



Digital

PREP NEWSLETTER

6th October - 10th October Michaelmas Term Issue 5

Headmaster's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This week, amidst the many individual successes we continue to see in the children's lives—both academically and pastorally—the great highlight was the visit of His Eminence, Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

For those of us privileged to meet him, every child and adult alike was struck by his deep-rooted faith, vast knowledge, presence, kindness and compassion. The Mass, at which he was the Principal Celebrant, was a truly memorable occasion for all who were able to be present. In writing to you now, I want in some small way to capture the power of that moment for the whole community gathered together. Please bear in mind, I am limited to be able to convey this in this newsletter format.

As the Mass began, the Cardinal reflected on the many times he has celebrated Mass at St Edmund's and spoke with warmth of his memories of "the people in the pews." He reminded us that the good done by those people—by us—extends far beyond the walls and bounds of our College and Prep School and of the importance and power of our place in the world. I know I am not alone in saying that I felt recharged through his words: re-engaged, and even re-inspired in my own vocation to the school, to my family, and to the wider world.

On the Feast Day of Saint John Henry Newman, the Cardinal left the children with two phrases to carry in their hearts. The first, *Cor ad cor loquitur*—"heart speaks to heart"—and encouraged us to take time to reconnect: with ourselves, with God, and with the truth. The second was drawn from Saint John Henry Newman's well-known words:

"God has created me to do Him some definite service.
He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another.
I have my mission."

The Cardinal reminded us that each one of us is special, unique, and loved by God. Only He knows our purpose, yet only we have the power to fulfil it. No one else can.

I cannot thank enough the parents, grandparents, Governors, alumni, and all who joined us, nor can I sufficiently express my gratitude to those who played a part in the liturgy—it was truly glorious. Above all, I must express my pride in your children. They stood tall, read and sang with confidence, clarity and joy, and throughout radiated a powerful sense of potential, purpose, and peace. They, we, are a powerful force for good indeed.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Steven Cartwright
Headmaster, St Edmund's Prep

Quote

"God has created me to do Him some definite service.
He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission."

Saint John Henry Newman

Stay connected



@stedmundscollegeandprep



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Religious Theme

Our College Martyrs

Mr Cartwright's quiz

Q: How many days does it take for the Earth to orbit the sun?

A: 365

Q: What is the largest ocean?

A: In next week's Newsletter

Head Commendations

Tayo Alawiye	Excellent research and a superb fact file on Henry VIII in History
Alexander Bates	Excellent creative writing using complex sentences and figurative language
Artie Elsom-White	Hardworking: for his effort with reading
Max Leonard	Independently linking ideas and creating a Great Fire of London house
Aden Nevzat	For an excellent rhyming couplet poem
Brooke Sales	For an excellent rhyming couplet poem

Important Dates - Next Week

Saturday 11 th October	10:30am – 1:30pm – Artisan Market – Butler Hall
Tuesday 14 th October	1:45pm – U8 Netball @ Royal Masonic Bee Netball Festival – Away 3:45pm – 8:00pm In-Person Parent Consultations and Display of Work
Wednesday 15 th October	3:00pm – U11 Football v St Joseph's In the Park – Home 3:15pm – U11 Netball v St Joseph's In The Park – Away
Thursday 16 th October	3:00pm – U9 Football v St Joseph's In The Park – Home 3:15pm – U9 Netball v St Joseph's In The Park – Away 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 3:00pm – U11 Netball v St Aubyn's – Away 4:30pm – School Closes for Half Term. Tea Time Club will run

Important Dates - This Term

Monday 3 rd November	Return to School Inter-House Performing Arts Week: Music
Wednesday 5 th November	Inter-House Performing Arts Week: Drama
Friday 7 th November	8:45am – 9:45am – Welcome Back Meeting – Coffee Shop Inter-House Performing Arts Week: Dance
Saturday 8 th November	4:00pm – 8:00pm – Friends Firework Night
Wednesday 26 th November	Inter-House 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

World Mental Health Day

On World Mental Health Day, which is marked annually on 10th October, a link to a helpful website and Parent Helpline (online or over the phone) for anyone worried about a child or young person's mental health:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/>



Mental Health Awareness Day
10th October



Campion House Charity Event

Campion House is excited to be hosting its very first charity event on Friday 17th October in support of Grove Cottage—a wonderful local charity that provides vital support for people with learning difficulties.

The event will be a “Wear Your Pyjamas to School Day”, with a suggested donation of £2.

Donations can be made via the QR code or by clicking here: [Grove Cottage](#)



Wear your pyjamas to school!
Friday 17th October
Recommended donation £2

Appropriate footwear for school activities!



Donate Here:



**ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE
& PREP SCHOOL**

ARTISAN MARKET

A community event - everybody welcome!



hand made

FOOD VAN & HOT DRINKS

**SATURDAY
11TH OCTOBER
10:30AM TO 1:30PM**

HANDMADE ITEMS

**ART • JEWELLERY • POTTERY • TROPIC SKINCARE •
BESPOKE BABY AND TODDLER CLOTHING • CAKES
• SWEETS • 3D MODELS • HONEY • AUTUMN WREATHS**

ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE AND PREP SCHOOL, OLD HALL LANE, WARE, SG11 1DS

New To You Lost Property

We are gathering a collection of lost property with names of former children of the Prep School. If you purchase items from New To You, please could you relabel the garments with your child's name so that we can return any lost items to the correct child.

Winter Weather

As the winter weather is now upon us, please may we remind you to send your child into school with the appropriate clothing for outdoor activities and play. When we return after half term, winter uniform should be worn. Thank you



The fundraising Christmas card/gift order forms featuring the children's designs will be in the book bags today or early next week. All the instructions on how to order online are on these cards. Please ensure you place all orders by Monday 20th October at the very latest.

