



ST EDMUND'S
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CANTERBURY



Newsletter 18: 25th June 2021

Flux capacitor anyone?

Perhaps the question above is giving away too much information about the genre of films that I quite enjoy watching or, that my childhood Batman skateboard may have been influenced by the adventures or misadventures of a certain Marty McFly with his hoverboard! For those who are unaware (or significantly more educated in sensible popular culture than me), I am referring to (arguably) some of the best films ever created – Back to the Future: parts 1, 2 and 3. The premise of the trilogy is based on a teenager travelling back, forward and back again in time – and this is done with his (and Doc. Emmet's) Time Machine – taking the form of a DMC DeLorean featuring a Flux Capacitor: a piece of technology that allows time travel. So the purpose of me raising the question above is firmly rooted in the quandary we all have during this term – we need more time! Now, I am by no means suggesting that our physical term must increase in length, but I am used to a good few more weeks from my previous headship in the state sector. But even if we had more time, I would still be asking for more. Why? Because we are providing our children with so much learning – but of course, this isn't just conventional educational learning in a normal classroom context; it takes the form of sports days, swimming galas, music concerts, visits and trips, visitors and so much more. Take, for example, the fantastic work from the PE department and the lower school at today's sports day.



Following information (and further guidance) from last Monday's announcement, we spent a considerable proportion of our time last week on formalising and finalising plans for events moving forward for the next few weeks – oh to have a time machine! On Friday, you will have received a detailed list of events and, whilst this may change dependent on a variety of variables, we wanted to inform you of the events happening, and, although you will not physically be present, we want to make the end of term enjoyable and memorable for our children. We are all so looking forward to Enrichment week next week with a range of activities and trips, including Falconry workshops, Escape rooms, CCF adventure sessions, Archery workshops, visit to Bodiam castle and a visit to Bletchley Park. Whilst our Form 8 children are looking forward to their visit to Bewl Water, we are aware that we want to mark the end of their JS journey – and are busy planning the session for the last day of term. Please see the list of dates on the next page.

Starting next academic year, the Form 3, 4 and 5 children will be starting a brand new mathematical adventure. For a number of years, the staff have worked with a variety of top quality resources, but, as a school we always ask ourselves *why do we do what we do?* Whilst sometimes decisions are taken because we know that there will be a considerable amount of fun and enjoyment (take Enrichment week, for example), we also have to look at the impact of educational decisions we make, particularly when core subject planning is being modified, adapted or changed. Therefore, I am delighted to announce that Lower School will be starting our INSPIRE maths journey. My Lower School team have been working with a maths specialist to see how we can best meet the needs of all our pupils to ensure that they have the best grasp and *mastery* of maths as possible. To find out more, please read the information below.

Whilst this academic year is coming to an end, I am hugely looking forward to actually meeting you and putting faces to names – I'm particularly looking forward to starting Parents in Partnership. We all know the importance of communication and, although there have been a number of events squeezed into this term due to the absence of onsite learning last term, we are trying to ensure that emails are sent on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It is my hope that September will bring a greater sense of St Edmund's normality. Failing that, *when* would we like to go.... FLUX capacitor anyone?

Mr De Silva

Mr De Silva
Junior School Head



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Diary

Date	Events <i>Please note that sports fixtures will be communicated weekly and all the dates are subject to change</i>
Monday 28th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non uniform day for Forms 3, 4 & 5 • Start of Enrichment Week • Lower School - Visiting author • Form 7 – Cinema experience • Form 8 – Transition to Senior School event • 6pm - New Form 3 induction webinar
Tuesday 29th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior School Music Festival • 6pm – Webinar for new Form 7 and current Form 6 parents
Wednesday 30th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dragonflies to Form 3, Form 3 to 4 and Form 4 - 5 move-up afternoon • Form 6 – Medieval workshop • Form 8 – Police talk • Tie Dye sale
Thursday 1st July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form 6 – Falconry workshop • Form 7 – Escape Room activity • Form 8 – CCF adventurer session • Form 8 – Escape Room activity • JS Music Concert • Coin trail – in aid of the Kent/Sussex/Surrey Air Ambulance • Lower School Archery Workshops
Friday 2nd July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forms 3, 4 & 5 to Leeds Castle & Go Ape Treetop Adventure • Form 6 to Bodiam Castle & Lydd water park • Form 7 to Bletchley Park & Computer Museum • Form 8 to Bewl Water
Monday 5th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing Workshop • Induction for new Form 7 pupils
Wednesday 7th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower School swimming gala (morning) • Upper School Swimming gala (afternoon)
Thursday 8th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech afternoon
Friday 9th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sted's Stars Talent Show • JS collection – Lower school 3pm-3.15pm. Forms 6 and 7, 3.15pm-3.45pm. Late stay will run until 4.15pm. • Form 8 celebration – details TBC with an anticipated collection time of 4.15pm



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INSPIRE Maths

What is Inspire Maths?

