



**ST EDMUND'S
SCHOOL**
CANTERBURY



Newsletter 19: 9th July 2021

Good times never seemed so good...

The Academic year has come to an end and, as the words being chanted by every England fan attests to, *good times never seemed so good*. Of course cheering is not a preserve of just football fans; indeed our children (and staff) have done a considerable amount of it since the last newsletter, as we have continued to have events that engage, enthuse and inspire our school community. Alas, I won't spend this final newsletter going through highlights of the year, as the recording of speech day is [here](#) and you will have the opportunity to hear more then, and to see the evidence of our collective hard work and effort. Please do note however, that there is a brief period in the video where the stage lights flicker in quick succession. Why? Watch the video...you'll find out.

This year has certainly tested our key components of citizenship: these being honesty, compassion, courage, respect and responsibility, but I have been deeply impressed with just how well our children have persevered and with their resilience – and indeed the resilience of my staff and of you our parents. We will be writing to you to discuss our September opening, once clear guidance has been given and we have updated our procedures accordingly. You will also be able to find out more about our pride in your child when reports are sent out next week.

One particular highlight of our Speech day this year, was that the children could be present and enjoy the company of each other in the theatre – which was in stark contrast to last year. During the event, we said farewell to Mr Shearer, Mrs Rook, Miss Hunt and Mr Hunt and thanked them for their hard work, service and fun that they have brought to our children. We also said farewell to our Form 8 pupils as they were symbolically handed over to Mr O'Connor. In addition to thanking the leavers, we also paid tribute to the estates team and the medical team for helping to navigate our school community during this COVID19 year.

When I arrived St Edmund's in September, I talked to the staff and children about a very special mantra:

How can you say the 'sky's the limit' when there are footsteps on the moon?

We have never put limits on our children's ability to learn and to make progress. Whilst next year will be different in many ways, the school will continue to support your child. There are many wonderful reasons to enjoy the summer break, but I wish to add some 'unofficial homework' for parents and children. Of course it is completely voluntary, but I'm sure you can see the merits of these tasks.

1. Watch a sunrise and a sunset
2. If it's raining cats and dogs, go out and play in the rain
3. Write a letter to someone important to you
4. Have at least 3 days during the holiday without TV, computers, tablets, phones or any other type of technology
5. Read a whole book and try to read some of it to a member of your family
6. Lie on the grass and stare at the clouds – see if they make any funny shapes
7. Try a new food
8. Pick up someone else's litter
9. Remember your manners - especially to your parents
10. Have fun being a child, but try not to break anything!

I wish you all a wonderful summer and to all of those leaving our physical school, remember that you will always be part of our St Edmund's School family.

Mr De Silva

Mr De Silva
Junior School Head



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Congratulations



Bronze star certificate to: Tilly T, Drew T, Joseph C, Luca R, Dylan S, Freddie B

Bronze and silver star certificates to:

Silver star certificate: Max J, Richard D C-M, Christelle P, Edward U, Stella R, Flossie A, Oscar DV, Robyn D, Scarlett W, Freddie E

Silver, Gold & Platinum star certificates to: Eliana R-B, Scarlett W

Gold star certificate to: Setayesh K K, Alyssia T, Betsy C, Sulochana J, Josie W, Beau B

Gold & Platinum star certificates to: Mae M, Ganriel P

Platinum star certificates to: Tom B, Ben H, Adetola D, Alex M, Alice YA, Poppy H

Platinum, 2nd-time-around Bronze, Silver & Gold Star certificates to: Lexie W

2nd-time-around Bronze star certificate to: Bella P, Olivia D, Alexa P, Thomas H-W, Theo I, Niamh D, Holly B, Gabriel P, Amelia W, Maria HS

2nd-time-around Bronze & Silver star certificates: George W, Jamie J, Oren R

2nd-time-around Silver star certificates to: Naomi P, Alice F, Jeremy I, Seamus C

2nd-time-around Silver & Gold star certificates: Lexie W

2nd-time-around Silver, Gold & Platinum: Thomas L

2nd-time-around Gold star certificates: Lucy S, Clemmie A

2nd time-around Gold & Platinum certificates: Angus H

2nd-time-around Platinum: Josh R, Masha D, Emma SK, Isabella R, Robert S, Naomi P, Aine R-M, Xiaocan L, Logan W

3rd-time-around Bronze star certificate: Alex SB

3rd-time-around Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum star certificates: Robert S

