



NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Mr S Graham BSc, NPQH

St Edmund's Catholic School

Caelum Dives Ingrede

Tel: 02392 823766

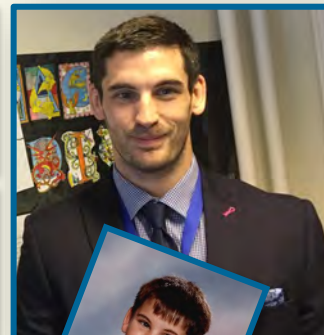


I have very fond memories of being a student at St Edmund's. In particular Maths with Mr Fitzgerald who was great fun and Art with Mr Wiley who gave me the freedom to express my ideas.

Mr C Nicol - Teacher of RE

I had some fantastic teachers, and some are still here today. My tutor was very strict and reinforced the schools expectations during tutor time (ask Mr Poxton!). I find myself reciting almost daily to my students in Year 11 some of her most memorable pieces of advice.

Mr J Brown - Head of Learning Year 11



We GROW OUR OWN at St Edmund's



I was very lucky that I got to work

with some excellent teachers. However, I adored my English teacher Mrs Jackson when I was a pupil. I suppose as I was good at the subject I would be predisposed towards her but she was an inspiration. I haven't seen her since I was about 18 but I'd love to thank her face to face for making me who I am today.

Mr J Were -
Head of English

education as they possibly can.

Mr A Poxton -
Head of PE



I have a long family connection

all of my family including my three children have been educated here. You could argue that if I were to work in any school, destiny brought me back to St Edmund's.

Mr I White -
Network Manager

Being a student at St Edmund's It was a huge part of my life. Through the ups and downs, grades and life as a teenager, the school supported me so much that it has propelled me into a successful career, working back at the best school in Portsmouth.

Mrs J Tuffnell -
Teacher of English



Working at St Edmund's and within my department is fantastic, staff here really have a special bond as we all want what is best for the students. Every day I try to inspire them the same way in which I was and strive to ensure that they get the best



Mrs J Robinson -
Examinations Officer

Headteacher's Address

The start to term has been and gone and seems a distant memory now. Each new year always brings enormous change, especially for students starting in Year 7. However, I have been very impressed with their confidence, positivity and the ease in which they have started to settle into the St Edmund's family. We must not forget that all year groups and individuals face their own challenge as they 'move up' and experience change. This is especially true for students in Year 10 and 11, where expectations, focus and demands on individuals are extremely high.


Last summer's GCSE results were once again considerably above national averages and the School remains the best performing school within Portsmouth and nearby Hampshire. What that really means is that our children out performed others which allows them to go on to access good college courses that they want to study. They also leave as extremely well rounded individuals with a strong inner spirituality.

In the newsletter this half term these aspects of life at St Edmund's shine through. Great opportunities, achievement, spirituality and commitment are part of our family life. This has been reflected by the support of parents and some amazing homework projects.

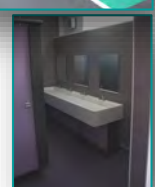
I am also pleased to update you on the progress of our summer improvement programme for school facilities. We have refurbished the staff and student toilets, renovated two science labs and a prep room. Extended the cycle storage facilities and improved security/surveillance of this area (however I would always recommend that students bring a bike lock and wear a safety helmet). Refurbished Geography classrooms and the entrance/stairs to the Kelly Block. Not to mention other minor works and maintenance. A huge thank you to the Site team/Support staff who are involved in these projects. I truly believe that our children have some of the best facilities to learn, play, grow and develop into young adults.

Finally, a special thank you to the Friends of St Edmund's and all families who supported the recent Charity Auction. A huge amount of time and energy is given to supporting St Edmund's by our parents/volunteers.

I hope you have a great half term.



Mr S Graham, Headteacher



It was a beautiful evening on Friday 5th October at the newly refurbished Gaiety suite on South Parade Pier and a pleasure to spend it with three well deserving recipients of a Lifetime Achievement Award. Mr Sankar, Mrs White and Mrs Edwards were delighted to receive this achievement for services to Portsmouth Education authority spanning 25 years +.



For Mr Sankar, it was a particularly memorable evening as he celebrated more than 40 years in Maths teaching. Mrs White has

