



**ST EDMUND'S  
SCHOOL**  
CANTERBURY



**18th December 2019**

# Junior School News

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It hardly seems possible that I am sitting down already to write the final newsletter of 2019! Well, it has been quite a term for a whole myriad of reasons. It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Cathedral for last night's wonderful St Edmund's Carol Service. It felt very special to see the entire school community united under one roof to celebrate the wonder of Christmas. Like last year, I was blown away by the fantastic singing and orchestral playing and extremely proud of the children.

Last Friday was our St Edmund's Association Christmas Fair. This year, our brave parents decided that they would try out the larger venue of the Sports Hall, and the room was filled with a variety of stalls from the school community and even external businesses that have a link with the school in some way. This year's raffle was simply outstanding with a huge number of amazing hampers filled with all kinds of goodies from gardening equipment to food, to eco-friendly supplies. Additionally there were vouchers for everything from 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. Proceeds are still being counted and a final total is yet to be announced, but I think it is safe to say that a significant amount of money has been raised, both by the St Edmund's Association for a project around the school and by the children and staff for their House charities.

Monday was our Junior School Christmas Lunch and the dining room was awash with happy chatter as we all tucked in to a festive roast. I was extremely proud of the fact that our school councillors had requested that we do away with crackers this year due to the large amount of single use plastic they contain. Instead, we had supplies of paper hats and we brought our own jokes. My thanks go to our wonderful catering team at Holroyd Howe for providing us with such wonderful food. Not just for Christmas but for every day whilst we are at school. We really are incredibly lucky.

Monday was also our Christmas Jumper Day where the children were allowed to pay £1 and wear a jumper in aid of the Pilgrims Hospice. Like last year, we held a competition for the best personalised jumper and this year the results were as follows:

Lower School: Winner - Eliana Rogers-Bricout (F4), Highly Commended: Cora Regan-Mears (F5) and Xiomara Harper-Cox (F5). Upper School: Winner – Jessica Margrett (F7), Highly Commended – Adelina Harte (F7) and Isla Berry (F6). The children were asked to add a 'nod to the Hospice' in their jumper if they were able to do so, and many did. I would like to thank them all for their efforts. Finally, I would like to thank all of our teachers, teaching assistants and admin staff for providing the children with such wonderful, rich and varied opportunities whilst they are at school. They are very blessed.



## Our Digital Christmas

As I mentioned in last week's newsletter, pupils throughout Junior School have discussed what Christmas means to them, does it mean the same for everyone and who doesn't celebrate Christmas. They have translated their many wonderful ideas into code, which has been transferred to a Microbit (a very small computer with LED lights), and they now adorn the tree in reception. All Forms from 3 to 8 have their decorations on the tree, which we have termed 'Our Digital Christmas'. It has been a wonderful project to inspire and provide creative independence, whilst children are learning a valuable skill, to program. I hope you took the chance to have a look before the end of term as the tree was filled with approximately 150 Microbits. The winning entries, which were announced in Final Line were



1st	Maisie Wright and Annabel Ogsten Lemmens Form 8
2nd	Gretel Meacham and Lucy Standen Form 5
3rd	Oliver Bradley and Alex Robinson Form 5
Highly Commended	Louis Adsett-Noble, Dino Dullabh and Oscar De Varennes Form 3

## Junior School Collection of Shoe Boxes for KRAN

If you have visited the Junior School at any point over the past month or so, you will have noticed the ever growing pile of shoe boxes that we had collected as part of our Christmas appeal for KRAN, The Kent Refugee Action Network. Last week, after some weeks of collecting, Mrs Burden and Mrs King loaded up one of Mrs Burden's vans with some help from some of the other staff and children and delivered the filled Christmas shoe boxes to KRAN. Lots of Junior School families have chosen to fill a shoe box with a mixture of items which would be classed as necessities, together with the odd luxury, to try to ensure that some of the young refugees in our area know that they have been thought about at Christmas. Thank you to everyone who took part in this activity. We hope that those donations have made someone else's Christmas feel just a little bit brighter.







