



Digital

PREP NEWSLETTER

3rd - 7th October Michaelmas Term Newsletter Issue 4

Headmaster's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Now I don't want to start with making excuses but I do need to apologise for the lack of information over the RSE Zoom postponement. Thank you for your interest in the evening which the school has had to move until after the half term. I cannot think why I omitted this from the newsletter last week but right now, am happy to blame this on a terrible head cold!

I write this week from the city of Edinburgh where I am attending a joint HMC and IAPS Headteacher's conference. There are many informative and inspirational seminars and speakers on the programme but I have been incredibly impressed with one in particular. Many of you will have heard of or know Nicola Benedetti, violinist and CBE. Former BBC Young Musician of Year, she is now 35 years young and the founder of the Benedetti Foundation (<https://www.benedettifoundation.org>), amongst other significant things. Her passion for the teaching and learning of music was effusive and infectious and the audience of around 1000 Heads thanked her with rapturous applause.

I mention this as some of you will have heard your children talking about the coming Inter-House Performing Arts Week and it's timing gives me justifiable reason to remind us of some of the benefits of learning an instrument and or immersing oneself in the arts. So here goes, a start of a list to which you are welcome to add more: connection with your spirit and soul; connection with others; the chance to communicate on a level which words alone might not be able to; healing and growing links with other people, other cultures and other countries; providing a platform to unify and con-celebrate and appreciate; growing in experience in professional performance; to carry on when you hit a blip; to keep smiling and focus when you might otherwise be distracted or falter; to learn the discipline of self-discipline, of practice, of personal growth; to inspire, to be inspired yourself! I could go on – believe me, I am tempted – but I want to thank you parents, for taking a leap, in some circumstances, beyond your own personal experience and for giving your children an opportunity you might not have had. I must also thank our music teachers – and Dr McLauchlan for giving our children the chance to shine, and our community the chance to regularly gather in joy and support.

I seem to be full of words today and more must be spent on thanks to Mrs Sayer, staff, parents and especially children for organising and running the Inter-House Poetry competition this Thursday. I have no doubt that this will have been another tremendous opportunity for ambition, culture and 'craic' for so many of your young learners. What an incredible and blessed position we are in.

Avita Pro Fide

Mr S Cartwright
Headmaster, St Edmund's Prep

Nicola Benedetti, pictured in the Prep School hall (formerly St Hugh's), having been invited to perform to the children following her becoming BBC Young Musician of the Year, 2004.



Religious Theme

The Rosary (Month of Mary)

Quote

My Father had a profound influence on me. He was a lunatic.
Spike Milligan

Mr Cartwright's quiz

- Q. How many months of the year have 30 days?
A. In next week's newsletter
Last Week's Answer
Q. What contains more sugar; strawberries or lemons?
A. Lemons contain more sugar.



Head's Commendations

Henry Bell - Fantastic homework interviewing his Grandad.
William Dodds - Brilliant homework to interview a grown up about the toys they played with.
Samara Kitone - Brilliant homework to interview a grown up about the toys they played with.
Lizzie Belsey - Hardworking in maths.
Harvey Leonard - Meta-thinking in maths.
Florence Bell - History - outstanding time traveller's guide about a Mayan City.
Toby Stainer - History - outstanding time traveller's guide about a Mayan City.

Upcoming Dates October

Monday 10th	Inter-House Performing Arts Week - Drama Event (Forms 1-6) 3.45pm-4.45pm - U11 Football v St Joseph's In The Park (Home, match at 3.45pm) 3.15pm-5.45pm - U11 Netball v St Joseph's In The Park (Away, match at 4pm)
Tuesday 11th	12pm-4.45pm - U10 Football Tournament (Away) 2.30pm-6pm - U10 Netball v St Albans (Away, match at 3.45pm)
Wednesday 12th	Inter-House Performing Arts Week - Music Event (Forms 1-6) 8.45am - Pre Prep Parent Rep Meeting 3.45pm-4.45pm - U11 Football v Duncombe (Home, match at 3.45pm) 3.45pm-4.45pm - U11 Netball v Duncombe (Home, match at 3.45pm)
Thursday 13th	8.45pm - Prep Parent Rep Meeting 3.45pm-4.45pm - U11 Girls Football v St Albans (Home, match at 3.45pm) 3.45pm-4.45pm - U9 Netball v Stormont (Home, match at 3.45pm)
Friday 14th	Inter-House Performing Arts Week - Dance Event (Forms 1-6) 2.45pm-3.45pm - U11 Football v Woodford Green Prep (Home, match at 3.45pm) 6pm - First Assessment Cards - Live on Parent Portal

Christmas Cards

Christmas Cards Reminder: Mock - ups of Christmas cards designed by the children were sent out via the book bags this week. Please note that the process to order and pay for products has moved online this year and full instructions are included on the mock up cards. This year a pack of 12 Christmas cards costs £5.30 with at least 25% coming directly to the Prep School fundraising. The designs are also available as mugs, tea towels and bags for life, which can make great stocking -filler gifts. Gifts tags also available. The deadline for ordering is 19th October 2022. Don't miss out!

