



Digital

PREP NEWSLETTER

2nd February - 6th February Lent Term Issue 4



Headmaster's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Quite early last Thursday morning, one of our domestic staff knocked on my door, eager to tell me about one of our children. I sat and listened as she spoke of kindness, good manners, and a pupil who continually goes out of their way to hold open a door or offer help. It reminded me that the biggest changes in schools rarely come from grand gestures, but from the small, faithful steps taken each day. A child choosing kindness, a teacher offering quiet encouragement, a family ensuring routines are steady — none of these moments make headlines, yet together they shape something extraordinary. Progress is not always loud or obvious; often, it grows quietly in the background, built through consistency, care, and commitment. As a community, it is these small steps — repeated with purpose — that make the biggest difference of all.

As a school and parent community, I believe we are really very good at these small things. I have been called upon, however, to ask that those parents whose children attend Squad on a Monday add one more small step to the list. Please could all parents and visitors park within the marked boundaries of the car parks and refrain from using the verges at the back of the site. The College is asking this of everyone, as congestion in this area is making the passage of traffic both dangerous and difficult, especially in the dark and wet at this time of year.

Thank you for your positive action on this, and moreover, for your continued efforts in encouraging so many important 'small things'.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Steven Cartwright
Headmaster, St Edmund's Prep

Religious Theme

Edmundian Virtue- inclusivity

Quote

"One of the most important things about life is kindness — and one of the hardest is remembering it."
— The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse

Mr Cartwright's quiz

Q: How many books are there in the Harry Potter series?

A: Seven

Q: Which part of the plant is responsible for making food?

A: In next week's newsletter.

Stay connected



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Head Commendations

Catherine Bavis	An excellent evaluation of Tudor Theatre and how it differs from theatre today
Faustine Bussmann	Contribution to Religious Life
Gabriel Daodu	An excellent analytical interpretation of the life of Esther in the Old Testament
Orla Doyle	Contribution to Religious Life
Ellie McGee	An excellent piece of creative writing that uses sentence structure and vocabulary choices
Lexi Norton	An excellent analytical piece on the relevance of Shakespeare in a world of technology
Hannah Osinibi	Showing excellent dedication and perseverance in her reading challenge
Savannah Symeou	For excellent preparation for the class assembly
Derry Tillbrook	For being a responsible and helpful member of the class

Important Dates - Next Week

Tuesday 10 th February	LAMDA Exams (Forms 5&6)
Wednesday 11 th February	3:30pm – U11A Boys Hockey v Bishops Stortford College - Away
Thursday 12 th February	Krishna Temple Visit Bhaktivedanta Manor (Form 6) 2:45pm – U9A & U8A Rugby v St Aubyn's – Home
Friday 13 th February	2:00pm – 3:30pm Nursery Stay & Play

Important Dates - This Term

Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February – Half Term	
Monday 2 nd March	Travelling Book Fair selling books until Tuesday 3 rd March
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Friday 6 th March	8:45am – 9:45am – Welcome Back Coffee Morning with Mr Cartwright, College Parlour
Tuesday 10 th March	Fab Science Workshops: Potions (Forms 1-6)
Thursday 12 th March	Exotic Animal Encounter Workshops (Nursery – Form 6)
Friday 13 th March	9:00am – Mother's Day Celebrations (Forms 1&2)
Friday 20 th March	9:30am – 12:30pm College and Prep Open Morning
Monday 23 rd March	5:00pm – 8:00pm Parent Consultation Evening
Tuesday 24 th March	2:00pm – Easter Story Production (Forms 1-6)
Wednesday 25 th March	5:00pm – 8:00pm Parent Consultation Evening
Thursday 26 th March	2:30pm – Lent Term Ends. No Tea Time Club
Tuesday 14 th April	Trinity Term Starts

E-Safety

We are getting ready for Safer Internet Day next week on 10th February. The theme is 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'.

For our younger children, whilst they might not be ready to use the internet independently, we will be looking at good habits to keep them safe in the future.

Older children will be thinking about where AI technology is being used and the impact it can have.

For more information, please visit <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026>




Extreme Reading – World Book Day Challenge

Where is the most unusual or exciting place your child has ever read a book?

Up a tree 🌳? On top of a mountain 🏔️? Somewhere unexpected at home or on an adventure? We'd love to see it!

To celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 5th March, we are inviting children to take part in our Extreme Reading Challenge. Simply snap a photo of your child enjoying a book in an "extreme" or imaginative location and send it into school by Friday 27th February.

 How to enter:

- Email a photo to Mrs Christodoulou echristodoulou@stedmundscollege.org
- Or send in a printed 5x7 or 6x4 photograph in an envelope

All entries will be displayed around the school, and we will also be running a fun competition for the most extreme reading spot!

We can't wait to see just how far our pupils will go for their love of reading — anywhere and everywhere 📖✨

Many thanks for your support.

