



11th October 2019

Junior School News

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope that you have had a good week this week. Half term seems to have come around so quickly, however, having spoken to the children I know that many of them are very much looking forward to having some time with their families at home, or maybe even away! I am off next week for a few days with my extended family, and I am certainly looking forward to having some time to reconnect. I hope that you will be able to do the same. On Sunday, before we go away, we will be going up to the Royal Parks Half Marathon to watch my husband run on behalf of the Hospice in the Weald, a charity very close to my heart. Whilst I am less into the running myself, I always feel that it is a wonderful place for such an event, flat and very beautiful, and we are hoping that the weather will be kind. Maybe I'll even try it myself next year... we certainly have lots of staff members who are an inspiration on the running front, so there really is no excuse! I know that several of our pupils are also taking part in challenges over half term to raise money for causes close to them. Do have a look at the details of their fundraising later in the newsletter and perhaps even consider sponsoring them if you are able to do so.

Today was the last day for submitting your child(ren)'s option choices for the workshops on St Edmund's Day. We are really looking forward to a fantastic day, and hope that the children are excited about what they would like to do. We aim to get out information about the workshop your child has been allocated to during the first week back after half term.

I have been trying to get 'out and about' this week in school and see what the children have been up to. I have particularly enjoyed seeing Form 4 find non-unit fractions of amounts. Some of them were using cubes to help them whilst others were relying on their times table recall! In Form 3 the children were writing some fabulous poems about Autumn and they really impressed me and our Junior School Governor Mrs Carnegie with their extensive vocabulary.



In other news, the children in Upper School Science Club have been making algae beads which they have taken home to investigate photosynthesis in action over half term! I have been so impressed to see the wide range of activities that they have been doing over the past half term. If your child is in Upper School do consider asking them if they would like to take part.



Chorister Outreach Concert in Hythe

The Choristers sang a wonderful concert in St Leonard's church, Hythe on Saturday 5th Oct. As part of the season run by the friends of St Leonard's, the concert was very well attended and received with huge applause and enthusiasm. Dr Flood tells me that it is an excellent place to sing. Frederick Butler (F8) and Charlie Alexander (F8) sang solos and the concert included a wide variety of pieces, from Purcell to Simon and Garfunkel. The Choristers had a wonderful time and showed their usual extraordinary professional performance, from youngest to oldest. Unfortunately, I missed the concert due to feeling unwell, as did a number of the Choristers, so we are particularly proud of all those who represented St Edmund's and sounded fantastic even though their numbers were depleted.



House Point Tokens finally beginning to mount up!

I was delighted last week to present the first House Point token for our House Point Collector outside Mrs King's office to James Sutton (F5) from Marlowe House. Josh Coleman (F5) had also achieved a token for Marlowe House but unfortunately he was at a chorister engagement last week and so he couldn't collect his until this week. The children receive a token every time they achieve a Bronze, Silver or Gold certificate for collecting 25 House Points. This week, I have given out a number of tokens and it has been lovely to see how proud the children are to add their tokens into the collector on behalf of their House. The photo shows Charlotte Noel (F4) adding her token to the collector. I look forward to giving out lots more tokens in the coming weeks.



St Edmund's Enters the Open Coding Competition

St Edmund's Junior School are pleased to announce an entry into a national coding competition, for children in Key Stage 3 who are interested in developing an app for charity. After half term, we will be running a coding club for children in Forms 7 & 8 who wish to develop their coding skills and/or enter the competition. To enter, pupils will form groups of 4 and design, develop and test an app for a charity of their choice. The app must inform a wider audience of the charity's goals and/or raise awareness for the charity. A fantastic real world opportunity for children of all levels of confidence and skill to be involved in designing and developing an app. Before the final in June, club members will submit their apps to a panel of St Edmund's judges, (yet to be decided and kept top secret so that no bribing with tuck can take place) who will decide on the final group that will go before judges at the University of Surrey. We look forward to sharing more as the year progresses.



