system.

As part of this, the children have been learning about the function of the heart. We are looking at lots of diagrams, some film clips and have practised explaining the purpose and processes that happen within our circulatory system. To enrich the learning further we are able to complete a practical where the children dissect a pig's heart. This is often a highlight of the Year 6 Science curriculum. Looking at diagrams and pictures is great but the opportunity to hold a heart and see the way the 4 chambers are linked so they can receive and send blood, deepens the children's understanding. The teachers will demonstrate the dissection first, to ensure that the pupils know what they are looking at. Prior to the practical we also discuss the respect needed around dissection and how the opportunity to complete this is a privilege. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact the Science team via [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

## Food and Nutrition – All Years

**Year 5: 5B, 5C and 5D** Congratulations on the wonderful Pizza's cooked in school this week – I have been blown away by some of the designs! Merits are on their way home for the good work! **5A** will be cooking Weds 04/12 – remember your design and ingredients – no design = a no cook lesson.

**Year 7:** Excellent results on your Spag Bol dishes – I am sure there were some very happy parents/carers who didn't have to cook on Wednesday evening!

**Year 8: 8B and 8D** Please do not forget your ingredients and containers for your Gingerbread biscuits. All requirements are on Satchel 1. **8A and 8C** you will be creating these in January.

\*All ingredient requirements are on Satchel 1. Please remember that if your child has an allergy/intolerance or food preference to change an item, you can send that in as we want pupils to enjoy their own cooking creations.

\*ALL INGREDIENTS to be named and dropped off first thing on the day of your practical outside the Food Room. No shopping bags are allowed in the fridge, so please label all ingredients.

\*Please send in only the required amount of ingredients - there is only 1 fridge in the Food Room and we have 2 classes cooking on the same day, space is very limited.

Please return any plastic tubs which have been borrowed in previous weeks – 18 tubs have still not been returned.

Mrs van Wyk



## Edwinstree School Association

### Christmas Jumper Swap Shop

It's not too late if you would like to take part in our Christmas Jumper swap shop. The shop will be open for business on Thursday 5th December at 3.10pm in the outdoor

classroom. Everyone who has already donated a jumper has a ticket to choose a 'new to you' jumper from the shop (we do not accept cash for jumpers). We will be at the school gates on the morning of Thursday 5th December for any last-minute donations. Any jumpers not finding a new home for Christmas will be available to buy through our online shop.

## Afterschool Clubs

FILMMAKERS is coming back to school for the Spring Term. They start on Wednesday 8th January 2025. This term is for 12 weeks with 2 extended sessions to equate to 13 hours. Focus is on building confidence through teamwork. Learn all about voice projection, pronunciation, timing, focus and projecting various emotions as you work through each scene and embrace the exciting challenge of acting. You will also learn about camera angles, composition of frame. Looking at music, sound effects, special effects and how to make the story unfold and come to life with the best sounds & effects & backgrounds. Pupils plan & storyboard their ideas in advance of filming their very own blockbuster movie whilst also learning the important roles of Camera operator, Director & Clapperboard operator. Pupils plan/design costumes/props required to add that extra special touch to each scene.

For any queries contact Gill on [hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com](mailto:hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com) or 07341305131. Or check out the webpage and see parent feedback and pictures from on set in our other schools.

Payment is split over 3 monthly payments of £32.16 per month which includes 13 session hours and the fully edited film. No Fees due now a Link will be sent in January 2025! Spaces limited to 15. **Limited spaces available.**

North Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire  
**FilmClub**  
Does your child enjoy MAKING FILMS?  
Writing SHORT STORIES, being CREATIVE, working with HD CAMERA, GREEN SCREENS, LEARN ABOUT SPECIAL EFFECTS & THE ROLES OF DIRECTOR & CLAPPERBOARD OPERATOR?  
then this is the CLUB for them.  
**FILM MAKERS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**  
STARTS WEDNESDAY 8th JAN - FOR 12 WEEKS (2 EXT. SESSIONS TO EQUATE TO 13 HRS)  
3.10PM TO 4.20PM EVERY WEEK & 4.50PM FOR 2 SESSIONS  
PAYMENT SPLIT OVER 3 MONTHLY DIRECT DEBITS  
FEES NOT DUE UNTIL JAN 25. £32.16 PER MONTH THEREAFTER  
WE FOCUS ON BUILDING CONFIDENCE, GROUP WORK, SHARING IDEAS, BEING CREATIVE, BRINGING STORIES TO LIFE, LEARNING ABOUT EDITING, DIRECTING, WRITING SCRIPTS, BLOCKBUSTER FILMS, ANIMATION & MUCH MORE! YOUR CHILD GETS TO STAR IN THEIR VERY OWN FILM!  
ALL WORK IS FULLY EDITED & GIVEN TO EACH CHILD TO ENJOY WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS  
**SIGN UP ONLINE NOW**  
GOOGLE NORTH HERTS AND BEDS FILM CLUB  
SELECT BOOKINGS & FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR CLUB  
SPACES ARE LIMITED TO 15  
Any queries contact us on [hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com](mailto:hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com) or 07341305131  
**LIMITED SPACES**

## Add-vance Courses.

Great news! Our new 'Understanding My Autism' & 'Understanding My ADHD' empowerment courses for children are now open for applications. We have four courses starting in January that you can apply for now. A diagnosis is not required, although your child should be on the pathway and aware that they are likely ADHD/Autistic. Please visit our website for full details of the course and how to apply: <https://www.add-vance.org/children-young-people/>

## Delivering Special Provision Locally (DSPL)

Please find attached the DSPL newsletter for the Autumn Term.

Mrs J Gant – Headteacher

[admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto: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.*