

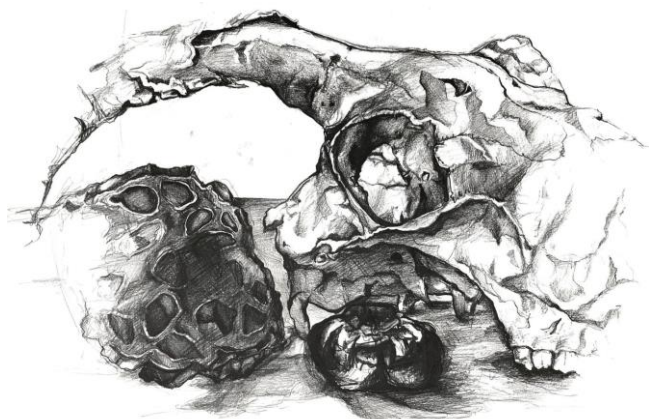


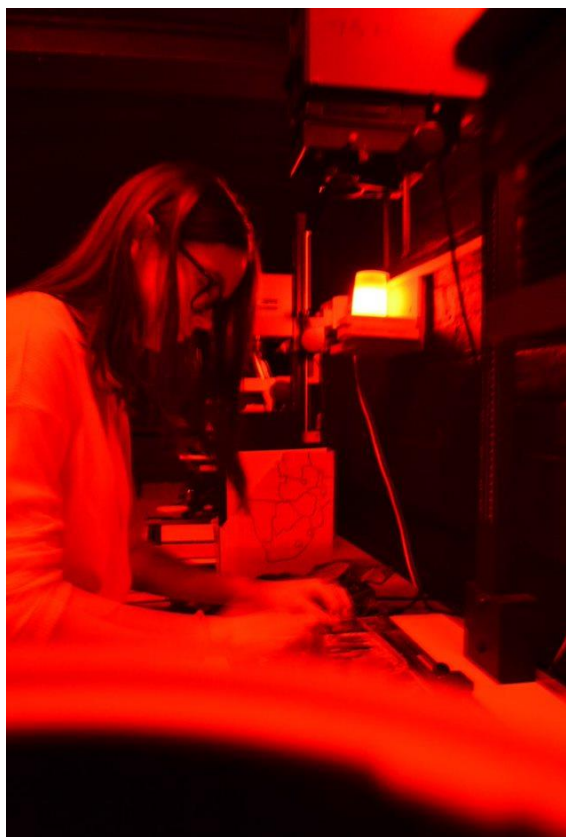
Dear Parents,

The full force of St Edmund's creativity has been unleashed this week by pupils and teachers alike. Across the curriculum all sorts of interesting and innovative work is taking place...

Art

"In the Art Department the pupils have thrown themselves back into the swing of things since the start of term. They have already been producing some outstanding work in Art, Ceramics and Photography. It has been so nice to see the studios buzzing with creativity once again. In Art, the L6 pupils have been exploring still life (drawing skulls, natural forms etc) using a variety of drawing materials. The photographers have been learning how to use Photoshop whilst also making use of the photographic darkroom producing Photograms and introducing cyanotype prints (blue prints) as you can see in the images. The ceramics studio is a hub of innovation once again with pupils developing their Personal Investigations based on their chosen theme of study".
Mr Hodge, Head of Art





L5 Scholars Session: Ilya Repin and the Russian Revolution

Our Lower Fifth Scholars had their second academic enrichment session of the term on Wednesday evening in the Library. I led the seminar on the artist Ilya Repin and we focussed on how Repin's work can help us to understand the causes of the Russian Revolution. The group worked me hard, asked some very sharp questions (particularly Betsy, Blake, Cameron and Thomas) and quickly began to decode some of the hidden messages in Repin's paintings such as *17 October 1905*...



Drama

In Drama, the team are preparing intensively for the GCSE and A-Level practicals. These performances are often some of the real highlights of the school year and Mr Sell is setting our performers ambitious targets as always. In the first picture, Lucy Walker-Reid rehearses Shakespeare's *Cleopatra* for her GCSE Drama practical performance. The second is of Amy Lawrie rehearsing the dance sequence from *The Red Shoes* for her A-level Drama practical with the school's amazing choreographer, Lisa Jayn Gordon.



English

Upper Sixth Literature students were introduced to and came to an excellent understanding of the satiric genre first through the Augustan example of Jonathan Swift's *A Modest Proposal*, then through a more modern, but no less abrasive, expression, in the form of punk rock!

