



**ST EDMUND'S
SCHOOL**
CANTERBURY



Pre-Prep Newsletter

22nd November 2019

The Week Ahead

Mon 25th Nov 7.00pm in Recital Hall My School Portal parents meeting

Tues 26th Nov Kic Theatre for all classes

Thurs 28th Nov Dragonflies and Crickets going to Polo Farm for "Little Sticks" hockey activities

Dear Parents

On Tuesday 26th November all classes will take part in exciting drama workshops lead by Ian Crosher from Kic Theatre. The children will take part in activities based on their current topic work. There will be a small charge for this activity which will be added to your next bill.

Thank you so much to all those that gave donations of money or cakes to our Children in Need day. We raised £260 which is brilliant and had some delicious cakes!

On Thursday 28th November the Dragonfly and Cricket classes will be travelling to Polo Farm to take part in a "Little Sticks" hockey session. The children had a great time when they visited before and are really looking forward to showing off their skills.

Best wishes

Head of Pre-Prep



Dragonflies

Last week's work on Elizabeth I inspired such enthusiasm from the Dragonflies that we indulged in researching another famous Tudor - Henry VIII! We used portraits of him to learn about the past, discovering what a valuable source portraits are for all history detectives. We used a selection of collage materials and stick-on jewels to create our own Tudor-style portraits - please visit the classroom and view our "Portrait Gallery".

We are enjoying the story "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" (please don't watch the movie at home before we finish it!) and wrote our own imaginary "through the wardrobe" stories. Many of us are starting to independently use the punctuation we are learning about in our grammar lessons - and Mrs Sherwin was very pleased to see the correct use of capital letters, full stops, exclamation and question marks.

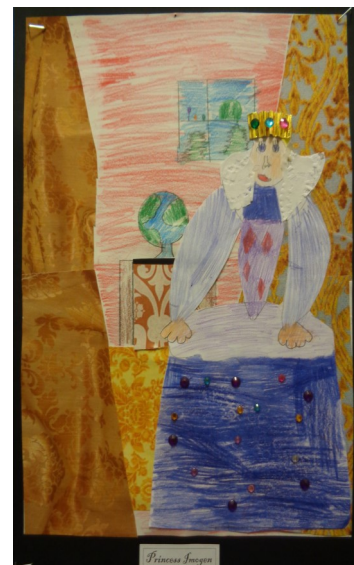
In Maths we are learning how to answer "word problems" - maths set in real-life situations. We are now very good at working out the operation needed to calculate the answer - and can speedy complete problems. Well done!

Mr Baker (Eloise's and Ben's daddy) visited us to talk about the General Election. He told the children all about the importance of democracy and voting. Following the talk, the children wrote their own reports.

This report was written by Niyam:

"Today Mr Baker came to talk to us about the General Election. He told us about three people who want to be Prime Minister, they are Boris Johnson, Jeremy Corbyn and Jo Swinson. They all want to help people but they have different ideas about how to help people. All grown ups can vote to choose the Prime Minister but children can't vote because they are too young. You have to be over 18 because children don't know enough yet. In the olden days women were not allowed to vote but now they are. We voted for Zach to be our Prime Minister and he gave us chocolate biscuits and then we had a secret ballot to decide if we should eat them before lunch or after lunch and most people chose to have the biscuits straight away so we did."

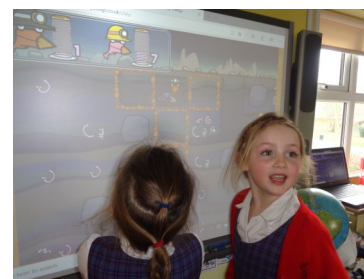
Mrs Sherwin





Cricket

The Crickets have been exploring sight this week. They found out about Helen Keller and how she was blind and later went on to teach other blind people how to read. They explored the grounds of the school and looked to see how far they could spot things from the Sheep field. The beautiful views revealed famous landmarks in Canterbury and the children used binoculars to look even further in the distance. Wearing blind-folds, the children paired up to 'guide' one another safely.



In Literacy, the class wrote about things they would like to see. They mixed colours and painted pictures using details. Following drama and books read, the class wrote about opening a box to see something inside it.

In maths, the class having continued work on telling the time and adding digits together. The class have also found out about parts of the eye and how they see. They are eagerly looking forward to the visit by Jasmin's daddy, Mr Grimes as he is going to be talking to them about his job as an optician.