Form 5 Trip to the Museum of Kent Life

Form 5 embraced the spirit of the Victorian era on a visit to the Museum of Kent Life today. Highlights of the day included experiencing life in a Victorian classroom and meeting Florence Nightingale.



Lower School Christmas Cards

Following the success of these cards last year, there is a Christmas card pack in your child's school bag. There is an envelope containing a letter, an order form and an instruction sheet. Your child should draw their design straight onto the back of the order form (although it might be a good idea to practise their design on scrap paper first) and we have found that felt tip pens produce the best end result. Their designs can be turned into cards or mugs for example, the letter explains it all. If you would like to order any goods, please follow the instructions and fill in the order form on the back of your child's design. All orders and payments must be received by Mrs King by Friday 1st November. We will then send these off to Xmas4schools and should receive the cards and goods back by the end of November. Unfortunately, late orders will not be accepted by the company. The cards are a good quality and examples can be found on the noticeboards in the Lower School corridors.

St Edmund's Diploma

I have attached details about the Diploma from Mr Christodoulou-Jones to the same email that you received this newsletter on. It is a fantastic opportunity for your child to get involved in an extended piece of work about a subject which really interests them. Children who complete Diplomas will have their Diplomas presented in Head's Line. Past topics have covered everything from birds of prey, to marathon running.

Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar

Mr Bodle has asked me to inform you that following his "Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar" competition, the winner was Michael Nkereuwem (F8) with a wonderful guess of 450; just one off!



Praise from the Headmaster at Wellesley House

You may remember that I wrote last week about our U13A boys' football team jointly winning the Shapira Cup at Wellesley House. I was delighted to receive a letter this week from Gavin Franklin, Headmaster of Wellesley congratulating us on our win and telling me that "Your boys were superb". There is nothing better than getting positive feedback from another school, and the boys undoubtedly represented us exceptionally well.

Marlowe Team Photo

You may remember from my newsletter last week that several of Marlowe House were absent for the photo of the new House and Sports Captains and I promised that a full photo would be included in this week's newsletter. Unfortunately, the weather has not been kind today when we had planned to take the photo, and consequently I will add the photo to the first newsletter after half term instead.

School Council for 2019-20 are Elected

This morning, I appointed this year's School Councillors following class elections which were held on Wednesday morning. The School Councillors this year are:

Form 3

Josie Weed
Mael Staehler

Form 4

Lexie Wilkinson
Cesar Ntamushobora

Form 5

Eddie Florence
Isla Anderson

6D: Monty White

6P: Daniel Rose

7B: Joe Burgess

7G: Joseph Goodwin

7M: Dylan Shearer

8G: Jack Hodgson

8P: Will Bradley

8V: Ali Ismail



Additional Seniorship Responsibilities

I am delighted to report that an additional Seniorship Responsibility has been awarded today to Ali Ismail for Leading Comedy Club jointly with Frederick Butler.



Jessica Plays in Head's Line

This week in Head's Line it was the turn of Jessica Margrett (F7) who played a rendition of "Danny Boy" on the cello.



Tilli's Glitter Run Challenge

Tilli Perry (F8) is doing a Glitter Run at the University of Kent on Sunday to raise money for the Kent Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre, a charity which is very close to her heart. She is not just running, she is running three-legged with her sister, Caitlin! If anyone would like to sponsor Tilli, donations can be made to <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tilliperry-12>

Robyn Fundraises for Aspire

Robyn Davis (F7) is taking part in the 'Aspire Channel Swim' for her fundraising activity. Participants have to swim 22 miles within 12 week time frame, which is the equivalent to swimming the English Channel. The Aspire Charity provides practical help for people who have been paralysed by spinal cord injury, supporting them to independence. Robyn is swimming the 22 miles & then as many over the 22 up till December 9th. Robyn's fundraising page is: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/clare-kingsmill-davis2019-channel-swim-46012

Junior School Parent Reps

I am very grateful to the following parents who have put themselves forward to be parent reps this year.

Form 3 – Michaela Dullabh

Form 4 – Libby Henderson

Form 5 – Angela Garrard and Liz McDonald

Form 6 – Claire Berry

Form 7 – Carol Sadan and Sally Rigden.