Upper Sixth Literature students also deepened their understanding of T. S. Eliot's modernism by exploring links between his verse and Richard Wagner's *Götterdämmerung* and the radical art of the early twentieth century, exemplified by the likes of Pablo Picasso, Marcel Duchamp and Kurt Schwitters.

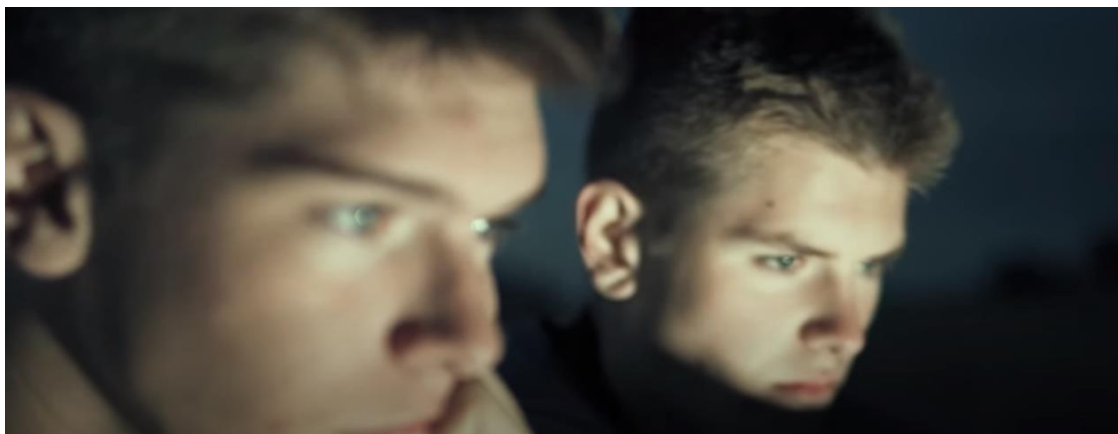
In Upper Fifth, pupils got to grips with the demands of Jo Shapcott's fantastic poem *Phrase Book* through a thought experiment designed to encourage an empathic understanding of the effects of war on those at home.

In Lower Fifth, and as part of their introduction to the origins of English and English Literature, pupils read an extract from Virgil's Aeneid, researched the famous statue 'Laocoön and His Sons' - as well as considering what might be going through each of their heads as they battled the god-sent serpents - and are preparing to compose text explain the statue to an audience of museum-goers.



Music

Many of you will be aware that Matthew Bawtree and George Burton write and perform their own music as South by Zero. [Here is the link](#) to their latest track which was recorded in a studio back in the summer. They were joined for this performance by Stephen Brown on drums. Enjoy!



