



**ST EDMUND'S  
SCHOOL**  
CANTERBURY



**29th November 2019**

# Junior School News

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Junior School has been a hive of activity this week as the children have been involved in lots of different opportunities. The Form 4 have had a DT week and have spent a significant amount of time designing their own personal Celtic roundhouse out of a wide range of available materials. I have particularly enjoyed seeing how individual they all look, when they have all followed the same brief. Creativity definitely reigns in Form 4! Amongst the rest of the Lower School the general buzz of excitement is growing as the Nativity performances edge ever closer. I am certain that their performance of "Once In Royal David's City" next Friday will be an afternoon to remember. Right across the school, all of the classes have been getting into the Christmas spirit and have begun to busily plan their animated Christmas Decorations on their microbits. The task is for the children to program them to show a picture or animation which represents what this time of year means to them. I can't wait to see the array of decorations once they are all up and running.

A number of the children went out this week on Wednesday to take part in the East Kent Schools Together "Big Sing". They had a great time and were apparently super ambassadors for St Ed's. Whilst they were out, I had my own outing to visit Whitstable Junior School at the invitation of their Headteacher Annie Knoupe. It was a fantastic opportunity to go out and see what another local primary is up to and I was immediately impressed by the warmth of the community in the school and by what they were doing in the classroom. I am hoping that we will start some partnership work with Whitstable Junior School pupils and staff in the coming year, and my sincere thanks go to Annie and her team for being so welcoming.

The school was awash with chatter about the Senior School's fabulous production of "Chicago" this morning. I was already looking forward to going to the show tonight and tomorrow night, but after hearing all the wonderful feedback I literally cannot wait to see the spectacle for myself. Word on the street is that it is the best production yet! We have one Junior School musician, Jonty Harris-Harding (F8) who is playing in the band and we are very proud of his achievement.

Tomorrow, I will be accompanying a group of our Junior School children to take part in the service at the Cathedral to celebrate the installation of the new Bishop of Dover, Rose Hudson-Wilkin. We are all extremely proud and excited to be part of such an historic occasion. I will hopefully be able to share some photos in next week's newsletter.

Don't forget that if your children are looking for something to do this weekend, they could practice for the Inter-House "Get Your Bake On" competition, or they could design a Christmas Jumper for the Christmas Jumper competition!



## The Big Sing

On Wednesday the 27th of November, 13 children travelled to Biggin Hall in Dover to represent the East Kent Schools Together. Along with some pupils from Dover Christ Church Academy, we all joined together to sing three songs: "Roar", "Somewhere only we know" and "Africa". We sang our hearts out to our audience.

We all enjoyed it as a team from St Edmund's. Well done Noah and Lucy for their well deserved solos. All of our thanks to Mr Mckean and Mrs Donnelly for supervising us and driving us back and forth, and to Dr Rowcroft who organised it for us to take part. Also a massive thank you to Lemon Otter and Adam for teaching us the songs in a really short amount of time.

We brought smiles to many of the adults there that were watching us. A massive thank you to everyone who helped us to manage it all. We had loads of fun, thank you very much!

Abigail Beale (F8 'Communications' Seniorship Holder)



## Lower School Nativity Play 'Once in Royal David's City'

We would like to invite Lower School parents to our Lower School Nativity Play on Friday 6th December at 3pm in the Chapel. Come and join us for this very festive occasion in which all 71 children from Lower School are involved. Tinsel and Christmas jumpers are welcome! It would also be lovely to see you afterwards for the Christmas Tea in the dining hall. Please reply to Mrs King's email to let us know if you will stay for the tea.

## The St Edmund's Association Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair will take place on Friday 13th December in the Sports Hall from 2.30pm. There will be a Santa's Grotto, House stalls, a Nerf tent, two Chocolate beds, a tombola, a raffle & lots more.

The raffle has a range of prizes including hampers, a 1:1 golf lesson voucher and a voucher for lunch at The Dog in Wingham, a Hamper of Beer, a Shepherd Neame Brewery Tour, a Belgian Night at home with personal chef and Master of Beer. A meal for two with wine at The Miller's Arms and a personalised Christmas window decoration for your home or business.

