

SUMMER 2018



On Thursday 12th July the PE department hosted the annual Sports Personality Awards Evening celebrating the achievements of our students throughout the year. The students received awards not only for their sporting successes but their attitude, commitment and team work. Presenting the awards were returning pupils Sam Magri and Nathan Ashmore who both play football professionally for Ebbsfleet United.



SPORTS PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR AWARDS



Leigh Anne, who won Sports Personality said "I am so pleased to have won this award. Next year I will be team captain and hopefully other students can look up to me and aspire to win the award in the future."



As the year draws to a close it gives us the opportunity to reflect on "what has been" and look forward to "what can be." We have said a final farewell to our Year 11 students who celebrated in style at the Leavers Assembly and Prom. We are extremely proud of them and it was a pleasure to be part of their lives for five years, watching them grow up into amazing young adults. At the other end of the spectrum, we have met our new members of the St Edmund's family; all 215 of September's new Year 7. This is the school's largest year group following five days of appeals. I am confident that as always our 'big kids' will look after them and teach them the ways of the St Edmund's family.

You can see once again in the newsletter what a fantastic final half term it has been. Our Sports Day at HMS Temeraire saw a number of new records set and more students winning medals than ever before. I was extremely grateful for the help of the governors David Knight and Chris Whitfield in presenting students with medals and certificates.

It was equally amazing to see so many students nominated at the Celebration Assemblies and the competition to win achievement/effort badges. We also presented a huge number of students with their Spiritual and Attendance badges. Our students work incredibly hard every day producing superb class and homework with exemplary attitude and behaviour. This could not be achieved without the support of parents and the outstanding quality of teaching, learning and pastoral care from staff. I would like to wish staff and students well who are leaving us this year. They have contributed enormously to our family and will always be a part of all that we achieve. Farewell to Mrs Downey, Mrs Sandys-Renton, Mrs Durbin and Mrs Jones who are looking forward to a well deserved retirement and farewell to the following support staff Mr Crisp, Mrs Neville, Mrs Allingham and Miss Evans.

We also have several new staff joining us next year as we continue to ensure that we offer a varied curriculum and maintain our current low class sizes. However, changes to financial funding may alter this in the future unless schools see an increase in their funding which is in proportion to the rise of other operational costs. That said, over the summer we will be continuing with our school improvement programme with the following works:

- **Refurbishment of two science labs.**
- **Refurbishment of boys/girls toilets.**
- **Refurbishment of staff toilets.**
- **Alterations to the Kelly block classrooms.**
- **Refurbishment of several classrooms.**

As you may be aware, we have already replaced the Hall curtains and refurbished one of the changing rooms during last half term. As there is so much to do, we have already started the majority of the projects to ensure that we are ready for September. The start of term arrangements are on the back of the newsletter, as are the 2018/19 school term dates.

Finally I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer break. Please remember when getting ready for "Back to School" that the uniform policy; (particularly hair cuts/styles, shoe and trouser choices) is adhered to. It is always regrettable that these errors of choice/judgement cause our children problems on their first day back. We look forward to seeing you all in September. God Bless



Mr S Graham
Headteacher





This school year has been a wonderful journey for us all at St Edmund's. During the offertory procession, at our end of year Mass, various items were brought forward reflecting that journey. We brought forward an array of brightly coloured footprints which signified our journey this year. During the course of the year we united our journey with the journey of others both locally and in our world by learning about their situations through the various liturgies, fundraising and activities we celebrated during the year. We brought forward the poster of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, gifts which we have tried to live out during the year.

We brought forward a beautiful embroidered picture portraying the Beatitudes, which have been our school focus over the past two years. Finally, we brought forward the bread and wine; Christ's offering of himself for love of us.



