



Digital

PREP NEWSLETTER

22nd September - 26th September Michaelmas Term Issue 3

Headmaster's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week has been busy as usual at the Prep, including four tours for prospective families, academic focus and endeavour across the school and numerous sporting fixtures. I continue to be immensely proud of the way our pupils represent the school, and this was especially evident during Open Day on Saturday. For those of you who came to support the children, I know you were equally impressed. Attendance was comparable to last year, and our children spoke so proudly and eloquently about their experiences here. Public speaking is not only a valuable skill in itself but also helps to nurture confidence and self-esteem—qualities that shine through in our pupils. I am grateful to you for breaking with the usual routine and supporting this annual occasion.

Looking ahead, I would like to warmly invite parents to join us for the Cardinal's Mass at 10am on Thursday 9th October, a very special occasion in our school calendar. As President of the College, the Cardinal tries to visit annually, and this year he will conclude the Mass with an informal procession to our Chapel to give it a blessing, as its refurbishment and restoration near completion.

We are at full throttle now and going well. At home, thank you and well done for keeping a check on that screen time—and for encouraging regular reading, both by and with your children. As they say, a parent's work is never done!

Wishing you a terrific weekend with your family,

Mr S Cartwright

Headmaster, St Edmund's Prep

Religious Theme

Edmundian Value: Globally Aware (Food Bank Collection)

Quote

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."

Maya Angelou

Mr Cartwright's quiz

Q: What is the capital city of Italy?

A: Rome

Q: Which English king had six wives?

A: In next week's Newsletter

Stay connected



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Head Commendations

Deborah Adegbite	Excellent role model , showing effective leadership skills as a Playground leader
Lucy Berkley	Violin performance at Open Morning
Ellie McGee	For giving speeches at Open Morning
Theo Picardi	For giving speeches at Open Morning
Gabriel Daodu	For giving speeches at Open Morning
Phoebe Eklund	Confidence in swimming
Ellis Elsom-White	For an excellent piece of creative writing that included figurative language and carefully chosen vocabulary
Ellis Elsom-White	Excellent analysis and reasoning in Mathematics
Bella Ewing	Excellent role model as a playground leader, showing good leadership skills
Sammuel Junior Kitone	Hardworking showing determination and focus
Adriel Olaleye	Excellent creative writing using emotive language to have a specific impact on the reader
Hannah Osinibi	For excellent analysing and reasoning in Maths

Important Dates - Next Week

Monday 29 th September	7:30am - U11 Football IAPS Regional Qualifiers - Away 3:45pm - U11 Girls Hockey v St Aubyn's - Home
Wednesday 1 st October	2:30pm - U11 Girls Hockey v Kingshott - Away 3:00pm - U11 Football v Manor Lodge - Home
Thursday 2 nd October	National Poetry Day - Forms 1-6 Poetry Cup Competition 3:30pm - U9 Football v Loyola - Home
Friday 3 rd October	3:00pm - U11 Netball v St Francis College - Away 3:00pm - U11 Football v St Aubyn's - Home

Important Dates - This Term

Monday 6 th October	Flu Vaccines
Tuesday 14 th October	5:00pm – 8:00pm In-Person Parent Consultations and Display of Work
Thursday 16 th October	5:00pm – 8:00pm In-Person and Video Parent Consultations and Display of Work
Friday 17 th October	Campion Charity Event – Wear Your Pyjamas to School Day 4:30pm – School Closes for Half Term. <u>Tea Time</u> Club will run
Monday 3 rd November	Return to School Inter-House Performing Arts Week
Friday 7 th November	8:45am – 9:45am – Welcome Back Meeting – Coffee Shop
Wednesday 26 th November	Interhouse Spelling Bee Forms 3-6
Wednesday 3 rd December	2:00pm – 3:00pm – Nativity Performance EYFS & Pre-Prep
Friday 5 th December	2:30pm – 3:30pm – Prep Carol Service Forms 3-6 3:30pm – 4:30pm – Friends Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 10 th December	10:00am – 1:00pm – Whole School Panto
Friday 12 th December	Christmas Jumper Day 2:30pm – Term Ends

E-Safety

Have a conversation about your child's online life

An effective way to get involved with a child's life online is through conversation. By maintaining an open dialogue and encouraging your child to talk to you about their internet use, parents can help children access the amazing resources the internet has to offer whilst keeping them safe online.