Raffle tickets are on sale now from Mrs King's office, priced at £1.00per ticket. All parents & children welcome from right across the school. Junior School children will be given the option to visit during the afternoon with their class or to be collected by their parents and go to the fair with them. More details to follow.

## Form 4 Celtic roundhouse DT week

This week, Form 4 have been busy designing and building a roundhouse fit for a Celt. After experiencing real roundhouses at Butser Ancient Farm, the children were very aware of some of the important features that would need to be included in their projects. They worked safely with the tools, and assembled a wide range of materials to create some superb models some of which have fabulously designed interiors in which most Celtic warriors would have loved to have lived! Please do take time to wander down the Lower School corridor to take a look at the finished work.



## Riya and Esme Have Got Talent!

Riya (F6) and Esme (F5) Thapa had huge success last Saturday when they took part in the 4<sup>th</sup> Magar's Got Talent competition in Aldershot, winning the competition. The certificates and the trophies were presented to them by Chief guest Mr Nirmal Purja (A Nepalese former British army soldier who recently climbed all 14 of the world's 8,000-meter-high mountains in a record-breaking 189 day). We are all very impressed and proud of their achievement.



## Form 8's £5 Food Tech Challenge

This week, in their Food Tech lessons, the Form 8 took part in the £5 challenge. They worked in pairs to create a 2 course dish, or in groups of three to complete three courses. Luke particularly stood out as his partner was absent from school and he competed on his own. I judged the competition on Tuesday with Mr Barnes and Mrs Ward judged it on Wednesday with Mr Barnes as I was out visiting Whitstable Junior School. I was so impressed by the confidence which the children showed in the kitchen and by the quality of their food. My thanks go to Mr Barnes for providing them with such a fun challenge.





## Junior School Sport

It was left to the girls' hockey teams to represent us in competitive fixtures this week with the U13/12 boys' fixture card complete and the U11/10 matches losing out to waterlogged pitches. If the U11A boys' team win their last game they too will be crowned league champions. We all have our fingers crossed!

The U11A/B girls' team won both matches against a strong Spring Grove team to continue their impressive development this term and now have just one match to play. Unfortunately the Under 13A lost a close game against Kent College 2-4. This meant that their long unbeaten run has come to end but they still have one match to play next week to complete their successful season.

After last week's district cross country event we are pleased to report that 5 Junior School runners have progressed to the County finals in January at the Duke of York's Dover and congratulations go to Hetty Moran, Daisy Baker, Joseph Gormley, Adam Whitlock, and Tom Blunt for achieving this.

We now enter the closing weeks of what has been once again a most successful term of sport and a full report will follow shortly giving a complete break down of results once all fixtures have been completed. The last 2 weeks will mainly revolve around House matches, weather permitting, but the main sporting focus moves to the traditional round of festive 'kick rounders', introduced 16 years ago to the school by Mrs Relf and a true winner amongst children throughout the whole St Edmund's community.

Traditionally only played in December, word on the sporting street is that Mr Buckingham has broken the unwritten rule and played this week. Mr Penn will be speaking with him on his return shortly!

## Bethany's Birthday Celebration

This week School House celebrated another birthday. This time it was Bethany's 13<sup>th</sup> Birthday and she was very happy because her cake was her favourite cheesecake!





## Cake and Cookies Sale

Camilla Boarman-Powell (F7) has organised a 'Cakes and Cookies' sale to take place on Tuesday 3rd December, raising valuable funds for Crisis. If you are practising for the House Bake On this weekend ahead of the House Bake On competition on 9th December, Camilla would welcome donations of goodies she can sell, to really maximise the amount she can donate! If you are able to donate either home made or shop bought cakes or cookies, please bring your baked goods in on Tuesday morning, where Miss Barnes will safely store them in the ICT room. Alternatively, if you would like to do so, you can also support by providing your children with money to purchase the delights that will be on offer. Please consider donating egg-free or gluten-free as well as the usually wonderful array of treats, and remember we're a nut free school so strictly no nuts. A big thank you in advance for your support of such a wonderful charity and well done to Camilla in organising the event.

