Headmaster's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Religious Theme

Solidarity and Peace

In succinct a summary as possible:

Friday last – our girls strode through the group stages of the IAPS Netball Tournament, notably beating some well-known and strong Prep Schools, narrowly missing out in the semi-finals.

On Saturday – our U11 boys won the Primary Schools' Cup, claiming the title of County Champions and attracting the attention of Premier League Team football scouts.

On Monday – around twenty of our children sang as a part of a chorus of some 7000 children at the 02, drawing the praise of their teachers, their teachers in turn receiving the thanks and praise of the parents.

On Tuesday - Form Two wrote some incredible stories and,

On Wednesday and Thursday over 55 of our children engaged and inspired us all as a result of their commitment to the Performing Arts, with all children involved putting a confident and talented foot forwards.

To round it all off, we (finally) were able to publish the ISI report which does about as good a job as the parameters of reporting allow, to reflect a positive, happy, keen, child and Christ-centred learning environment that is, in colloquial terms, firing on all cylinders.

Above all though, the character of our children has shone through. Well-mannered, polite, empathic and eager...they are a delight, a source of enormous joy and credit to you and the staff here. I hope that you enjoy scanning over the report and welcome any questions or comments you may have over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Cartwright Headmaster, St Edmund's Prep

Quote

"Good character is not formed in a week or a month. It is created little by little, day by day. Protracted and patient effort is needed to develop good character".

Heraclitus of Ephesus

Mr Cartwright's quiz

Q: How many noses does a slug have?

A: In next week's Newsletter

Q: Where is the Eiffel Tower located?

A: Paris, France

Stay connected







@stedmundscollegeandprep

@StEdmundsPrep

Head's Commendations

Paloma Hatton Contribution to class discussions
Arabelle Olowookere Contribution to class discussions

Faustine Bussmann Science Ziva Cumming Science Orla Doyle Science Leo Grange Science Bluebelle Guinchard Science Harvey Leonard Science Arthur Marçal Science Cameron Nice RE Joshua Odewole Science Jai Patel Science Martha Wylie Science **Teddey Dawson** History Sienna Grange English Beatrice Grundy-Wheeler English Freddie Grundy Wheeler History Oscar Humphrey History Antonino Morreale English Daniel Osinibi History Oscar Sailor-Allen English **Thomas Smits** English **Alex Stanners** History

Upcoming dates - Next week

Monday 5th February Prep Anti Bullying Week / National Children's Mental Health Week

National Safer Internet Day

Odd Socks Day

Wednesday 7th February 3:15pm - U11 Rugby v St Joseph's In The Park - Home

3:00pm - U11 Girls Football v St Joseph's In The Park - Away

Thursday 8th February 2:45pm - U9 & U8 Rugby v Lockers Park - Home

4:00pm - U9 Girls Football v Bancrofts - Away

Friday 9th February 4:15pm - U11 Boys Hockey v Heath Mount - Home

LCM Music Theatre Exams - St Edmund's College

Please note that the inter-house quiz will now take place on 15th Feb in the Prep Hall (instead of 8th Feb)

E-Safety

I'm not sure if the content my child is watching is a good influence - what can I do?

Children begin to be influenced by the content they watch as soon as they are old enough to go online. They develop strong preferences for their favourite characters, videos, and games from an early age and these preferences can also be influenced by the content that their friends like, and talk about, too.

*Watch

The best way to understand the content that your children enjoy is to watch it yourself. This will allow you to see what is being said and how this may affect your child.

*Talk

If you are worried about it in any way, it's important to talk to your children and let them know what it is that you are concerned about, e.g. if you think it's affecting their behaviour or mood.

*Report

If you see anything inappropriate online, that might go against the platform's community guidelines, then it's important to report it (and anyone who is sharing that content too), using the reporting, and blocking tools provided.

For more advice on this topic, see: https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/parents-and-carers/im-not-sure-if-the-content-my-child-is-watching-is-a-good-influence-on-them-what-can-i-do

Anti-Bullying Week 2024

This year, Anti-Bullying Week will take place from Monday 5th February to Friday 9th February 2024. The theme of this year's campaign is 'Make a Noise About Bullying'.