Through the course of the year we have had Celebration Assemblies where we have celebrated many achievements. At the last Celebration Assembly, I talked about thanking God for the wonder of our being; that each of us is important and the best achievement is to believe in ourselves and that God loves us. When we believe that we can reach out to others, we enable other people to feel that they too are important and valued. We have done this in many ways. During the last term we raised money for various charities, we had our Year 8 Retreat where we spent time valuing who we are, respecting our environment, faith and one another. Year 8 students entered enthusiastically into all the workshops on Retreat and had much fun as well as much food for thought. Our Staff had a wonderful Retreat where we took time to rest, reflect and to look at our gifts and journey in thanksgiving. We attended the Annual Schools Mass at St John's



Cathedral where all the Catholic Schools in the Diocese celebrated the Lord journeying with us throughout the year. Our Chaplaincy Team and especially the St Vincent De Paul Group have been a wonderful example of God's love working through our young people, through their giving of their time and encouraging both staff and students to be involved in various activities and charity events in support of other people both in our local area and overseas.



Through our fundraising, assemblies, Tutor Prayer, Masses, Reconciliation Services, Retreats, Chaplaincy Meetings, Vincent De Paul Meetings, through trying to achieve our Spiritual Badges, especially the Catenian Badge; our badge of kindness we have grown and continue to grow into the best people that we can be. This has been because we see that God is with us on our journey, 'I can do all things with the help of God who strengthens me'.



Next year our spiritual focus will be 'Encouraging one another on the journey to holiness', which means doing the small, kind deeds each and everyday in our lives. When we show those little acts of kindness and caring each and every day that is what holiness is about and that is what builds community and enables each person to believe in their own goodness and the goodness of others. We thank the Lord for the blessings of this year and for enabling us to share that with others.



Many thanks for the continued support of both students and staff and parents.

May you all have a wonderful summer.

Fiona, Chaplain



Photographs from the Year 8 Retreat

Well here we are – Year 7, our first year at St Edmunds - completed, our first year experiencing the St Edmunds family – completed! This year has really flown by and I cannot quite believe that when we return after the summer we will be YEAR 8!

We have had another hugely successful half term. One of my major highlights has to be our most recent PSHE day on 22nd June, where we focused on charitable support in the city. The Roberts centre is a children based charity who we have worked closely with for a number of years. They attended our PSHE day to talk to us about the work they do, the history and development of the charity itself, and about how they raise money and support the children that come their way – one specific way being their “Robert the Bear” books. Our job was to create our very own version – each tutor group was responsible for coming up with an idea for a book that could teach children about a possible struggle that they might experience while growing up. We had some absolutely incredible Dragons Den style pitches from each tutor group involving illustrations, as well as dances and raps to promote the book!

The day finished with an attempt and aim at raising money for the Roberts centre charity that worked with us. The whole of Year 7 completed a sponsored run around a 400 metre course across the school grounds! Some pupils became tired very quickly (not a surprise with the glaring sunshine we had!), but some pupils excelled themselves!

Prizes were awarded to a number of individual pupils within each tutor group for the most amount of laps completed. Congratulations to the following:



7 Damien: Ebenezer and Adetola – 14 laps **7 Devereux:** Joy – 13 laps

7 John Paul: Jennifer – 13 laps

7 Kolbe: William – 17 laps **7 Newman:** Samuel – 15 laps **7 Romero:** Lewis – 15 laps

7 Stein: Leo – 16 laps **7 Teresa:** Max – 16 laps

Additional prizes were awarded to 7 John Paul for running the most overall amount of laps at 276 laps, as well as 7 Damien for raising and collecting in the most sponsorship money at **£166.48!**

This last week of term has also seen a huge number of other successes in the form of Sports Day, our Year 7 Reward Trip to Paultons Park as well as our final Celebration Assembly.

I wish you all a restful and safe summer holidays in preparation for our return as Year 8 pupils. I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all Year 7 parents and guardians for your continued support – the pupils wouldn't excel as they do without your support at home as well as at school.

Miss E Johnson,
Head of
Learning Year 7



YEAR 7



Well we come to the end of the year and this time I am writing in the heat of a July day, having taken half of the Year group away on their retreat. Year 8 have had a very busy half term with plenty of trips and activities.



All pupils have received their Targeted Progress Review and parents and carers will be able to see how well they have progressed this year with subject targets to guide them on how to make even better progress. It is crucial that all students realise that if they are behind now, then they have to work even harder in Year 9 to catch up. A good indication of how well students are doing is by looking at their Personal Qualities, these give pupils a score against being prepared to learn, behaviour in class, effort and homework. Year 9 is one of the most important years, as pupils will have to decide quite early what their GCSE options will be and so have to perform well in order to be selected for the subjects that they would like to study. Huge congratulations go to Maureen for coming top in the Personal Qualities, with Hannah, Ruby and Annika in second and Mylenna in third.



