ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL
CANTERBURY

Boarders and Warneford House visit to Screamland

Senior School Newsletter **1st November 2019**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you had an enjoyable half term.

New Arrival in Boarding!

Congratulations first of all to Dr and Mrs Jones on the birth of their son George Elward "Woody" Jones. Woody weighed in at a mighty 8lbs 14 ounces (a future Wales prop forward I suspect) and is doing very well. We wish Edwin, Liz and Woody every happiness.

New Website

Over half term we managed to finalise and launch the school's new website.

This has been a long and complicated process! It has also been a huge collaborative effort involving marketing staff, the leadership of the three schools, Heads of Department and subject teachers, parents and pupils.

The result, I think, is very exciting, most importantly, captures the unique spirit of our school.

Do have a look and lets us know what you think!

Lighting up the Stage

We have installed a new lighting system in the school theatre. This is a very significant investment that was funded by a former pupil of the school.

Thanks to his extraordinary generosity we have replaced all of the old stage lights some of which dated from the 1940s with brand new remote operated LED lighting and a state of the art stage management system.

Not only will this greatly enhance the creative possibilities for future school productions but it will also use significantly less power than its old-fashioned predecessor!

Our theatre is now an outstanding modern, flexible resource and I can't wait to see the new system in action.

Canterbury Festival Bursary Competition

My congratulations go to Jonathan and Olivia Harris-Harding.

Both represented St Edmund's School playing at the Canterbury Festival Bursary Competition over half term. Jonathan was a finalist in the Junior Category and Olivia a Senior Finalist competing for the main prize.

They played superbly, with Jonathan (F8) wowing the audience with his range of expression on the trumpet and Olivia (U5) beginning her programme with unaccompanied Bach, teasing out every nuance in the music and proving both her technical skill and expressive range.

She finished her performance with a punchy and spirited playing of Astor Piazzola's 'Spring' from the Four Seasons of Buenos Aires.

Both children showed their versatility, personality and natural musicianship in a concert showcasing the best of Kent's Musical Talent.

Art Award

Sophie De Giorgio (U5) entered and was awarded Best Junior in the Landscape or Woodland scene category of the SAA competition. Her work reached the final 70 out of 3000 entries, the SAA is exhibiting the painting at the Art Materials Live event at the Birmingham NEC this weekend and there will be an awards evening at some point. Sophie's stunning piece of work is to the right:

When in Rome...

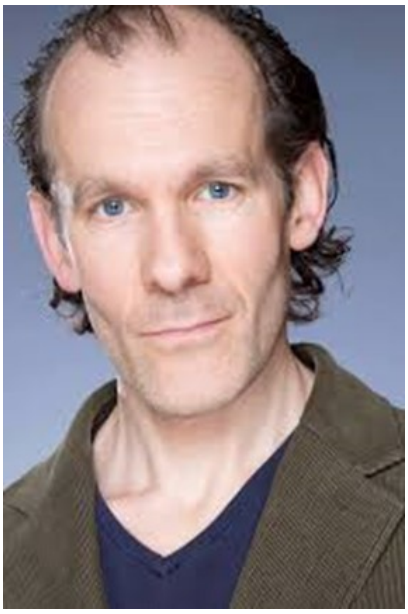
A group of Classics students visited Italy during the break, stopping off in Rome the Vatican City and Pompeii.

The group were able to enjoy excursions to the Colosseum, the Spanish Steps (below) and even Mount Vesuvius.

I am told that it was a rewarding, culturally enriching and exciting experience.

I would like to thank Mrs Heavens for organising and leading the trip, ably assisted by Mr Hooley.

SPD Masterclass



Today, our Sixth Form English students were fortunate to receive a masterclass in Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* from renowned actor Simon Paisley-Day.

Simon read Drama and American Literature at the University of East Anglia before training at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. He has worked for nearly thirty years in theatre, TV, film and radio. He has played leading roles on the West End stage, at the National Theatre, London's Old Vic and Shakespeare's Globe, where he played the title role in Timon of Athens and Petruchio in Taming of the Shrew. Most recently he played the Onceler in Dr Seuss's The Lorax and Sir Walter Raleigh in Treason Trial at the Sam Wanamaker theatre at Shakespeare's Globe. He is shortly (spoiler alert) to be seen being violently throttled by Adam Driver in Star Wars #9 and will soon begin rehearsals for a West End production of God Of Carnage by Yazmina Reza. He tells us that one of his favourite ever jobs was a tour of American universities, playing Angelo, Claudio and Pompey in Measure For Measure!

I am very grateful that Simon has given his time so generously to support our students.

Year 9 Entry Information Evening

On Wednesday the School held a Parent Information Entry Evening for pupils joining us in Lower 5th; at the start of the Senior School journey.

The event was pupil led, with speeches from our Captains of School on Academic Life, Pastoral Care, Sport, Drama and Co-Curricular. Isabelle Matharu, Joe Gordon, Lottie-Lou Smith and Alexandra Millard did a fantastic job of representing the School.

Following this, new Lower 5th pupils spoke of their experiences of joining Senior School. Mark Lower explained how straightforward the transition from Junior School had been, while Aimee-Rose Hawkesworth and Otto Carthew spoke of their positive experiences of joining St Edmund's from other local schools. It is a daunting task to speak to a big audience and Otto, Aimee and Mark did us proud.

