



**ST EDMUND'S
SCHOOL**
CANTERBURY



Newsletter 5: 13th November 2020

We will remember...

The theme of remembrance plays an incredibly important part of our national identity. Each of us will, I'm sure, hold dear people who formed us into the children or adults we are. For some, this may be a grandparent who would have been keen to pass on a family tradition, whilst for others, it may be an inspirational teacher who showed you their passion for a subject and ignited a flame of curiosity.

The last Head's Line of the previous half term focused on Black History Month and provided our children with time to reflect on inspirational women. It was wonderful to hear stories of bravery, courage and desire and indeed these are facets that we all should aspire to have so that, for example, we can continue to make a positive difference and be an example to our children and communities. These traits were certainly on display during our remembrance of Armistice Day on the 11.11.20. As you've seen from Mr O'Connor's newsletter on Wednesday, the school held an online Chapel delivered by our Chaplain, Revd. Steve Bennett. Huge thanks to him and to the team for putting together a very moving act of remembrance. After the service, our children met outside in their respective bubbles for our two minutes of silence. I'm incredibly proud of our children, as the silence was kept immaculately. Towards the end of the week, children placed their Remembrance stones around the chapel. If your child hasn't been able to complete their stone, please feel free to encourage them to do so; they can be placed around the perimeter of our Chapel, with the hope that our act of remembrance continues beyond Armistice Day.

As a nation we have also recently gone into our second national lockdown and I appreciate the effect this may well have on many throughout the country. As a school we are enjoying our responsibility to offer educational consistency to your child. Thank you for your support with keeping our school and our children safe. My amazing staff team really have risen to every challenge put their way and they are committed to providing your child with the very best learning and pastoral support during normal times, COVID times, lockdown times or, if required, remote learning times. The recent 'What If' document should provide support to us all in the event that a COVID scenario occurs and I am hugely thankful for the emails of support and encouragement. Our school family really is pulling together and, whilst there may be niggles or we may be slightly delayed due to the drop off and collection arrangements, I am very grateful for your acceptance of the bigger picture - that we are all here to do the very best for our children - whether educationally, emotionally or socially. On that note, here's a project update:

- The Form 3 and Form 4 Teaching walls are in and they look wonderful! We are now only awaiting our Interactive TVs and whiteboard tables. The children love their new classrooms.
- The Genius Laboratory (ICT suite) is looking incredibly impressive and we are looking forward to children using this space and provision as soon as possible.
- The Library is on track to be installed towards the end of this term.

On Monday this week, the Form 4 children took part in their Victorian day and enjoyed a variety of learning experiences, including singing, creating miniature schools, decoupage and baking Victoria Sponge. Well done to the children and to my amazing staff team.



I'll end with the words of Laurence Binyon, taken from his poem, For the Fallen. Have a wonderful weekend.

Mr De Silva

**They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.**

Mr De Silva

Head of Junior School



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St Edmund's Day: Monday 16th November

Due to the current restrictions, St Edmund's Day will look a little different this year. Mrs Swatman has already written to Lower School parents regarding clothing for the day. For Upper School, please come to school in your usual uniform for that day. We are all looking forward to St Edmund's Day – particularly the 'traditional' doughnuts!

Congratulations!

For gaining their Bronze star certificates:

Ben H, Luca L, Penny BE, Lexie W, Thomas A, Monty W, Violet V, Maggie S, Zachary R, Evan G, Edward CS, Xiaocan L, Seamus C, Maria H-S, Logan W, Aine R-M, Naomi P

For gaining their Silver star certificates:

Morgan A, Masha D

Well done to you all!

Message from Mr Anderson, Head of DT

Design and Technology Boat Challenge

It was great to see a range of different boat designs and a buzz of anticipation at the start of boat testing during Monday lunchtime. The entrants came from across the Junior School years with many different designs and ideas. We found that taller and wider boats worked best although all boats entered successfully floated whilst holding 250g, some of the larger boats were even able to hold up to 3 kilograms. In the Lower Junior school category, it was a tie at the top between three pupils, so it went down to a judge's decision on style. Mrs Stanley awarded first place to the pupil with a successful design which was also full of detail and personalisation. A special mention also goes to the child who had a fabulously decorated Willy Wonka themed boat. In the Upper Junior School category, the winning boat was the most successful due to its ability to carry a total of 5 kilograms – particularly impressive as it was made from card board which would fit on a piece of A3 paper. House points have been awarded to all entrants with the winning boats gaining bonus points.

Look out for the next Design and Technology House competition coming soon.





Message from Mr Hodge: Head of Art

The Junior School Art competitions for the first half of term have been a great success and I have been incredibly impressed by the high level of production, enthusiasm and innovation seen in many of the submissions. Form 6 responded to the theme, 'Sea Life' with entries using a variety of medium. The overall winner was Xavier who submitted a clay sculpture of a shark.

Form 7 was the most fiercely contested due to the number of entries. 'Natural Forms' has been the theme of study in Art lessons and it was wonderful to see so much variety through outcome and approach in the entries submitted for this competition. Tilly produced a piece representing the Earth made from sea glass and dried flowers and this was the overall winner for Form 7.

'Everyday Objects' was the theme for Form 8. George produced two surrealist style drawings using everyday objects - a kettle and a mug. Both drawings were well constructed and we particularly liked the reflection of everyday life seen in the kettle.

Congratulations to all who took part. It was an impossible task making a decision as to the winners, however, I must say how impressed I was with all the entries. Prizes and certificates will be distributed over the next few days.

The next competition is now up and running with the theme, 'Autumn', pupils from Year 6 - 8 can enter this. The deadline is Monday 7th December for submissions of work. **Top tip for pupils:** Start by considering the possibilities through research and plan your ideas before you commit to starting your final piece.





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ART

COMPETITION

Produce a piece of work
that responds to the theme:

'Autumn'

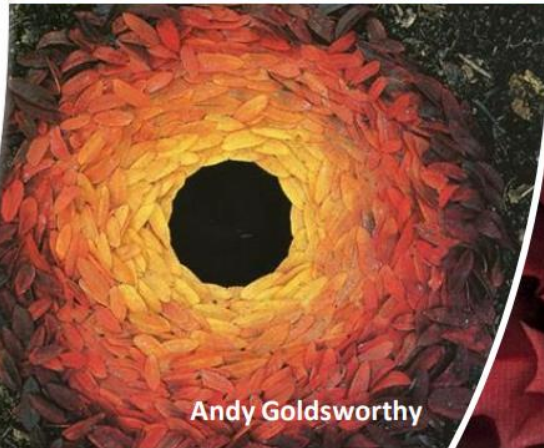
Deadline: **7th December.**

njh@stedmunds.org.uk

Tip: Start by considering the possibilities through research and plan your ideas before you commit to starting. Some of you may wish to take your photos ahead of creating your outcome.



Gustav Klimt.



Andy Goldsworthy



Georgia O'Keefe