



ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL CANTERBURY



Newsletter 11: 5th March 2021

...and we're back!

Over the past few days we have been continuing to prepare the school for the return to onsite learning for pupils on Monday 8th March; that being said, we spent a considerable amount of time getting the school ready during the Christmas break and, in many ways are more than ready to go. *More than ready?* Does this imply that there are ways in which we are not ready, or prepared? Well, the short answer is that we as teachers, and pupils (as children) are not always predictable... it's one of the great facets of being human! Whilst we are absolutely prepared for the return of pupils to the school on Monday in terms of procedures and learning environment etc., what we won't know is just how we, as a school family, may well feel on Monday. During my Friday Head's Line last week, I spoke to the children about 'changes' and the potential power (with our growth mind sets) to change the G to a C – thereby making **Change**, **Chance**; of course, with this subtle difference the perceived connotations shift to possibilities or opportunities rather than fears or concerns.



So does this mean that our children are *wrong* if they are feeling anxious about their return to onsite learning? No. We all have the right to feel as we do. Children's communication of feelings can manifest in a variety of ways – sometimes in changes to behaviours, or perhaps they may choose to verbalise their emotions. I would encourage all parents to speak to their children about how they are feeling regarding their return to school, but not necessarily in a manner where you are looking for something to be 'wrong', rather with an open and honest discussion. We, as parents, play a huge part in our child's perception of situations and they do pick up on our cues both positive *and* negative – so if we enter this scenario with a fixed mind set, then your child may well want to say what you want them to say, rather than what they need to say.

As you have no doubt seen in our video message sent yesterday (expires 6.3.21), we are hugely looking forward to seeing your child back at school and to support them with their return to onsite learning, including their learning behaviours. During the first day back, all children will have enhanced Form/Class time, as relationships are pivotal to child development and sit at the heart of every aspect of our school. Whilst the children will be returning, we are also looking forward to seeing you during drop off and collection. Please note, however, the importance for both these key times to be smooth, so do ensure that your child is ready to exit the car as speedily and as safely as possible. Following my email regarding Mrs Relf, Mrs King will be on drop off duty each morning with Mr Penn.

During the past week, we have held a number of meetings discussing the future, including the school's diary meeting for next term. Whilst we don't know quite what the future brings in terms of the various events historically held during the summer term, we are looking forward with great excitement and anticipation, mainly due to the support that you have given to your child during the lockdown – and the guidance, feedback and support you have given to us, so that we can continue to facilitate the very best learning for your child.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Mr De Silva

Mr De Silva
Head of the Junior School

Do you know of any children who would benefit from a St Edmund's Education?
If so, we will be hosting a Virtual Junior School and Pre Prep Open morning on
Saturday 24th April. Contact admissions@stedmunds.org.uk for details.



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Congratulations!

Bronze star certificates:

Aum B, Harry B, Tom B, Camilla BP, Kelvin C, Louis G, Sophie K, Kanade M, Christelle P, Yalamber R, Luca O.

Silver star certificates:

Oliver B, Eddie F, Harry H, Gretel M, Alex R, Lucy S, Evan G, Freddie G, Sulochana J, Oliver P, Amelia W, Arabella N, Theo I, Xiomara H C, James W

Gold star certificates:

Ben B, Olivia W, Xiaocan L, Theo I, Kimberly S, Autumn G

Silver, Gold & Platinum Star certificates:

Cora R-M

Platinum star certificate:

Jeremy I, Seamus C, Clemmie A, Alex M, Juliette M, Sonny M

2nd time around Bronze star certificate:

Aine R-M, Logan W, Josh C

2nd time around Silver star certificates:

Xavier G, Ben C

Certificates of Excellence

Alex S-B, Josh R, Angus H, Alex M, Daisy H, Morgan A, Tom B, Bella P

Winners of the Screen Free Bake Off competition:

Sofia DL, Isabella R, Bella P, Adelina H, Alice Attwood, Sophia R

GCSE success! Did I hear that right?

Yes. One of our Form 6 pupils, Aum, sat his GCSE Maths paper and secured a grade 9. We are incredibly proud of him and of all his hard work. Aum has also scored a distinction in the British Maths Olympiad and a Certificate of Achievement at the American Maths Challenge. Aum has a real passion for maths, which has certainly been more than validated by these results. Well done sir!

A less-than-conventional Monday Mindfulness!



Our children were treated to a VIP appearance during Monday's Mindfulness Line. Huge thank you to the Farquhar family for providing our children (...and staff!) with this surprise and to Mrs Barnes for organising.

Thanks also to Cronkshaw Fold Farm for helping to further brighten up a Monday!



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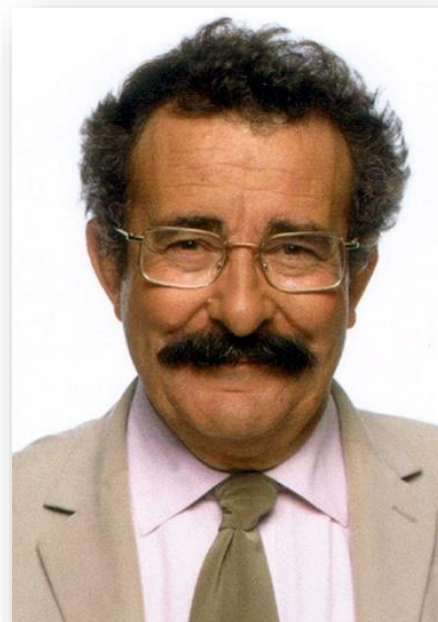


Professor Lord Robert Winston

I am delighted to announce that we have secured the services of Lord Winston who will be delivering an online talk to Junior School pupils on the 17th of March. We have also invited a number of local schools to join in with this talk.

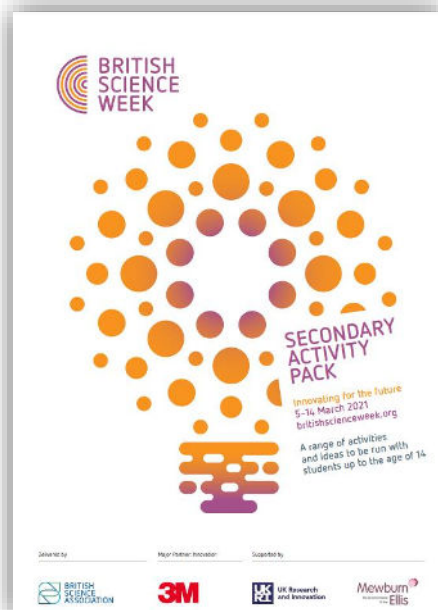
Robert Winston is currently Professor of Science and Society at Imperial College and Emeritus Professor of Fertility Studies. He runs a research programme at the Institute of Reproductive and Developmental Biology based at the Hammersmith Hospital Campus. He has appeared on many television programs over the years including *Child of our Times*, *The Human Body* and *Super Human*. He has authored numerous books on science and biology. Robert is also a Lord; he speaks regularly at the House of Lords on Education, Science, Medicine and the Arts.

We are very lucky to have secured the services of Professor Winston. He will be delivering a one-hour interactive talk to pupils about how the human brain learns, linking in with the theory of growth mind-set. If you have seen any of his work on television, you will know that his engaging delivery captivates audiences and we know that your pupils will learn a lot from this opportunity.



British Science Week

Please see the attached information from Mrs Jones regarding British Science Week – sent with the newsletter.





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