Mrs Purnell

Honey Bees

The week began by being invited to attend a talk given by Mr Baker about the general Election. The children listened intently as they were told about the history of voting, where MP's work and what they do. The children very much enjoyed being able to vote in their own election with him to decide whether to enjoy chocolate biscuits or wiggly worm sandwiches! Thank you Mr Baker for a wonderful talk.

This week the Honey Bees have continued their work on Autumn colours. We have explored the range of colours on show, chosen our favourite colour and written about it, created beautiful autumn finger paint pictures and had fun conker rolling.

In Maths we have continued revising 2D shapes and learning how to identify them using mathematical language. The children have enjoyed working practically to print with shapes, make lolly stick shapes with corners, making paper pizza's with shape toppings and then making an ingredients list to show which shapes they used and made wonderful shape dinosaur pictures!

In Literacy the children have been introduced to 'p' and 'f' this week, along with the word 'of'.

Forest School was chilly this week! We decided to stay warm playing their favourite game, '1,2,3 where are you?' and then light the camp fire to cook popcorn.



Mrs George



Ladybirds

What a wonderful week the Ladybirds have had flying in to space! The children have continued to enjoy dressing up as astronauts in their space rocket role play area. This week they have been creating their own astronaut passports so that they can fly to the moon and have had a great time using these in their imaginary play.

We have been learning about the different planets that we would find in space and have been creating our own solar system using mod roc. The Ladybirds watched a video of a real life rocket taking off into space and landing on the moon, which was very interesting! The children have been looking really carefully at the different colours of the planets and learning that some are bigger than others. We have been painting our own planets using water colours and circle shapes to help us. We have also been exploring the 'moon sand' tuft tray and we spoke about what the land must be like on the moon compared to the Earth.

Please can I remind parents to send back your child's library book so that we can exchange it for a new one. We love looking at the pictures your children have drawn and sharing these with the group, so please encourage your child to draw something after reading.

Miss Ashenden





Looking Ahead

Tuesday 26th November	Kic Theatre (For children)
Tuesday 10th December	9am Ladybird and Honey Bee Christmas play. Refreshments from 8:30am (For Children and Parents)
Thursday 12th December	9am Cricket and Dragonfly Christmas play. Refreshments from 8:30am (For Children and Parents)
Friday 13th December	Reports to parents
Monday 16th December	3.30-5.00pm Pre-Prep disco for Honey Bees, Crickets and Dragonflies
Tuesday 17th December	10:30am Gulbenkian Theatre—Snow Dragon (All PP Children)
Tuesday 17th December	7:30pm Carol Service in the Cathedral (Dragonflies will be taking part but as it is late this is mainly for the parents)
Wednesday 18th December	Pre-Prep Christmas lunch
Wednesday 18th December	1:30pm End of Term

Notices

My School Portal

My School Portal is the School's new information and communication platform for parents, staff and pupils. MSP keeps parents fully up to date with school life and can be used to access pupils' reports and attendance data. It can also be used for emails, forms and the School Calendar.

As part of an environmental drive, we intend to stop sending out School reports and School Calendars from January. These documents will still be available on request from the School Office.

Now that parents and guardians have had a little time to try MSP, we are interested to hear how you find it, to offer assistance with any technical or other queries, and to discuss the school's intention to become paperless from January. A Parents' Forum will be held in the School's Music Recital Hall on Monday 25th November at 7:00pm.

In case you haven't yet logged in, details are below:

To log into MSP please click onto the link:

<https://stedmunds.myschoolportal.co.uk>

Then use the email address that received this newsletter and your SchoolPost password or you can request a new password here: <https://stedmunds.myschoolportal.co.uk/request-password>

The move to My School Portal will greatly improve the efficiency of our communications systems. If you experience any problems setting up MSP, please email aeb@stedmunds.org.uk



Notices cont.

Thursday 28th November-Saturday 30th November

Tickets and tables are still available for the Senior School production of Chicago. Tickets are on sale at £10 each and tables at £75 including two bottles of prosecco. 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 will be available at www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-edmunds-school-canterbury

E Safety If parents have any concerns about their son or daughter's online security, they should immediately contact Ross Underwood, DSL & E-Safety Co-ordinator. He can either be called via the school office on 01227 475600 or emailed at rpu@stedmunds.org.uk.

Keep up to date with life at St Edmund's by looking online at:

[Website news for Pre-Prep, Junior and Senior Schools](#)

[Junior School weekly newsletter from Dr Margrett](#)

[The Head's Blog from Mr O'Connor](#)

[The Boarding Blog](#)

And don't forget you can also follow us in Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