Anti-Bullying Week is a national campaign to raise awareness of bullying and to promote kindness and acceptance. We believe that everyone has the right to feel safe and happy at school, and we are committed to creating a culture where bullying is not tolerated.

On Monday 5th February, we will be celebrating Odd Socks Day. This is a fun way to show that we celebrate our differences and that it's okay to be unique. We encourage all students to wear odd socks to school on this day.

Throughout the week, we will be running a number of activities and sessions to help students learn about bullying and how to prevent it. We will also be discussing the importance of kindness and respect.

We believe that parents and carers play an important role in helping to prevent bullying. Here are some things you can do to support your child:

- Talk to your child about bullying and what to do if they are being bullied or see someone else being bullied.
- Encourage your child to be kind and respectful to others.
- Model positive behaviour yourself.
- Let your child know that you are there for them and that you will support them if they are being bullied.

Thank you for your continued support.





Healthy Snacks

Children are provided with a selection of cut fruit during the school day. A polite reminder, that any snacks provided from home must be nut free and healthy. No crisps or chocolate should be provided.

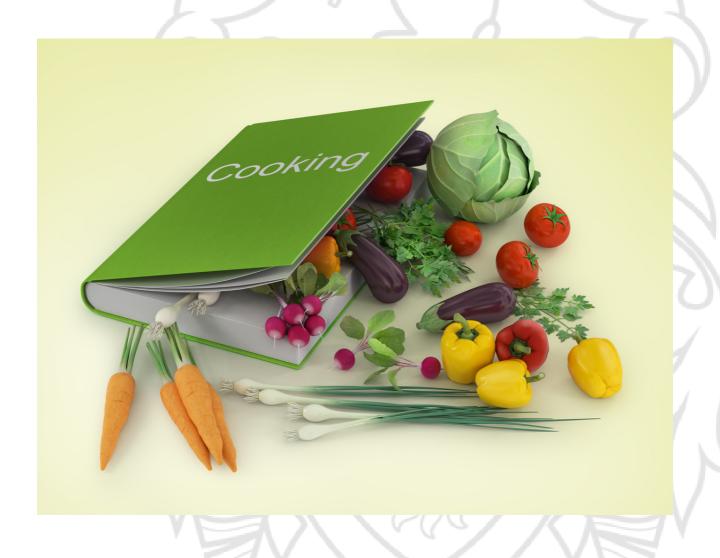
AVITA

Recipes required!

Do you have a tried and tested, delicious recipe you could share in our St Edmund's Prep School Recipe book?

In the coming weeks School Council will be organising and putting together a recipe book to mark the 150th year of St Hugh's.

More details in the newsletter next week.



Lego Legends

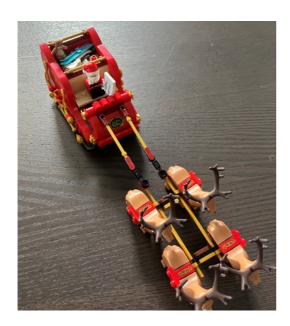
Pictured here are just some of the models created by the children as part of the '30-piece Lego challenge' this week. All entrants received plaudits from Mr Cartwright, along with a treat of their choice. Which one do you think is the most creative?