## Form 6 learn how to use Microscopes and Create Cultures



Last Friday Form 6 had a lesson in Microbiology. They learnt how to culture bacteria using aseptic technique and learnt how to use a microscope. They had to put one print from a dirty thumb and one from a clean thumb into the petri dish. Mr Payne tells me that great fun was had by all and that Freddie Post's thumbprint grew the most bacteria. Probably not surprising given that he had just been outside goal-keeping at the time!



## Music Scholars attend John Harle Performance Workshop

Music Scholars attended a Performance Workshop given by our Performance Consultant, John Harle, in the Recital Hall last Tuesday afternoon. Pupils from the Junior and Senior Schools were put through their paces as John listened, observed and gave useful advice on all aspects of their playing. Performers were: from the Junior School, Ami (F6) and Leo (F8) Watters (piano), Oliver Tesic (F8) (alto saxophone) and Thomas Young (F8) (clarinet); from the Senior School: William Inscoe (piano), Ella Wheadon (alto saxophone), Billy Boarman Powell (oboe) and Stephen Brown (vibraphone). Well done to all that took part.

## School House get ready for Christmas

To get the boarders into the Christmas spirit Mrs Thyssen and Mrs Donnelly went over to School House last Tuesday to take the younger boarders through a master class of baking Xmas biscuits.





## Inter-House 'Get Your Bake On'

Last week saw the inaugural Inter-House Bake on launched in Junior School. The children were invited to enter a creation into one of four categories: Biscuit Creation, 6 cupcakes, 1 tier cake and cake of your choice. We were overwhelmed by the huge number of entries and unbelievably impressed by the results. We would like to wish everyone who entered huge congratulations. I think that the Bake On will become a regular feature in the Junior School calendar next year! The winners were as follows:

### Lower School:

1. Biscuit Creation: 1<sup>st</sup>: Eddie & Alice Florence (joint winners), 2<sup>nd</sup> Ben Holcroft
2. 6 cupcakes: 1<sup>st</sup>: Xavier Grey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Michaela Dullabh, 3<sup>rd</sup> Juliette Matharu
3. 1 tier cake: 1<sup>st</sup>: Alice Yeomans-Attwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tabatha White, 3<sup>rd</sup> Josie Weed
4. Cake of your choice: 1<sup>st</sup>: Josh Robinson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Oliver Bradley, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cora Regan-Mears

### Upper School:

1. Biscuit Creation: 1<sup>st</sup>: Tilly Turner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Will Surridge, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marshall Chester
2. 6 cupcakes: 1<sup>st</sup>: Ella Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Isla Berry, 3<sup>rd</sup> Olivia Standen
3. 1 tier cake: 1<sup>st</sup>: Jessica Margrett, 2<sup>nd</sup> Milly-Jaey Reeve, 3<sup>rd</sup> Poppy Gower
4. Cake of your choice: 1<sup>st</sup>: Edward Underwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cameron Crouch, 3<sup>rd</sup> Patrick Poninski

Alice was the overall winner in Lower School and Edward was the overall winner in Upper School. Edward was also crowned ultimate competition winner.







## Inter-House Maths

This year's Inter-House Mathematics Cup champions were Becket. Becket narrowly clinched victory in both the lower school and upper school competitions to secure the overall title. Once again the standard of competition was exceptionally high and great fun (believe it or not!) was had by all, a big congratulations to all the competitors and a special thanks to Form 8 helpers, Leo Watters, Henry Goodwin, Masha, Daisy Holt and Charlie Emson for marking for the younger entrants.