Thank you from the Mrs Crook the Librarian

Thank you to the Reading Ambassadors for recommending Minecraft Wooden Sword Series and Michael the Amazing Sausage Dog Series, which are now in the Library to borrow.



Roles & Responsibilities in the Prep

At St Edmund's Prep, we continue to encourage roles and responsibilities. At the start of each new year, the children are introduced to the many exciting roles and teams they can be a part of within our school community.

This week, we are delighted to shine a spotlight on our Eco Ambassadors. Here's what they do:

- Meet regularly with Mrs Duddy throughout the year to discuss progress and plans.
- Participate in developing the school's Eco Code, promoting environmental values.
- Conduct an Environmental Review of the school and create an action plan to address key issues.
- Learn about the ten Eco School topics, and share this knowledge with the school community through assemblies and class discussions.
- Support the implementation of the Eco School's action plan by:
 - Collecting recycling
 - Planting to promote biodiversity
 - Completing litter picks
 - Engaging in other environmental activities around the school
- Share ideas and feedback from peers with fellow Eco Ambassadors to inspire new initiatives.
- Help organise and run events such as the Fairtrade tuckshop and other eco-friendly activities throughout the year.

ISFA Regional Tournament

On Wednesday 8th October, the St Edmund's Prep U11A Football team travelled to The Perse Prep in Cambridge to compete in the ISFA Regional Tournament. We started strongly and won our first two games- 1-0 v Dame Bradbury's and 4-1 v Broughton Manor. Unfortunately, we then lost our next two games, 0-2 v The Perse and 0-1 v Heath Mount, with both games close and being decided by long-range strikes. Knowing that our chances of progressing to the National Round had gone, we picked ourselves up to put in a good effort in our last two matches- a 1-0 win against Kimbolton and a 1-1 draw against Finborough.

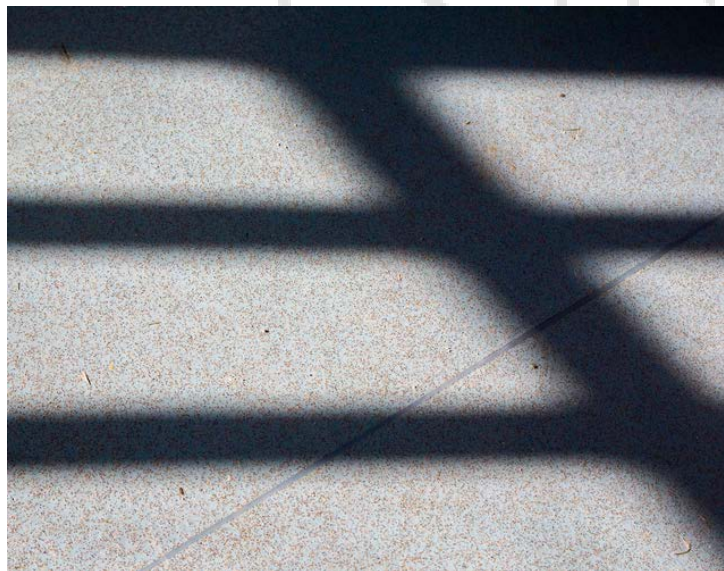


Photo of the Week

Scavenger Hunt Photography Project - Cool Shadow
Isobel Ward



Music at the Prep School Mass

Celebrated by His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

Form 1 to 6 pupils had been practising hard in Choir rehearsals leading up to the morning of Thursday 9th October, when we welcomed a special visitor to the College Chapel for a Prep School Mass, followed by a short Service of Blessing of the recently refurbished St Hugh's Chapel. Accompanied by Mr Benham, College organist, the children rose to the occasion beautifully, singing tunefully and with great enthusiasm and confidence in the Mass setting and hymns. Among the highlights were a hymn new to us, 'Firmly I Believe and Truly' (with words by St John Henry Newman whose Feast Day it was), 'Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God', sung in harmony by Forms 5 and 6 during Communion, and a rousing rendition of our 'Hymn to St Edmund' at the end of the Mass.



INTER-HOUSE PERFORMING ARTS WEEK – 3rd – 7th November



Music, Drama & Dance Events for Forms 1 to 6

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 1 to 6 who wish to participate.

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. Children having instrumental or singing lessons with the VMTs (Visiting Music Teachers) are encouraged to speak to their teacher about entering; those having lessons privately are also welcome to enter.

Entry forms are available from Miss McLauchlan.

MUSIC – Monday 3rd November

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 around 2 minutes.

DRAMA – Wednesday 5th November

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:

*Hunting for Buried Treasure

*The Surprise Birthday Party

*Willy Wonka and the Vegetable Factory

Mimes should last no longer than around 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:

*Night at the Museum

*Genie Grants Three Wishes

*Exploring a New Planet

Improvisations should last no longer than around 3 minutes.

The use of costumes and props is encouraged, though not essential.

DANCE – Friday 7th November

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 around 3 minutes.

The use of costumes/suitable dance wear is encouraged, though not essential.

OFFER VALID UNTIL 12TH OCT

AGES
5-12



10 %
EARLY
BIRD
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

FOOTBALL

GYMNASTICS

Creative Activities

ARTS & CRAFTS

FANCY DRESS

TALENT SHOWS

SIBLING AND BLOCK BOOKING DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE.
NO CODE REQUIRED!



SCAN
ME!



Email Us
info@wcsacademy.co.uk

Call Us
020 8016 4222



ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE
& PREP SCHOOL

The Friends of St Edmund's

Fireworks Night

SATURDAY **08** NOVEMBER

16:00 TO **20:00**



Scan above or click [here](#) to book your tickets

Early Bird £12

General Release £15

(Early Bird Prices apply only to
tickets purchased before 1st
November)