This Week In The Prep

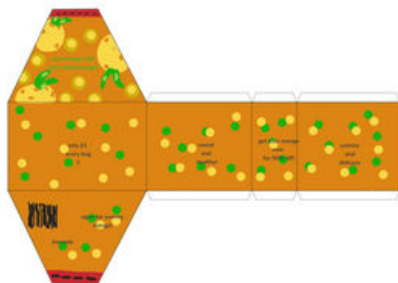
Form 6 - From Design Brief to Finished Packaging

In Computing, Form 6 have taken on an exciting design challenge, creating their own packaging for a range of healthy snacks. Starting with a design brief, the children carefully explored the purpose, audience, and requirements of their product.

They then used CAD software to design a prototype, refining their ideas and turning digital designs into real packaging. The final products were printed and assembled, bringing their concepts to life.

The snack range included freeze-dried mango, tea, and dragon fruit, each with its own unique and eye-catching design. The children showed fantastic creativity, attention to detail, and problem-solving skills throughout the process.

Form 6 truly took the design brief to the next level, producing packaging that wouldn't look out of place on shop shelves — and might even be coming to a store near you soon!





Forest School

Exciting developments have taken place in our Forest School, thanks to the generous donations from parents. We are pleased to announce the addition of new logs in our sharing circle and a donated mud kitchen, which have enhanced our outdoor learning environment. Additionally, we have introduced new bug hotels and tables crafted from natural materials, providing children with opportunities for exploration and learning.

The children have been exploring various bird species, planning the design of ideal bird feeders and houses, and even crafting their own feeders for local birds. It has been heartening to witness their enthusiasm as they share their knowledge of British garden birds while also uncovering new insights.

To foster your child's interest in nature and avian life, consider visiting the RSPB website, which is currently hosting 'The Big Garden Bird Watch.' This initiative encourages children to observe and collect data on local bird species, allowing them to submit their findings online. For more information, please visit <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>. Additionally, the 'Merlin Bird ID' app and website serve as excellent tools for helping children identify bird calls and recognise the birds they encounter. More details can be found at <https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/>.

Our Little Edmundian's Forest Fridays have been popular, with young adventurers delighting in woodland exploration and engaging in fun activities like mud painting, natural wreath making, and playdough creations.



Does Money Buy Happiness?

In Debate Club this week we were debating whether money buys happiness.

The 'agree' team argued that, yes it does because you need to have money to pay for things like the gym, food and luxuries. Also if you don't have enough money to pay the bills that can be very stressful and make you unhappy. On the other side it was argued that although buying things might make you happy, that happiness will only last for a little while and happiness doesn't come from having things, true happiness comes from the heart.

The final vote was that no, money does not buy happiness.





Reception - Animal Research

The Reception class has been looking at animals that live in cold places. We visited the library and found non-fiction books about lots of different animals. We chose an animal each and painted a picture of it. Then, in our best writing, we wrote an interesting fact. If you want to learn more about penguins, polar bears, arctic foxes, reindeer, lemmings or puffins – Reception is the place to come!

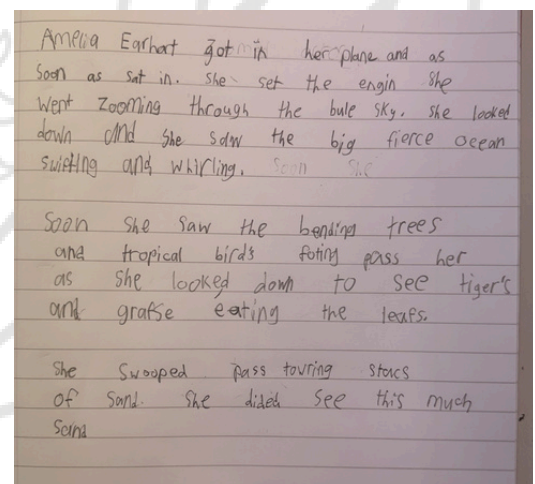
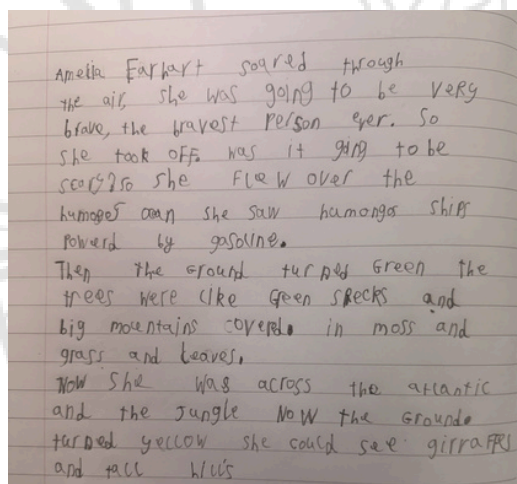
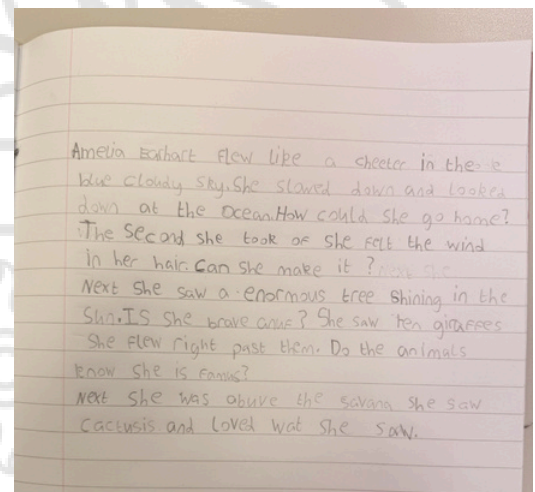
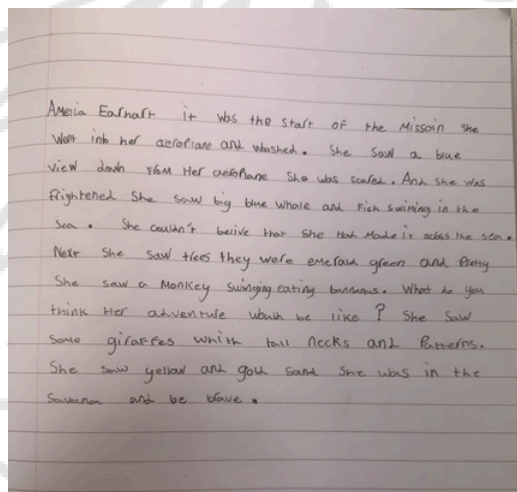


