



**Edwinstree Middle School**  
A Voluntary Controlled Church of England School  
**NEWSLETTER for PARENTS & CARERS**  
**Week Ending: 31/03/2023**

**Diary Dates**

School Day – 8:40am – 3:05pm	
03-14/04/23	Easter Break
17/04/23	Summer Term Begins 08.40am
27/04/23	Year 5 Foundation Subject Parents Evening in person 5-7pm
28/04/23	Year 8 Thorpe Park Visit (more details to follow)
30/04/23	Herts Gala Music at the Royal Albert Hall (choir students)
01/05/23	Bank Holiday
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
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 do students return to school?**

All students will be welcomed into the school on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of April at the normal start time of 8.40am.

**What uniform changes are there in Summer?** Students are now able to attend without their ties for the Summer.

**What about Uniform Changes in September ?**

Having taken your comments back to the Governors about the proposed changes to uniform, we have agreed to ensure that while we remove the ties, we will now move from September 2023 to a plain white polo shirt (no logo), and a navy sweatshirt with the Edwinstree logo that will be available to purchase from <https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/edwinstree>

Parents with years 6,7 and 8 children with the opportunity to allow “grow out” time, so students will be able to wear their jumpers and shirts until they are ready to purchase the polo shirts and sweatshirt. Full details of the uniform will be published next term.

**What did our School Effectiveness Advisor observe on their visit with our Governor for Pupil Premium this week?**

We received really positive feedback from our SEA, who met enthusiastic and cared for students in all year groups. She also commented on the excellent relationships in class, and the clear learning objectives and methods used to support students to learn well. She reviewed a series of books with students who could talk eloquently and show her examples of good progress.

**School Reports**

This term teachers for all subjects have collected student attainment data and school reports will be printed during the first two weeks after the Easter break. They will be sent home with the children and we will send a Parentmail on the day, to let you know that they have been handed out.

**Year 6 Preparation for the SAT's**

Please remember, above all else comes your child’s well-being. While below we talk about the learning that your child has been given in the holidays, no one will moan and/or chastise your child if they are unable to achieve this. Whatever else, please make sure you take time to have fun as a family.

**Year 6 English**

This week we have sent revision packs home with the Year 6 students. They contain one full GPS test and one full reading test to complete over the holidays. In previous years we have found that doing some revision keeps their brains ticking over during the break and helps with their wellbeing, leading up to the tests soon after we come back from the Easter break. It is entirely up to you and/or the students how they choose to complete these (e.g. they could complete them as a test in one go and then mark and correct them or they could complete them in sections over the course of the holidays). The "Pupil Friendly Mark Scheme" is included in the pack so they can mark the papers themselves.

Please ensure that your child brings them back to school after the break so that we can go through any misconceptions with them.

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## Year 6 Maths

This week we have sent home revision packs containing two sets of SATs papers. These can be completed in chunks, all in one go, timed or not timed. The students could complete them independently or with support - please choose whichever works best for your family. We will also be asking them to complete a few carefully chosen questions from the SATs books that they have been using for home learning this term.

All mark schemes are included with the packs and SATs books, so please either mark the work yourself or encourage your child to mark their own. Please do discuss the tests with your child and find out how they are getting on with them.

Teachers will be going through the tests when they get back to school, so please ensure that they bring them back after the Easter holiday.

### When do Enrichment clubs begin again after Easter?

As with all first weeks of term the majority of clubs do not begin until the second week, with the exception of:

**Maths home learning club** this will run on the first Tuesday back after the Easter holiday. Year 6 have been set home learning over the holiday due to SATs and Year 5 can come and work on their times tables. We will use the ICT suite. Mrs Earnshaw

### Year 8 Transition to Freman

This process will begin in earnest next term and for our most vulnerable this means planning additional trips. We will contact parents of our SEND and vulnerable students who we believe will require additional visits, but if you believe your child is anxious about this process and needs additional support please contact [s.marler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:s.marler@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

### Music Department

There is an exciting opportunity for students to learn an orchestral instrument for free. If your child is interested, then please fill in the forms by using the link below before the end of term.