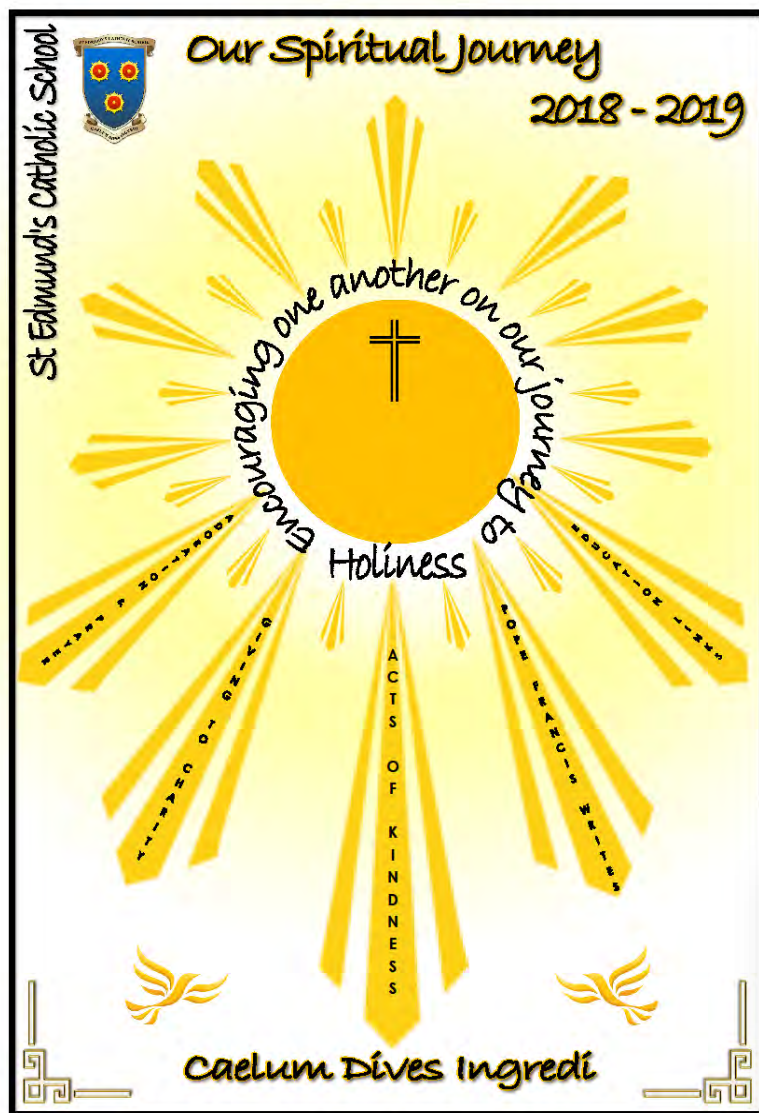
devoted considerable time and energy for more than 25 years at St Edmund's as an Higher Level Teaching Assistant and Mrs Edwards for all her hard work in the Library/English department here at St Edmund's and as a teacher in other Portsmouth schools. Congratulations to all of you.

Mrs M Howorth



'Encouraging one another on our journey to Holiness' is the Spiritual theme for our school this term.

Pope Francis said that **"Holiness is nothing other than charity lived to the full"**.



Our Chaplaincy Team and our St Vincent De Paul Group worked together and came up with the ideas of how to live this out in our daily lives. The Poster we designed depicts the 5 areas we will be focusing on during the year: **'Adoration and Prayer', 'Giving to Charity', 'Acts of Kindness', 'Pope Francis Says...', 'Education Links'**. The first letter taken from each area spells 'Agape' which is the highest form of love, charity. During Tutor Prayer, assembly, and through various projects, we will be learning more about these areas and how to live this selfless-love each day within our school.

The new school year began enthusiastically with our assembly on 'Encouraging one another on our journey to Holiness'. The Year 7 Retreats enabled the new students to get to know one another, have fun through various workshops, as well as having time to reflect, be still and concluded with a beautiful Mass. Now, each Year 7 Tutor Group are preparing their own Tutor Mass. Students from all year groups attended the Education Sunday Mass on October 14th in the Cathedral, where they sang, led the readings, prayers, offertory, ushering and put up a display board of all that we do at St Edmund's. It was a beautiful Mass supported by many families and friends.



Our Chaplaincy Meetings and St Vincent De Paul Group are busy organising projects etc., for this academic year. This term we have collected Harvest Foods for a local church as well as fundraising for CAFOD for the people of Indonesia. We are blessed in many ways at St Edmund's as we have a school that really does work together and journey together and is mindful of the local community and our world. Our aim this year is to continue to reach out to one another and others each and every day; to share our time, thoughts and

As we begin this day, help us to walk in your way.

**Enable us to do small acts
of love and kindness each
and every day.**

**And through our daily prayer help us
to listen to what you have to say.**

Amen

prayers, in order to make everyone we meet feel special on the journey to Holiness. Come and join us on the journey to holiness through prayer and encouraging everyone you meet to be the best person that they can be.

Fiona, Chaplain



CHAPLAINCY



Wow, what an amazing start we have all had. I am super proud of every one of the children for their amazing transition into the St Edmund's family. It is a joy to see the maturity and ambition of our pupils. They have a great work ethic and resilience that means they are ready to take on any challenge, which I feel will set them up well for the future. Can I just take this opportunity to thank all the parents/guardians for your support and communication, as this is a joint

journey between us as a school and you, together we can achieve the best for our children. Although, I myself am new to the school, I already feel a massive part of the St Edmund's family, which I hope your children do too. We pride ourselves in creating the best possible education and wellbeing for our children.



