



Digital

PREP NEWSLETTER

12th February - 16th February Lent Term Newsletter 5

Headmaster's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I sincerely hope that in whatever you do, if it's not entirely incredible all of the time, there are at least elements of your working routine that give you some sense of tangible pride and joy. On Monday, Mrs Sayer and I took a 'Learning Walk' around the Prep School. We spent time in every class, from Nursery through to Form Six, to explore how 'HPL' (High Performance Learning) is bedding in around the building. We watched the input from the teachers, looked through books and interviewed the children. Let me tell you, there was consistency in:

- High standards and high expectations
- Affirmation, congratulation and praise of the children
- Evidence of broad and high vocabulary
- Careful and imaginative planning and preparation
- ...and more besides

The children were considered in answering various questions, were able to explain what HPL is all about and also able to give a view on why they think it's a good thing (which they seemed to). Such a great start to the week. Thank you.

The pancake race then on Tuesday was electric with a sensationally close finish and in the Inter House Quiz, your children seemed a little lacking in the movie round – but waxed the general knowledge, science, politics and story rounds. Great children. Striving school...and thriving, loving families.

God bless you all this half term ahead. Thank you for the past few weeks and well done on managing all that you have, so considerately and successfully. I wish you the best and a renewed sense of faith and courage over the Lent period ahead.

Avita Pro Fide,

Mr S Cartwright
Headmaster, St Edmund's Prep School

Quote

"Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy".

Pope Francis

Religious Theme

What is Lent? (Pray, fast, share)

Mr Cartwright's quiz

Q: What is the largest planet in our solar system?

A: In next week's Newsletter

Q: How many teeth does an adult human have?

A: 32

Stay connected



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Head's Commendations

Mason Moran	Writing
Nellie Rigby	Writing
Leo Grange	Maths
Cameron Nice	Maths
Annie Howe	Science
Alec Carpenter	English
Alina Durmaz	English
Beatrice Grundy-Wheeler	English
Rex Loughlin	English
Daniel Osinibi	Homework
Oliver Upton	English
Marcus Hartley	ICT
Luke McNerney	ICT
George Stainer	ICT
Alex Stanners	Maths

Upcoming dates - Next week

Monday 26th February	3:30pm - U11 & U10 Rugby v Loyola - Away at Bancrofts RC 3:15pm - U11 Girls Football v Duncombe - Home
Tuesday 27th February	9:00am - 10:00am - Form 6 Mass - College Chapel
Wednesday 28th February	3:45pm - U11 & U10 Rugby v Keble - Home 3:45pm - U11 Girls Football v Bancrofts - Home & U10 Rugby v Keble - Home
Thursday 29th February	Form 3 Residential Trip to The Hive departs
Friday 1st March	1:30pm - U11 Rugby - East Herts Prep Partnership Cup - Away at Hertford RC 1:30pm - U11 Girls Football - East Herts Prep Partnership Cup - Home

E-Safety

[What does an influencer do and how can they affect children's behaviour?](#)

Influencers are people who use their internet presence, celebrity status, or relationship with their audience to affect the behaviour of their followers. Influencers can range in popularity, with some having millions of fans. They use their platforms in a variety of ways, for example, encouraging people to buy specific brands, products or services or changing people's ideas and opinions about topics to match their own values.

The content that influencers share can affect a young person's mood and mental health in both positive and negative ways. If you think that the content your child is seeing is affecting them in a negative way, it's important to talk to them about it and seek help if necessary.

For more advice on this topic, see:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/parents-and-carers/what-does-an-influencer-do-and-how-can-they-affect-childrens-behaviour>



Prep School Open Morning

We are looking forward to our Open Morning which is taking place on Friday 19th April 2024 at 09:30am-11:30am. We would be grateful if you could spread the word by sharing this link or QR code with all of your family and friends to register for the event.

<https://www.stedmundcollege.org/#:-:text=Friday%2019%20April%202024>



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.

If you would like to share a recipe to add to our whole school commemorative recipe book:

- Please write all the recipe ingredients.
- A method or directions to follow of how to make the food.
- Information of where the recipe may have come from, eg. a different country, handed down from previous generations etc.
- Please include your name and class/form.

Recipes may be sent in handwritten or typed. All entries should be handed to the class teachers by 4th March.

We hope to include in the book as many recipes as we can, but not every entry may make the final cut. However, each entry handed in will receive a thank you present for taking part.

Many thanks

Mrs Jones



Hockey in the Community

An advisory to all parents whose children have signed onto the Friday after school Hockey Club (currently over-subscribed). The participants should go to the Nursery classroom each Friday where they will be registered and supervised by a teacher before being collected at 5:00pm. There is no need to register them with our Tea Time Club.



This week in the Prep

Buddy Reading

The children in Form Two and Three shared some time together to promote positivity and being kind to our friends. Sharing and discussing books together gave us something in common to talk about and the children enjoyed their time together. #positivity #beingkind



Form Three's visit to see Father Peter

In our R.E lessons we have been focusing on the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Father Peter was able to show us what happens and answer questions. The children enjoyed seeing the confession box and exploring confession. Thank you, Father Peter!





This week in the Prep

Anti-Bullying Week

During Anti-Bullying week Five Vaughan discussed the impact of challenging unkindness as a group and that if we ignore bullying we are also behaving in an unacceptable way. We took the time to discuss the differences between bullying and bantering and then wrote this poem. The poem was performed in assembly to highlight the message of Anti-Bullying week which is 'make a noise'.

