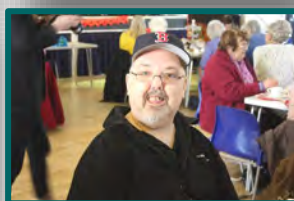




**Annual Senior Citizen Party.** Once again our Year 8 students hosted the annual party for our Senior Citizens within our community. The day started with the catering team preparing delicious food delights, from a selection of sandwiches, savoury nibbles and scones with clotted cream and jam. The hosting team decorated the hall and tables, as well as waiting on our guests ensuring that their tea cups or sherry glasses never ran dry. The entertainments team, worked tirelessly to keep the guests entertained with performances from the choir, dance pieces, a sing-a-long session and not forgetting Bingo! Every guest left with a gift and a smile and the promise of another afternoon of fun next year. Well done Year 8 for this amazing event!



St Edmund's  
Catholic School

# NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Mr S Graham  
website: [www.saintedmunds.org.uk](http://www.saintedmunds.org.uk)  
Tel: 02392 823766





## HEADTEACHER'S ADDRESS

It has been another really busy half term with an amazing Senior Citizen Party, some incredible sporting achievements, activities and trips. There has also been a huge amount of learning, prayer and progress.

As we approach the summer term we are mindful of the challenges ahead of students in Years 10 & 11. Our best wishes, support and prayers are with them. We know that tests and exams can be especially stressful for many of our children. That said, we must continue to develop that high level of resilience needed in life today and ensure that our students are ready for the challenge ahead.

My thanks to parents for all your support with attendance, homework and uniform. On the latter point, jumpers are optional throughout the summer term, as we hope the weather improves.

Over Easter we will be continuing to redecorate the rooms in the Kelly block (History/Geography) as well as plan for our new building. You may have read in the local news how we have been awarded further funding to redevelop the old Caretaker's Lodge into a new 10 classroom block. Having gained planning permission we are moving forward full steam ahead and hope to be starting this project around June. This should be completed by this time next year and provide the additional classroom space the school now requires.

Over the last few weeks we have experienced an 'outbreak' in gum chewing. With so much investment in the school site we will continue to enforce our 'no gum rule' so that we can maintain our learning environment.

I hope over the break you have an opportunity to pause and reflect upon the meaning of Easter. The Bible tells us how Jesus came to give us forgiveness, purpose and a place in Heaven. A new term will provide fresh opportunities for all of us to continue to develop and grow.

I hope Easter brings hope and promise to you all.

God Bless,

Mr S Graham  
Headteacher



### United Kingdom Mathematics Challenge - Intermediate 2019



United Kingdom  
Mathematics Trust

Congratulations to our fantastic group of Mathematicians who took part in this year's challenge who achieved some fantastic results:  
Niamh O'Shea - Gold, Best in School & Year.

Callum Holland, Louise Elliott, Pip Collins-White, Hast Ismail & Oakley Saunders - Silver.

Jerika Espiritu, Joseph Champion, Josh Hudson, Olivia Milne, Eloise Borrett, Jack Venables, Bethryn Keysell, Bradley Callaway, Keliarta Krasniqui, Leo Paul & Ciaran Morris - Bronze.



### THANK YOU

We would like to say thank you on behalf of the Music department to Mrs Hayter who has kindly donated two full size violins. This will be of great benefit to the students and will enrich their experience within the music curriculum.





At the start of our Liturgy of The Stations of the cross, we reflected on our spiritual journey as a school. We listened to areas where we have shown how we have 'Encouraged one another on our journey to Holiness' throughout the year so far. Below are the areas we reflected upon:

### Our Eucharistic Week of Adoration

Our school prepared for a whole week of prayer and adoration through assemblies and RE lessons. Students had time to stop, reflect and pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Students from our school and our local primary schools brought hands of prayer to the various services and prayed for the people of Bamenda, for local needs and for our families and friends. This morning we unite their journeys and their sufferings and needs with our journey of 'Encouraging one another on our journey to Holiness.'

### Our Random Acts of Kindness

This term, as staff, we have been participating in random acts of kindness. This has been to show each other appreciation and encourage one another on our spiritual journey to holiness. For me, the random acts of kindness not only made me feel encouraged and supported when I received a small gift, but it provided me with an opportunity to think about someone else and what would make their day that little bit brighter. (Miss Butcher)



**Flame!** On March 2nd, I was lucky enough to attend 'Flame' – the largest gathering of Catholic Youth in the UK. Flame was a wonderful, educational, fun-filled day where you felt the opposite of alone. My experience at 'Flame' has encouraged me and inspired me to continue my spiritual journey; being surrounded by over 8,000 like-minded people truly cemented my choice to immerse myself in my faith and explore it too.

(Saffron)



**Tutor Prayer/Spiritual Badges** Our Tutor Prayer, assemblies, Masses, reconciliation services, and spiritual badges enable us and give us focus on our Spiritual Journey as they encourage us to get involved in prayer, our faith, helping others and in our daily relationship with God, one another, the wider community and out world.