	Marlowe	Roper	Chaucer	Beckett
Final Score Lower school	25	26	28	29
Final Score Upper School	39	32	38	40
Overall scores	64	58	66	69



## Overall House Totals For Michaelmas Term

	<b>Becket</b>	<b>Chaucer</b>	<b>Marlowe</b>	<b>Roper</b>
Open Morning Help	115	135	125	145
U13 Boys' Football	100	50	25	75
U11 Boys' Football	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
KRAN Boxes	50	65	95	65
U13 Girls' Hockey	75	100	25	50
Michaelmas Concert	65	140	110	80
Form 7/8 General Knowledge Quiz	25	100	50	75
Music Exams	10	20	20	20
Ernie's Incredible Illucinations	45	35	45	40
Miss Barnes' Digital Christmas	100	50	100	75
Bishop Rose's Installation	25	15	10	15
Inter-House Maths Lower School	100	75	25	50
Inter-House Maths Upper School	100	50	75	25
Inter-House Overall Result	100	75	50	25
Bake On Participation	80	45	115	105
Bake On House Results	50	50	100	75
Star Totals	1169	1046	1329	1156
<b>Michaelmas Totals</b>	<b>2209</b>	<b>2051</b>	<b>2299</b>	<b>2076</b>



## Riya donates her hair

Riya Thapa (F6) recently cut her hair at her birthday party on 7th of December and her hair and the £80 she raised in donations will be donated to "Little Prince Trust". Additionally, all her birthday money, given by her friends and family is directly going to Cancer Research UK. The link to her fundraising is below and will be available until Riya's actual birthday on 24<sup>th</sup> December. Well done Riya on such a selfless gesture! <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/riyas-birthday-fundraiser>

## Form 7 & 8 make their own wrapping paper in DT

In Design and Technology this term Form 7 and 8 have had the opportunity to use Adobe Illustrator; learning how to use some of the basic tools for graphic design. They have all had success in designing and printing their own t-shirts whilst carefully considering their theme and target market. As an extra, the pupils were asked to design some Christmas wrapping paper and enter their creations into a competition, whereby the prize was to get their design professionally printed to be sold at the Christmas fair for charity. There were some lovely designs, however, after careful consideration, only one winner was chosen from each year group and I am pleased to announce that they were Maisie Wright (holly paper) in Form 8 and Adelina Harte (poinsettia paper) in Form 7. Everyone has worked extremely hard this term, with many of the children catching the 'creative bug' and really enjoying what Adobe Illustrator and being creative has to offer.



## Yes, we do speak Spanish!

The end of the Michaelmas Term signals the end of the first term of Spanish teaching in the Junior School. The first groups of children in Form 7 and 8 have had an introduction to the language, learning about some of the Spanish speaking countries of the world as well as some basic vocabulary. They have been very receptive to the songs, games and activities designed to reinforce their learning through repetition. Just this last week, to consolidate their learning, they have all been designing a board game based around the topics covered, e.g. colours, months, greetings, numbers etc. and then swapping and playing each other's games. This is a great way to practise and remember some of the language, as well as a fun way to end a very busy and exciting term. All groups of children in Form 7 and 8 will be given the opportunity to learn one term of Spanish in amongst their French lessons. This is following feedback from the children who wanted to have more exposure to Spanish ahead of making their option choices in Year 9.



## Science Club attempt to culture snowflakes!



Last week in Science club the children carried out an activity similar to the one carried out by Form 6 where they cultured bacteria using aseptic technique. However, Science Club attempted to create Christmas patterns with them! Time will tell if they have been successful.

## Junior School Sport

With all competitive sporting fixtures complete, the headlines of the week go to the unbeaten U9 football team.

With Mrs Relf now in a football management role, things were looking bleak last week for this aspiring manager as her side fell to a half time 2-1 deficit. Strong words of encouragement and astute tactical changes lead to a second half resurgence and magnificent team play saw the team winning 3-2 in this exciting encounter against Kent College, completing their initial season unbeaten in 5 matches.

This has once again been a tremendous sporting term in the Junior School with participation numbers in school teams greater than ever before. With the strong fixture base firmly established throughout all of our upper age groups we tend not to focus too much on fixtures at lower ages, as this we feel, is a time to gently coax and develop all abilities, creating a solid all round base. The results of this are more teams higher up the school, and ever improving results.