Certificates of Excellence: Natalia BW, Juliette M, Josh C, Tom B, Alexa P, Setayesh KK, Masha D, Max J, Filip P, Olivia J

Bronze Accelerated Reader certificates to: Jeremy I, Gabriel P, Niamh D, Robyn D, Mae M, Oren R, Alyssia T, Sancy C, Ben H, Alice F, Oscar C, Bella P, Nyan M, Oscar C

Silver Accelerated Reader certificates to: Emma DC-M, Aine R-M, Xiaocan L, Masha D, Amelia W

Silver & Gold Accelerated Reader certificates to: Logan W

For passing his ABRSM Music exam: George G

For taking part in *Our Shared isolation, an East Kent Schools Together creative collaboration:* Clara T, George B, Isla B, Lola S, Sophie K.

Junior School Music Festival Performance certificates to: Gabriel P, Adetola D, Seamus C, Theo I, Thomas L, Cesar N, Eliana R-B, Alex R, Rohan L, Dylan S, Rafa BH, James W, Rhyd L, Filip P, Freddie G, George G, Josh C, Luca R, Ami W

For receiving their ABRSM Music certificates: Angus H, James W, Cesar N, Theo I, Ben H, Rohan L, Rhyd L, Thomas L, Jeremy I, Freddie G, Ruairaidh A, Aum B, Josh C, Daisy B, Peter S, Cassius P, Ben C

The Science Fair. Winners: Natalia BW and Gretel M. **Runners-Up:** Filip P, Louis G. **Honourable Mentions:** Eddie F, James S, Autumn G, Juliette M, William A, Elizabeth O.

For completing her Librarian training: Mae M

500 word short story competition: LS Alex SB **US** Evan G



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House events

Sted Stars – Becket

Well done to all who took part in our inaugural Sted Stars. The children had a wonderful time and the staff, too, joined in for a special secret performance. Well done all and huge thank you to Mrs Barnes for organising.



Chaucer Fundraiser

Thank you for your support with the Chaucer fundraiser. Final amount is to be confirmed but well done and thank you for your support and generosity.



Roper Dance-a-thon

A big thank you to all the pupils who took part in Roper's Dance-A-Thon and thank you for all your donations. Our event was a real success! I am so pleased to announce that thanks to your support we have now raised an amazing £1000! We have also collected loads of goodies for the animals of Happy Endings Rescue. Your generosity will make such a big difference to them. Once more a BIG THANK YOU! Mme Dieppedalle



Roper: inter house 3D model competition



Let's hear from our winner: "I started with some kindling, then I measured them out to make it 100 – 1 to scale. After that, I painted them grey using a mix of black and white poster paint. Then my dad helped me saw all the pieces. Before that, he used a sponge to make the grassy texture on the wooden base. After sawing all the pieces, I used sandpaper on them to smooth the tops. Then we used a glue gun to glue the pieces onto the base. After that, we used a stone, pieces of cardboard and more kindling to make the inside arches and altar stone. When we finished that, I wrote the compass direction and the scale. And that's how I made Stonehenge!"



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Summer reading: a message from Mrs Elford



One of our pupils so engrossed in her book that she took it onto the playground to read. During the summer holidays, if children are enjoying reading outdoors - perhaps in the garden, on the beach or any other relaxing location - please take a photo and send it to Mrs Elford at ke@stedmunds.org.uk

These can then be displayed in the library and enjoyed by all when we return to school in September.

Drama scholars



Well done to all those who took part in A Midsummer Night's Dream over the past few weeks. Whilst the weather was not on our side, we were all so impressed with the talent on show by our Junior School Pupils.

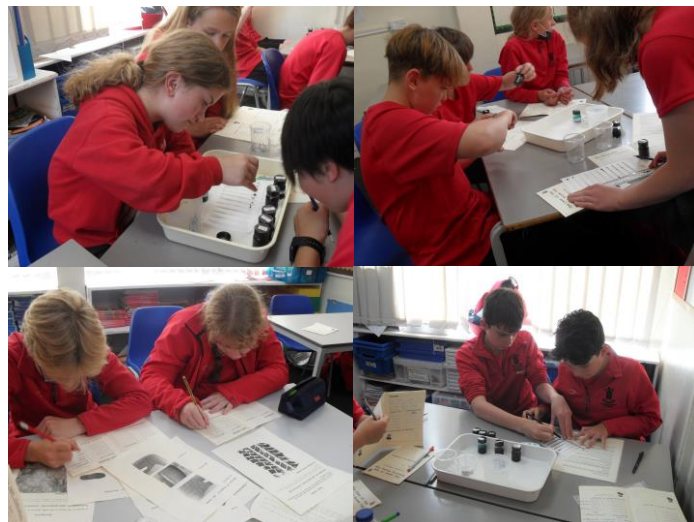
Thank you to Mr Sell for his Drama workshop and masterclass with our Drama Scholars. We were all encapsulated by their progress in such a short space of time. Well done all!

