



Diary Dates

	New entry and exit times Year 5 – 9:00am – 2:45pm Year 6 – 8:55am – 2:40pm Year 7 – 8:50am – 2:35pm Year 8 – 8:45am – 2:30pm
16/11/20	6A & 7A Non uniform day Reward
25/11/20	Flu Immunisation catch up
26/11/20	Inset Day – School closed
27/11/20	Inset Day – School closed
4/12/20	Occasional Day
14/12/20	Christingle
18/12/20	End of Term

What happens if my child or a family member test positive for COVID?

If your child or family member tests positive or has symptoms, please inform us using the COVID contact email:

covid@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

What was the response from Parents to the Multi Academy Trust?

We received only one response to the consultation regarding Edwinstree moving to an Academy, and then joining a legal entity Minority Church of England Trust and this was positive. We are therefore, viewing the silence as passive positive! We are now in the process of replying to the staff consultation which also remains positive. This has all been fed back to the Regional Commissioner who along with the DfE will guide and process the change. We will update you when we know more. The response we received was.....

Dear Mrs Gant

Thank you for the comprehensive communication about the proposed academisation and then MAT structure. We wanted to make a comment in support of the process. We were in fact in the exact situation that you mentioned in the video - when our son moved to Edwinstree at the start of Year 7 in September 2019, we ended up using the "In Year Transfer" process in June/July which was really stressful and meant that we held a secondary school place that could have been reallocated to someone else, for several months. We are absolutely thrilled with his Edwinstree experience and would like as many children as possible to benefit from the kind, nurturing and challenging environment you offer. The formalisation of the links between Edwinstree and Freman make sense too - He has very much enjoyed Mr Hamilton's classes and that expert teaching.

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As a community we support one another to flourish and live life in all its fullness.*

Good luck with the process.

What home learning should my child be doing?

We published the Homelearning table last week and have repeated below. Currently, we find around 70 % of our classes are completing their homework systematically and weekly. We are in the process of contacting all parents to find out why students are not completing work, please expect a phone call this month to help you and your child access SMHW and get started with home learning. We are prioritising SEND and PP first. Thank you to all parents who have settled back into a routine and have organised students, ready to complete their work. Please remember, reading is paramount and 20 minutes 5 times a week, should be taking place for all students across the school.

All students should be reading for a minimum of 20 minutes 5 times a week.

Year 5 and Year 6 Subjects: English and Maths

Year 7 Subjects: English, Maths, Science, History and French

Year 8 Subjects: English, Maths, Science, Geography and French

Homework will be set via Show My Homework. If you have any difficulties in accessing the online platform, please email

r.heywood@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

How will my child be assessed this month?

Students will be sitting a variety of assessments in the next two weeks, with Maths and English sitting low stakes exams. Most foundation subjects will be completing in house assessments based around an extended task. These will be graded using our Herts for Learning levels and you will receive information on how your child has performed by the end of the term. A follow up Parents' Evening to support your understanding of their progress will be arranged early in January.

In the build up to Christmas...

We will be holding a Christmas Jumper Day and students can wear their favourite Christmas jumper to school. If your child does not have one, they can get creative and decorate a jumper of their own, something bright is acceptable! A Christmas calendar of events will be published shortly.

Why did we not support the Children in Need charity this year?

We are very aware that there are more children in greater need than ever before. Taking Covid

into account, we don't want to put too much pressure on you to raise funds for too many charities, as are already asking you to find a Christmas jumper. In December, we hope to raise funds for Christmas food hampers to support the Buntingford Food Bank. These are around £40 a hamper and we are hoping every class will raise one. We believe that if we help children to work hard at something, it will bring them hope and a sense of achievement.

Hertfordshire Heroes have launched a Christmas card competition for Y5 & Y6. If you would like to take part, please visit the website below and click on the Christmas card competition link: www.hertfordshireheroes.org

School Meals - What do I do if my child is off sick and I have already ordered a school meal using School Grid?

The school meal system is not connected to our attendance system, therefore parents/carers must cancel a meal if their child is absent from school. **Please also remember to cancel school meals you may have already ordered for our Inset Days on Thu 26th & Fri 27th November.** We have noticed a few students arriving without a water bottle, please help your child to remember to bring their water bottle to school.

The Golden Broom Award - This is our silly but fun award for the class that has helped our Cleaning Team, by making sure, their room is tidiest!

Best kept classroom		Non-Uniform Day
KS2	6A	16/11/20
KS3	7A	16/11/20

Road Safety and the dangers.

Thank you to so many of you who have been exceptionally considerate of the measures we are putting in place to help reduce the congestion at the school gate and wherever possible, avoid year groups mixing. Thank you for now leaving the lay-by free for the buses to park. Can I please ask that you avoid parking in Bowling Green Lane, if possible and consider alternative parking by using Sainsbury's car park? We assist students to cross the road, away from the buses, but further down, there still remains a significant number of parked cars, making our students at risk, particularly our youngest.

Important: This week, two parents reported that a potential accident was narrowly avoided, as young students crossing the road, were unable to see oncoming traffic due to the volume of parked cars. We are kindly supported by the PCSOs, who are encouraging parents and carers

to park away from the school. We all dread the reason we change our habits is because of an accident, please help us to keep our students safe!

Reminder about wearing masks

Thank you to all parents who have supplied their child with a mask, we are gently reminding them to wear them in corridors and the students are slowly getting used to the idea. If they forget their mask, we are never going to tell them off, it will be a gentle reminder.

Covid and After School Clubs

Please see the attached information leaflet from Hertfordshire with advice about after school clubs during lockdown.

We hope your families remain safe and well. Thank you for your support and care for the school.

Jo Gant
Headteacher

After School Clubs info

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