Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your adhoc support of the harvest liturgy on Thursday. A few tins of beans can go a long way and we are hopeful that the service might grow over the years into something even more meaningful in encouraging a grateful outlook at this glorious time of year. Singing the Harvest Samba on Thursday afternoon was a joy to hear and a little selfish not to share.

Firstly, two matters of ‘business’. Please can parents begin to phase out non-branded winter coats. The ‘Newforyou’ Friends organisation (newforyou@stedmundscollege.org) has a stock of four school coats which are nearly new, laundered and in near or absolute perfect condition. They also have some branded fleeces which might tide children over until you can obtain a coat from Stevensons. I ask that we set a target of after the half-term break for all children to be in our school coats. Let’s see how far we get and thank you sincerely for your support of this.

At this mid-way point to the half-term (eek!) a massive ‘high-five’ to you all for getting the children to school in time for the doors closing at 8.45am. Days are beginning with organisation, clarity and purpose and this will build a habit for life as well as maximising the effort that we are all making in helping the children to realise their full and God-given potential. Kindly note, any late entrants will necessarily need to use the blue office door and be marked as late in our register.

We are really getting into the groove of the routine in school now and the teachers and staff inside the building indicate that we have overwhelmingly been impressed with the children’s early efforts. It’s simply inspiring to see the ‘lightbulb moments’ firing off and, at the same time, continuing to foster that sense of near unique pastoral quality that the Prep community exudes. In the words of one famous author, ‘nothing can come of nothing’ and I therefore raise an enormous mug of tea to all the parents, grandparents and educators out there to getting stuck in and encouraging the children to open their minds to new styles of learning as well as continually reinforcing and celebrating the milestone achievements of this wonderful young souls.

And finally, our ‘Go-Green Day’ for Great Ormond Street Hospital was a ‘Demob-happy’ delightful day. Thank-You for your generosity for this worth while charity.

Avita Pro Fide,

Mr Cartwright
Headmaster, Prep School

Mr Cartwright’s quiz

Q. What contains more sugar; strawberries or lemons?
A. In next week’s newsletter

Last Week’s Answer

Q. What is the name given to an animal that only eats plants?
A. Herbivore

Quote

Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you’ll start having positive results.
Willie Nelson

The Hungry
Head's Commendations

William Dodds - Brilliant homework about toys
Samara Kitone - Brilliant homework about toys
Tito Adepegba - Environment Poster
Albert Field - Helpful in class
Ariana Curran - Excellent effort and creativity in her writing
Edith Heppell - Excellent effort and creativity in her writing
George Stainer - Excellent creativity and independence in Maths
Athena Yu - English Homework
Alec Carpenter - Art
Isabelle Ross-Field - Excellent effort in Maths
Toby Stainer - Art

High Performance Learning - We love you

Keep your eyes peeled for an email from Mrs Sayer. The school has produced a short questionnaire which we would be grateful if you could complete.

Thank You

Upcoming Dates October

Monday 3rd 3.30pm-6pm - U11 Girls Football v St Francis' College (Away, match at 4.15pm)
Wednesday 5th 2pm - 5pm - U11 Netball v Stormont (Away, match at 3pm)
Thursday 6th Reception to Form 6 - Nasal Flu Vaccine
2.30pm-3.30pm - U9 Football v Loyola (Home, match at 2.30pm)
2.45pm-5.45pm - U9 Netball v St Francis' College (Away, match at 3.45pm)
Friday 7th Reception garden centre trip

E-Safety

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

How can I make gaming safer for my child? Gaming is hugely popular with children for many good reasons but as we all know, it comes with risks and issues. What are skins and loot boxes? Should my child be chatting with others? How do you know what is appropriate? Click below for a gaming guide and a guide to in-game chat.

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/
This week in the Prep

Life Cycles

Form 2 have been learning about life cycles in science. We have learnt about the lifecycle of a butterfly and a frog. We made our own lifecycles in art and created some posters on the computers.

Sugar Investigation

Form 4 Griffin and Hinsley have been learning about teeth in science and have planned an investigation to find out how sugary drinks affect the enamel on our teeth. We will be carrying out an investigation using eggs to see what the effects are and will be able to tell you our findings next week, make sure you come and ask us!
I-Spy

The Reception class have been learning sounds this week. We have played I-spy, hunted for animals and had a Toys’ Tea Party. The children have practised forming the letters in sand, on the whiteboard and using pencils and paper. We will be learning new sounds each day and can’t wait to share our writing with you soon.

Classification

Form 6 have been studying classification. They observed a variety of leaves using a magnifying glass and noted the features. They completed a botanical drawing before classifying the leaves into a Caroll diagram.
Welcome Back Fete

The fete raised over £600 with ‘New To You uniform’ raising over £1700. A huge thank you to everyone who took part, manned stalls, was sponged, kept goal and made cakes.
Performing Arts

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

CALL FOR ENTRIES!

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.

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

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, though this is not essential. If your child would like to enter, they should speak to Mrs Fox (drama) or Miss McLauchlan (music & dance) before the end of the school day on Friday 7th October.

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.