### Saint Vincent De Paul/Chaplaincy

In SVP and Chaplaincy we have been looking at ways that we can help 'Encourage one another on our journey to Holiness'. As we have encouraged each other we have also learnt to become holy ourselves as well as appreciate Christ and the way he inspires us as well as the people around us. We thank God that he has given us the ability to serve in His name. (Pip)

### Year 10 Retreat

Recently a group of us from Year 10, had the chance to go on a weekend retreat to St Cassian's in Kintbury as a part of 'Encouraging one another on our journey to Holiness'. In doing this, we were able to make great new friends, share beliefs and deepen our relationship with God. We entered into an amazing community, which was affirming and uplifting. We were very well catered for and had lots of fun together. We took part in reconciliation, meditation, prayer and worship, and most importantly, learned to live in the now. (Lydia)

### Charities

As part of our 'Encouraging one another on our journey to Holiness', we had 'giving to charities' as one of our foci. Since September we have raised money for The Medaille Trust, for Saint Vincent De Paul to help towards packages for the homeless. We collected Harvest foods for St Simon's Church who help people in their local area. During Advent we organised Christmas sacks for The Roberts Centre. After Easter Year 8 will be focusing on raising money for Bamenda. CAFOD will also receive money next term towards their overseas projects. Through prayer and fundraising we have tried to help others on their journey in life.



*Happy Easter*

We then united our journey as St Edmund's with the journey of those in our world and local area who need prayers as we enacted Jesus' last journey of 'The Stations of the cross'. It was a moving liturgy in which everyone participated. At the end of our service we were presented with the first stage of our Oscar Romero Award. May this Easter bring you all many graces and blessings.

**Fiona, Chaplain**

The Paschal 2019 candle that can be seen at St John's Catholic Cathedral for Easter. The Candle was painted by Mrs Dale (Head of Art, Design and Technology ) and was presented to Father JP Smith.



**CHAPLAINCY**



This half term we have been having a whole school attendance drive where pupils have been able to win prizes, either individually, or as a tutor group for their attendance. At the end of the half term, the best attending tutor group will win a free lunch on the Friday. In year 7 if you compare attendance from January to February half term and then from February half term until now we have increased as a year group from 95.47% to 97.41%, well done year 7!



On Tuesday 19th March the Year 7 boys football team won the Pompey cup against Admiral Lord Nelson. They played amazingly and won 7-2. I went to watch them and was so proud of them, not only for their football skills but for their great team spirit, encouraging one another and supporting each other throughout the whole match. They also showed great respect to the Admiral Lord Nelson players.

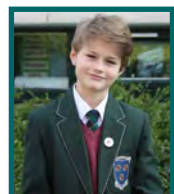
The Year 7 girl's netball team had a tournament on Monday 25th March, where they came 3rd out of 7 other schools, well done girls. We certainly are a sporty year group!



Our Extended Progress Reviews are coming out soon which will give the attainment 2 data.

I am looking forward to seeing the progress our children are making in their learning. I will also be looking at the children's Personal Quality scores and we will be awarding some prizes for the children with the top PQ's. Can I remind you that we grade the children in four areas, which are: Behaviour, Effort, Homework and Prepared for Learning. Each of these are given a score of 1-4. 1 being unsatisfactory, 2 satisfactory, 3 good and 4 excellent. Please spend time with your children reading the review and discuss any successes or concerns with them. If you have any concerns or require any more information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

The week of 25th March we had a whole school rail safety week to highlight to our young children the dangers of all aspects of the railway. These sessions took place during tutor time and included some videos and discussion points that the pupils could talk through with their tutor. The topics covered included the electricity from the overhead cables and rails, safety around the station itself and being safe at all types of level crossings. It highlighted how silly mistakes can cost lives, not only for the person involved but the wide range of people a tragedy on the trains affects. I asked for some comments from some of our year 7 pupils, here is what some of them said:

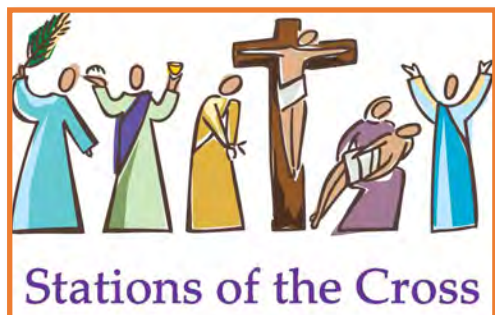


**"After watching these videos I've become more aware of rail safety" Jacob.**

**"It was a life changing video" Adrian.**



We have a great event to look forward to, where we go to St Mary's church to celebrate the Stations of the Cross. This will be our last day together before breaking up for Easter so I wanted to share a prayer that marks that occasion.



You have made this journey to die for me with unspeakable love;  
and I have so many times ungratefully abandoned You.  
But now I love You with all my heart;  
and, because I love You, I am sincerely sorry for ever having offended You.  
Pardon me, my God, and permit me to accompany You on this journey.  
You go to die for love of me;  
I want, my beloved Redeemer, to die for love of You.  
My Jesus, I will live and die always united to You.  
At the cross her station keeping  
Stood the mournful Mother weeping  
Close to Jesus to the last

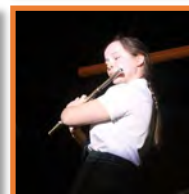
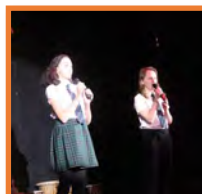
Happy Easter to you all, and I look forward to our next half term, as it always fills me with joy to see the amazing achievements of every single year 7 pupil, together we are a family.