Linked to progress we have the merit reward system and pupils have really pushed hard to receive their merits and log them onto the online system. In a competition since Easter – the tutor group who logged the most merits won a Vue cinema trip, and 8 Stein won with 8 Damien a close second. They went to see Jurassic World. Austin has reached the 10th Milestone and awarded the purple achievement badge.



We will be rewarding pupils for their hard work and effort in the Celebration Assemblies where William and Amanda won the Head of Year award.

In June the whole year group went on two days to Park Place near Wickham for team building, reflection, and fun in beautiful surroundings. The students were split into their tutor groups and rotated around 4 activities. They spent half an hour quietly meditating in the chapel, then trusting each other to lead partners blindfolded. Fiona encouraged team building with song and dance and pupils spent time in the lovely gardens quietly reflecting with words, writing poems on what they saw. They were very hot days but it still didn't stop the students playing football and rounders after lunch. Pupils will now receive their Chaplaincy Badge as the retreat was the final thing that they had to do to receive it. They have prayed in tutor time, attended Saint Edmunds Day, the Easter Cathedral service, the Carol Service and taken part in their tutor mass.



The school put on a wonderful, four night performance of School of Rock and many year 8 pupils took part both on stage and behind the scenes. It was an amazing night of incredible talent and skill with many year 8 students taking part. Danny, Shaneia, Juanita, Giulia, Maciej, Rosie, Euan, Lucy, Abi, Roisin, Lucy, Villo and in the tech team we had Aidan and Jordan.



A group of girls had an exciting opportunity to take part in the National BAE Women in Engineering day. Alexia, Maureen, Shaneia, Lila, Mariam, Esme, Tabitha, Niamh, Annika and Ella Leo attended. The aim of the day was to inspire girls about careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.



Other activities this term that the students have taken part in include sailing, being ballcrew at the Southsea Trophy Tennis Tournament and the Boy's Hatrick where some boys are being mentored by outside coaches.

We are sad to see some pupils leave us and we wish them well in their new schools: Deborah, Maud, Ruwa and Eustacia. I would like to thank Mrs Pritchett for stepping in and taking 8 Devereux this term as their tutor and welcome Mrs Esmaili onto the team in September.

Have a safe summer and see you in September! **Ms H Jerrard, Head of Learning Year 8.**



YEAR 8





And here we are again! My last newsletter entry of Key Stage 3, where has the time gone? I am filled with a great sadness at the end of this road, but also filled with a huge amount of excitement as we are entering our KS4 chapter! I still remember all of my year group as if it was yesterday, starting here at St Edmund's during their transition days, and then the first day in September, they all looked so little, and so CUTE!

There are a lot of reasons why I love my year group. Of course, hard work, effort, aspirations, achievements, gifts, talents are only a few I can mention, but also their higher than average enthusiasm. As they are going through the teenage years, I am well aware, that I could get the sulky faces, grunts, and non-responsive answers to my pleas on daily a basis, but I am very happy to report, that instead of changing to a year of Kevin's (Harry Enfield's character Kevin the Teenager) they are as lovely and as enthusiastic as they were when they started. Long may it last, please do not ever lose it, as this is one of those strengths that makes them so special!



I absolutely loved the excitement and the outstanding participation during the last PSHE day, where pupils were treated to sessions run by The Princess of Wales regiment and the Red Cross. These sessions were tailored to the themes of teamwork, innovation, problem solving, and resilience to name a few of the useful, transferable skills.

Year 9 were brilliant and they all looked like they had a lot of fun. The feedback we have received following the event, says it all. From the Red Cross:

Firstly thank you very much for welcoming and inviting The Red Cross to raise awareness about asylum seekers in the city at St Edmunds Catholic School. The pupils were outstanding. They asked practical questions, were very polite and well behaved, and showed empathy and a keen interest in the topic we discussed. The "Message of Hope" and "Advice for Living in Portsmouth" cards filled out by the students showed great kindness and each card was well thought through. These cards will be given to new arrivals who come to Portsmouth. Thank you so much for your hospitality and professionalism. We do hope to visit your school again to teach another year group, or simply speak at your school assembly.