The new timetable has certainly helped the Junior School PE Department focus on the most important technical foundations of both football and hockey, especially in Forms 7 and 8 with the excellent Monday games period giving time to prepare for 'Matchday Wednesday'. The results are clear to see and congratulations must go to all of our pupils.

Our "Wake Up and Shake Up" fitness club has continued to flourish and the New Year will once again see the return of the most widely missed, Mr Penn's rock n roll playlist which he is currently working on.

On behalf of Mrs Relf, Mr Buckingham and Mr Penn, thank you for your support and making sport for all part of day to day Junior School life and here is to a sporting 2020 with more fitness tests!





## Form 6 Christmas Party



Form 6D and Form 6P had a special Christmas Party this week. Here are a couple of pictures. Form 6D would also like to wish Ella a very happy birthday for 20th December!

## Adam's huge effort at the South of England Intercounties XC

We were so proud that Adam Whitlock (F8) was selected to run for Kent in the South of England Intercounties Cross Country in Oxford on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December. However, unfortunately, Adam's race did not quite go to plan. Conditions were challenging, with some sections extremely muddy, a true cross country test. He had a good start and was well placed, around 15<sup>th</sup>, when (at around 2/3 distance) he twisted his ankle on a tree root. Adam managed to finish but then collapsed in a heap, where he was attended to by volunteer first aiders. Adam has been recovering slowly since the event, but we are grateful to him for representing the school even though he didn't achieve the result he wanted.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and I would like to take a moment to thank all of the staff and all of the children for making St Edmund's such a special place.

With very best wishes,

Dr Emma Margrett  
Head of Junior School



## Congratulations to:

**Jamie Jackson, Charlotte Baker, Mya Pettman, George Gannon, Sancy Carthew, George Warren, Dino Dullabh, Hugo Wache, Esme Thapa, Xiomara Harper-Cox, Theo Isom, Mati Thomson, Eliana Rogers-Bricout, Alexander Robinson, Jessica Reynolds, Seamus Soutar, Adelina Harte, Edward Underwood** for gaining their Bronze star certificates.

**Olivia Wright, Sonny Moretensen, Aidan Kearney, Ana Vukosavovic, Thomas Hamilton-Woodthorpe, Niamh Davis, Emma Sharp Kinsey, Setayesh Kalantari Khandani, Autumn Goodey, Josie Weed, Mael Staehler, Cesar Ntamushobora, Charlotte Noel, Juliette Matharu, James Sutton,** for gaining their Silver star certificates.

**Rohan Lowe** for gaining his Bronze and Silver star certificates.

**James Sutton** for gaining his Silver and Gold star certificates

**Ben Coleman, Lucy Standen** for gaining their Gold star certificates.

**Josh Coleman** for gaining his Platinum star certificates.

**Filip Powell, Hugo Wache, Autumn Goodey, Alexander Robinson, Alexander Strzeminski-Bowden** for gaining their Certificates of Excellence.

**Frederick Butler and Jonty Harris Harding** for gaining their Full Colours in Music.

**Samson Buck, Stanley Allom, Will Knoupe, George Wager, Henry Goodwin** for gaining their Full Colours in Football.

**Lola Burge, Amber Wilkinson, Riya Thapa** for gaining their Half Colours in Hockey.

**Eddie Florence, Freddie Post, Rafa Barton-Hodges, Evan Gallagher, Freddie Gourdie, Sonny Moretensen, Joe Garrard** for gaining their Half Colours in Football.

**Abigail Beale, Holly Allom, Daisy Holt, Matilda Marriner, Stella Rogers, Robyn Davis** for gaining their Full Colours in Hockey.

**Filip Powell** for gaining his Purple Belt in martial arts.

**Thomas Hamilton-Woodthorpe** for gaining his Chief Scout bronze award.

## Pick-up times:

<b>Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	Hockey (B)	Duke of York's	U13 A	Away	<b>4.30pm</b>
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**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 [rupu@stedmunds.org.uk](mailto:rupu@stedmunds.org.uk)