**Mrs A Brand, Head of Learning Year 7**

**YEAR 7**



Of course it has once again been a super busy Half Term for the Year 8 year group, but it has also been a thoroughly successful half term too! Just before we broke up for February Half Term we held our Annual Senior Citizens which was a fantastic event involving a huge number of Year 8 pupils on our OAP Party committee, preparing food, serving drinks, hosting as well as performing. We have received some truly lovely feedback from a number of guests within our community that attended – the pupils it appeared were an absolute credit to our school and year group.



Friday 8th March also saw our Year 8 Dance Club performing for 'A Chance To Dance 2019', this years dance show that was performed to a sell out audience. As a club they performed fantastically well with a really enjoyable, upbeat number that they created and choreographed themselves. Huge congratulations go to :

**Ashleigh, Dalia, Jenevieve, Emily, Tilly, Nicole, Isabelle, Beth, Freya, Stella-Ann, Kate, Grace, Cassie & Mia.**

Our winners of the mystickers inter tutor merit competition attended their Reward Trip to Vue Cinema at



Gunwharf Quays! 8 Devereux attended a screening of Lego Movie 2 for the afternoon as a treat for them logging the most amount of merits across all tutor groups! We will be launching our next mystickers inter tutor merit competition after Easter – which tutor group will win the next Cinema afternoon reward trip?! Can any tutor groups beat Devereux?!

We have recently held our Year 8 Parents Evening for all parents and carers to attend. The evening was exceptionally well attended and had an academic focus and opportunities to discuss the pupils progress and achievement in Year 8 now they are settled into their second year at St Edmunds. It was also an important milestone as we build towards Year 9 where all of Year 8 will be going through the imperative decision of choosing their option subjects for Key Stage 4! Our next parents evening in December of Year 9 will be a crucial opportunity to support that decision making process.

As we break up for the Easter Holidays it is important to look forward. When we return after Easter it will no longer be compulsory for pupils to wear their jumpers for the Spring Term, but all other uniform rules and expectations remain – this includes haircut, hair colour, nail varnish, jewellery etc. As a school we really appreciate your support in ensuring pupils are adhering to rules and expectations so that they maximise their learning potential.

I hope you all have a safe and restful Easter holidays.

**Miss E Johnson, Head of Learning – Year 8**



**YEAR 8**





I always wonder where the time has gone as I sit and write the spring newsletter, from chilly winter days with rain to warm Sundays and t-shirt weather at the weekend. Although it has been a short half term, the Year 9 students have been busy.

Attainment 2 Progress Reviews have been sent home with the students. As parents it is useful for you to read this with your child and look at their progress in all the subjects that they take and to see how far away they are from their end of year target. It is helpful for you to identify where you can give support and encouragement at home. Progress is also seriously affected if your child is not in school and with an attendance drive at the moment, we are looking for Year 9 attendance to be over 97%.

After half term Year 9 spent some time attending our annual Speed Networking event. We hosted over thirty guests who worked in all sectors of the economy, from someone who works for Twitter, to doctors, an ex-student who is the second officer on a ship, a writer, a dentist in the army, professors in astrophysics to engineers. All pupils had a chance to talk in small groups to each person about their career and career path and it hopefully helped to inspire the pupils to think about different jobs and careers for themselves.



The year group have been slow in logging their rewards onto the system this term but huge congratulations goes to Shannon who has now reached the 10<sup>th</sup> Achievement Badge, Radeyah who reached the 9<sup>th</sup> and Emma and Annika who have reached the 8<sup>th</sup>, with Aidan attaining the 4<sup>th</sup>. Come on Year 9 be proud of your great work!



The creative talents of Year 9 shone out at the school's dance show, well done to those who took part, and the following boys are taking part in a boy's street dance workshop: Owen, Danny, Euan and Maciej.



The girls football team continue to play well and take part in tournaments, well done to the efforts of Lily S, Lily M, Gwen and Lulu. Still on a sporting theme, Toby is working hard organising the Cross Country running club after school.

I was really pleased to hear that a group of students that took part in the STEM event run by the Small Piece Trust, did exceptionally well. The feedback was really positive. They were working in small groups over the day, competing to create a piece of technology.

As we head towards Easter and a well-deserved break for all, I expect to see all students in school on the 5<sup>th</sup> April, when after lessons, we will head to St Mary's church for our Easter Service. For pupils to receive their Spiritual Badge this year they must attend. It's a lovely way for us all to be together and worship as a school.

Keep up the hard work Year 9 – and enjoy your Easter break. Don't eat too much chocolate!

**Ms Jerrard, Head of Learning year 9.**

**YEAR 9**



As the months go by, and the terms pass, I cannot believe that we are nearing the end of Year 10 by entering the final summer term! The fast pace of St Edmund's with all the events, trips, performances etc, makes the time fly! Yet again, we managed to squeeze so much into this term.

I think it is fair to say, that Year 10s are stepping up to the mark, and have been incredibly active in their preparation and pursuit for great GCSE grades. As always, our term has been packed with activities, revision sessions, performances, celebrations, spiritual events and more. My huge thank you goes to Year 10 pupils attending English, ICT and Science evening prep with no fuss at all! This just goes to show how mature and serious you really are about the forthcoming GCSEs. Trust me, it will be worthwhile!



