



Digital PREP NEWSLETTER

18th - 22nd September Michaelmas Term Newsletter Issue 2

Headmaster's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Sitting with our HPL achievers at lunch on Thursday I was elated to hear of their academic escapades and endeavours. Descriptive writing based on World War Two in Form Six, the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe in Form Five, How to train your Dragon in Form Three and more and more besides all leaves me with a picture of engagement and excitement about the wind that is blowing around the building in unison with the children, largely if not entirely, rising to the challenge of spreading the wings of their kites wide to catch it. Carpe Diem!

Advance notice duly given here of our whole-school photograph on the 2nd October. Please ensure that on that day, children attend in full school summer uniform. It is usual for us to switch to winter uniform after the October half term break.

Also in Prep news...be sure to dial into your diary a 'Zoomed' information session at 8pm on the 3rd October. No input is required from you but I strongly encourage you to attend. It will be in your and your child's best interests.

Finally, whilst we are running the holiday 'Tiger Club' provision in Easter and Summer 2024, we are trialling an external 'Tech and STEM' company here in the Prep over the October half term. More details to follow next week.

In closing, a successful pre-inspection visit from the Diocese last week. One of the aspects she was most impressed with was the clear and positive relationships which staff and children worked hard to enjoy.

Wishing you a terrific weekend ahead,

Mr Steven Cartwright
Headmaster, St Edmund's Prep

Religious Theme

Edmundian Virtues: Forgiving

Quote

Our new children in Form Three enjoying a biscuit and drink with Mr Cartwright and Lola, during breaktime this morning.



"When we love, we always strive to become better than we are. When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better too." — Paulo Coelho

Mr Cartwright's quiz

Q: How many Earths can fit inside the sun?

A: In next week's Newsletter

Q: What name is given to the spear thrown in athletics in competitions such as the Olympics?

A: Javelin



Head's Commendations

Theodore Bussmann	For hardworking attitude to all lessons
Ophelia Easton-Brewer	For her excellent wanted poster of the Gruffalo
Henry Bell	Perseverance in reading
Alastair Currie	Handwriting
Minty Forbes	Hard working in all lessons
Josie Sharp	Using different methods in maths
Ziva Cumming	Maths
Seb Gujral	Excellent use of exciting adjectives in English
Jai Patel	Maths
Cooper Rich	English
Louie Baron	RE
Holly Clutterbuck	Maths
Oscar Sailor-Allen	History
Adrian Yu	Piano performance at Open Morning
Florence Bell	Speech at Open Morning

Upcoming dates - September

Tuesday 26th	3.30pm - U10 A-C Netball v St Albans (Home)
Thursday 28th	U9 A-C Football v Manor Lodge (Away) U9 A-C Netball v St Albans (Away)
Friday 29th	Mayne Charity Event U9 Legends Tennis Tournaments (Away) U11 A&B Hockey v Forest (Away)
Tuesday 3rd October	8pm-9.30pm E-Safety Zoom Meeting

E-Safety

A date for your diaries:

E-Safety Workshops for Prep Pupils, Parents and Staff on [Tuesday 3rd October](#)

As Mr Cartwright highlighted in his introductory talk at our recent Prep Welcome Evening, we have invited the '2 Johns', who specialise in e-safety training, to deliver workshops to Prep pupils, parents and staff on [Tuesday 3rd October](#). The '2 Johns' have presented to numerous schools across the UK and visited the College last year.

During the school day on 3rd October, pupils in Forms One-Two, Three-Four and Five-Six will be attending three sessions targeted at their age groups. [The session for Prep parents – to which all are invited – will take place via Zoom at 8:00-9:30pm and the link for joining the meeting will be sent nearer the time.](#)

We encourage parents to consider attending what promises to be an informative evening, as we all work together to support children to navigate safely the increasingly complex online world.

Harvest Celebration

We would like to propose a modest collection for Buntingford Food Bank over the coming weeks. We have planned a low-key Harvest Liturgy on the 6th October at which any class baskets will be presented. Please, only give if you feel you can and something small at that. A list of suggested items is here.