E-Safety

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

My son/daughter is spending too much time online. How can I get them to spend less time on their devices? Whilst time is important, what they are doing is more important. Spending 5 hours watching cat videos isn't the same as spending 5 hours learning something new and socialising with their friends. For some handy screen time tips and advice click on the link:
<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/screen-time/>



This week in the Prep

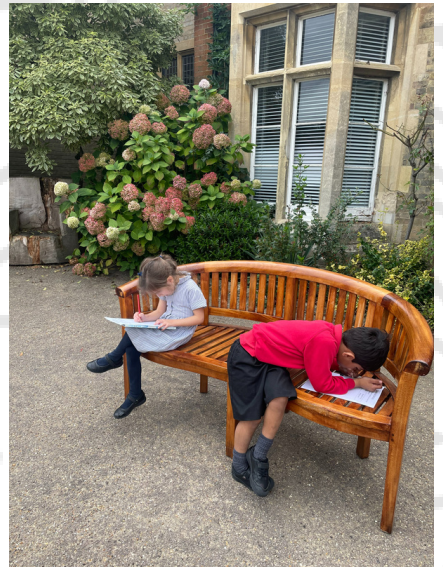
Space Week

Form 3 have been learning about our galaxy, the Milky Way, and learning about a variety of constellations and how they form pictures in the night sky. We looked at digital interpretations of the Milky Way and everyone enjoyed creating their own versions using chalks and our own imagination.



Sound Walk

Form 1 tested their sense of hearing this week when they went on a walk around the school to list the sounds they could hear in and out of the school buildings. They also delighted us with their Forest Creatures made from clay, twigs, leaves and other gems found in the forest.



Green Day for GOSH

Last Friday Form 5 children enjoyed wearing green to support Southworth's charity this term. They were particularly surprised when a green dinosaur managed to work its way into the classroom! The presence of the 'rogue' dinosaur caused much laughter and excitement amongst the year group!



Human Marble Run

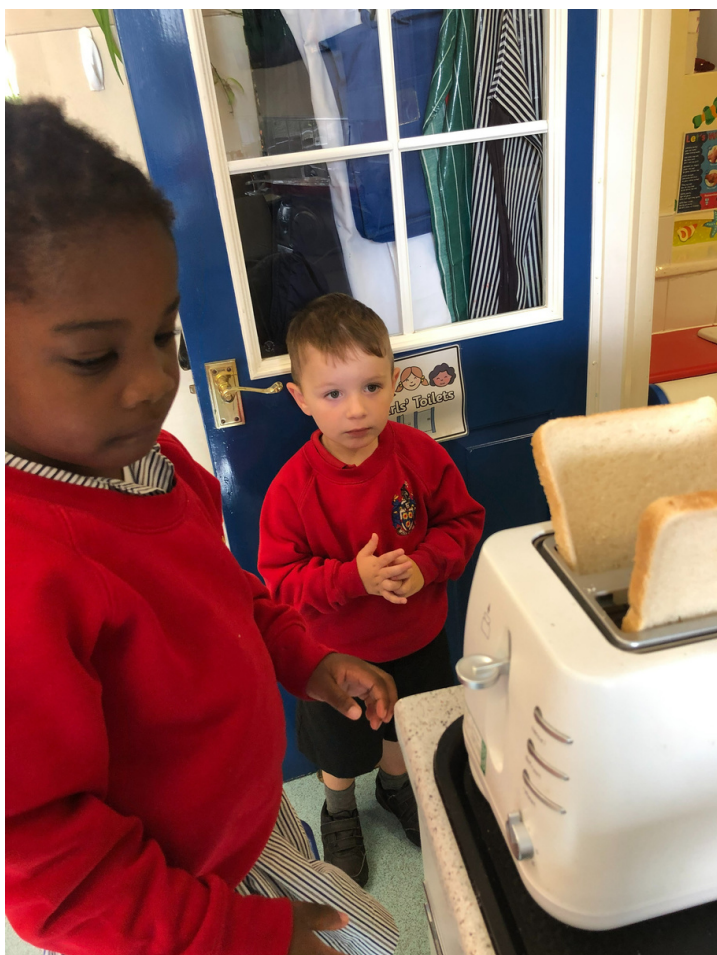
Junior Team work club tested their skills whilst making a human marble run around school this week.