Follow the link to conversation starter ideas and advice on how to talk about difficult topics:

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/have-a-conversation/>



Reminders & Notices

Inter-House Poetry Competition - Thursday 2nd October 2025

We are excited to announce that our annual Inter-House Poetry Recitation Competition is next week. This wonderful event offers our students a chance to engage with poetry in a lively and personal way, as they select and memorise a poem to recite before their class.

Each child who participates will earn points for their house, and, from each class, one participant will be selected to represent their house in the final performance. This final will take place in front of our school, where we will celebrate the talents of our budding orators.

This competition is a brilliant opportunity for our children to develop their public-speaking skills. Preparing for their recitations allows them to navigate the natural nerves that come with performing. It also empowers them by teaching the invaluable skill of engaging an audience and creating impactful moments through their poetry.

From whimsical pieces like "Strict" and "on the ning-nang-nong" to poignant works such as "The Charge of the Light Brigade," we encourage all students to explore a variety of poems. We truly hope that some of these verses will resonate with them and remain memorable throughout their lives.

Please support your child in selecting a poem that speaks to them, and encourage them to practise their recitation at home. We look forward to witnessing the creativity and spirit of our pupils as they showcase their hard work during this event.

Charity Announcement

Last week, we were delighted to welcome Mina from Grove Cottage, our chosen charity for this term, to our assembly. She shared the incredible work Grove Cottage does to support people with learning disabilities, helping them access education, thrive, and live happy lives. We were amazed to learn how much it costs to run the charity each year—funded entirely through fundraising and generous donations. This inspiring local charity is one we are proud to support, starting with our first fundraising event: a "Wear Your Pyjamas to School Day" on Friday 17th October.



Forest School

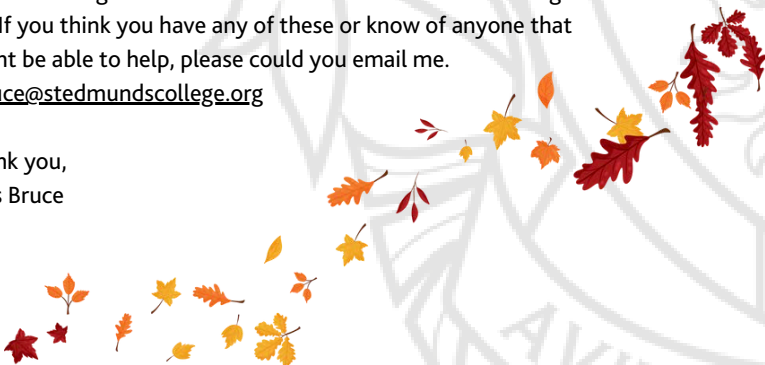
We are trying to develop our Forest School area and I thought I would reach out to our wonderful parent community to see if anyone could help!

Please have a glance over the list of resources we are looking for. If you think you have any of these or know of anyone that might be able to help, please could you email me.

ebruce@stedmundscollege.org

Thank you,
Miss Bruce

- wide logs for log seats
- cable wheels
- water trough
- tuff spots
- hammocks
- guttering
- short planks of wood
- children's spades and rakes (wood and metal)
- large wooden or metal spoons
- large wooden or metal bowls
- a mud kitchen (if anyone is willing to build us one that would be fantastic)
- baskets, wooden crates
- chalk boards big and small
- wood rounds (big, medium or small)
- large pebbles



This Week In The Prep



Form 1 - Creative Play with Big Ideas

Form 1 have been busy combining creative play with big ideas! Through imagination, they explored the story of the creation of our beautiful world. From skies and seas to plants and animals, their joy and curiosity shone through their RE lessons this week.



Form 5's Wartime Evacuee Day

Last week, Form 5 was transported back to the 1940s for a very special History Off the Page Day, led by none other than Captain Hatfield! Children arrived at school ready to be wartime evacuees. Some of the pupils had gas mask boxes and ID labels. Many were dressed in 1940s clothes, and some wore wartime clothing accessories. It really felt like we had travelled back in time!

The day began with the children being "evacuated" to the countryside and taking part in a typical school day from the war years. A chalkboard was used as the main teaching tool and the children used ink pens to carefully copy a prayer. They learnt what to do in an air raid drill and what the value was of old money. Captain Hatfield was very strict, and everyone quickly realised that school in the 1940s was very different from today!

During the morning, the children took part in all sorts of wartime activities, including one very important job — pumping water using a real pump and hose. The children learnt that during the war this was the main way that people helped to put out fires after air raids. It took effort and lots of coordination! The children discovered how tricky these tasks could be without modern equipment.