Henry - Form Two



Ellis - Form Four





Ralph - Form Six Edith - Form Four





Lego Legends

Sophie - Form Six



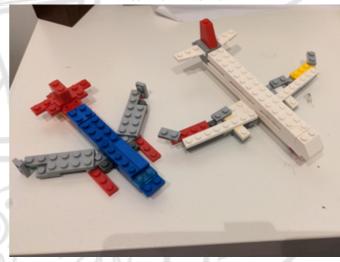
Faustine - Form Three



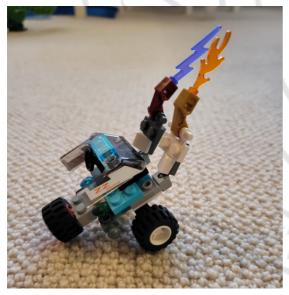
Theodore - Form One



Leo - Form Five



Adam - Form Five



Marcus - Form Four



This week in the Prep

Super Detectives

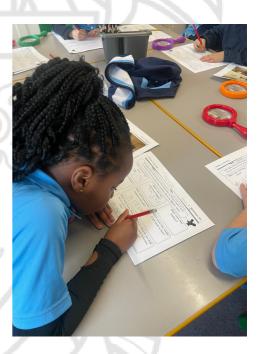
Form One had their detective hats on this week to investigate what they could see in photographs of Victorian houses.











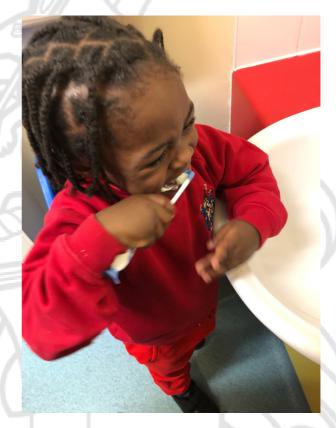
This week in the Prep

A visit from Mr Bones

Nursery have been learning about our bodies and how to look after them.

Last week we brushed our teeth everyday after our lunch. We practised brushing our teeth using a circular motion, we even brushed our tongues! Mr Bones has also been spending some time in our classroom to help us learn about the bones in our body. Do you know where the smallest bone in your body is? Our Nursery children know!









Smelling Mr Bones' toes to see if he has cheesy feet!

Sports News

St Edmund's Prep Under 11 Netball Team Just Miss Out On Medal Positions in IAPS Regional Qualifier

On Friday 26 January, St Edmund's Prep U11A Netball team travelled to Stamford School (just north of Peterborough) to compete in the IAPS regional Hi-5 Netball Qualifiers.

With 16 teams competing, we were placed in a group of four in Pool C. Our first game was against Norwich High School, our team dominated this match and ended up winning 5-1. The second game was against Culford Prep. Again, St Edmund's Prep played extremely well and won by a similar scoreline, 6–2. The third match was against Fairfield Prep and we won 5-3 to earn top spot in our group.

The quarter-final match was against Stamford, the host school. In the first half the teams were evenly matched but St Edmund's Prep grew into the game and ended up winning comfortably by a score line of 6–1. The semi-final was against St Alban's Prep, a team that we had played earlier in the season and knew were going to be very strong. The first half was very even, with St Alban's Prep leading by one goal. The second half started off with St Edmund's Prep in the ascendancy, we had two shots on goal to level the scores but they didn't quite go in. St Alban's Prep then took the initiative and finished strongly. We end up losing 2-6.

St Edmund's Prep then went into the 3rd/4th Place Play-Off against Gresham's, but lost this game. 2–5. The girls played incredibly well throughout the tournament and were a credit to the school. Playing against several very large preparatory schools, and some that we had not come across before, the girls certainly left an impression and many will now know to look out for St Edmund's Prep in the future.

Final position- 4th out of 16 teams.





St Edmund's Prep U11A Netball Team- 4th in IAPS Regional Netball Qualifier

Sports News

St Edmund's Prep Under 11 Football Team Crowned Hertfordshire County Champions

On Saturday 27th January, the St Edmund's Prep U11A football team travelled to Parmiters School in Watford to represent East Hertfordshire in the ESFA County Cup Finals. Our side were representing the East Herts District after winning that competition in November. There are ten districts in Hertfordshire and seven had representatives at the County Finals.

Our first match was against Samuel Lucas (a team from Hitchin representing the district of North Herts). This game was extremely competitive, but with the last attack of the game St Edmund's Prep managed to score the winner after converting a low cross. We won this game, 1–0.