Form 2 Take Flight with Amelia Earhart

Form 2 have been learning all about Amelia Earhart in English, linking closely with their history topic. Over the past couple of weeks, the children have taken on the roles of journalists, reporters, and authors as they explored her life and achievements.

We focused on Amelia Earhart's final mission, in which she aimed to fly around the world. Through their writing, the children used similes and metaphors to vividly describe what Amelia might have seen from the air, bringing her journey to life.

We wrote detailed and imaginative descriptions of her final voyage, showing great creativity and a strong understanding of both historical events and descriptive language.





Performing Arts



Some of our Pre Prep and Early Years ballet dancers have been performing the following ballet movements,

- Pirouette - To turn
- Plié - To bend
- Piqué – Pointed toes
- Port de bras - Carriage of the arms (a controlled movement of the arms)



Photo of the Week

Water Droplet Photography Project

Rafe Weston





Little Edmundians Forest Fridays

Discover the St Edmund's Prep community at our free toddler group, with woodland walks, music, rhyme time and stories, crafts and activities.

A weekly morning of stay and play with coffee for parents and carers, especially for little ones aged 6 months to 3 years.

Every Friday morning from 9am to 10.15am, join our team and discover our woodland forest school (weather permitting).

[Book here](#)



Little Edmundians Mini Mondays

Our Mini Mondays toddler group sessions offer a free weekly morning of stay and play, with coffee for parents and carers, for little ones aged 1 to 4 years. With staff-led indoor and outdoor activities, including plenty of engagement in an educational environment, this is an ideal opportunity to explore imagination, communication, and social skills, while encouraging motor skills and coordination through play.

Join us on Mondays from 23rd February 2026, 9.15am–10.30am, in the Prep School. [Book Here](#)

Eco Corner

Eco Ideas

The Eco Ambassadors have thought of little ways we can try to be more Eco conscious in and around the school as well as in our lives.

**Go on litter
picks with your
community**



Breakfast Club

Late arrivals Breakfast Club: The Breakfast Club doors close at 7:55am promptly each day. In the event of reported bad traffic, every effort is made to afford some latitude to the door. We will endeavour to make a final check at the door shortly after 8am, but no later than 8:05am.

For all bookings, please continue to email wraparoundcare@stedmundscollege.org

Labelling Uniform

Please can you ensure that all uniform is labelled so that in the event of it getting misplaced we can return it to the correct child.

We have a number of items in our lost property that we believe have been purchased via New To You, as they have names in of children that no longer attend the Prep. Please can you also label any items purchased via New To You.

February CAMP

FEB 16-20

AN ENRICHING HOLIDAY
CAMP THAT CHILDREN LOVE



AGES
3-12



ACTIVE GAMES & SPORTS

"BUILD SKILLS,
TECHNIQUE AND A
LOVE FOR SPORT"

- Mr Goodfellow
Director of Sport - St Eds Prep



LEARN TO SWIM

"BUILD CONFIDENCE,
SKILLS
AND A LOVE FOR WATER"

- Cory,
Director of WCSA



ART THROUGH THE AGES

"INSPIRE
CREATIVITY AND
EXPRESSION"

- Miss Dee,
Art & Drama Specialist - St Eds

ACTIVITIES

- Daily Mile
- Football / Fustal
- Dodgeball
- Gymnastics
- Musical Theatre
- Lacrosse
- Laser Tag
- And Much More!

Prices

10% OFF BEFORE 31ST JAN!

Sibling and multi-day discounts will be
automatically applied at checkout.

Times

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Extended Day
8:30am - 5:30pm

Per Day

£55

£60

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