Forensics @ St Edmund's

In the last three weeks Form 7 & 8 have been working on a forensics project in their Science lessons. They were tasked with investigating the House Cup going missing and worked in groups to complete a number of scientific experiments to analyse the evidence and draw a justified conclusion of the prime suspect.

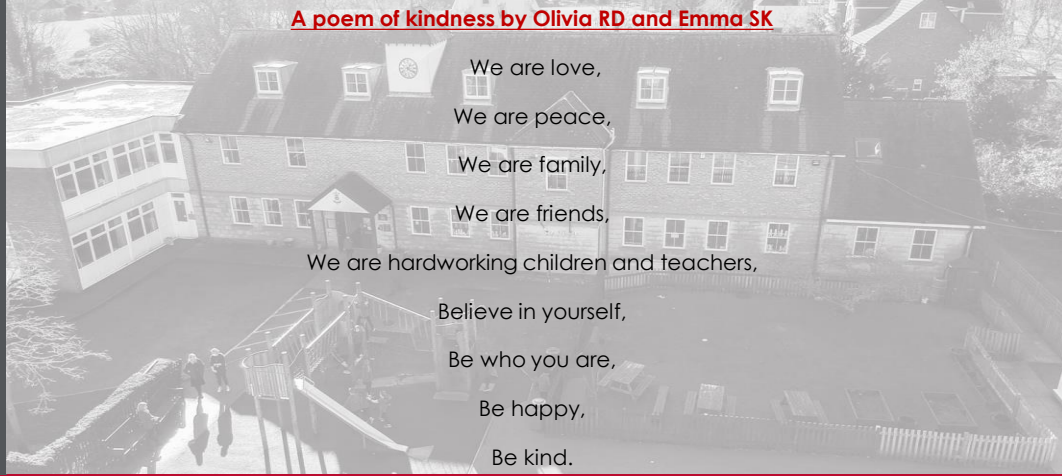
On Thursday 8th July all of the F7 groups did a great job presenting their findings and conclusions to a panel of judges, and the team with the best presentation was selected as winners. Well done to Ben, Lola, Zachary, Freddie, Sulochana and Oliver for their excellent teamwork and presentation skills.

In reviewing the posters F8 made and considering how well the groups worked on the experiments together, an overall winning group was also chosen. Well done to Setayesh, Clara, Tom, Yalamber and Ruaraidh for their super poster and working so effectively together.





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We are love,
We are peace,
We are family,
We are friends,
We are hardworking children and teachers,
Believe in yourself,
Be who you are,
Be happy,
Be kind.

Composition Competition to all those who attend a Choir School... that's us!

CSA Composition Competition

In memory of
Sir David Willcocks

2021

Choristers get composing!

We are looking for a **short introit** suitable for performance in cathedrals/chapels/churches using the text:

'Sing to the Lord a new song!' Sing with your voices, sing with your hearts, sing with your lips, sing with your lives. 'Sing to the Lord a new song!'

(Psalm 149 and Augustine's Sermon 34)

The competition is open to ALL pupils and choristers at choir schools and to ALL choristers in cathedral and chapel choirs. It will be judged in two age bands:

Up to 14
(which can include Year 8 pupils who are leaving this summer)

From 14-18

Thank you to The David Willcocks Music Trust for sponsoring the competition and to The Cathedral organists Association for sharing details with its members

Please submit your choral score (computer-set or hand-written) as an email-friendly sized pdf attachment and send to info@choirschools.org.uk

by Thursday 30 September 2021

You can also include a sound file or recording of your entry if you would like to.

The competition has been running for 40 years attracting a growing number of entries each year. The good news is that the standard keeps going up!

Composer and conductor **Jonathan Willcocks** will be judging once again. Thanking last year's young composers he said: "It was an uplifting experience to read all the scores, all of which showed an appreciation of how singing can bring such a huge extra dimension to words. I am looking forward to seeing what this year's competition brings!"

We hope you enjoy this year's text!

CHOIR SCHOOLS' ASSOCIATION
www.choirschools.org.uk

CSA 1918 - 2021