



# ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL CANTERBURY



## Newsletter 15: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021

### *A normal two weeks?*

...certainly not! Whilst teaching and learning has continued to be the 'ostinato' in our daily round of school life – and please do note the musical reference as a foretaste to our St Edmund's Festival later this term – a lot more has happened! Sporting competition has resumed! This is a significant step forward for us as a school and we are grateful to the sporting authorities, our competitor schools, our children and parents and, of course, my talented sporting staff – please do see the Sports Page.

Staff play such a pivotal role in the continued development of our children; however, the perception could be that this development is purely around academic progress and attainment. This is simply not the case. As parents, you send your child to us to do so much more than conventional teaching and learning, and our continued collective drive to be the best we can be for our pupils, really does pay dividends. Therefore your support is hugely appreciated. On that note, I am delighted to announce that Mr Comfort secured the post of Deputy Head at the Junior School. A formal press release will be sent out in a few weeks and will be shared @JSHeadStEds. The recruitment process was incredibly robust, and Mr Comfort not only did our school proud, but also himself – as the field was incredibly strong. Well done sir!



I am also delighted to announce that our Acting House Parent of School House, Ms Masters, has settled in very well and has been made to feel welcome by all children, parents and colleagues. If you would like to find out more about Ms Masters, please [click here](#). We certainly have some very exciting plans for Junior Boarding, and Ms Masters will provide updates in the fortnightly newsletters – please do look at the School House page.

Of course our continued drive to improve the lives of our children also means that we need to keep ourselves well as adults and provide support. Mrs King is having her head shaved on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May to show solidarity with Mrs Relf who has lost her hair due to her cancer treatment. Alongside this, she is looking to raise as much money as possible for Macmillan Cancer Support. She would like to send a HUGE thank you to all of you who have so far made a donation. For those of you who haven't, but would like to, it's not too late and the Justgiving link is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/yvonne-barnard>

Thank you for your continued support with our charitable efforts and well done to the amazing Mrs King and Mrs Relf!

This week saw the first sale of ice cream in Lower School and Upper School. Huge thanks to the St Edmund's Association for organising, co-ordinating and selling on Friday. This weekly sale will help to support the quality of play provision for our Junior School children and will further support the exciting changes taking place. One such change – albeit rather large! – is that of our new curriculum for September. Over the next few weeks Mrs Swatman and Mr Pellett will be meeting to fashion our new expectations and plans for a creative, concepts-based curriculum. More details will follow, but in the meantime, have a wonderful weekend.

*Mr De Silva*

Mr De Silva  
Junior School Head



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# Sports

Although the current COVID situation away from St Edmund's puts pay to the majority of our sports fixtures this week, it is great to report that the 4 that did take place returned with positive results.

The Under 13A and B girls rounders returned from the Duke of Yorks' School with two fine wins, 8-7 and 7-2, although the coastal weather at Dover did test their sporting 'resilience'!!

The Under 11 girls in their first match of the term cruised to victory against Dover College and have the makings of an excellent squad for both rounders and forthcoming cricket fixtures.

The U13 boys cricket teams unfortunately were called off, but it was left to the talented U11 team to take the field against Dover, winning easily with good performances from Form 5 pupils, Robert S with 29 runs and 2 wickets, Alex M 19 not out and Morgan A 3 wickets, in 110 run victory!!!!

The Gifted and Talented football sessions have got underway afterschool on Thursdays with the Chelsea Academy Community Coaches and will run for the next 9 weeks. Early feedback has been superb.



**Andrew De Silva** @JSHeadStEds · Apr 29

The sun's out and the pupils are ready for sport [@StEdsCanterbury](#). Exciting times! Mr De Silva [@StEdmundsSport](#) [@iapsuk](#) [@GoodSchoolsUK](#) [@muddy\\_kent](#) [@EKSTpartnership](#) [@Sport\\_England](#) [@ISC\\_schools](#) [@PFarmSportsClub](#)





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# School House

The term is back in full swing and the School House children are all very happy to return to boarding after an Easter break. I am delighted to step in as Acting Head of Junior Boarding joining a fantastic team of staff and a wonderful group of children.

So far this term the boarders have been making the most of the light evenings and good weather, spending time playing games in the school grounds including badminton, football and a new hybrid game we created of tennis and cricket, aptly named "Tricket". We are so fortunate to have the vast and beautiful grounds of the school as our garden with a backdrop of Canterbury Cathedral.

The fun has continued into the weekend with the last two Saturdays filled with a trip to Whistable beach and a sculpture walk through Canterbury - as well as a trip to town to make a long overdue stop into Lush! Saturday evening movie nights are a highlight of the weekend especially when popcorn is flowing.



Evenings with the boarders are always lively and filled with laughter. A highlight for me is hearing about their days once they return from school. Following dinner and prep time, the children enjoy a wide array of activities, from table tennis and monopoly, to playing outside or beating myself or Jayden, our boarding assistant, at chess! Throughout the weekday evenings we frequently have noodle, toasties and smoothie nights. It is a great time for us all to come together to chat about the day, play games or have a song and dance. We have also enjoyed frequent visits from Mr De Silva which the children always enjoy, especially when he comes by on a Saturday night armed with pizza!

There are a lot of exciting things to look forward to this term in boarding. This month is the "99km for Canines" in aid of The Dog's Trust. As a group we will collectively be completing the challenge of walking 99km in May to raise money and awareness for The Dog's Trust charity. In addition, the children are very excited that we will be adopting an animal at Wildwood's Trust in Canterbury, although there was some disappointment at the fact that the adopted animal would not be moving in to School House! We are also patiently awaiting our first harvest of School House strawberries!

Finally, we are extremely excited to be offering a free boarding taster night to Form 7 over three Friday nights in May and June. If you would like to know more about boarding at School House, please go get in touch: [d1m@stedmunds.org.uk](mailto:d1m@stedmunds.org.uk)



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## Congratulations!

### **Bronze star certificates:**

Jason Yung, Nyan M, Robyn D

### **Silver star certificates:**

James W, Esme T, Beau B

### **Gold star certificates:**

Adetola D, Imogen F

### **Platinum star certificates:**

Oscar DV, Jake B-W, Bella P

### **2<sup>nd</sup>-time-around Bronze star certificate:**

Beaulieu B

### **2<sup>nd</sup>-time-around Silver star certificates:**

Emma SK, Isabella R

### **2<sup>nd</sup>-time-around Gold star certificates:**

Thomas A

### **2<sup>nd</sup>-time-around Silver, Gold & Platinum and 3<sup>rd</sup>-time-around Bronze & Silver star certificates:**

Morgan A

### **Certificates of Excellence:** William A, Rohan L

### **Bronze certificate for completing 5 Accelerated Reader quizzes:**

Masha D, Freddie E, Thomas L, Jake BW, Clemmie A, Eliana R-B, Ben H.

### **For passing their ABRs Music exams:**

Xiaocan L, Elizabeth O, Alex S-B, Sophia DL, Theo I, Percy M, Cassius P, Betsy C, Ben C, Josh C, Cesar N, Peter S, Patrick P, Theo I, Rafa B-H, Luca R, Matthew W, Harry B, Ruaraidh A, Dylan S.

### **For obtaining their black belts in Taekwondo:**

Monty W, Tabby W, Freddie P

### **For completing 5 Accelerated Reader quizzes:**

Scarlett W, Logan W, Xiaocan L

### **For completing 10 Accelerated Reader quizzes:**

Maria H-S

