



Boarding News

December 2017



Message from Director of Boarding

I am delighted to introduce this term's boarding newsletter. As always, life in boarding has been hectic, frenetic and totally splendid! I hope this brief newsletter gives a flavour of the myriad of events that are continually happening within our boarding community.

Edwin Jones

Boarding Life

We are extremely proud of all three areas of St Edmund's Boarding: Owen Boarding where the older boys and girls live, School House that accommodates our younger boarders and the Cathedral Choir House for our choristers. All form an integral part of the St Edmund's community and add to the wonderful experience of living at the School.

Owen Boarding This is the largest area of boarding that houses the senior boarders. It is located on the upper floors of the main school building, with bedrooms set around two large and modern common rooms - one for the boys and one for the girls, although

both are open to all boarders until late into the evening. Both are fully equipped with various games, amusements and televisions and also a large screen in the girls common room for watching films at the weekends. These are great social areas and are also open for boarders during the school day at break and lunchtimes.

School House Significant renovation work was undertaken during the summer to update and bring a contemporary look to this wonderful historic part of the main school building.

The refurbishment includes glitter paint for the girls and graffiti wallpaper for the boys! New partitioning has resulted in all Lower Fifth boarders having twin rooms. The Year 8 boys also have their own new space for relaxation. Several new items such as a large television with PlayStation 4 have completed the refurbishment.



The girls love the new-look to School House

Both boys and girls make good use of the new kitchen area on the first floor in the evenings; hot chocolate and cookies are popular where boarders congregate to catch up on the days' gossip!

Saturday evening in School House is where the fun continues; everyone gathers in the common room for either Karaoke or a good film. Even CSgt French has been known to try and sing the odd (very odd!) song.



A surprise birthday party for Matron

There is a wonderful family atmosphere in School House where the younger boarders

are cared for by Matron and resident tutors, Amy and Hartley, and not forgetting CSgt French and Mrs French and their young son Kaden who loves to join in with everything.



CSgt French and Mrs French with Kaden

Choir House is located next to the Cathedral and is the home to the choristers of Canterbury Cathedral. These boarders are all full-time pupils at St Edmund's, being transported to the school early every morning and back in the afternoons to sing at the cathedral.

As well as taking part in seven services during the week they often sing at weddings, memorial services and concerts, resulting in an extremely busy schedule, but they do also have time to relax. Recent activities have included a treasure hunt around the Archbishop's palace, going to Wembley and the theatre, laser tag, paintballing, tobogganing and skating, Thorpe Park, trampolining and go-karting. They also go on tours abroad and recently visited Norway (where they went on a speedboat to get to a concert!) and Italy (where they sang for the Pope!) and are going to the USA next year at Easter for two weeks.

Being a chorister is very demanding, but of course there are lots of great things about it too. The boys sing beautiful music, get a buzz from being chosen to do a solo, recording a CD and radio broadcasts, meet lots of new people, always have friends to play sports with in the evenings on the Oaks,

come to St Ed's school and most importantly get tuck from Matron on Wednesdays!



Chorister Making

Weekend Activities

Every Sunday we arrange off site activities for the boarders. This term we have taken trips to Gravity Trampoline Park, Bluewater Shopping Mall & Cinema, Dry Slope Skiing, Laser Tag at Whitstable, Ice Skating and trips to Thorpe Park. Thanks go to the staff that accompanied these trips, often with their own children.

Saturday Night is Movie Night in boarding! In the relaxed atmosphere of the girls' common room the boys and girls enjoy popcorn and watch the latest movies. All boarders are encouraged to make suggestions and this term we have watched Kingsmen, Baywatch, Guardians of the Galaxy - Volume 2, Wonder Woman, Fast and Furious 8, SpiderMan Homecoming and Baby Driver.



Fun at Play Islands

A popular Friday evening activity this term was the quiz night where the entire boarding community gathered together. Congratulations to Tamara and her team who won.

Junior Saturday Morning Activities

At weekends our junior boarders enjoy activities and trips such as Adventure Golf, Wildwood, Swimming, Cinema, Laser Rush, Bowling, Bake-Off and Crafts.