From The Army left on School's Reception:

"The nicest and most enthusiastic kids I have ever worked with."

It is a great tradition here in St Edmunds that at the end of each Year you are treated to some great events. Celebration Assembly, Sports Day and the Reward Trip are the highlight of the year for many. I was very proud of everyone who was nominated or won a prize, your sporty achievements during the Sports Day activities, but also of your impeccable behaviour whilst representing our school on a trip to Chessington World of Adventures. Brilliant, amazing!!!!



I am pretty sure that not everybody is looking forward to September, as no doubt it will mean more focus, more work and the real GCSE exams next Year! As long as you are consistent and persistent, there is nothing to fear Year 9s! If nothing else, the brand new KS4 uniform is something to look forward to. I am certainly very excited to see everyone in their super smart new attire.

Remember jumpers are compulsory!



Finally, I am excited to be making the jump forward into Key Stage 4. I have very high hopes for all of Year 9, with no exceptions, as each and every one is very special in their own way. Year 9 have many gifts and talents, and I hope that no one is going to waste the opportunities that are given here at St Edmund's. Work hard and be yourself, is all I am asking for!

I would like to take this time to thank you all for your hard work so far, and your parents for their support. I look forward to working alongside you again in September. Have an **AMAZING** summer break but please stay safe. Missing you already, see you ALL in September.

Mrs T Feliks-Matthews, Head of Learning Year 9



YEAR 9



It is with great pleasure and a genuine sense of pride that I am writing our last Year 10 newsletter entry for our year group. The first part of Key Stage 4 is coming to a close and I am immensely proud of how Year 10 have taken to life as young adults at St Edmunds so far. With each challenge the year has brought they have risen to the occasion whether it be early entry to GCSE's or coursework for their chosen option subjects, stepping into life as a post 16 student with our College taster days or one of the many sporting commitments alongside school, or finally applying to become a prefect or one of the senior roles within school and the process of applications and interviews that goes hand in hand.



Year 10 pupils were greeted with a chance to attend two colleges this year for taster days on the 22nd June at Havant or Southdown's college and the 28th June at Portsmouth College. Both days featured a wide range of subjects and options for the pupils to explore and will help guide choices made alongside their college applications during the first few months of their start to Year 11. Pupils behaviour was exemplary and the engagement across both days was fantastic to see, well done Year 10.



Following on from a busy few weeks it was time to celebrate success across the year with our final year 10 Eddies celebration assembly on Thursday July 12th. A huge well done to all who were nominated and an even bigger well done to pupils who manage to bring home an award and trophy as a reminder for all your hard work. Pupils were also given the opportunity to collect their badges for Sports Colours, Spirituality, Catenian, attendance and prefect badges. Wear them with pride Year 10. I would like to thank all of the admin department, and in particular Mrs White and Mrs Halford alongside Mrs Lunn for all their effort and time. It was a fantastic assembly because of your efforts.

With no rest for the wicked (or not so) we had our Year 10 reward trip to Thorpe Park on Friday 13th July. Superstition aside, the day went ahead without a hitch and the sun was scorching all day. Pupils enjoyed a number of rides and even Mr Ghosh managed to overcome some of his fears with photographic proof for his tutor group. A brilliant day was had by all who attended and it was a lovely way to round off the academic year before Year 10 head into their work experience week. Such a large number of Year 10's have been accepted on placements for work experience this year and a massive thank you has to go out to both Mr Wilkinson and Mrs Halford for all their work and chasing this term. Work experience runs from Monday 16th July to Friday 20th July this year.



Work experience is a phenomenal opportunity for pupils to see what life after school and post 16 is like. It provides the pupils with a vast

array of unique opportunities in their chosen area and may even lead to some useful networking or future work! I'm looking forward to hearing all the pupil's stories when they arrive back at St Edmunds on Tuesday 4th September at 9.30am! Please remember to be in full school uniform with all equipment, and prepare for your final ever year at school!