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all pupils who attended so far, and remind parents, that we encourage all pupils to attend these sessions, as they are incredibly valuable and useful.

During this term we also have hosted an Apprenticeship Bus with quite a few speakers who shared with you the best routes to take if you are looking at an apprenticeship course. We also started our Careers appointments, and career lessons, all organised by Mrs Halford.

As the academic aspect of the year group is forever present, it is important that we still get time to stop, think, pray and reflect. That is why in preparation for the Lent season and forthcoming Easter celebrations, Year 10s attended their reconciliation services on Wednesday 27th February. Quite a few of you stayed behind for a reflection, confession, or just a chat with the Fathers. You were all very respectful and prayerful.

A special thank you goes to Fiona for organising the services, and all the hard work she puts into every event, as well as the Fathers who attended.

On Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> March a large number of Year 10's performed in A Chance to Dance. These performances go towards pupils' final GCSE grade, and as unfortunately I was unable to attend myself, I was very keen to hear the feedback from staff and pupils who were able to watch it on the night. As expected, the event was graded nothing else but outstanding! I always knew that you are a very gifted and talented year group, so it is lovely to see that events like that, give you the opportunity to shine each and every time. Well done to all 33 Year 10 pupils performing!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the 6 pupils who have attended the Year 10, 4-day Retreat in Kintbury. I am very grateful to Fiona for organising and allowing me to share this truly wonderful experience. I was completely taken aback by the absolutely stunning surroundings of the St Cassian's Centre, but also by the superbly organized workshops. All pupils had a chance to reflect on awareness, reconciliation, relationship with God and others around us, and to make friends with pupils from other schools. To sum up.... just one, fantastic opportunity to celebrate our faith together through prayer and worship!

Finally, Year 10 have started their prefect application process following our assembly on Thursday 15th March. Pupils have been asked to complete an application form, along with a supporting letter if you are interested in a role of a senior prefect. There are so many of you in the year group who have many qualities needed to be a Prefect, just please do adhere to all the deadlines mentioned!



Please also remember that after Easter holidays, **Thursday 25 April**, we will have our second **Year 10 Parents Evening**. It is absolutely paramount that all parents attend on the night, as important feedback regarding your progress, and all you need to focus on prior to your GCSEs will be shared.

Good luck to you all! **Have a Happy and Blessed Easter !**  
Mrs T Feliks-Matthews. Head of Learning Year 10



# YEAR 10



Year 11 returned refresh and ready for their shortest half term so far on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February. We started the half term with a Year 11 spotlight which all pupils engaged with. It was a pleasure to see so many pupils being nominated for hard work in every subject, and all staff really struggled to suggest just two names per lesson! After three weeks of hard work Aleks was crowned as the top achiever with 16 nominations and had her efforts rewarded in assembly. A huge well done also goes out to Olivia, Joel, Toby, Marek, Wiktorja, Blake, Le Jia, Yasmine, Kerry, Owen, Moussa, Rebecca, Jolie, Angelo, Chloe and Sharday who all achieved 10+ nominations.



On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Food and Nutrition pupils took part in the NEA2 food practical and Mrs Lunn and I had the pleasure of sampling some of the fantastic creations. A huge well done to all pupils involved, the standard of work really was inspiring and I look forward to seeing where their talent can take them. Alongside the food practical Year 11 GCSE PE took part in their practical exam and showed a similar strong work ethic with the PE Department being particularly impressed with how professional pupils approached the day.



On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March Year 11 Dance pupils took part in their mock exam and live performances for the Dance Show. Having seen all the hard work behind the scenes including the many hours choreographing the dances it was a pleasure to see each group on the big stage. It was clear that pupils had given their all and really showed within each performance. Drama also shared the big stage but this time behind closed doors as Year 11 pupils completed their GCSE practical portion on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Many lessons work has gone into perfecting these performances and I am incredibly proud of all the hard work put in during, and outside of school time to achieve the best possible results.



Year 11 Art and Photography students have been hard at work this term also with their practical exams in full swing. These take place over 2 days and I am always amazed at the quality of creative work produced. Seeing all their time and effort culminate into one project is always a fascinating and enjoyable

experience. I look forward to being able to share these creations with parents!



Year 11 are finishing the term with their prefect quiz night alongside a prefect BBQ as a thank you for all their hard work. They have been tasked with putting together a team of 5 with 1 member of staff. This will be taking place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March, so by the time you read this – my team will hopefully be the uncontested winners!

A quick reminder that Year 11 will be returning on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April where we will start the final run into GCSE exams and the end of Year 11. We have lots of events to look forward to including Leavers Mass on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, Leavers Tea on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, Leavers assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> June and our School Leavers ball on Thursday June 27<sup>th</sup>. While there is a lot to look forward to there is also a lot of work to be done. Please check over the revision timetables, exam timetables and Easter timetables which have been sent home to all parents. Copies of these are available on the school website including resources to assist with revision and homework. I look forward to seeing you all next term.

Have a great Easter break,

**Mr J Brown, Head of Learning Year 11**



**YEAR 11**





On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, a group of Year 10 students set off for a weekend-long retreat at St Cassian's Centre, Kintbury.