Inspire is a mastery curriculum with an emphasis on conceptual understanding and problem solving; Each topic is taught in depth before moving on, with opportunities to develop mathematical reasoning and solve less routine problems.

Children are taught using a CPA approach:

- CONCRETE – apparatus used to scaffold and support new concepts
- PICTORAL – using images and pictorial representations
- ABSTRACT – mathematical language (spoken and written) supports the use of abstract symbols.

The whole class experience the lesson inputs where concepts are embedded. They work together in mixed-ability pairs, recording their collaborative thinking and learning in 'whiteboard books'. It is sometimes appropriate to sort children into ability groups to provide extra support for slow graspers or challenge for fast graspers. These groups are completely **flexible** and may change on a daily basis based upon teacher assessment during lesson input.

There is an increased focus on use of vocabulary. Correct vocabulary is modelled by all adults and children are expected to do the same. Key vocabulary is noted on working walls. Stem sentences are also used to structure children's explanations.

What's Different?

Pupil books (as well as normal maths books)

Children are working from high-quality pupil books supporting teaching and learning.

The structure of these books provide practice opportunities which enable teachers to continually assess and provide rapid intervention where needed.

Mixed Ability Groups

- ALL children are accessing the relevant curriculum.
- Slower graspers are given more opportunities to embed new concepts before moving on;
- Fast graspers deepen their understanding and are given more opportunities to apply their learning to less routine questions ensuring a secure understanding as opposed to relying on procedure or memory.

More emphasis on collaborative learning and mathematical voice

Children in mixed ability pairs are encouraged to discuss their learning, developing their own understanding while also enriching the learning of their peers.

High expectations for all children

Teachers will continue to challenge children who grasp mathematical concepts more quickly although this may look different.

Some ways in which teachers will do this are:

- Introducing less-routine problems;
 - Expecting children to use and understand a wide range of representations;
 - Encouraging use of rich, mathematical language when talking about learning;
 - Developing a thorough, systematic problem-solving approach.
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Sport

Over 70 children played in competitive fixtures this week in our penultimate round of fixtures against other schools. We have as a JS PE Department prided ourselves for many years now in providing a full range of fixtures, so as to get as many pupils representing the JS on our traditional and longstanding matchday Wednesday.

With the England football team grinding out boring performances this week in the Euros, it was left to our U13/12 boys' cricket and girls rounders teams to liven up proceedings with great wins against the Duke of Yorks' School, Dover. The cricketers had Dukies at 10 runs for 8 wickets with Nathan S taking 3 for 6, Rafa BH 2 for 2 and Charlie B. Kanade our signing from Japan took his first wicket ever having only been taught cricket this term. Duke of York totalled 41 runs, which St Eds knocked off for 1 wicket with Joey B finishing on 28 not out.

The Under 11s had 2 close matches against Kent College with great batting coming from Alex M with 28 not out and bowling of high quality from Morgan TA.

The girls rounders teams, 13/12 A,B,C won their matches comfortably also against Dukies, with fine all-round performances once again from Daisy B and brilliant play coming from Crystal and Flossie. It has been a tough ask for the girls switching from cricket to rounders, but the teaching of each skill clearly enhances the development of each discipline.

Swimming across the school is now well underway and the sun even came out twice! More sport from the JS PE Department next week as we come to the close of the sporting year.





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Congratulations!

Bronze star certificate to: Adetola D

Bronze and silver star certificates to: Alice B, Gabriel P

Silver star certificate: Brandon E

Bronze, Silver & Gold star certificates to: Alice Y A

Gold star certificate to: Daniel D, Emma DC-M, Alex M, Ben H

Gold & Platinum star certificates to: Joran K, Holly B

Platinum Star certificates to: Penny B-E, Ben H, Mya P

2nd-time-around Bronze star certificate to: Jeremy I, Isabella R, Oscar DV, Olivia D

2nd-time-around Silver star certificates to: Josie W, Jake B-W, Beaulieu B

2nd time around Silver & Gold star certificates to: Daisy H, Robert S

2nd-time-around Gold star certificates: Emma SK

2nd-time-around Silver, Gold & Platinum star certificates: Sancy C

2nd-time-around Platinum star certificate: Thomas A

3rd-time-around Gold & Platinum star certificates: Morgan A

Certificates of Excellence: Ben C, Eddie F, Aum B, Tabatha W, Alex R, Evan G, Megan G, Violet V, Isla B, Monty W, Freddie P.