Boarders at Rascal Bay Adventure Golf

Girls Sleepover Evening

On Friday 6th October the boys were asked to vacate the Girl's Common Room for the evening as a classic girls' sleepover was taking place. Out came Twister, the karaoke machine and the chocolate fountain and a make-up competition ensued - girls competed to make each other up as either Disney Princesses or Disney Villains! Then came the time to make popcorn, get snug under blankets and watch our chosen film: Ten Things I Hate About You. Whilst there was the option of camping out in the common room, which a few spirited girls enjoyed, most sensibly opted for the comfort of their own beds at the end of the evening!

5-a-Side Football at the University

This Michaelmas term some Sixth Form boarders have been taking part in a 5-a-side league, taking place every Wednesday afternoon. The league consists mainly of

university students and is held on the University campus. The team of boys, which consists of Louis Charoussett, Warren Limbu, Daniil Crowder, Bradley Byfield and Samik Shrestha, have played 5 matches so far, winning 3 and drawing 1, putting them in 3rd position in a 12 team league. The top scorer so far has been our very own, Louis Charoussett, who has only recently found his shooting boots, scoring in 3 consecutive games with a current total of 4 goals this season.



Louis also proudly runs the team's social media account, which is named, "Sweet Chili Sauce FC", or "The Chilies" in short, which they came up with due to regular visits to Nando's where they developed a sincere affection for the chili sauces served there. As for the season, they look to continue their fine form and achieve promotion to the 1st division in the very near future.

Report written by Samik Shrestha, Lower Sixth

Hockey Practice

Tom Shepherd, Oscar Wong and Ben Shepherd are currently training with the Ashford Men's 1st XI on Wednesday Nights. The team is currently playing in the Kent and Sussex division 2. Both Tom and Ben have represented the 1st XI this season and have contributed to the success of the team which is currently at the top of the table undefeated. The boys all continue to get stronger and improve their game to help the team gain promotion at the end of the season.



Tom Shepherd

Boarders involved in music

Many of our boarders are talented musicians and participate in the orchestral ensembles and choirs at St Edmund's. They are also involved in many public performances and are a wonderful asset to the music department.

Leander Hasubek has played 'cello solos in Open Day, The Canterbury Festival Speigeltent Concert and has played in the Kent Festival Piano Classes. Sophia Grundmann, Henrik Hutteman, Fred Rupp, Lasse Shraut have played in the Speigeltent and on Open Day as part of the String Ensemble. Tom Rupp has performed in the Speigeltent as part of Big Band. Oscar Wong, Wilise Fung and Antonia Bock are playing in the orchestra, Andrey Abramov sings for the Chamber Choir.

All our musicians are looking forward to taking part in the school's Carol Service in Canterbury Cathedral on the last day of term.



Leander Hasubek playing in the Canterbury Festival

Boarders' Christmas Ball

Once again it was decided to hold the Christmas Ball in the traditional Dining Hall. Thanks to Ms Florence and to the boarders who helped to quickly decorate the stately room after an early dinner on Friday. A music request list from the boarders ensured that there was plenty of dancing and boogieing and it was great to see boarders from Year 6 to Year 13 dancing together. The snow machine provided a warmer version of events that were occurring outside - it was lucky the boarders did not have to travel far to the party!



Boarders enjoying the Christmas Ball

Everyone made a huge effort to dress up smartly in their dresses and gowns and suits and looked very elegant. Thanks also to Santa Clause for making an appearance. Pizza kept the dancing going until late into the evening whilst the snow kept falling outside.

'Oliver!'

It is always pleasing to see so many of the boarders involved with the school production every year, and this year was no exception. Boarders were cast in several roles in the school production of 'Oliver!' and others helped behind the scenes. A most

enjoyable evening with so much talent on display, and our congratulations to all the cast and crew, and especially to the boarders involved: Andrey Abramov, Nic Yanni, Ben Shepherd, Beau Pettman, Marcus Yanni, Elizabeth Bourne, Alex Castle, Mo Falade, and Will Inscoe.



Andrey Abramov and Elizabeth Bourne

Wishing you a happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

Don't forget to follow the [Boarding Blog](#) for latest news.