Should we find that this is oversubscribed, we shall run on a randomised selection and those who have been chosen will be informed in the first week back, ready to start on the second week back after the Easter break.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BTrlzduqZ0-r9r2eTDmg8MpSs6HezTxEIMf4wi5dcrBUOFZXQUVaUIJHODRRTkINU01LM0YyTEk1My4u>

## Year 6 Trip to Felixstowe

We have altered the date after our English team reminded us that the students writing SAT assessment do not finish until late June and therefore once the SAT's are finished they will be focusing on the writing assessment. The new date is the 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Letter attached.

### What's still to come?

We will be organising a Science parents evening in the Summer with the return of Ms Gravelle for year 8, this will take place in June to give her recovery time. We haven't forgotten that Year 7 need a trip, information will come out early next term.

### Year 8 History

In the summer term, Year 8 will be learning about WW2 and The Holocaust. These are extremely sensitive topics and could potentially get quite upsetting. If your child is upset by what they are learning, please encourage them to talk to their History teacher.

### Are there more strikes planned?

Unions are currently voting on the Government offer, but in the mean time if they reject there are two more strike days planned on 27<sup>th</sup> of April and the 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

### Herts Catering Limited/ SchoolGrid price increase

We have received notification from Herts Catering Limited (HCL) that with effect from 1st April 2023 the cost of a school meal will increase to £3.20 daily. This increase will be implemented on SchoolGrid on the return to school after the Easter Holidays 2023.

If your child has a school dinner then please ensure that their dinners are booked prior to their return to school and that their dinner account remains in credit.

[Home - SchoolGrid](#)

[Guide for parents - Hertfordshire Catering Limited |](#)

[Hertfordshire Catering Services \(hcl.co.uk\)](http://hcl.co.uk)

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### **Edwinstree School Association**

Many thanks to the businesses and parents who donated prizes for the raffle at our Family Quiz last week. Everyone had a great time with The Bearded Geckos the winning team. £302.50 was raised for the outdoor classroom fund.

During the Easter Holidays we will be working in the wildlife area again on Wednesday 12th April 10.30am.

Our next meeting will be Monday 24th April at 7.30pm. We will be planning the Spring Disco (19<sup>th</sup> May) and other fundraising events. If you would like to come along and help any of these events please email us at

[Edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com](mailto:Edwinstreeschoolassociation@outlook.com)

We hope that all students enjoy the little Easter treat that the ESA have provided today, this is only possible by you supporting our events.

### **Starlight Stars Speech & Drama Club**

Club starts Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April from 3.05-4.00pm. Years 5-7, please find flyer attached.

Please email [admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk)

If you would like more information.

### **Would you like your child to attend the Filmmakers Afterschool Club from next term? This is one of our most popular and successful clubs so get in early!**

Film Makers Club will be returning to school in the Summer Term starting on April 19th 2023 -this term is a 12-week term, every Wednesday. 3.15pm - 4.20pm.

*What we do?* We focus on BUILDING CONFIDENCE, being CREATIVE and learning everything to do with making films as well as your child starring in their very own film. Learning to SCRIPT WRITE, plan costumes, take on the role of camera operator, director & clapperboard operator. Working with GREEN SCREENS. All work is fully edited and given to each child.

*What films do we work on?* Films we work on include Hogwarts, I'm A Celebrity Get Me Outta Here, Charlie & the Chocolate Factory, News, School of Rock, The Greatest Showman, Men in Black, Wizard of Oz and much more.

**To BOOK** your child on next Terms after school club click here 

<https://form.jotform.com/70862684255363> OR use the QR code on that attached Flyer.

**SPACES ARE LIMITED** TO 16 CHILDREN PER TERM.

For more information contact Gill

on [hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com](mailto:hertsbedsfilmclub@gmail.com) or 07341305131.

Payment is split into 3 equal Monthly Direct Debits (£28.66 per month) spaced 1 month apart. **1st payment not due until 11th April 2023.**

Best Wishes

**Mrs J Gant - Headteacher**

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