Even though we are only just finishing our first half term, we have packed in a lot. A particular highlight for me was the year 7 Retreat. This was a way of introducing the Year 7s to the spiritual life of St Edmund's. A very special thank you goes to Fiona, our Chaplain, for organising such a wonderful day and for leading our meditation and reflection. A huge thank you must also go to Mr Maguire for a fun filled workshop. The Retreat day ended with a special Mass, which involved all Year 7 pupils. I was very impressed with

the maturity and respect they had whilst taking lead roles, such as; being an alter server, delivering a reading and being part of the offering. I would like to add I was also very impressed with the maturity and respect from the rest of the year group, who were not taking an active part. I particularly enjoyed the enthusiasm for the spiritual songs we had learned, and sang full of the St Edmund's family spirit. These memories will stay with the children and myself. All pupils were very proud, as was I, that they earned their Spiritual Badge.



As a year group we have been collecting a lot of merits, and lots of children have earned their 'Superstar' starter certificate. This means they are now onto accumulating their merits in their planner and can log them using 'Mystickers.com' to earn things such as; certificates, badges, non-uniform days and early lunch passes. I love the pride the children have in earning those merits, which they thoroughly deserve.



As Head of Learning for Year 7, I hope we can work together to achieve the best for your children. One concern I currently have is attendance. Please can I remind you how important it is that your child is in school, honestly, every day really does count. If your child feels a little unwell in the morning, please encourage them to come in and we can monitor them, rest assured, if we are concerned over their health we will call you. On that note, I am going to start some Tutor group competitions around attendance, with the top tutor group winning some 'treats' from me each half term. Our current leading 3 tutor groups on attendance are as follows:

1st – 7 Kolbe – 98.85% 2nd – 7 Stein – 98.40% 3rd – 7 Damien - 98.01%



Homework has been a massive learning curve for some of our pupils. Not only is there more to do than at primary school, your child has to take an independent responsibility for doing it on time and to an appropriate standard. As a mother of two myself, I can understand the stress homework can sometimes cause. I am also a strong believer that homework has a significantly positive effect on a child's learning. As a school we offer a homework club, after school, which your children can attend if you feel they would benefit.



I would like to add that as a year group we are trying our best to show kindness to others. Please help us by encouraging your child to not discriminate against others and to be true to themselves and to inspire to be the best person they can be.

Lastly, I would like to reiterate how proud I am of my year 7 children and feel lucky to be able to see them grow and learn though our St Edmund's family.

I am happy to hear from all parents/carers regarding any issue with your child. Thank you, **Mrs Angela Brand, Head of Learning Year 7**

YEAR 7

Well it has already been a busy start to the new academic year for Year 8 pupils! They have returned after the summer and have been briefed on the importance of Year 8 – a big step up from last year, where pupils are now setting examples and acting as role models for our new Year 7's!

There has been some fantastic effort from a huge number of Year 8s, and I particularly want to mention the pupils that have supported Mr Graham and our school on tours completed recently. A number of pupils have showed round prospective parents and pupils and came across exceptionally well when talking about all aspects of our school including lessons, Chaplaincy, re-wards, trips, clubs, behaviour. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you and well done to the below pupils:

Jacob, Olivia, Jake, Anna , Ethan, Rosa, Jenevieve, Nicole, Paige, Kevin, Jack, Victoria, Mathilda, Stella Ann, Sam Lily, Wiktorja & Amie.



Many more school tours upcoming and I know there are a huge number of keen individuals that we will be calling on to continue with our school tours!

Year 8 also took part in Start a Heart Day on Tuesday 16th October. I was so impressed with everyone's behaviour and willingness to learn this valuable life skill. It was incredibly hard work! I think we will all be humming the tune of Baby shark for a long time.

I would finally like to congratulate the below tutor groups for holding the TOP 3 positions for the highest attendance across all tutor groups so far this Half Term:

3rd place – 8 Devereux – 98.43% **2nd place – 8 Kolbe – 98.92%**
1st place – 8 Damien – 99.09%

Attendance will continue to be a real focus for next Half Term with prizes continuing to be awarded every Half Term for the highest tutor group attendance. Who will receive the next prize ...?!



Miss E Johnson, Head of Learning Year 8



YEAR 8

“Always let your talent do the talking. Never your tantrums.”
— Rasheed Ogunlaru

Students in Year 9 have made a really positive start to the new academic year, hopefully ready for a challenging year during which they will choose their option subjects for GCSE. It is going to be busy with trips and events, culminating with the end of KS3 at the end of the year. The focus for this year will be on careers and pupils are spending their tutor time activities, discussing their future paths. There will be an Options Evening in January and a careers speed networking event in February 2019.

Many students have already given up their time and volunteered to help out at the School's Open Evening for prospective pupils, helping out in departments whether demonstrating in PE or showing off their ICT skills and acting as Tour Guides.

I am always amazed at the achievements of pupils and congratulations have to go to the U16 girls football team who beat Oasis Mayfield 3-0. Consequently, the girls now progress to the third round of the PlayStation National Cup. Well done to **Shannon, Ruby** and **Lily-Rose**. Whilst on a PE front we hope that the six year 9 pupils going to Dubai at half term have a successful trip.



We wish **Cerys, Danny, Juanita, Tabitha, Roisin**, and **Maciej** all the very best for their performance in this year's Shakespeare's School Festival production of Othello to be performed on the 6th November at the New Theatre Royal. **Aidan** is leading the tech team and he has really stepped up to this senior role and is now training the younger pupils in this important job. I hope that many people will go and support them as they have been working really hard in their rehearsals.