The highlight of the day was when Form 5 visited the wartime shops! The school hall was turned into a 1940s high street, where everyone was given old-fashioned money to spend and a shopping list to follow. It gave a real insight into what everyday life was like during the days of wartime rationing.

During the afternoon the children went shopping to the grocery, the butcher and fishmonger stores. There was even a hardware store where they had to purchase a range of useful items. Form 5 had to visit the post office for stamps and telegrams and then went to the bank to exchange shillings for pennies to help complete their shopping. Some children took on special roles, dressing up as air raid wardens and police officers. These people helped keep everyone in order and made sure that everyone followed instructions, particularly during an air raid.

Whilst the children were busy shopping and being shopkeepers there was a sudden surprise — the air raid siren went off! Everyone quickly scrambled to hide under the tables, acting just like children would have done during the Blitz. Everyone stayed quiet and listened until the 'all clear' siren went off. It was a powerful experience that helped Form 5 understand what people lived through during the war.

The whole day was an incredible learning experience. A huge thank you to Captain Hatfield for bringing history to life and helping the children truly understand what it was like to be a child during World War II!





Fairtrade Fortnight

As part of this year's Fairtrade Fortnight, our dedicated team of Eco Ambassadors took action to raise awareness about global trade justice —by running a Fairtrade tuck shop.

The initiative not only raised funds for future eco projects, but also sparked meaningful conversations among students about where our food comes from and how our everyday choices can have a global impact.

Thank you to everyone who supported the tuck shop and helped make Fairtrade Fortnight a success. Together, we're proving that a fairer future is possible—one bite at a time!

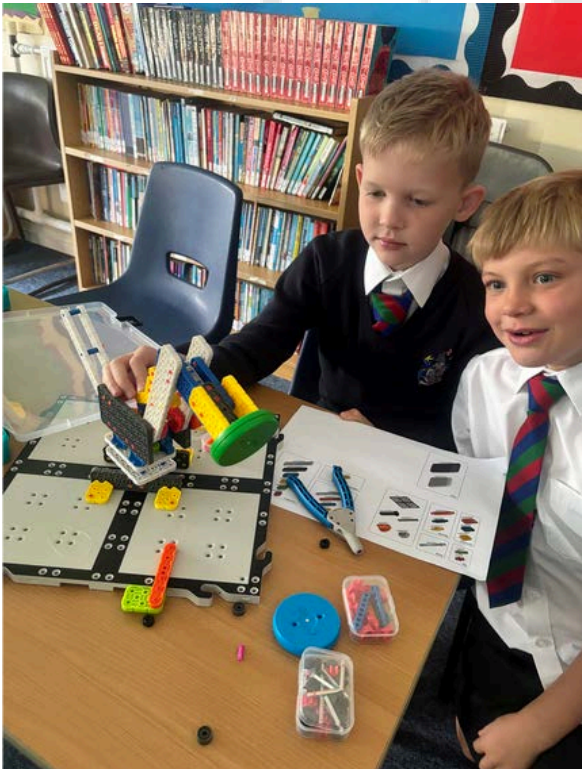


FAIRTRADE



Robotics

In our Robotics activity, we compared a robotic arm to a human arm. We built and tested a robot arm, exploring how it could and couldn't move. Using it to pick up and move a disk, we identified and described each step needed to complete the task.





Performing Arts



Music at Open Morning

Well done to Lucy Berkley (Form 6) who entertained an appreciative audience of visiting families, pupils and staff with two impressive performances on the violin during Mr Cartwright's speech.



Photo of the Week

Animal Cutout Silhouette Photography Project - Isobel Ward





St Edmund's Prep 2025-26 Sports Scholars and the St Edmund's Prep 2025-26 Aspiring Athletes

Sports Scholars



Aspiring Athletes



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AGES
5-12



EARLY
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DISCOUNT

OCTOBER
DATES

MON 27TH

TUE 28TH

WED 29TH

THU 30TH

FRI 31ST

Autumn CAMP

St Edmund's

College and Prep School

FROM £44.55*
PER DAY
*IF BOOKING 5 DAYS+

9AM-4PM
STANDARD

8:30AM-5:30PM
EXTENDED



Outdoor Adventures

ROUNDERS

NATURE WALKS

AND MORE!

Fun Sports

DAILY SWIMMING

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GYMNASTICS

Creative Activities

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TALENT SHOWS

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