We spent three days making new friends, growing in a community, and deepening our relationships with God.



We talked in small groups about awareness, reconciliation and the good news of God's word, as well as taking part in various activities, such as walks, art, music and a quiz.



It was an amazing experience; from the wonderful team, to the beautiful grounds and the food. Every day we took part in morning and evening prayers and were given a chance to reflect on our lives by meditating, praying and taking a step back from the every day. We all had so much fun, and made friends with some amazing people; a highly recommended experience!

### Oxbridge Mentoring Visit.

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March pupils from year 10 and 11 had the opportunity to meet with Ellie Wood and Charlotte Parslow to find out about what it is like to apply to Oxford or Cambridge Universities.

Ellie is an outreach worker for Trinity College Cambridge and a graduate from Newman College and Charlotte is a graduate of Kings College Cambridge. Both women had attended ordinary state secondary schools and were keen to promote the idea that it is possible for students from all backgrounds to be successful at Oxbridge and other Russell Group universities. Pupils were encouraged to think about why they wanted to attend university and then given the opportunity to think about what makes Oxford and Cambridge different to other universities. They explained the unique system of teaching and the many and varied opportunities for students to take advantage of.

They also discussed the benefits that a university education can bring for potential earnings and how the investment in their education can reap rewards in professional life.



*"The Oxbridge meeting was a great opportunity to expand my knowledge on potential universities. We were able to understand the different courses that were available."* Amelia

*"I really enjoyed the Oxbridge talk and found it to be so beneficial for considering which university I choose to go to. Charlotte and Ellie provided a useful insight into campus life and made it sound like so much fun."* Madison



### Soundsational

In the company of the Deputy Lord Mayor of Portsmouth and City Councillors, on Wednesday 13th March 45 students in the



St Edmund's School Choir joined with other schools to for an evening of celebration of singing, dancing and performing live music. The choir had been rehearsing since Christmas and performed 3 pieces in the Soundsational Choir. Portsmouth Music Hub's own Rock Band led by Lydia also played to a packed Guildhall. Thanks to Mrs Wylie and Mrs Howorth who accompanied the students.



In February the whole school took part in Mental Health Awareness week. Support for pupils and staff around mental health has always been central to pastoral care at St Edmund's. The prayer life and spiritual dimension in particular feeds our emotional well being and helps us to gain a purpose and a perspective in how we live our lives. This is borne out of our Mission statement that **"I can do all things with the help of God who strengthens me."**

The mental health of our whole community has been a key focus for us. This was highlighted through our Children's Mental Health week in conjunction with our partner Mental Health charity Place2Be. Joining schools from all over the country we reinforced the message about the importance of looking after ourselves both physically and mentally to enjoy good health-not only pupils but staff too.

Over 800 people completed our Mental health survey. From initial feedback, it is clear that pupils really appreciate the support of their tutor and our Chaplain Fiona. These were the activities which helped to promote the week: **Assemblies and tutor activities, Sports activities including swimming, De-stress through colouring, Reading for relaxation, Music for Relaxation and Meditation.**

Throughout the year there is significant support to help students with any mental health/emotional challenges for example: **Partnership with parents, PSHE/Tutor activities/support with the stresses of exams, Varied extra curricular programme to provide physical, creative and performance related activities which help to promote a good work life balance, Active guidance 1-1 support from tutor or Head of Year, Dedicated spaces for calm and relaxation, ELSA, counselling 1-1, in house CAMHs clinic, Chaplaincy support, mood tracking, Signposting to Early help and close links with the Portsmouth CAMHs team.**

**What the pupils said about the activities:**

*"I felt calm. I liked the opportunity to do something relaxing whilst chatting to my friends and it was nice to make new friends with some Year 7s."*

*"I decided to go to colouring club with my friend and it was amazing. The atmosphere was calm and peaceful. We sat down and time flew by so fast. I have been going every week, I feel relaxed and less on edge."*

*"The Assembly was interesting and informative and the theme was how the internet affects our lives. Real life stories were used to help explain it. I liked the focus on mental health... everyone is touched by it in some way."*

*"Colouring and Art is a simple way to relax. It de-stresses me and empties my mind."*

*"I find meditation relaxing and calming. It helps me to forget everything and just 'be'. I also use music to go to a different state of mind. While I am listening or playing, everything is just right."*

*"I love reading for relaxation, it helps me to get everything out of my mind and distracts me in a good way. My favourite author is David Walliams because he is funny. Laughing and enjoying humour makes you feel good."*

*"I love reading so much! Michael Murpurgo is my favourite author, but I need to make sure that reading doesn't stop me going to sleep on time!"*

*"When I read I imagine I am transported to a different world. I love reading in the Library, its calm and quiet but when the bell rings I want to read on!"*

*"I read as much as possible and I get excited and enthralled by the characters.. it always puts me in a great mood!"*



**Mental Health Awareness Week**



## British Science Week

British Science week; 8-17<sup>th</sup> March 2019, was a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths.

For this celebration, the Science department decided to research the 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Dmitri Mendeleev who created the Periodic Table. A double celebration at Saint Edmunds school! The Periodic Table of Chemical Elements is one of the biggest scientific achievements in science, capturing the essence of chemistry, biology and physics.



The Periodic Table is a tool that helps scientists to understand the appearance and properties of elements on Earth and in the rest of the Universe.