The second match was against Westbrook Hay (a team from Hemel Hempstead representing the district of Dacorum) and we knew this would be an extremely tough game. Westbrook Hay recently won the national IAPS finals at Millfield, being crowned the top Under 11 Independent School football side in the country. We were spurred on by having been the only team to have beaten them earlier in the season. We knew that this had caused them to become more aware of our own team too. This game was extremely tight with both sides playing attractive football. As the game was reaching its final stages we scored one of the goals of the tournament from long-range, sending the ball flying over their goalkeeper's head and into the net for a 1–0 victory.

By this time we were really starting to hit our stride and were playing some extremely good football. Our side had attracted the attention of three scouts who had come over to observe our team – from Tottenham Hotspur, Chelsea and Watford FC. In the third match, we played St Mary's (a team from Baldock representing the district of Welwyn and Hatfield) and won by, 5–0. The boys were looking very confident in front of goal and were linking up to devastating effect. We won our fourth match, 3–2 against Knebworth (who were representing the district of Stevenage). After going three goals up, we appeared to take our foot off the pedal a little and conceded two late goals. Following consecutive clean sheets in our first three matches, these were the first goals that we had conceded all tournament and served as a timely reminder of the quality of opposition that were at this tournament. Our fifth match was against Garden Fields (a team representing the city of St Albans) who had been going strong and scoring a lot of goals themselves. The highlight of this game was a thunderous shot from our team that struck against the crossbar and bounced down against the line, but unluckily for us it did not cross. This game ended up in a goalless, 0-0 draw.

Our final match of the group stage was against Haberdasher Aske's Boys' School (a team from Elstree representing the district of Hertsmere). This team had an almost identical record to us, so we knew that we had to come away with at least a draw. When the opposition scored late into the match, this became a real test of our resolve as we knew that if we did not equalise we were going out of the competition. In yet another remarkable display of character, in our final attack, we managed to score a goal to draw the match. This match ended, 1-1.

Afterwards, Haberdasher Aske's Boys' School had one final game to play. They needed to win by two goals to equal our record. To add to the incredible drama of the afternoon, this is exactly what they did! This meant that both Haberdasher Aske's Boys' School and St Edmunds Prep finished the tournament on 14 points apiece and with the same goal difference and goals scored records. The only way to settle the tournament was with a head-to-head final match which was to be five minutes straight through and then penalties!

St Edmund's Prep gathered themselves for this final showdown against Haberdasher Aske's Boys' School, knowing exactly what was at stake. Around halfway through the match, St Edmund's Prep were awarded a freekick which we smashed straight into the back of the net. The crowd went wild on the sidelines and at this point it was clearly evident that St Edmund's Prep had amassed by far the greatest following and the celebrations could be heard all around. St Edmunds Prep changed their formation to see out the game, with the final two minutes seeming to last forever. However, when the final whistle went to signal victory for St Edmunds Prep, the same roar could be heard again. The players ran around the pitch in jubilation and their parents all flooded on to greet them too. St Edmund's Prep won the game, 1-0.

The St Edmunds Prep Under 11 Football Team will now go on to represent Hertfordshire in the ESFA South-East England Finals. This will be played towards the end of March, where the top two teams will go on to the National Finals. Hertfordshire will be one of 12 different counties competing at this event in Greenwich, including Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Inner London, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey and Sussex.

Sports News



St Edmund's Prep U11A Football Team- Hertfordshire County Champions 2024

Photo of the week

Rainbow Photography Project - Jemima Olaoluwa



St Edmund's Prep Young Photographer of the Year Competition 23/24

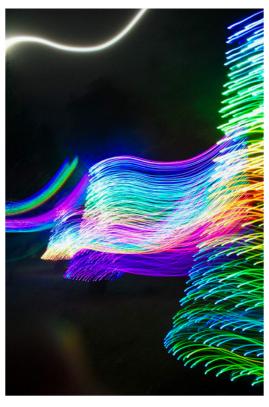
Theme "Colour"

Winner - Ellie Northen Runner Up - Florence Bell

Highly Commended - Jack Button Highly Commended - Ruby Clutterbuck Highly Commended - Sienna Grange

Ellie Northern Florence Bell





Sienna Grange



males Universe

Ruby Clutterbuck

Jack Button

