Dear Parents and Guardians,

I very much hope that for those of you who were able to make it to the fete yesterday, that you were as overwhelmed as I was with the joyful feeling in seeing the community socialising together once again. Having the sunshine down on the children, staff, porters, Friends and you, the parents and grandparents was indeed a blessing from on high.

You will soon find an email from the Friends arriving in your inbox outlining their tremendous efforts and investments and I begin the term by stressing how important this component of life here at St Edmund’s truly is. The school and the children never take for granted the time and effort that our voluntary group of wonder women put in (no men as yet more’s the pity) and I gently encourage you to consider supporting them, perhaps as a part of any charitable efforts that you might embark on each year. It is fair to say that any commitment is of course just that, a commitment, but the smiles on the faces on the children and families at the special events go some way in making it all worthwhile. Not to mention the impact of the wonderful resources – like our castle and dance studio. The bottom line, many hands, make light work. For ease of reference then: friends@stedmundscollege.org, should you be able to assist, if even for half an hour, at the forthcoming fireworks night (now with licensed bar).

A newsletter this week then, full of pictures of the children settling into the academic and co-curricular routine. A standout memory for me (amongst so many already) has to be having had the great fortune to be with the Cadets on Wednesday afternoon and seeing them getting stuck into camouflaged base making. I sincerely hope that your children – and perhaps you yourselves – already have one or two great memories of your own.

Avita Pro Fide,

Mr Cartwright
Headmaster, Prep School

Head's Commendations

Samuel Belsey - Maths
Alec Carpenter - Art
Isabelle Ross-Field - Maths
Toby Stainer - Art
Harry Wylie - Heroism
Catherine Adebibe - Maths
Alex McGrath - Maths

Quote

I know of no single formula for success. But over the years I have observed that some attributes of leadership are universal and are often about finding ways of encouraging people to combine their efforts, their talents, their insights, their enthusiasm and their inspiration to work together.

Queen Elizabeth II

Mr Cartwright's quiz

Q. What is the name given to an animal that only eats plants?
A. In next week's newsletter
Upcoming Dates September

Tuesday 27th
2.30pm-5.45pm - U10 Netball v Stormont (Away, match at 3.45pm)

Thursday 29th
2.30pm - 3.30pm - Harvest Liturgy - Children only
3.45pm-4.45pm - U9 Netball v St Albans (Home, match at 3.45pm)
3.45pm-4.45pm - U9 Football v Manor Lodge (Home, match at 3.45pm)

Friday 30th
Charity Event - Wear something green - £1 donation for Great Ormond Street Hospital.
2.45pm-3.45pm - U11 Football v Chigwell (Home, match at 2.45pm)

Sickness and Diarrhoea

Should children suffer from diarrhoea/vomiting, they should not attend school for a period of 48 hours since their last episode. Please see attached letter.

E-Safety

How can I….? This section gives links to advice and guidance to common questions I am asked. This week...

How can I find out what features are available to protect my child when playing Roblox? Roblox is a wonderful world of adventure played by millions of children, young people and adults around the world and there are various features that can be enabled/disabled such as chat, privacy, reporting abuse etc. There is a really useful parent guide, produced by the UK Safer Internet Centre. Click on this link for the guide: https://swgfl.org.uk/assets/documents/roblox-checklist-new.pdf
This week in the Prep

Sugar investigation

As part of their Science topic, Form 3 have been learning about nutrition and the importance of a balanced diet. They all took part in an investigation to see how much sugar there was in certain items of food and drink and were amazed with their findings.

Puzzle Fun

Form 1 and 2 had a great time at our Happy Puzzle Company workshop last Tuesday. We played lots of great games and worked collaboratively together. Great fun was had by all and we look forward to playing some of our new puzzles!
Fruit Tusks

Year 1 bought out their inner Gruffalos whilst making Gruffalo Fruit Tusks last week.

Signs of Autumn

Nursery enjoyed a walk around the school grounds this week looking for signs of Autumn. We found some conkers and lots and lots of different sized apples!
Performing Arts

INSTRUMENTAL AND SINGING TUITION

Accompanying this week’s newsletter, please find a letter from the College Music School about instrumental and singing lessons with the Visiting Music Teachers.

If you would like to request lessons for your child, please complete the lesson request form, which can be found on the Parent Portal under the section ‘2022 Joining Instructions’. Any questions can be directed to the Music Administrator, Kathryn Woodhall – music@stedmundscollege.org / 01920 824210 - or to Miss McLauchlan at the Prep.

Please note the section at the foot of the letter about the notice period of a full term (10 weeks) for terminating lessons. If during their first term of lessons a child decides not to continue, however, parents are billed just for the lessons already received.

INTER-HOUSE PERFORMING ARTS WEEK
WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 10TH OCTOBER
MUSIC, DRAMA & DANCE
FORMS 1-6

These three friendly competitions between the Houses provide an opportunity for children to enjoy performing in front of fellow entrants and an encouraging adjudicator, and also to gain individual House points and points for their Houses.

The events are open to all children in Forms 1 to 6 who wish to participate.

Entries are judged in the following categories: Forms 1-2, Forms 3-4 and Forms 5-6.

Dance
Forms 1-6 are invited to perform a dance - solo, in a duo, or in a trio or group - in any style, to music of their choice.
Dances should last no longer than 3 minutes.

Drama
Forms 1-2 are invited to perform a short mime (no speech, just actions to tell the story) - solo or in a group (maximum 5 children) - based on one of the following titles:
* The surprise parcel
* In the art lesson
Mimes should last no longer than 1 minute.
Forms 3-6 are invited to perform an improvisation (using speech), solo or in a group (maximum 5 children), based on one of the following titles:
* In a museum
* At a concert
* On a crowded train
Improvisations should last no longer than 3 minutes.
Costumes and props are encouraged, though not essential.

Music
Forms 1-6 are invited to perform a piece on the piano and/or on another instrument(s) (including voice) - solo or in a group.
Pieces should last no longer than 2 minutes.

Details of how to enter will be announced next week.
Meanwhile, please encourage your child to consider entering the Dance, Drama or Music events (or two or even three events), either individually or with a small group of children, preferably from the same House.
Photographer of the week

Aperture (Depth of field) - Verity Baldock Williams

Shutter Speed (Movement) - Polly Polychuk