48 students took part in the Science in Action Day at BAE Systems and the University of Portsmouth. They thoroughly enjoyed the day, great for those thinking of a career in this area.



Attendance is up on this time last year – which is really positive, because every day that students are in school they make better progress. Congratulations to **9 Damien** for having the best attendance since the start of term. The best attending tutor group get doughnuts on the last day of every half term.

This is the last year for collecting badges and rewards for hard work in lessons. There are many blazers that have a lot of metal on them already – I hope this won't be stunting growth! To encourage students to log their merits – last year the tutor group who logged the most, won a trip to the cinema. This term they are working towards a pizza afternoon in school at the end of term. So far **9 Devereux** are in the lead!

On the theme of rewards, we have the Triple P awards in Year 9 – these are to celebrate pupils who are Positive, Polite and who make Progress in lessons. The first winner was **Albert** in 9 Teresa – well done!

Last year I was looking forward to seeing the year group grow in confidence, maturity and resilience and that definitely happened. This year, I am aiming to see them really grasp all the opportunities that are offered to them at school and celebrate all their skills, talents and interests.

Keep up the good work!

Ms Jerrard, Head of Learning Year 9



YEAR 9

Let me start writing this newsletter with a very warm welcome to both Parents/Carers and students. I really hope that you all had a fantastic summer break, and that you can still remember what you have been doing, as I can barely remember myself! Seems a very, very long time ago!

Our current Year 10 pupils had a superb transition to KS4. Not only looking absolutely stunning in their brand new uniform (the envy of other schools, I hear), but also with their fantastic attendance, and a super mature attitude. A huge thank you to All Year 10 Mentors, who have helped out with the Year 6 Transition, and during the first few days with Year 7! All pupils involved were absolutely amazing helping the new cohort to settle in, and to ease the transition fears for many of our new arrivals. The same goes for our Open Evening, so many of you volunteered to help out on the day, and yet again represented our school in the best light possible. Many, many thanks to you all for the contribution to our school.



On Thursday 13th September we hosted our Year 10 Information Evening where Parents and Carers were given an opportunity to come and learn about the GCSE content of the core Subjects of English, Math, Science and R.E. The evening was a great success with a huge turnout, so once again thank you to all staff and parents involved. All the events organised by school events are vital in providing both pupils, and parents with the information required to put our pupils in the best possible position to achieve.



As you are aware, Year 10 pupils have now moved away from their reward milestones we had in Key Stage 3, and instead started to collect commendations from their Teachers and Tutors. I have been inundated by the amount accumulated so far, but it is paramount that we carry on doing so, as commendations enable pupils to apply to be a Prefect later on in the year.



The year ahead, and the year after, will be tougher for our pupils than any of the previous years, but I have no doubt, that with the support the school provides for our individuals, we are prepared for the challenges the new GCSE specifications present us with.

I also would like to take this opportunity to remind all Parents and Carers that our first Parents Evening for Year 10 will be on Wednesday 8th November. For all pupils, in order to succeed, it is vital that the school – parent partnership is very strong. I therefore encourage all parents/carers to come along and discuss how your son/daughter is progressing through their first half term of GCSE work, and what needs to improve in order to achieve the best results possible. All pupils have received their appointment sheets, and are required to make appointments on your behalf. Please bring a copy of this sheet to the Parents Evening to avoid confusion over the timings and teachers.



I look forward to seeing you all at our first Year 10 Parents Evening, and wish you All a well-deserved half term break.

Mrs T Feliks-Matthews, Head of Learning Year 10



YEAR 10



Welcome back to the final stretch of our St Edmund's journey. Returning to school brought with it some familiar feelings as we take on Year 11 and its challenges. Firstly, it was fantastic to see our prefect and senior prefect team in action assisting with the transition of our new Year 7 cohort. While I may be biased, I have to say that our team this year is an incredible combination of individuals whose sum certainly outweighs the parts. We are very lucky to have them representing St Edmund's Catholic School and I'm immensely proud of them all.



We had a lot to celebrate returning this year, including some outstanding English Literature and Triple Science Physics GCSE results. Attending the results day on August 23rd provided myself with a snippet of the successes we shall be seeing this coming August – I for one am very excited to see our Year groups hard work pay off.



We hit the ground running as we always do with our schedule of events this term. Year 11 had a fantastic opportunity to take part in the Post 16 evening on Wednesday 19th September which gave pupils access to local college, apprenticeship, university and services providers from the local area to gather under our own roof. Pupils were able to get current prospectuses hot off the press and engage in discussions directly with the institutions themselves. Pupils have been advised that college applications should be completed by the start of December to secure placements at post 16. We had a huge turnout and I would like to extend a big thank you to all the pupils, and parents who were in attendance.



Moving on, on Tuesday 2nd October we had our school open evening where all prefects were assisting as tour guides on the evening. We received brilliant feedback following those tours and in particular a big well done to **Freya and Dylan** as we received phenomenal feedback from your tour guide families. I would also like to thank our Senior Prefect team and in particular Rebecca, Thomas, Aidan and Ruth for delivering an impeccable speech on the evening to compliment the Head Teachers address.