Make a noise throughout the week by Five Vaughan

On Monday chattering and laughter filled the room

As a child entered
the noise faded into a whisper.
Speak out as one voice.
Stand up for those who are alone
Challenge those who laugh or tease.
Make the right choice!
Stand up for those who are on their own.

On Tuesday chattering and laughter filled the room

As a child entered
The noise faded into a whisper.
At playtime the pointing began
The sniggering crescendoed
It wasn't fun anymore.

Speak out as one voice
Stand up for those who are alone
Challenge those who laugh or tease
Make the right choice
Stand up for those who are on their own

Speak out as one voice.
Stand up for those who are alone!
Challenge those who laugh or tease.
Make the right choice!
Stand up for those who are on their own.

On Wednesday chattering and laughter filled the room

As a child entered
The noise faded into a whisper.
At playtime the pointing began
The sniggering crescendoed
It wasn't fun anymore.
At lunch a solitary solemn figure
Sat sadly on the dirty bench
No one approached him.

Speak out as one voice.
Stand up for those who are alone!
Challenge those who laugh or tease.
Make the right choice!
Stand up for those who are on their own

On Thursday chattering and laughter filled the room

As a child entered
The noise faded into a whisper.
At playtime the pointing began
The sniggering crescendoed
It wasn't fun anymore.
At lunch a solitary solemn figure
Sat sadly on the dirty bench
No one approached him.
In class his belongings had gone
His work was torn.
Tears flooded from his eyes.

Speak out as one voice.
Stand up for those who are alone.
Challenge those who laugh or tease.
Make the right choice!
Stand up for those who are on their own!

On Friday chattering and laughter filled the room

As a child entered
The noise faded into a whisper.
At playtime the pointing began
The sniggering crescendoed
It wasn't fun anymore.
At lunch a solitary solemn figure
Sat sadly on a dirty bench
No one approached him.
In class his belongings had gone
His work was torn.
Tears flooded from his eyes.

But
I stood up.
I made a noise.
It had to end once and for all.

Speak out as one voice.
Stand up for those who are alone.
Challenge those who laugh or tease.
Make the right choice.
Stand up for those who are on their own.



This week in the Prep

Chaplaincy Chat

This week we interviewed Mr Cartwright and asked him some questions about faith and Catholic Social Teaching. It was very interesting to hear what he had to say.

Toby and Sophie (Chaplaincy Team)

What does faith mean to you?

I would suggest that faith is deeply personal and it is all about belief in God and his love for each one of us. Having strong faith can lead to a person having optimism and hope for the future.

Why do you think chaplaincy is important for the school?

It's faith in action. Our chaplaincy connects people of all faiths or none. It serves as a living example of faith in action, giving us an opportunity to think of others before ourselves.

What Bible verse or quote do you think is important in modern times?

I think 'Love one another as I have loved you' is especially important. Also, 'First take the plank out of your own eye, before trying to take the splinter from someone else's'.

Why do you think this Term's Catholic Social Teaching theme of Solidarity is important?

It is important because the theme reminds us of human dignity, that each person is special, valued and loved by God. The theme reminds us that we are united in love.

Why is Catholic Social Teaching important?

It is important because it is rooted in Catholic faith and history and it encourages us to think beyond ourselves committing to be more selfless than selfish.

A Pacey Pancake Racey

This Tuesday, our school grounds buzzed with excitement as three spirited Houses battled it out in the annual Pancake Race, a delightful tradition that unfolded during the lunchtime drizzle. The entire school community turned out in full force, adding to the vibrant atmosphere, despite the light rain.

In a nail-biting finish, Champion House emerged victorious, flipping their way to glory with precision and teamwork. Cheers erupted as they crossed the finish line, narrowly securing the win. Southworth House wasn't far behind, displaying impressive speed and coordination, finishing just a split second later. Mayne House, while bringing up the rear, showcased admirable sportsmanship and enthusiasm throughout the race.

The event not only highlighted the competitive spirit within our school but also fostered a sense of camaraderie among students and staff. A special shoutout to all participants and supporters who embraced the rain and made this Pancake Race a memorable success, notably Mr Goodfellow for organising it all. Let the flipping festivities continue, and congratulations to Champion House for their pancake-flipping prowess!





This week in the Prep

Inter House Quiz

Thursday afternoon saw House Captains and representatives from each House and class in Forms Three to Six taking part in the annual Inter House Quiz. There were five rounds including science, history and politics, fictional characters, general knowledge and movie soundtracks. Probably the most unusual question was, 'how many neck bones does a Giraffe have' (7). The lowest scoring round was unquestionably the movie round...a testament perhaps to how much reading and fresh air our children are getting at home. Campion won in the end (a terrific week for them) followed by Mayne House and then Southworth were the winners of the wooden spoon.





Performing Arts

Shrek the Musical Jr - auditions and cast announcement

Congratulations to Form 6 on their show auditions, which took place on Monday afternoon. The Form Six Tutors, Mrs Crick, Mrs Sayer and Mrs Scott, together with Mrs Fox and Miss McLauchlan, greatly enjoyed the children's performances and were impressed by the effort which children had put into preparation.

As explained to the children, the cast is to be announced during the week after half term.

Photo of the Week

Fruit Slice (Creative Art) Photography Project - Florence Bell

