



ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL CANTERBURY



Head's Newsletter

8th November 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back!

Hopefully, my information letter last week gave you a sense of the busy few weeks we have ahead before Christmas. This week we have Progress Tests for U5, L6 and U6 students that will provide valuable examination practice, academic data and guidance to support revision for the Mock Examinations in the New Year. My thanks to all U6 Parents who attended the Virtual Parents' Evening on Wednesday. We have also now scheduled an additional U5 Parents' Evening for Thursday 9th December. Academic Review Cards will be published on My School Portal at the end of this week for L5, M5 and L6 pupils.

Rehearsals for *Beauty and the Beast* continue and tickets are nearly sold out. We also have our annual Michaelmas Concert to look forward to on Friday evening at the Colyer-Fergusson Hall at the University of Kent.

And on the subject of music...

MUSIC

Mr Payne reports on two exciting events in the Music Department this week...

"Piano Masterclass with Julia Klimek – Thursday 4th November

Seven St Edmund's pianists were fortunate to take part in a piano masterclass with Julia Klimek on Thursday. Each pupil worked with Julia on their chosen piece for about half an hour in the four encouraging and supportive sessions; being able to watch each other perform and improve was extremely constructive for all and fostered a sense of camaraderie.

One thing that we noticed about Julia, apart from being a superb pianist herself, is that she is full of infectious energy and this certainly rubbed off, helping our pupils achieve a higher level of communication and projection in their performances. Well done to Cesar, Ami, Leo, Mark, Kyle, Orlando and Vico for some splendid playing and a great day of music making." *SJP*





"Brass Workshops and Presentations with Mike Lovatt – Friday 5th November

Pupils from the Pre-Prep, Junior School and Senior School enjoyed an inspirational series of brass workshop sessions and instrumental demonstrations throughout the day. Starting with the under 13s in the Chapel, Mike Lovatt (the 'God of Brass' as we like to think of him) showed us how brass instruments work and how they are made, leading on to some outstanding playing of popular melodies and snippets from film scores. We were very pleased and excited to hear him play the *James Bond Theme* (which he has recorded since the mid-1990s) where his astonishing sound filled the Chapel. Mike also coached the St Edmund's Brass Ensemble and Big Band in two separate sessions before and after lunch. We hope to see Mike again in the not-too-distant future! "
SJP

<https://www.facebook.com/StEdsCanterbury/videos/445567090233167/>



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

My congratulations go to the DT Department.

In the week before half-term, Mr Anderson took Setatyesh Kalantari, Rhyd Lowe, Harry Barker, Barnaby Gilham, Omna Arora and Adelina Harte to St Lawrence School for the EKST Big Design Challenge. The teams were tasked to design a product for a Senior Citizen.

I am delighted to report that our pupils did extremely well and worked superbly with the pupils from other schools showing great team working skills but also picking good times to take control of situations and lead their groups.

Rhyd Lowe's team won first place with a rotating shelves concept to help with storage in the kitchen or bathroom. Harry and Barnaby's team came second with a cluster of small products to help wheelchair users around the home and elderly people with translation when in a foreign country. Well done to those involved.



CCF & OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Congratulations to Mrs. Lea, on completion of her 11 Brigade Initial Officer training, at St. Martin's Plain, the Army Training Centre at Folkestone over half term. Following an intensive three days, with the Regular Army, she passed with flying colours, and is now Lieutenant Lea!

The CCF will benefit immensely from her skill, enthusiasm and compassion.



SPORTS NEWS...

Mrs Millard reports...

"Firstly, congratulations to Poppy Gower (M5) on her recent 5th placing at the Duckhurst 70cm show jumping competition, looking exceptionally smart with her St Edmund's School saddle pad!

We look forward to following the progress of all riders in the St Edmund's School Riding Team. Please do let me know if there are any other pupils who would be interested in joining the team.

Horse riding continues in Games on a Thursday afternoon at Deepdene stables, and I am delighted to report that we now have a group of L5 and M5 riders on a Tuesday afternoon too.





The 2.6 mile challenge took place this week, with a number of pupils putting themselves on the start line, and out of their comfort zone! Adam Whitlock was outstanding, taking the junior boys' win, with Martha Lane victorious in the closely fought girls' competition. Connor Hughes glided around the course in impressive fashion to take the boys' senior title, with Zoe Rogers, maintaining a fabulous pace throughout, winning the senior girls' section. Well done to everyone who took part. I was so impressed with the perseverance shown by you all!" *HMM*



ACADEMIC STRETCH & CHALLENGE

Our L6 Sports Scientists spent time with Mr Mount this week, looking in depth at the structure of the heart and the lungs. It was a fantastic way to apply and extend their current knowledge with an expert biologist!

Mrs Shearer is organising an interesting series of lectures for our academic scholars. In the next few weeks we have talks scheduled on the following subjects:

"The most Remarkable Formula in Mathematics"

"Political Assassinations"

"Transcendentalism and the Poetry of Robert Frost"

"The Return of Hunger"





On Tuesday, before half term the GCSE and A-Level art students alongside the art scholars were treated to a day workshop run by the famous British artist, Ian Murphy. Mr Hodge tells me that it was a wonderful opportunity to see works of art up close to look through Ian Murphy's sketchbooks and handle observational drawings of a variety of scales. Pupils produced a selection of exploratory outcomes that aimed to support their current studies at GCSE and A-Level. This was a wonderful opportunity for our young artists and my thanks to Mr Hodge and the department for organising this inspirational event.

And don't forget our ongoing Art competition....

ART Dep~~ART~~ment COMPETITION

Produce a piece of work that responds to the theme:

'SAVE OUR PLANET'

This is a wonderful opportunity to express your thoughts and raise awareness on this important issue at the same time as the world leaders meet in Glasgow at COP26.

Rules: Work can be produced using any medium and can be any size: drawings and paintings, digitally produced designs, collage, 3D outcomes, photography.

Prizes awarded to the best entries in each category: Lower Junior School, Upper Junior School and Senior School.

Deadline: 6th December

Work should be submitted to Mr Hodge via e-mail to njh@stedmunds.org.uk. You may want to add a short description to explain your outcome.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

On Thursday, we will have our annual Service of Remembrance in the School Chapel, led by The Reverend Joy Atkins. Ninety three members of the St Edmund's community were killed in the First and Second World Wars. The names of all St Edmund's pupils who died in the two world wars are recorded on our war memorials in Chapel.





INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS SHOW

This weekend St Edmund's is attending the Independent Schools Show in London:

<https://schoolsshow.co.uk/>

The show is taking place at Battersea Evolution in Battersea Park and is one of our important pupil recruitment events. Do pass on the details to any London families you know who might be considering a Canterbury education!

Have a great week!

Kind regards,

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Our Risk Assessment and COVID Protocols are also available here on the website if you need to refer to them:

<https://www.stedmunds.org.uk/about-us/policies-inspection-reports/>