Long-Life Fruit Juice	Powdered Mash Potato	Sponge Pudding	Rice Pudding
Custard	Canned Meats (sausages, meatballs, ham etc)	Canned Fish eg. Tuna	Baked beans
Tinned vegetables	Biscuits, snacks and crisps	Pasta and pasta sauce	Squash
Long- life milk	Breakfast cereal	Packets of tea bags	Small jars of Coffee
Toiletries			



This week in the Prep

Cadet Capers

Please could parents of children attending the Wednesday Cadets session ensure that their child brings into school long-sleeved and old clothes for each session. Sadly, it will only get wetter and colder and Mr Cartwright intends that they only get muddier and muddier. A blanket kept in the boot of the car has been a top tip for more experienced parents!

Welcome Mr MacKay!

Mr MacKay, pictured here, is on a gap year from Loughborough University where he is studying Sports Psychology. With dreams of supporting the Premier League stars of the future in mind, he has back up plans in education and we are fortunate to count him amongst our number over the coming year. Welcome Mr MacKay!



Super snacks

Nursery are getting used to the routines of our day. One of our favourite things is snack time!



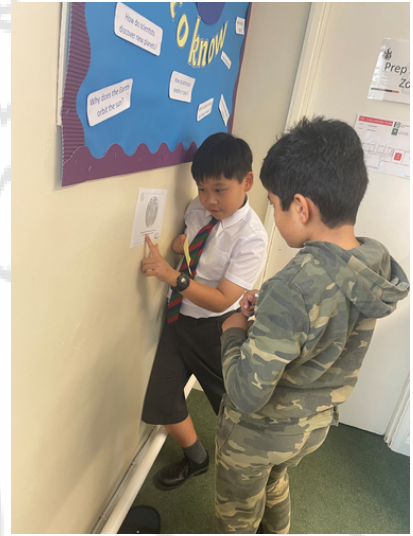
This week in the Prep

R.E

Form Five learnt there were two forms of truth, a theological truth, and a scientific truth. Using this knowledge, they realised that they could not take a statement about the Earth being spherical for granted. As true scientists they knew that they needed evidence to support their theory and that they should evaluate and analyse any evidence that was presented to them.

Firstly, they braved the wind and rain to record any observations about the world. Lying on the floor they tracked what they could see with their fingers. Afterwards, they showed their collaborative skills by looking at various statements to see which ones supported their theory. They were able to analyse various pieces of evidence and formulate a written account to prove their original statement that the Earth is a spherical body.

As High Performance Learners they did not stop there. They created a series of questions about Earth and Space that they would like to put to an expert. Hopefully over the next few weeks they will be able to collate some responses that will help to further their interests in Astronomy





This week in the Prep

Senses

Form One have been learning about their senses in their Science lessons and this week, investigated their sense of smell. Could they tell what was in each cup by only uses their noses?



Team work

Three Godfrey have been learning how important it is to work as a team to achieve a shared goal. Focusing on listening, respect for each other and communication the children enjoyed taking part in different activities this week.





Performing Arts

Music at Open Morning

Well done to Adrian Yu (Form Six) who performed a challenging jazz piano number, 'Midnight Crawl', just before Mr Cartwright's talk to visiting families in the Prep Hall.

INTER-HOUSE PERFORMING ARTS WEEK – 16th-20th October

Music, Drama & Dance Events for Forms One to Six

These three friendly competitions between the Houses provide an opportunity for children to enjoy performing in front of fellow entrants and an encouraging adjudicator. The events are open to all children in Forms One to Six who wish to participate. [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.

Music

[Forms One-Six](#) 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 around 2 minutes.](#)

Dance

[Forms One-Six](#) 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 around 3 minutes.](#)

Drama

[Forms One-Two](#) 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 picnic
- *The birthday party

[Mimes should last no longer than around 1 minute.](#)

[Forms Three-Six](#) are invited to perform an improvisation (using speech), solo or in a group (maximum 5 children), based on one of the following titles:

- *At the theme park
- *At the farm
- *At the seaside

[Improvisations should last no longer than around 3 minutes.](#)
[Costumes and props are encouraged, though not essential.](#)

Photo of the Week

Aperture (Depth of Field) Photography Project -
Tilly Shipton

