



## Boarding News

July 2018



### Message from Director of Boarding

And so once again and far too quickly we come to the end of another frenetic but fantastic year in boarding. Immeasurable fun and countless achievements sum up the splendid year. We would like to thank Oscar Wong who has been a superb Captain of Boarding over the last year. He has always been fully supportive since joining boarding several years ago, and although it will be sad not to see him in September we wish him every success as he moves forward in life. I hope that this newsletter gives a flavour of some of the events that have occurred over the past summer term

*Edwin Jones*

### Fun at the Weekends

Saturday morning trips have included cinema, bowling, go-karting, animal rescue centre, Kaspers, Flip-Out and paintballing, supervised by Junior School teaching staff and our thanks go to them for providing such good care of our younger boarders. Boarders also have the opportunity on Sunday afternoons to go on a trip out of school; these have included cinema, Chom-Chom restaurant, Broadstairs, Bluewater, ice skating, trampolining and Laser Tag.



### Senior School prize winners

This year a huge number of boarders won school prizes for excellence in both academic disciplines and also extra-curricular activities (sport, drama, music, service). These were awarded by the Chairman of the Governors at the end of year Speech Day and highlight the strength and quality of boarders in a wide range of fields. Winners:

Minwook Ahn, Lubhanshi Arora, Alex Ashman, Max Carlin, Weng Chiang, Tsz Ching Wilise Fung, Sophia Grundmann, Ellie Horder, Gabriele Hu, Katharina Lennkh, Linda Li, Nadiya Limbu, Geri Ng, Naomi Ola, William Robertson, Shiqi Ruan, Freddie Rupp, Tom Shepherd, Hasina Thapa Magar, Victoria Tortiger, Oscar Wong, Jiaming Zhang, Xuan Zhou and Vladislav Zlatkin.



### School House

School House boarders have thoroughly relished living in their newly decorated and refurbished living areas and bedrooms, and have made full use of the contemporary and modern facilities. Their behaviour has been exceptionally good throughout the year and they have developed into a close-knit family with their Houseparents Kelly and Trevor French together with their son Kaden. Special mention goes to Kristina who was elected School House boarder of the year and will receive a prize on Speech Day. Alejandra and Harry both started the year very nervous and shy but both quickly settled into life within the school - their confidence has grown immensely. Alejandra's English has improved enormously and she has now decided to stay at the school until Christmas. Special mention also goes to Mekhail who joined the school late in the year but very quickly

integrated and became an important member of the School House family, and also to Tangsang (Upper School Art prize), Jennifer (Toby Slade Art prize), and Sheha (John Cox prize for endeavour). This year more boarders than ever have won Junior School prizes, something their Houseparents and all of us are extremely proud of.



### Movie Time

This continues to be a popular way to spend Saturday evenings. Some of the films that the boarders have recently watched on the large screen are Black Panther, The Greatest Showman, Jumanji, The Justice League of America, Flatliners, Pitch Perfect Three and Blade Runner. All with popcorn, crisps and drinks.

### Recreational Sport

In the evenings and at weekends the boarders make good use of the sporting facilities at St Edmund's, with football on the AstroTurf on Friday evenings (thanks to Mr Buckingham and Mr Stubbings who supervise this facility whatever the weather), the Old Gymnasium for basketball, and in the summer term the tennis courts and swimming pool.





### Table Tennis

A new and robust table tennis table has proved extremely popular. Thanks to Rojhuwon for organising a recent competition, and to Max and Haziq who won the Amazon vouchers.



### Work Experience for M5 boarders

All M5 boarders went on a work placement for a week in June after their end of year examinations. Example of local employers are chartered accountancy and surveyor firms, design and print centre, local junior and prep schools, florists, Kent and Christchurch Universities, artist studios, bookshops and a physiotherapy consultancy. I am pleased to report that in all cases we received highly favourable comments from their employers. To give one example, Hugo and Hoffman worked in a junior school in Folkestone. The teacher who supervised them said "They have been a pleasure in my class. They have been polite and respectful, followed instructions well and taken on responsibilities such as supervising the children, hearing them read, preparing for the Bishop's visit, assisting on trips and sporting activities. I have enjoyed having them and would have been happy for a longer placement". Congratulations go to both boys for being excellent ambassadors for St Edmund's.



### Pupil in the Spotlight

During Alex Ashman's first year as a junior cyclist he has spent the season developing race craft and improving his strength on the bike. This season Alex has raced: regional road races, national junior road races, elite mid-week race series, the Canterbury bike ride with the school, Belgium junior races. The season was punctuated with trips to the continent for some warmer weather training.

Next year's racing starts at the end of January with the road races beginning in the spring.



### Choir House

The 22 choristers at Choir House have had another busy and successful year. As well as their usual 7 services a week and extra services on top, they have also been on a 2-week tour of the USA. They sang 7 concerts across the country, starting in LA and finishing in New York. A highlight during their stay in Houston was a private tour at NASA including a chat in the mission control room with an astronaut on the ISS. Form 8 chorister Joseph Henry reached the final of the BBC Young Chorister of the Year for the second year in a row. Well done to all the boys for their tremendous hard work!



**Best Room**

Every week prizes are given to the best kept rooms in boarding. Special mention goes to Sajita and Lubhanshi (New Wing), Tangsang (School House) and Andrei (Owen Boys) who are the most consistent winners.

**End of Year Celebrations**

The boarders' end of year party was held in the beautiful grounds of the school on a glorious summer's evening. A barbecue complemented use of the outdoor swimming pool, inflatable fun with Hungry Hippos and Wrecking Ball and a variety of games on the cricket pitch. It was a wonderful time for the boarding community to relax and celebrate another busy year.

**St Edmund's Festival**

We are blessed to have once again the St Edmund's Festival of the Arts on our doorstep giving us a week of music, drama and much more. This comprised many events such as an opening night concert from world-class violinist, Tasmin Little, and the Big Band Spectacular concert. Many of very own boarders were involved in these events including Andrei, Hasina, Amisa and Kristina (The Mad Hatter's Tea Party); musicians such as Tom, Freddie and Sophia; Ayos and Jewels (Dramafest).



**We wish all our boarders and their families a wonderful summer.**