Teddy bears and toast

This week in Nursery our letter sound focus was 't'.

Nursery brought in their teddy bears to have toast with them. The toast was very tasty.



Poetry Cup

After a couple of years of Covid restrictions, 'National Poetry Day' felt like the perfect opportunity to hold our Prep Poetry Competition. Reunited in the school hall again, winners from each class performed their poems to the rest of the school. From Sonic the Hedgehog and sound collectors to sandcastles and songbirds, the selection of poems were wonderfully varied and delivered with confident, clear voices. The judges, Mrs Fox (Speech and Drama teacher), Mr Fenrych-Fahy (Head of English, College) and Mrs Sayer (Head of English, Prep) had an extremely difficult task choosing the two overall winners. After a tight contest, Barnaby Purves in Form 1 was named winner of the Pre-Prep Cup, with his endearing interpretation of 'I Had a Little Turtle'. The judges said that Barnaby projected his voice well, maintained a good pace and engaged the audience throughout. The Prep Cup was awarded to Eme Udom in Form 5, for her spellbinding performance of 'The Girl with Many Eyes' by Tim Burton. Eme impressed the judges with her excellent expression, pace and pitch in her moving delivery of the poem.

Huge congratulations to all of the Prep children who learnt a poem and to the class winners, who each left with a poetry book prize. We are already looking forward to next year's event!

Class winners: Barnaby Purves, Harvey Leonard, Ellis Elsom-White, Oliver Hollingsworth-Gee, Felicity Pointer, Laurens Scott, Eme Udom, Patrick Cochrane, Phoebe Stetzel Hammond and Emilia-Jane Noble.



Poetry Stars Competition

Do you enjoy writing poetry? If you do, we have the perfect competition for you. Children aged 5-11 can enter and, if successfully selected, will have their poem published in a book. Please see Mrs Sayer in Form 6 for more details and to collect a competition entry form.

The closing date is 21st October.





Performing Arts



INTER-HOUSE PERFORMING ARTS WEEK FORMS 1-6



DRAMA - MONDAY 10TH OCTOBER
MUSIC - WEDNESDAY 12TH OCTOBER
DANCE - FRIDAY 14TH OCTOBER

Thank you for your help in encouraging your children to enter. We are going to be enjoying a wonderful week of celebrating the performing arts next week.

A few reminders:

Please may we ask for your help in reminding your child to remember any instruments, music, scripts, costumes or props on the appropriate days. The events cannot be carried over to other days as adjudicators have been booked for specific days and times.

Children entering the [Drama or Dance](#) events may bring costumes and props to enhance their performance. Dancers should speak to Miss McLauchlan about finding the music for their dances. Singers entering the [Music](#) section can bring a piano accompaniment, a CD or speak to Miss McLauchlan about finding a backing track.

Finally, please encourage your children to practise their piece before next week's competition, which promises to be a closely fought contest between the three Houses. Thank you.

A reminder of the format for each event:

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

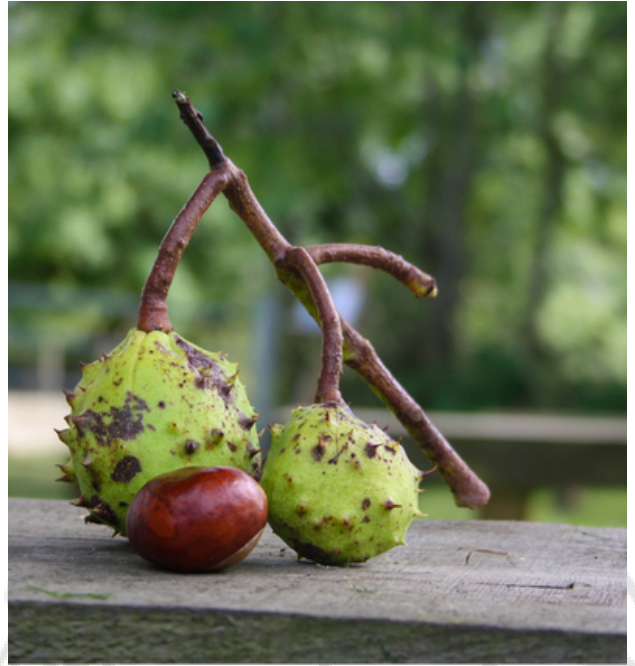
[Forms 1-6](#) are invited to perform a piece on the piano and/or on another instrument(s) (including voice) - solo or in a group.

[Pieces should last no longer than 2 minutes.](#)



Picture of the week

'Anything Goes' Photography Project - Florence Forbes



'Tiny Planet' Photography Project - Ellie Northern



'Tiny Planet' Photography Project -Leo Salinas