Have a great summer! **Mr J Brown, Head of Learning Year 10**



YEAR 10



WHAT A YEAR

"At Marwell Zoo I had the best time ever! We all piled onto a coach and made the short journey to Marwell. The first animal we saw were the Penguins which were amazing. I would really love to go and experience it again."



"There were lots of great animals to see at the zoo including; clouded leopards, cheetahs, penguins, small antelopes which are native to Africa. My favourite animals were a reptile, the bearded dragon and from the cat family, the clouded leopard."

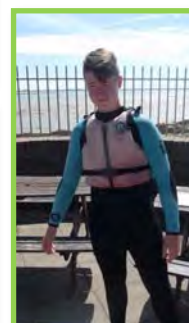
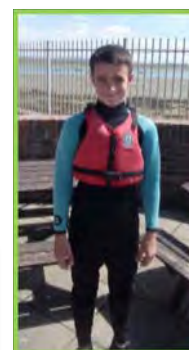
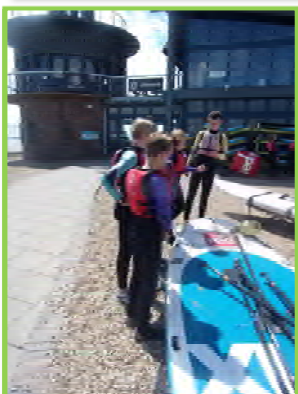
It all started with a short coach ride of about an hour and a half to our destination of Marwell Zoo. The feeling on the coach was that of excitement and expectation of what we would be doing and seeing at the zoo. When we arrived we were spit into groups and issued with a clip board so we could record different facts about the endangered animals. We saw lots of different animals from pygmy hippos, flamingos and monkeys. Everyone had a fabulous, fun filled day and I definitely recommend the zoo to anyone who loves animals. I can't wait to go back!



WATERSPORTS CENTRE

Everyone wants to be top of the PQs or at improve the score every term.

Year 8 boys who took on the mantle 'Hat trick' from their predecessors enjoyed a morning with the Andrew Simpson staff at the watersports centre on the Eastern Rd.



All boys have improved their PQ average scores and want to continue on this road to improvement, harnessing their qualities and leadership skills into Year 9. They enjoyed the challenges of paddle boarding in Langstone Harbour and the challenges of the climbing wall. A huge thank you to Mr Tindal who accompanied them (but didn't get his swimming shorts wet) and all the staff at the centre who have provided so many opportunities for the pupils at St Edmunds this year.

Mrs Howorth





From Wednesday 20th to Saturday 23rd June over 50 young people from St Edmund's took to the stage to perform 'School of Rock'. And what a fantastic production it was! Yet again, the pupils at St Edmund's blew the audience away with their professionalism, commitment, enthusiasm and talent. Aidan Cassar, who played 'Dewey Finn', performed sensationally every night, despite having the pressure of his GCSE exams. Louise Elliott, who played 'Rosalie Mullins', performed so believably as the Principal of Horace Green that she was even offered a place on the senior leadership team at St Edmund's by Mr Graham on the last night! Not only did the cast do an amazing job, but we also had a very professional band and backstage team who worked extremely hard to make the show even better. On the final night of the show the audience gave the cast and crew a standing ovation which was very overwhelming and definitely deserved. Having directed productions at St Edmund's for six years now, it fills me with pride to see how the productions help the pupils to grow in confidence each year. Being involved in a production is an experience that will stay with these pupils for many years and I am overjoyed that we are able to provide this opportunity for them.

Miss Swarbrick



"I played 'Lawrence' in the 'School of Rock' and I found it fun. I liked how they allowed younger years to take part. We had so many rehearsals, including at weekends, which was hard work but it was worth it as it turned out very well."



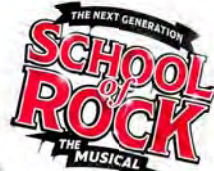
"School of Rock' was an amazing experience, full of moments I'll never forget. All of the cast were supportive to each other and helped each other along the way. I will definitely audition again next year and make more amazing memories. I have made so many great friends and hope to make more."