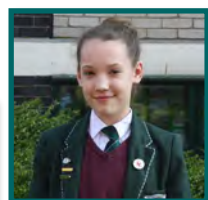
Years 7 and 8 were tasked with researching an element from the Periodic Table and then presenting their findings on a small coloured square which was assembled to make a Periodic Table and can now be proudly viewed in the DRA.

Mr Ghosh



"My group created a massive display of information. It was so interesting to research our element which was Bismuth. At first we thought it was just a boring and simple element, but looking into its components, the electron configuration and what Bismuth is used for really opened our eyes about the elements around us. Bismuth is a very simple element, however, its beauty is in its simplicity. It is an element that when on its own, it does nothing, but when fused with other metals, it forms an alloy, with a very unique shape like a matrix or a labyrinth. It was really quite astounding."

Tyler



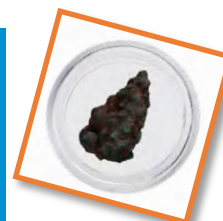
"I really like researching the periodic table and extending my knowledge further regarding the different elements. This exercise really helped as previously I had not really know much about it."

Willow.



"One lesson we were in the computer room researching the elements that make up the periodic table. I was researching the element Nitrogen, N. It was so interesting finding out new facts."

Oran.



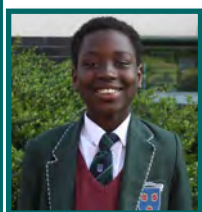
"I researched the element Scandium as I had never heard of it before. It was great fun working as a group and especially my friend as we made our work very creative."

Isabella



"I researched the element Gallium. It was such a fun process as I learnt so many new things like Gallium is a soft shiny metal. I am really pleased with the way my poster turned out that I created, it is even on display!"

Jennifer



"I thought the periodic table was interesting. As a result of looking at the table I am fascinated by the wide variety of elements in the world."

Barima.

# NEWS



### Prestigious Award for former Alumni

Congratulations to a former pupil (2005 - 2010) Fiona Partridge on her prestigious win at the English Hair and beauty awards. Fiona set up her own beauty business four years ago, specializing in 'eyelashes'. She has worked hard to establish her own style and clientele. With excellent branding and digital marketing, she came to attention of the judges and was delighted to be awarded this earlier in March. Well done Fiona!!



### Macbeth

In February Year 9 & 10 students were lucky to go and see Macbeth at the Mayflower theatre in Southampton. They all thoroughly enjoyed the play and it provided an invaluable insight into the text which they will be studying for their English Literature GCSE at the end of Year 10 and help pupils to understand key themes and characters within the play.

*"The Macbeth trip deepened our understanding of the play. We thought it was perfect for school aged children as it was educational and easy to follow. The costumes confused us, at times, as they were from multiple eras. However it showed us that the Macbeth story is timeless. It was effective because the transitions between scene were creative and the play is unique to any other production, clips or versions we have seen before."*

# MACBETH



### Apprenticeships

National Apprenticeships

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March the National Apprenticeship Bus visited St Edmund's. 25 Year 10 and 11s boarded the bus to hear directly from a variety of local apprentices.



They shared their stories of how they had got into their apprenticeships and what sort of jobs they were now doing .. also how much they were being paid! It was a unique experience for the pupils and a great way of raising the profile of apprenticeships.

Mrs Halford



### Body Confidence Workshop

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February I was lucky enough to run a body positive workshop called 'My True Selfie' with a small group of Year 7 & 8 girls.

This session looked at self-esteem, body confidence and the impact that social media has on children today. In a safe space, we explored what made us similar and what made us unique and used these ideas to create a brand new type of selfie.

Without using filters and body-warping apps, we wrote down everything that made us who we are, what we loved about ourselves and our personalities. It was really great to see the girls helping each other and giving out compliments to people they may not usually talk to. Overall the girls said they had fun and that after the session they were feeling a little more confident in themselves.

Miss Cormican



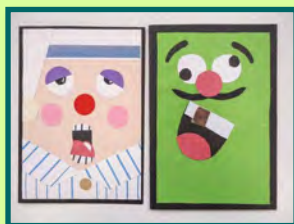
# NEWS





### YR 7 ARCHITECTURE PROJECT

Pupils have been designing their own buildings inspired by the work of famous architects and by studying buildings in the Portsmouth area. Pupils also looked closely at the construction of their own homes making notes of all the building materials used. Having researched the work of architects Frank Lloyd Wright, Philip Johnson, Daniel Libeskind and Mimar Sinar, pupils created their own architecture models using everyday materials and lots of imagination.



### YEAR 8 POP-UP TALENT

Year 8 graphics pupils have been improving their paper engineering skills and making greetings cards with fun and colourful pop-ups and matching envelopes. Pupils got the chance to show off some of the technical skills they had learnt in class combined with their individual ideas about layout and composition by creating 3- dimensional pop-up posters for homework. Here you can see some of the amazing creations.