Form 8 - Lynsey Bond

There is a reply form attached to the email which you received this newsletter on. If you are happy for your contact details to be shared with the parent reps, please fill in the details you are happy to share on the reply form and they will be passed on to your year group parent reps.

Junior School Sport

It has been a fine sporting end to a great half term of sport in the Junior School.

The Under 13A and U11A boys' football teams remain unbeaten and top both of their respective Molten Leagues with two wins against Northbourne Park this week. Initially, the Under 13A team went down to an early own goal but comfortably came back to win 4-1. The U11A team won 1-0 in what I have been told was a good game of competitive junior football.

The Under 13A and U11A girls' hockey teams also reach half term unbeaten with 2 draws this week. The Under 13A team eventually finished with a 4-4 draw after leading throughout their match away to Junior King's. The Under 11 team also drew 1-1 in a tough game against St Lawrence College. Mrs Relf tells me that she feels that they are perhaps our most improved squad this term.

Fitness club on Thursday mornings continues to thrive with fitness levels improving, the music playlist however, chosen by some Form 8 girls this week, is apparently (according to Mr Penn) declining. More old school rock n roll after half term is certainly required, so Mr Penn says that Mrs Relf will have to transfer some from her vinyl collection over the break!

Our Form 6 to 8 girls' and boys' cross country squad travelled to The Schools at Somerhill in Tonbridge on Thursday afternoon in our annual visit to the big regional event. We have a couple of excellent runners in the school who train locally away from St Edmunds, but it is wonderful to see so many non-club runners giving their all in a challenging event. We are particularly delighted to report that our boys' team finished second out of 20 teams – a tremendous achievement!

It has been a fantastic term for participation once again with all girls and boys from Form 5 to 8 playing in a school team, an unbeaten term for our top teams, a 'cup winning' term for the Under 13 boys' football team and large turn outs for our ongoing sports clubs.

I would like to thank Mrs Relf, Mr Penn, Mr Buckingham and all of the Junior School staff who give up their time to coach and take teams to their fixtures and I know that the PE Department would like to thank you for your on going support of the Junior School PE Department.





I hope that you all have the opportunity to spend some quality family time together over half term. We are going to use some of the time to go up to the William Blake exhibition at Tate Britain – I absolutely love his work! If you do something over the holiday which really sparks your child's interest, why not encourage them to write a Diploma on it?

Best wishes,

Dr Emma Margrett
Head of Junior School

Looking Ahead

Year 9 Entry Information Evening, Wednesday 30th October. All families with children in Form 8 are invited to attend the Senior School Year 9 Entry Information Evening. The evening will be pupil led, and will comprise a presentation about Senior School life at St Edmund's followed by the opportunity to discuss academic and pastoral matters with staff. To attend this event, please contact admissions on admissions@stedmunds.org.uk

Chicago, Thursday 28th November—Saturday 30th November Tickets for the Senior School production of Chicago are on sale at £10 each. Please visit www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-edmunds-school-canterbury

Sunday 8th December, 2.30pm, 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 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-edmunds-school-canterbury

Congratulations to:

Charlotte Noel, Cesar Ntamushobora, Filip Powell, Joshua Robinson, Alexander Strzeminski-Bowden, Peter Symon, Tabitha White, Yasar Zhao, Fraser Bennett, Jeremy Isom, Setayesh Kalantari Khandani, Olivia Wright, Ben Coleman, Morgan Abbott, Robert Scholer for gaining their Bronze star certificates.

Lucy Standen, Alexander Strzeminski-Bowden, Lexie Wilkinson, Dino Dullabh, Violet Vant, Rafa Barton Hodges, George Blunt, Max Chessum for gaining a Certificate of Excellence.

Thomas Hamilton-Woodthorpe for his 25m Freestyle swimming medal.

Pick-up times:

Wed 30th Oct	Hockey	Wellesley House	U11 A	Away	4.30pm
---------------------	--------	-----------------	-------	------	---------------

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