"The school production has probably been one of the best experiences I have had since I started this school. I enjoyed every minute of it and I have made so many friends. Playing my part, 'Tomika', was absolutely amazing with the singing and dancing and hopefully I will get to do it again next year. I would recommend the school production



Being in the 'School of Rock' was a great experience, I loved every second of it. I have met new people in all different year groups and made lifelong friends. The cast and crew were amazing, even the teachers. Playing 'Zack' was the best! I can't wait to do it again next year.



SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Every Thursday a selected group of Year 7 students have attended the Star Maths Club. They have worked hard to improve their confidence and mathematical knowledge. At the end of each session students were rewarded with biscuits, merits and time to chat. Many Starmathians (my nickname for members) received certificates for attendance, effort and achievement. I would like to thank and commend the Starmathians for their dedication, giving up your own time after school to practise maths is not everyone's favourite thing to do! Well done to all of the Starmathians!



Mrs Houghton

"By doing Star Maths I have got better grades in tests. I had fun having Mrs Houghton."

"Star maths has been great fun! Not to mention Mrs Houghton handing out biscuits as a reward."

"I have enjoyed Star Maths. I have got Secure thanks to Mrs Houghton." "It's really good and helps." "It's fun!"

"Star maths has been a great opportunity for me, thanks to Mrs Houghton."

"Star maths is really fun and has helped me to improve and get better."

"The biscuits are worth it at the end. It has helped me to get confident in maths. Thanks Mrs Houghton."

ICCAMS is a maths course that every member of Year 8 has taken part in for the past two years. It has involved students partaking in different style lessons, focusing on Algebra and Multiplicative structures. They have all been taught 42 lessons over two years that have allowed students to lead their learning, exploring ideas and concepts themselves without being told if they have done something wrong and instead highlighting the misconceptions themselves. I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching the ICCAMS lessons as they allow students to be independent and the emphasis is on them exploring and learning for themselves with very little teacher influence.



"I have enjoyed ICCAMS lessons because it has allowed me to think of many other methods to solve maths questions and this has taught me that there is more than one way. I have also enjoyed the lessons as we got to work in teams and we were allowed to choose different people to work with every lesson and come up with new methods ourselves. The ICCAMS test was scary as we took it like a real GCSE but when I did the test it was actually not as hard as I thought. Overall, the lessons were fun!"

It has been a delight to hear the enjoyment students have taken from the lessons and the resilience they have shown throughout them which has definitely filtrated into normal maths lessons. We hope to continue teaching these lessons to future year groups as we really have seen the benefits. **Miss Hammond**

Mrs Phillips and class 7 M2 have been reflecting on their work:

"I feel that I have improved massively this year in terms of collecting data and using bar graphs and tables to construct meaning by showing steps and examples to show how I have learnt it. Since Year 6 I have improved by pushing myself to a whole new level and being able to use the remember skill to try and break down pictures or examples that I might not have seen before."



"I have loved learning Maths this year, it has been a great opportunity. I've especially enjoyed algebra topics as it was very challenging. I've especially liked the thinking TEEP learning cycle. I like working out all the questions of algebra, e.g. nth term. Maths has always been one of my favourite subjects and it will help me a lot in the future. I also like the fact that we used different thinking hats to represent different feelings. This was helpful to get everyone engaged."



"In Maths I have enjoyed learning new methods and topics. My favourite topic has been bar graphs, where I was able to understand, apply and create. I loved how there were more than one type of graph, making me wanting to use them all. During the year the thinking skills and the TEEP Learning Cycle made me understand all the different phases when I got stuck."



"Maths is one of my favourite subjects and I enjoyed learning it this year. I enjoyed learning fractions because I find them easy and I have improved since year 6. I also enjoyed pie charts, I always got confused when solving them but by using the TEEP learning cycle and trying my best I achieved my goals."



MATHS





It's all change again in the ICT Computer Science department. We have enjoyed our first year in the new T block, the climate-controlled rooms a welcome change from having to borrow fans and open every window at this time of year. The last group of GCSE ICT and the first of the 9-1 Computer took their exams in May and we wish them well on results day.

This year students will have noticed the addition of more computer science and programming into the key stage 3 scheme of work. Digital literacy (learning how to use Microsoft Office products) is still an important part of the curriculum and is taught alongside programming and computing theory. Use of Office 365 for email, submitting homework, note taking and work sharing is becoming second nature, just like in many workplaces around the country and indeed around the world.