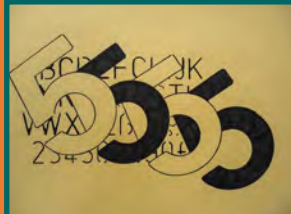
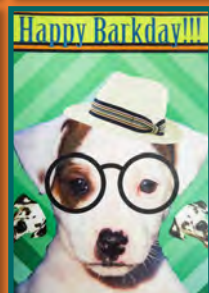
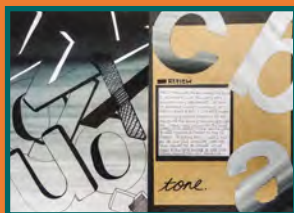
### YEAR 9 PACKAGING PROJECT

Pupils have been looking at luxury fragrance packaging and they have designed their own product for a chosen target market. The final design had to include a logo, a product name and the overall graphic design to be printed onto the net for the packaging.

### YEAR 10 INTRODUCTION TO GRAPHIC DESIGN

Pupils on the new graphics course have been experimenting with a range of techniques, using the scanning equipment and learning how to enhance their designs in Photoshop.

Here is some of the exciting work created by our Year 10 students.



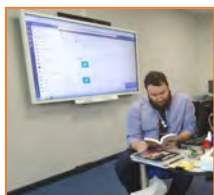
# GRAPHICS





## Reading Week and World Book Day 2019

An amazing week celebrating literature and our favourite books. The week begun with all the pupils dropping everything and reading for ten minutes at the start of every lesson. This is to reflect that reading is important across the curriculum. Many staff and pupils loved having the time to read, as they are normally too busy with other things.



There were also several competitions and activities throughout the week, from guessing the book titles from Emojis, spotting the staff dressed as their favourite characters, to a Staff V Pupils Lit Quiz (staff won by one point). Congratulations to everybody who won a prize and thank you all for taking part. I know that great fun was had by all. This is what our pupils thought about the week.



*'I loved Reading Week because you could spend more time reading than you usually do in school and it gets you in the mood to learn. The activities were engaging and exciting. Especially, when other pupils tried to guess your costume. Seeing the teachers and students dressed-up in their fantastic costumes, will be a memory people won't forget. I was very pleased as I won a prize for the 'Best Costume'*

*Johnny 7 Kolbe*



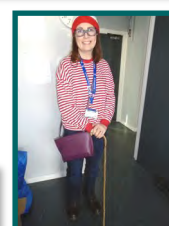
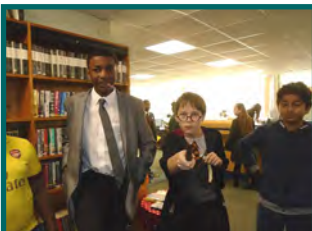
*'Throughout Reading Week and World Book Day, I enjoyed reading for ten minutes at the start of each lesson. I got to read more than I normally would. It also calmed me down before I started my lesson.'*

*Bethany 7 Teresa*



*'There were countless students who dressed up to express their love for books. This was a very exciting day because we got a chance to dress up, as well as the staff. It showed everyone their love of books on World Book Day.'*

*Jackson 7 Teresa*



*'I really liked Reading Week, especially all the fun activities, like the Emoji Quiz. But my two favourite things were World Book Day, where we dressed up and the quiz on the Friday when we had to try and beat the staff.'*

*Juliet 7 Newman*

*'I thought it was fantastic as I finished a whole 350+ page book in less than a week! Also, for many people this was a time for reading when they don't get chance at home. We shouldn't take reading for granted as it is a way to explore new worlds and learn new words. I really liked how the teachers joined in by reading their books.'*

*Ashik 7 Newman*



I hope that you have a wonderful Easter and why not giving a good book instead of chocolate this year.

Mrs J Edwards, Librarian



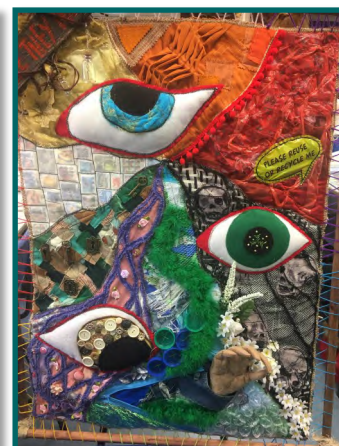
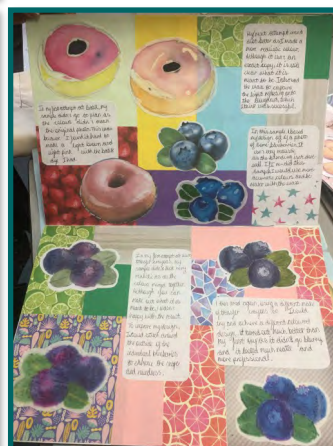
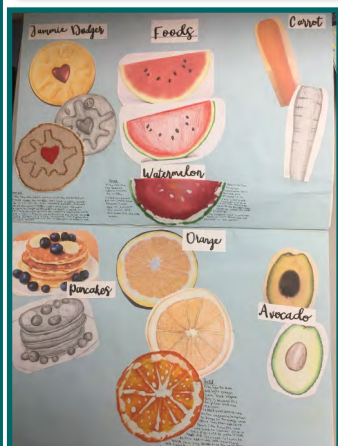
LLRC