## Chorister Lunchtime Concert at the Uni of Kent

The Choristers will be giving a free lunchtime concert at the University of Kent on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December in the Colyer-Fergusson Hall at 1.10pm. If you are out and about in Canterbury please consider supporting them. Unfortunately, I will be unable to be there, so I am hoping that they will have some support from some of our other parents and friends of the school. More details can be found here: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/music/whatson.html?tab=december>

## A Plea for Christmas Decorations

The St Edmund's Association (formerly Pre Prep and Junior School Parents' Association) are also looking for any old Christmas decorations you no longer have use for to decorate the Hall for the Fair. These can be left with Mrs King.

Have a lovely weekend. I hope to see many of you at "Chicago".

Best wishes,

Dr Emma Margrett  
Head of Junior School



## Looking Ahead

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December, St Edmund's Association Christmas present buying and wrapping for parents and family members.** Forms 3-5 will be going during their lunchtime on Tuesday and Forms 6-8 on Thursday. Each gift costs £5 each. The children choose their gift, write their own gift tag and select some ribbon/bow to personalise their gift.

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2.30pm, School Big Band and 'Hullabaloo'** St Edmund's Festival presents The St Edmund's School Big Band with special guests' Hullabaloo' for an afternoon of Swing, Big Band, Rock 'n' Roll, Jive and a touch of Christmas! Tickets £12/£8 are available will be available at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-edmunds-school-canterbury](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-edmunds-school-canterbury)

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December - The St Edmund's Christmas Fair** will take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December. We would be most grateful of donations of bottles (of any description!) for the tombola, toys (no DVDs or books please), chocolate for the chocolate bed and any Christmas decorations you have no further need of. Thank you.

**Advance notice! Wear a Christmas jumper and raise money for the Pilgrims Hospices!** This year we again hope to raise money for our local Pilgrim's Hospice by wearing Christmas Jumpers for our Christmas lunch. These jumpers do not have to be expensive, shop-bought jumpers; children can decorate a plain jumper with tinsel, decorations or anything Christmassy! This year we are asking for a 'nod' to the hospice by adding the hospice logo, the hospice blue colour or any other imaginative little twist which shows we are supporting the hospice. We suggest a minimum of £1.00 donation and there will be a prize for the best jumpers in Upper and Lower Schools. It is really important that everyone gets into the Christmas spirit to raise money for our wonderful local charity. Children in Year 8 will also be given the option to wear a Christmas themed accessory if they do not want to wear a jumper, or in addition to their jumper.

## Congratulations to:

**Ralph Styles, Isla Anderson, Sophie King, Ruaraidh Aitken, Yalamber Rai, Lucy Sutton, Louis Adsett-Noble, Danny Shaw, Violet Vant, Ella Jones, Oliver Poninski, Jessica Margrett, Juliette Matharu, Freddie Gourdie** for gaining their Bronze star certificates.

**Isla Anderson, Fraser Bennett** for gaining her Bronze and Silver star certificates

**Eddie Florence, Joshua Robinson, Alexander Strzeminski-Boden, Peter Symon** for gaining their Silver star certificates.

**Joshua Coleman, Tabatha White** for gaining their Gold star certificates.

**Lexie Wilkinson** for attaining 3<sup>rd</sup> place for a clear round in the 30/40cm class on her pony, Dolly at Barton Field Farm.

## Pick-up times:

|                               |          |               |             |      |            |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|-------------|------|------------|
| <b>Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> | Football | Kent College  | U11 A,B,C,D | Home | <b>4pm</b> |
| <b>Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> | Hockey   | Dover College | U11 A,B     | Home | <b>4pm</b> |
| <b>Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> | Hockey   | JKS, Birley's | U13 A,B,C,D | Away | <b>4pm</b> |

**E-Safety:** If parents have any concerns about their son or daughter's online security, they should immediately contact Ross Underwood Director of Safeguarding Lead & E-Safety Co-ordinator. He can either be called via the school office on 01227 475600 or emailed at [rpu@stedmunds.org.uk](mailto:rpu@stedmunds.org.uk)