Congratulations to all pupils involved in this event and my thanks to parents for attending.

Will Inscoe

Congratulations to Will Inscoe (U6) who completed the Oxford Half Marathon on Sunday 13th October. He ran for the charity Oxfordshire Mind. As you can see, it poured with rain the whole morning! His time was 2h 36m.

Sports News

Our U14 and U15 girls' hockey teams have been in action this week, pitting their wits against Sir Roger Manwood's School. The U14's stormed to a 2-0 victory with excellent pace and accurate passing throughout. Zoe Rogers had a terrific game and the goals came from Abi Stanfield and Dali Tabony.

The U15's played a thoroughly entertaining match away at Polo Farm, with end to end action and plenty of skills on show!

Alice Horder performed brilliantly in goal, keeping the score line under control, when it could easily have slipped out of reach early in the game. The score was 1-1 at half time (Lily Powell scored our goal). Both teams pressed hard but it was SRMS who eventually came out on top, scoring two impressive goals in quick succession, leaving the score 1-3 at the final whistle.

The footballers have had an excellent training week ahead of the next week's Cup fixtures and the annual Tonbridge School fixture on Saturday. Please do come and support the 1st and 2nd team on the Jackman Field at 2pm, once the Rugby World Cup Final has finished of course!

Our L5 Chelsea football development sessions start again next Thursday, November 7th. Please book at www.chelseasoccerschools.co.uk and use Course Code: FDC-STE-K-2 and Invite Code: STEDMUNDSFDC. For further details, please contact John Rourke on 07720975201 or john.rourke@chelseafc.com

Screamland!

On Thursday, we held a non-uniform day with a Halloween theme to raise money for Porchlight, the local charity which supports homeless people across Kent. In the evening, a group of boarders and members of Warneford House continued the Halloween fun with a trip to Screamland in Margate.

L5 Enterprise Day

Mr Millard reports!

"On Thursday the entire L5 Year group devoted the day to thinking 'outside of the box'. The Business Enterprise Day began with an introductory talk by the course director Max Fever, introducing the set task, and encouraging out pupils to think creatively and work effectively as a team throughout.

The task this year was to construct an entire business plan for the newest (and most original) 'white knuckle' ride in the world. The challenge involved considering profit and loss, advertising, location and theme alongside building a scaled 3-D model and a five-minute presentation to peers and seven invited guests from different industries within Kent.

The pupils were then treated to a glimpse into the future by former parent and industry specialist Clive Triance. Clive's knowledge of the future of business was incredible and his words on how A.I., robotics and cashless societies will change the job market were full of energy and inspiration. Just to hear that Sweden will be a cashless society in 2025 was evidence that our pupils need to be prepared for the changes ahead.

The pupils worked throughout the day with our guests, deciding on roles and delivering to deadlines (including working through their lunchtime for some!). All of the presentations after lunch displayed ideas, skills in modern foreign languages and that the pupils had learned from the talks and advice given. A winner was selected but to quote one of the pupils, "it was the journey that was important today".

Well done to all of the L5. You were a credit to the school"

Mr Millard

As you can see, it has been a very diverse and successful period for the school since my last newsletter.

Have a great weekend!

Best wishes,

Edward O'Connor

Head

The Week Ahead

Week Commencing 4th November 2019

Monday 4th November	**13:50** Dining Hall Committee Meeting (C Block)
Tuesday 5th November	U5: Individual Careers Meetings (Careers office) A Level Art Trip to Turner Contemporary for Articulation Discovery Day **13:50** Quiz: St Ed Head vs Watson (Library) 14:00 Football (B) v Buckswood: U15B (a) 15:00 Football (B) v Claremont: U15A (h) **16:30** Hockey (G) v DOYRMS: U15A (a) **17:00** Hockey (G) v DOYRMS: U15B (h)
Wednesday 6th November	Netball (G): U14 County Tournament (Rainham School) U5: Individual Careers Meetings (Careers office) **13:50 – 14:25** Curiosity Shop Lecture: 'Ethics in research and academic integrity' by Nicole Brown (Library) **17:00** Hockey (G) v DOYRMS: 2nd XI (h) **17:00 – 19:00** ABRSM Music Theory Examination
Thursday 7th November	**13:50** Peer Listening meeting (D/R) **14:00 – 17:00** Music Scholars' Trip: Glyndebourne Tour (Marlowe Theatre) **15:00** Badminton v Ashford (h) **16:30** Hockey (G) v DOYRMS: 1st XI (a)
Friday 8th November	U5 Geography trip to Blencathra departs Deadline for ARC submission (L5, M5, L6) U5: Individual Careers Meetings (Careers office) **13:35** Head's Question Time (Head's Office) **13:50 – 14:25** Forum Debate (Library) **16:30 – 17:30** Tippett Quartet Orchestra Sectional 2
Saturday 9th November	Kent Festival Piano Classes (all day) (R/H)

Notices

Saturday Morning Programme—Saturday 2nd November

Please note that the Saturday Programme will begin and end a little earlier this week to reflect the Rugby World Cup Final.

Breakfast will be from 8.30am and the programme will run from 9-12 (rather than 9.30-12.30).

What's On

Thursday 28th November—Saturday 30th November

Tickets for the Senior School production of Chicago are on sale at £10 each or tables still available on the Thursday evening performance at £75 for four including 2 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