Year 7s have enjoyed a bit of computer aided design, creating a mock up of their dream house. They learned how to use Sketchup and used their imagination to design incredible dwellings.

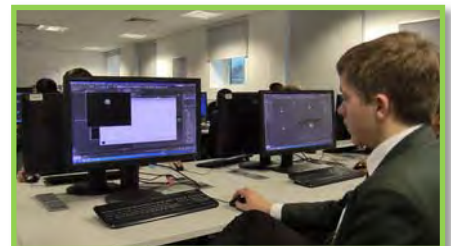


Year 8's final project this term was to explore the hypothesis 'Computers have enhanced our everyday lives'. After surveys and internet research classes debated the issue with surprising results: While computers make our lives easier at home and help us with our school and work, there are still downsides to the technology. To safely use computers and computing technology we must be aware of the dangers, such as fraud, e safety and security of personal and financial information. They concluded that while computers did enhance our lives, we must be sure to use them wisely.



The imaginary band, 'Blue Screen of Death', benefited from the year 9's database skills. They created a fan database, to include a listing of fans, gig venues, and who attended which gig. This would give the band the information it needed to target their marketing and ticket sales.

Year 10 ICT and Computer Science have continued to work on their controlled assessment work, and have completed their mock exams, some students in both subjects. Their hard work and dedication makes the future look bright for the new year 11 classes in the autumn term.



After ten years teaching at St Edmund's it is time for me to join my husband in 'retirement' and leave my teaching post. I will miss seeing you all day by day, but plan to remain a part of the school 'family' for some time to come. Cool beans!

Mrs Durbin



ICT

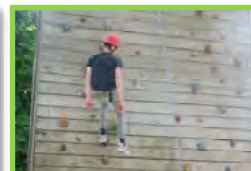




This year, the MFL department organised two trips . In February we took 40 pupils to Barcelona for four days and they all had a brilliant time visiting Camp Nou, La Sagrada Familia, Mont Serrat and plenty more. And in May, 30 year 8 and 9s pupils went to Normandy where we visited the famous Mt St Michel and Fougère Castle and had a night at a crêperie. Both trips were fantastic and the pupils had a great time!!



Back in February I had the fantastic opportunity to go on the trip to Barcelona. It was such an amazing experience. Not only did we visit many places that were educational, we had so much fun too! Amongst the places we visited were: Montserrat, Camp Nou, Sagrada Familia, Hard Rock Café, two shopping centres and a variety of restaurants where we got to taste lots of local delicacies. Even though it was only a short trip, we definitely packed so much in. I would love to go back!



The School trip to Normandy, France was great. There was so much to do and see. We visited Mont St Michael which is a huge Abbey that is situated on an Island. We also visited a creperie, they were so tasty! And a further trip to the Château de Fougères. At the centre where we were staying there was also lots to do. I did rock climbing, which I loved, however, the sensory trail was so scary! At night we had a disco which was great fun too. We all had a fantastic time. Thank you to everyone who accompanied us and made it such a great trip.





A selection of KS3 and KS4 pupils have been sailing this year with the PSTT (Portsmouth Sail Training Trust) on various days throughout the year. During these sessions the pupils have been trained in how to rig a sailing boat and have been taught nautical knowledge such as a jib (Fore sail) and a boom (Something that hits Mr Hughes in the head a lot), this also includes the most important knowledge, how to Sail!!!!. The course has been stationed in the Dockyard and the pupils have had to get speedboats over to Haslar marina to sail each time.



During the week of the 9th of August, 11 pupils participated in a regatta against other Schools in Portsmouth, this culminated in the awards ceremony aboard HMS Bristol based at Whale Island. One of our students, Matthew, managed to beat all competition to gain top marks overall throughout the year for exceptional knowledge, behaviour and perseverance to win the coveted Excellent Sailor award, which came with fully fledged training qualification course for FREE! It is safe to say that Saint Edmund's pupils will be plying the seven seas once again next year!