We then had another sole Year 11 event in the Information evening on Thursday 18th October. This was well received by all and provided some vital information for pupils, and parents on expectations, and how to support each pupil through their academic year. Included were resources, revision techniques, sample revision work, our new after school revision timetable and more. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers that compulsory catch up classes will start following half term



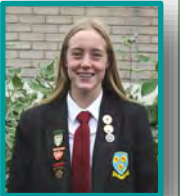
3pm until 4pm. These are integral to the success we have year on year at GCSE and provide unique further opportunities to learn, or improve within each subject area.

When we return from our well-deserved break we will be looking forward to even more events. Our Mock Interview Day on Friday 16th November and Parents evening on Thursday 22nd November. We also have our first taste of practical exams with Sports Leaders on the 28th November. We also have our Year 11 Mock exams starting in December. Effective planning will be needed for all pupils so please encourage college applications to meet our December deadline. Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents/carers, pupils and staff for your continued support. We have started with fantastic momentum and I'm looking forward to the year ahead!

Mr J Brown, Head of Learning Year 11



The start of Year 11 has come around so quickly and there are many people from parents, teachers and friends that are telling us that this is a very important year as we prepare for our future.



Year 11 is also the year in which you can become a prefect. Following interview with Mr Graham and Governors, we eagerly await to see who has been chosen and also those lucky enough to have been chosen for the Senior Prefect team. We were both lucky enough to get through and were chosen as Senior Prefects. This means we work alongside Mr Graham and with his guidance we attend meetings and each of us have been assigned a Year group. Our Year group is Year 8. We have formed a School Council and this is made up from representatives from the tutor groups. Our meetings so far have been very successful and positive.

Being a Senior Prefect we are also involved in representing the school at different events. The most recent one being the Open Evening, where parents come to visit and see the different departments in action to see if they wish to send their child here in Year 7. We had the opportunity to work as tour guides and escort the families around the school and answer any questions they may have. The evening went really well and was so busy. There was also lots of positive feedback about the school and the students who already attend.

Even though this year is going to be a stressful year, the teachers have already started to help us revise and support us in preparation for the examination season.

YEAR 11

Vinnie he took part in a 13 mile Cancer Research Memory walk and raised a staggering £150. Well done on this fantastic charitable event.



CANCER
RESEARCH
UK

I'M WALKING
ALL OVER
CANCER.



Friends of St Edmund's

Thank you to the Friends of St Edmund's for the fantastic Auction held on the 12th October and to all of those who attended and bid on items.



£1300
RAISED

CHARITY
AUCTION

When arriving at the main gates of the school on Tuesday 2nd October I quickly realised it was going to be a busy Open Evening as the queue to sign in at reception stretched way past the bus stop on Arundel Street. My initial impression was confirmed when 15 minutes later I stood at the back of the main hall for the Headteacher's presentation along with a large number of potential parents and students who had been unable to secure a seat. Following an excellent performance by the school choir and inputs from the Head Girl and Head Boy, Mr Graham gave an address that illustrated why St Edmund's is not only the best school in the city as far as results are concerned, but also its high position in the country – an achievement that is well deserved!



From the Headteacher's address anyone wishing to send their child to the school will be in no doubt about the underlying family ethos on which our faith school is built, its caring, supporting environment, the continued push to enable each student to realise their full potential and their commitment of all staff at the school in seeking to achieve this goal. I have seen this myself during my visits during the last few weeks. Students are clearly focused well in lessons and enjoying their learning. They behave appropriately and are clearly happy. It is such a privilege to see young people working so hard and the opposite of how they can be portrayed. My thanks to the school staff and all the support that parents give.



On a final note, a vacancy for Foundation Governor on the Governing Body has arisen and expressions of interests are being sought from practising Catholics for the ministry. The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment. Foundation Governors are personally appointed by Bishop Philip, Bishop of Portsmouth to diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community as a whole. Foundation Governors are appointed specifically to ensure:

- **That the religious character of the school is preserved.**
- **That the school is conducted in accordance with its trust deed.**
- **That the Religious Education curriculum is in accordance with the Bishop's policy for this Diocese.**

Anyone interested in the mission of Foundation Governor should not be put off by a lack of experience. Appropriate training is available during the period of service. Nomination forms are available from:

<http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/schools/governance.php> or Catholic Academies and Schools Office

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, St. Swithun Wells House, 22 Edinburgh Road Portsmouth PO1 1DH Tel: 02392 893600

Please feel free to contact the Governors at any point and visit our page on the school website.

Martin Lewis, Vice Chair of Governors



CONSULTATION - ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2020 - 2021

As required by regulations, the Governing Body of St Edmund's Catholic School

will be conducting a consultation on its proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2020 - 2021.

The consultation period runs for a minimum period of 6 weeks from Monday 22nd October - Friday 30th November 2018.