For passing his entry level 3 Drum: Zachary Redworth

Joint winners of the EKST (East Kent Schools Together) 'Our Shared Isolation' project: Betsy C, Joe G.

Lunchtime Organ Recital: Congratulations to Rhyd L playing J.S Bach's Prelude & Fugue in B flat major (BWV 560) so expertly

Canterbury Cathedral Girls Choir: Congratulations to Daisy B who has been elected to join the Cathedral Choir. She is very excited to start with them in September and to follow in the footsteps of previous girls from St Edmund's. We are all very proud of her.

Speech and Drama success!

Children from St Edmund's Junior School who take Speech and Drama Lessons took part in their first live performance for 18 months at Kent Festival on Saturday at Simon Langton Boys' Grammar School. The audience was limited to one parent to each performing child and was masked and socially distanced but children were excited to perform and parents who were eager to be entertained were not disappointed.

All children had entered 2 or more classes and every child was Placed in at least one, which is quite an achievement as most of the work has had to be prepared online.

- George G came 1st with Outstanding (90 marks or over) in both the Humorous Verse Class and Monologue Class for Years 7 to 13.
- Charlotte H came 1st in the Year 7 Verse Speaking and 2nd in the Year 7 Prose Reading and 3rd in the Monologue.
- Hugo W came 2nd with Distinction in the Humorous Verse Year 6 and under.
- Lexie W came 1st with Distinction in Year 5 Verse Speaking.
- Beaulieu B came 2nd with Distinction in Year 4 Prose Reading.

Our next 'live' event will be face to face LAMDA examinations on 1st July at Lorenden Prep School.

Miss Taylor

Marlowe fundraising: Thank you to all who donated green items for the raffle - 3 hampers were made with an amazing range of items ranging from crisps and sweets to bottles, stationery and bath bombs. Olivia (F6), Matthew (F7) and Joran (F5) were winners in the raffle with Isabella (F4) guessing the correct amount of sweets in the jar, taking home 233 sweets! The total amount raised for this worthwhile charity was £116.40.
Mrs Bradley





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Miss Harding

Hello Junior School community! My name is Miss Harding, and I am writing to introduce myself. I have worked at St Edmund's for the past three years across all three schools, but I am overjoyed to be permanently back in the Junior School, where I first started. I will be working as an HLTA in our AEN Team, and very excitingly I am now the Junior School Late Stay Coordinator. I will be developing our Late Stay provision to offer our pupils a supportive and stimulating environment to complete prep, followed by more enriching, engaging and fun activities which complement the learning taking place during the school day – watch this space for more information!

Miss Harding



Our new Chaplain – Rev'd Joy Atkins

Following on from Mr O'Connor's newsletter sent to the school community on May 10th, we are all delighted to be welcoming Reverend Joy Atkins to our School family. Reverend Atkins is currently based in Reading where she is Associate Vicar at Greyfriars. Earlier today I had a brief virtual catch up with her and asked her to pray for us all during the last weeks of term and over the summer; in turn, I'm sure we will do the same. You can hear from Rev'd Atkins on the [Church website: teaching](#).

Mr De Silva



Ramsgate tunnels and bunting!

On Monday 21st June, Form Five visited Ramsgate Tunnels where they were guided by Steve, a local volunteer, who was knowledgeable and entertaining, bringing the tunnels alive through relating stories of daily events. We were shown through the dark tunnels, seeing how and where the people sheltered during the bomb raids over Ramsgate. In the afternoon, the children made their own party food and celebrated a VE Day style street party in the decorated corridor... complete with bunting!

Mrs Burden

Tyland Barn

On Wednesday 16th June, Form 4 visited the headquarters of the Kent Wildlife Trust at Tyland Barn. It was a glorious, sunny day, perfect for a day filled with outdoor activities. The day kicked off with a pond dipping session. The children were able to see and classify a whole variety of life that resides on, and in, the water such as mayfly and dragon fly nymphs, water snails, caddis fly lava and even two newts! The children were fascinated to look at these close up and learn that the three prongs at the tail end of a mayfly nymph are its gills for breathing, and that a newt has different skins for when it is living in water or on land - amazing! After a lovely lunch in the shade and a bit of playtime it was back to exploring. This time the groups were digging in compost and under piles of wood to see what inhabitants they could find, as well as using nets to sweep long grasses and sheets to shake trees onto. The children studied the creatures carefully in magnifying pots and completed tally charts to represent their finds. Finally, it was into the minibuses and back to school. It was a much quieter ride back for the teachers than it was on the way there! Hot, happy children who had learnt so much in their explorations.

Mrs Norton