During May our gifted and talented students in Year 10 were offered the opportunity to complete an official Mensa IQ test: a scary prospect! Surprisingly none turned it down and all were uber keen to try one. After Mensa lost our first try (d'oh), the students received results for a second way more intense assessment. Loads of the Year 10s were super proud of their brain ratings and understandably so with eight being offered membership of Mensa itself (you have to be above the top 2% to get that!). We're very proud to have some students in our school almost as smart as Mr Sims! If you're currently in Year 9 look out for this opportunity next year, with a little effort you could even be as brainy as Mrs Jones!



Mr Fairey

Message from Mr Sankar:

I would like to thank all staff and pupils for their prayers, cards and kind thoughts. I hope to be fit for the beginning of the new



academic year in September. I wish everyone a happy, enjoyable and a good summer break.



A student from St Edmund's recently attended the National championships In Nottingham. There were 36 teams in total attending the championship (all of the top league football clubs in England). It was a long 12 hour day but Oakley and the Portsmouth boys team managed to go all day unbeaten, knocking out the past two year champs early in the tournament and making it all the way to the final. At full time, the score was 0 - 0 so it went to penalties. The boys kept their nerve but unfortunately they lost. No matter the final result the amazing talent displayed on the day by Oakley, and how hard all the boys played. Even though they ended as runners up everyone is immensely proud of Oakley. Well done!



Our Year 11 had a fantastic night at their Prom that was held at the Royal Marine Barracks at Eastney. For more fantastic pictures, please visit our website www.saintedmunds.org.uk



NEWS



Instrumental Lessons

At present, we have visiting teachers offering instrumental tuition in the following instruments;

Woodwind Brass Strings Singing Drum Kit Piano Guitar

Lessons are charged at £ 90 per term for 10 individual lessons.

Any pupils who would like to take up playing an instrument should see Mrs Stevenson ASAP.



Goodbye to Mr Lake

After 3 years, our guitar teacher Mr Lake is leaving us to take up a new post in September. Mr Lake has been a fantastic member of the music department and has inspired the pupils he has taught guitar too over the years. He also took part in school concerts and recently prepared some of our students for their roles on 'School Of Rock'. We wish him all the best for the future.



Mrs Stevenson and the Music department.



St Swithun's Catholic Primary School 50 Year Anniversary

St Swithun's School, in its current location, turns 50 in November 2018, having moved in November 1968. If any parishioners would like to get involved in organising a celebration please call the office on 023.9282.9339 or email us on:

correspondence@st-swithuns.portsmouth.sch.uk.

St Swithun's Catholic Primary School Southsea



Monday 3rd September 2018

INSET Day

Tuesday 4th September 2018 WEEK A

Year 7 arrive at 08.20 and line up as for assembly.

Year 11 to arrive at 09.30 and line up as for assembly.

Wednesday 5th September 2018: All Years

All years arrive at normal times.

Year 7, 9, 10 and 11 attend registration.

Year 8 08.25 line up for assembly.

Year 9 08.50 line up for assembly.

Year 10 09.20 line up for assembly.

Thursday 6th September 2018: All Years

As normal arrive 8.20 and attend registration.

Year 10 assembly

School Dates Academic Year 2018 - 2019

Autumn Term

Term 1: Monday 3rd September – Friday 19th October 2018

Half Term: Monday 22nd – 26th October 2018

Term 2: 29th October 2018 – Friday 21st December 2018

Christmas Holiday: 24th December 2018 – 4th January 2019

Spring Term

Term 1: Monday 7th January – Friday 15th February 2019

Half Term: Monday 18th – 22nd February 2019

Term 2: Monday 25th February – Friday 5th April 2019

Easter Holiday: 8th April 2019 – Monday 22nd April 2019

Summer Term

Term 1: Tuesday 23rd April – Friday 24th May 2019

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2019

Term 2: Monday 3rd June – Tuesday 23rd July 2019

(NB: Friday 19th July 2019 last day of term)

Summer Holiday: Wednesday 24th July – Friday 30th August 2019.

Inset Days:

Monday 3rd September 2018

Friday 23rd November 2018

Friday 28th June 2019

Monday 22nd July 2019

Tuesday 23rd July 2019



Staff, Governors and Students wish you all a happy summer break. See you in September!



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NOTICEBOARD