Copies of the proposed arrangements can be obtained from the School Office or downloaded from the School website:

www.saintedmunds.org.uk

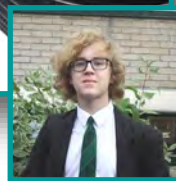
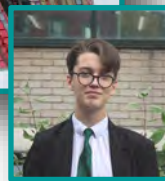
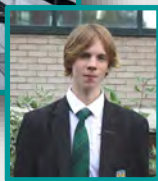
Comments on the arrangements should be sent to the Clerk to the Governing Body

C/O Mrs N White, St Edmund's Catholic School Arundel Street Portsmouth PO1 1RX

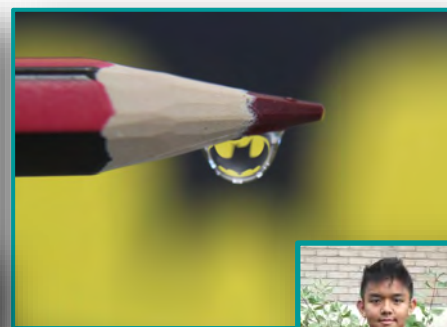
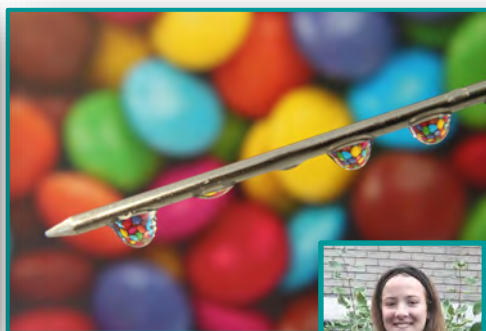
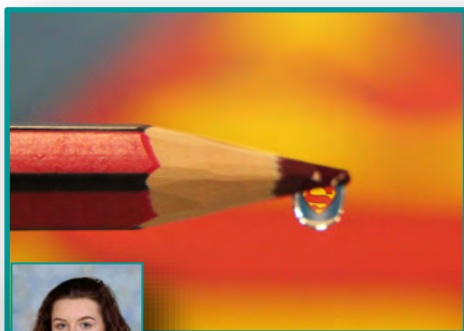
or email: nwhite@saintedmunds.org.uk by Friday 30th November 2018.

The Governing Body will consider all comments received before determining its admission arrangements by 28th February 2019.

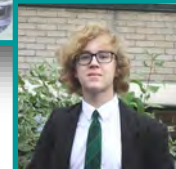
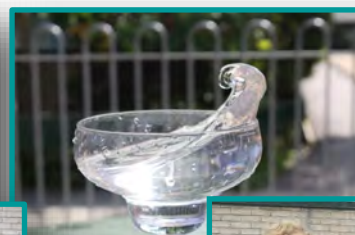
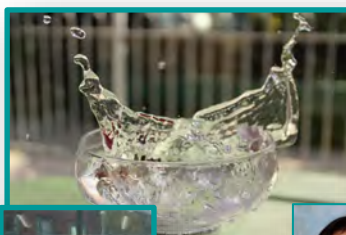




Year 11 have just started their photo shop editing are getting some amazing results already!



Year 11 pupils practical lesson on reflections where they had to capture them in droplets of water, very tricky but well worth it.



Photography

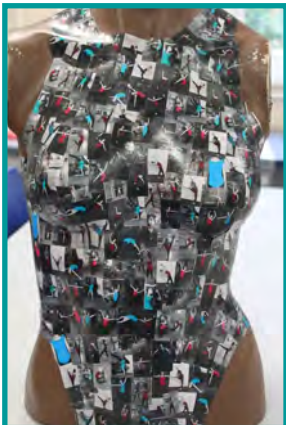


A fun practical lesson year 11 experimenting with shutter speeds and movement, using filled Balloons with water and a skewer and dropping fruit into glasses filled with water. Pupils had amazing results! So proud of my Photographers.

PHOTOGRAPHY

GCSE Photography

Pupils had a choice of seven questions/themes on their external examination paper in January. They then had until Easter to choose and research their chosen theme and produce a project and final piece of their interpretation of the theme/question. This is just a taster of some of their Amazing final Pieces.



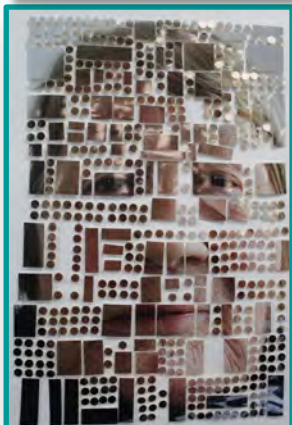
Albany -
the Human Figure



Sila - In The News.



Kinga - the Human Figure.



Rosie - Connections.