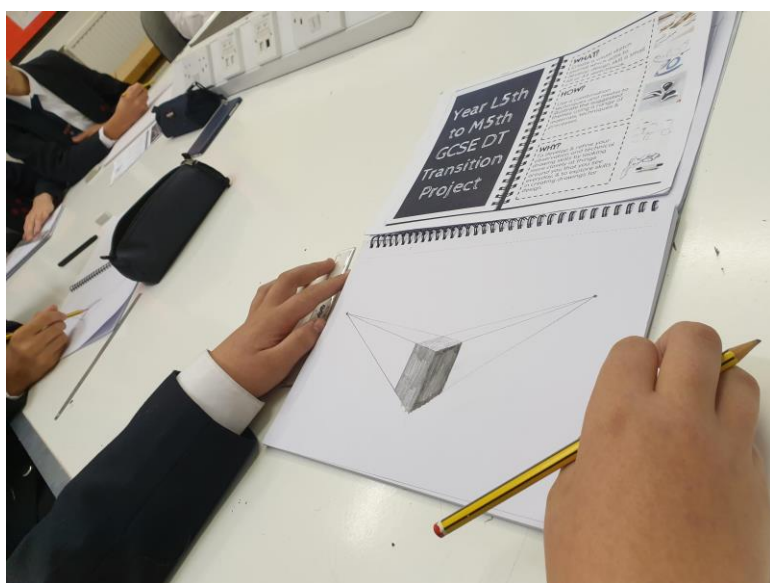
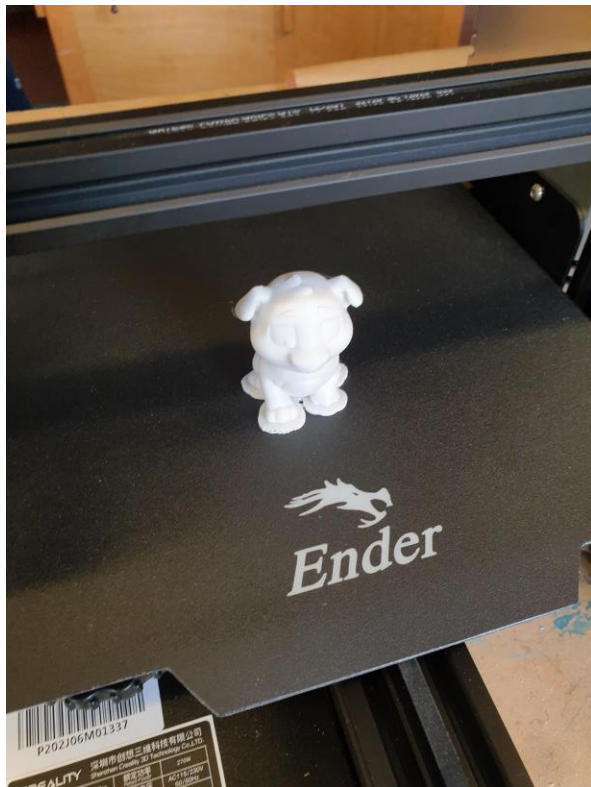
Making Music matters as we continue to rehearse in year group bubbles to nurture the body, soul and mind. Ensembles continue in reduced year group activities (photo of L5 Big Band members, Sixth Form Chamber Choir members with Dr Rowcroft). Mr Underwood has also put pupils through their paces in a L6 A-level Music Technology lesson.





DT

"There is a lot going on in DT at the moment. Yesterday, in M5th GCSE Food preparation and Nutrition, pupils were cooking sweet potato with roasted bay and orange whilst their Product Design peers were brushing up their sketching skills with 3 point perspective drawing. We also had the Leith's pupils cooking Genoise with lemon curd and a citrus crème au beauty mousseline. In other news, our new 3D printer has arrived and we are looking forward to seeing what our pupils can create over the coming weeks!" *Mr Anderson*



Geography

Lower Sixth Geographers have been analysing the factors affecting fertility rates this week, through the much under used medium of jelly babies. Pupils invented their own country and created a population pyramid using the sweets which represented different cohorts within the age structure. Then they took it in turns to choose cards that dictated events affecting fertility rates. Pupils wrote a report to classify and evaluate the relative impact of social, political and economic impacts.



European Day of Languages



There are between 6000 and 7000 languages in the world - spoken by 7 billion people divided into 189 independent states.

I learned this from the European Day of Languages website:

<https://edl.ecml.at/Facts/tabid/3173/language/en-GB/Default.aspx>

Ms Judi the Head of MFL and her team are celebrating this important international event by creating a set of interesting and innovative resources for pupils. Well worth a look over the weekend!

Online Safety Tips

Follow this link for information and advice on screen time -

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/screen-time/>

Do you know how much time online is too much? Are your children using the Internet appropriately?

Please do contact us if you would like to discuss online safety.



Mathematics Clinics

Maths clinics are back! The details are given below...

Week A U5 Tuesday 14:00, AML

Week B L5 Tuesday 14:00, CDJ/ELW

Week B M5 Tuesday 14:00, ELW/CDJ

Sixth Form: contact teacher directly for an appointment

Dr Jones is also giving classes in advanced IGCSE topics on Saturdays mornings online. Those interested in participating should email him at erj@stedmunds.org.uk.

Science Clinics

The Science department has scheduled a series of GCSE clinics for pupils who need additional help. The times and locations are given below:

Week A U5th 1.20 Lab 2 - Monday Biology, Tuesday Chemistry, Wednesday Physics

Week B M5th 1.50 Lab 2 - Monday Biology, Tuesday Chemistry, Wednesday Physics

Virtual Open Day

This year we will be running a virtual Open Day from 930-1030am on Saturday 3rd October. For COVID-19 reasons, we have decided not to have pupils in and there will not be any actual tours of the school site.

[Here is the link](#) for the virtual event. Feel free to forward this to any families who you know might be interested in the school.

Have a great weekend, stay safe and thanks for your continuing support.

Kind regards,

Edward O'Connor

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