You did it!
Congratulations

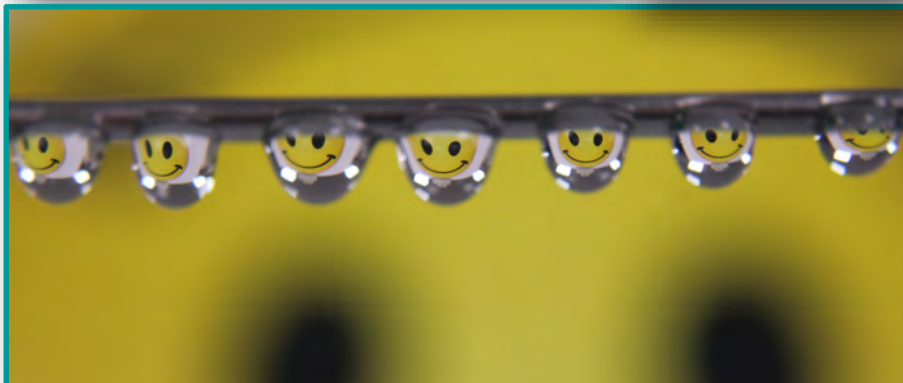
Congratulations to all my photography students
for all their hard work, determination
and fantastic results : **96%!**

**Year 11 Leavers
Exam Pieces**



Joseph - Connections. Joseph was awarded
the first A** (Level 9) in Photography at the
school.

During Open Evening a year 10 student wowed the visitors with his amazing demonstrations of his photography skills. He also taught some of the year 6 prospective students how to do it, well done!



PHOTOGRAPHY



On 20th and 21st of September, Geography students in Year 11 went on a fieldwork trip to the New Forest to carry out investigations on the Highland Water River. This was a great opportunity to test our practical geographic skills and observe how a river changes on its way from the source to the mouth. During our time at the New Forest, we tested the river's depth, width, speed and the size of pebbles at

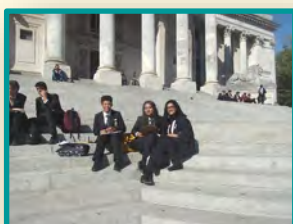


several different points along its course. It was very interesting to see how much the same river can vary as it journeys down. As well as being a fascinating way to learn, the day was a great time to be out in nature and see the various ways that a river can shape the land into the surface that we see today. As this is a key component of our GCSE, the Year 11's felt that the fieldwork was a brilliant way to learn out in the open. I will certainly remember the day and all of the useful data collected, which will be essential for our exams.

As Year 11 Geography students, we recently undertook a field trip which was not too far away; Portsmouth.



The trip consisted of interacting with members of the public investigating whether land use in Portsmouth is changing because of increase in university



students, We were based around three specific points in the city, Guildhall walk, Commercial road and the Hard. We; with the use of a questionnaire, asked passing members of the public specific questions that might lead us to answer our hypothesis. We labelled maps to identify clusters of land use and completed a pedestrian count.

The tasks are now complete and in groups we have collated our findings. We now have begun the task of interpreting the data and forming our conclusions.

For our recent homework task we had to either make a model or create a poster detailing and labelling the different parts of a volcano. I decided on a volcano which I made out of paper mache, a plastic bottle, cardboard box, glue and paint. Once I had painted the box and the volcano black, I had left a clear window. I then mixed a concoction of PVA glue, bicarbonate of soda and contact lens solution (bolic acid) which when mixed together creates a thick slime that one dried creates a thick slime and mimics red hot lava. I then drew an illustration and labelled the different parts. Overall I feel very pleased with the outcome of my model volcano.



After we had completed the models and posters we had to explain the positive and negative effects of volcanic eruptions on people and nature.

By doing this we could then understand why we have volcanoes, why they are dangerous as well as why they cause so much destruction.



GEOGRAPHY



Congratulations to Oliver who has been selected out of thousands to be part of the ATP World Tour Ball Crew at the O2 Arena in London. This is an unbelievable achievement. The whole process had 4,000 applications where only 450 children get a trial. From this trial which took place at the Olympic Park, only 30 students are selected. These individuals will get to Ball Crew for the top 8 male tennis players in the world, with Nadal, Federer and Djokovic already been confirmed. Oliver who also did the Southsea Trophy back in June showed excellent maturity and skill at the trial and will now experience the opportunity of a lifetime. I know Canoe Lake Tennis Club who trained Oliver for the Southsea Trophy, like the PE department, are also extremely proud. Well done.

So far this year there has been many successes in sports within our school, most notably the KS3 and KS4 table tennis teams who have both progressed through to the county finals. On 25th September the KS4 boys and girl's teams went to ALNS to participate in the Portsmouth Schools tournament, the girls won their only game against ALNS comfortably to win the tournament. Unlike the girl's tournament the boys was fiercely contested by 3 St. Edmunds teams and 2 from ALNS with our 'B' finishing 1st overall by a tiny margin, followed by the 'A' and 'C' teams in close succession in 2nd and 3rd respectively. The KS3 boys were also successful in their quest to reach the county finals with one team finishing 1st and the other in 2nd position on the day. Well done to all who took part and good luck in the next round!



The boys Year 10 football team have progressed to the semi-final of the Portsmouth Cup to face either Priory or Miltoncross, after King Richard forfeited the game. In the coming weeks there are many more fixtures with the girl's year 8 and 11 teams as well as the boy's year 8 and 11 teams in action.

Attendance at clubs so far this year has phenomenal with over 1171 people attending the huge range variety of clubs on offer in the first 4 weeks. Dodgeball has been the highest attended club through the course of the half term – one week in excess of 75 people came- giving me an absolute handful. We hope the attendance to clubs continues in the next half term and next year. We remind you that if you have not completed your P.E homework yet, you need to attend 2 clubs before the end of the term. If you do not like any of the clubs on offer, we encourage you to come along to Sports Captain's Club on a Monday after school where they can choose to complete sporting activities of their choice (accessible within school).



We have continued our table-tennis success from previous years. Recently we took part in the Portsmouth area tournament. St Edmund's entered 4 teams (3 boys and 1 girls team). All of the teams played exceptionally well and we are very proud of them. The boys finished 1st, 2nd and 3rd with the girls winning their tournament. A great achievement for all of them! The teams will now progress to the next round (county finals) which take place on Sunday 25th November. We wish them all good luck!



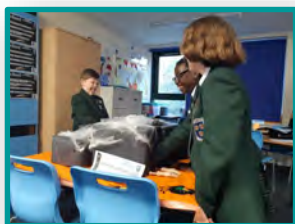
Portsmouth Tournament 2018

PE/SPORTS



We really enjoyed helping in the English department which had a gothic theme, inspired by *The Woman Black* - just one of the many modern novels we can study here at St Edmund's.

Adobe's favourite part was the mystery boxes where you had to put your hand in and describe what you could feel. "When the Open Evening guests put their hands in it was comedy gold" she said. They were shouting "Slimy!" and "Revolting!" as they touched the wobbly jelly and the sloppy soup, the fake rat and



spiders. Visitors tried other activities including writing a story about Boney, the skeleton. Agatha said "The Year 6s had fun using their imagination to describe the spooky pictures on giant sugar paper." Ashley especially liked the biscuits and drinks given to the helpers on the night because hosting an Open Evening is thirsty work!

We were all proud to represent 7 Romero at the St Edmund's Open Evening in October and we hope to welcome lots of the Year 6s who visited.



Power and Conflict Club

Power and Conflict Club helps those who are studying for their GCSE or SAT exams – the club focuses on improving our understanding of the poems. It incorporates many fun activities such as creating maps of London (for the poem 'London'), within an atmosphere that is very relaxed. Learning all 15 poems presents a challenge to many students, therefore having a club aimed towards helping students to tackle this is greatly appreciated. The fun exercises help students to both understand and memorise quotations. The fun atmosphere also creates sense of joy and builds new friendships. Overall, we think that Power and Conflict Club is a great addition to the school's list of clubs and revision aids.

Philip & Khaled



In year 10 this year we have been looking at the novel *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, for our English literature exam coming up in May.

We have been analysing key themes like power and inequality and also looking at the books contextual link to communism following the event of 1917 and early years of the soviet union.

We have also been studying different ways to remember quotes and



preparing ourselves for the exams ahead.



'If I had to choose which teacher would win or lose, at being the best, It really would be a test.

Miss Mittens gives me kittens
With Miss Byrne you always learn
Miss Chapman gives it too much chat-man

And she always loves to 'murn'.

Miss Bunting is a fun 'ting,
Miss Tuffnell calm and precise.

Miss Hutton is bright as a button,
Miss Rendle warm and nice.

Finally there is Mrs O'Neil,
A star without whom we'd be lost,
And as for Were? He's nowhere near
A good teacher or good boss!'

WHICH
ONE?

ENGLISH



The National Citizen Service (NCS) provides young people aged 16/17 years from all backgrounds with the opportunity to take on new challenges, learn new skills and make a difference by getting involved with their local community. Over the summer several students past and present took part and got involved! Part of the project was to take part in an outdoor activity residential week where they engaged in rock climbing, pool plunging, kayaking and learnt valuable life skills. The second part to this project was working within the Portsmouth Community and here at the school we welcomed a group of young people from NCS who came in and worked within the school site, clearing the pool and painting areas around the area. The students combined contributed to 1020 hours of social action to our city and received a combined £20, 825 worth of investment of Government funding to support their further personal, social and skill development .

We are delighted that one of our students who left last year, Ryan, has been accepted onto the South East Regional Youth Board for NCS, where he will continue his journey by engaging with other NCS graduates to complete further social action projects, develop his leadership skills and have his say on positive action within the NCS and our local community. Although they no longer attend St Edmund's we congratulate you on your exceptional and outstanding work you have taken part in within our community. Well done to **Mubiana, Sila, Ryan, Nana, Justin, Olivia, Eloise, Nadima, Aleah, Rebecca, Michelle, Cheryl-Ann, Isatou, Jade, Jessica, Abigael & Arlene.**



NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE POMPEY in the COMMUNITY



Congratulations to Ryan, Molly, Joe, Shiloh and Sarah for achieving your RYA Powerboat Level 1.

The RYA Powerboat Level 1 course aims to provide students with a practical introduction to powerboating. It is very hands on, with a strong emphasis on safety. The instructors help the students to learn about various topics to help them enjoy being out on the water whilst staying safe. They all had a chance to helm and drive the boat at slow and high speeds. The students also learnt basic manoeuvres and handling techniques that enabled them to control a small boat safely in close quarters situations as well as learning about and practicing using normal equipment found on a boat as well as safety equipment.



Our students have been part of the Portsmouth Sailing Trust initiative where they have been sailing, boatbuilding an visiting submarines and Naval vessels. All the students who have taken part have thoroughly enjoyed every aspect.



NEWS

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