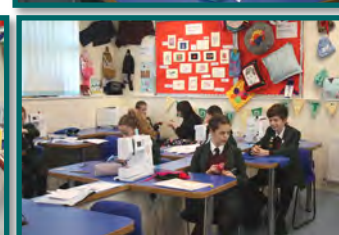
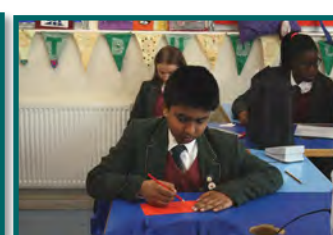
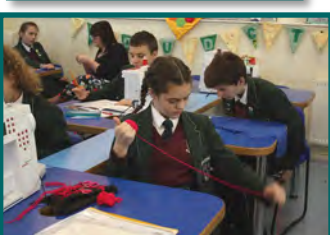
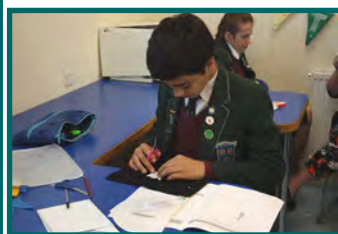
Well done to all the Year 10 and 11 textiles pupils that have worked extremely hard this term.

They have produced amazing work for their coursework.



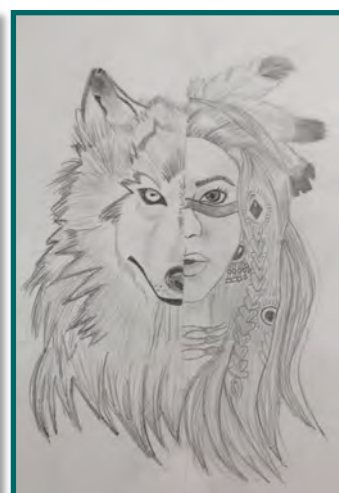
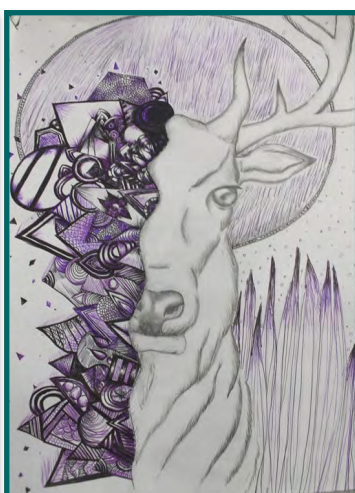
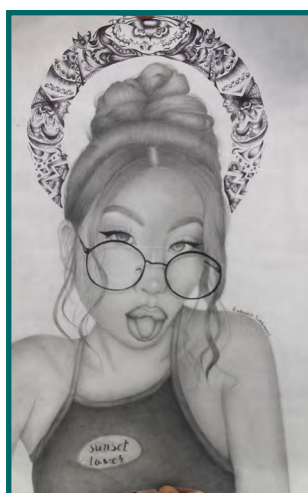
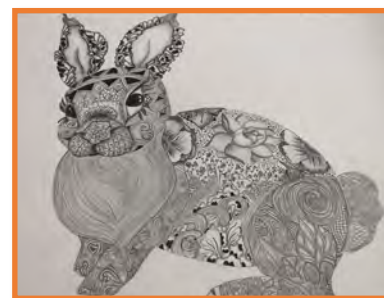
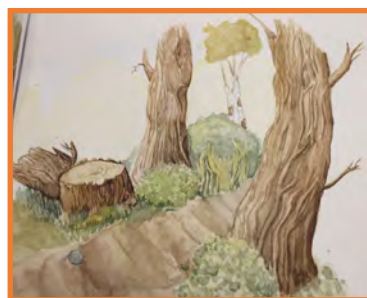
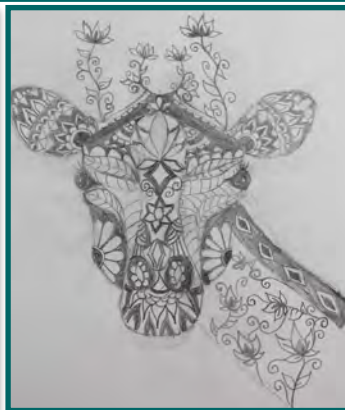
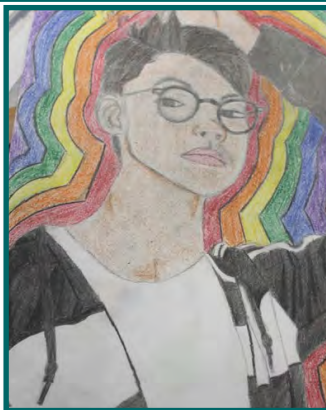
Well done to Year 7 for completing their "Mobile Phone Cases," this term. They have been learning about applying colour to a textile surface and quilting as a decorative technique. Well done also to year 8, who have worked hard making their "Fleeces Hats" and to year 9 for producing their "Wall Hangings".

Thank you to Ms Kear who joined us in January. She has been working very hard with the pupils to create their wonderful designs.



# TEXTILES





Our students have been producing some OUTSTANDING Art homework. Well done to everyone! Don't forget you can visit our gallery on: <https://www.saintedmunds.org.uk/the-school/photos/art-design-tech-portfolio>

St Edmund's Catholic School presents...

Coming Soon...

**SISTER ACT**

Save the Date

WEDNESDAY 19th - SATURDAY 22nd JUNE 2019

Ticket sales and prices will be advertised at a later date.

A DIVINE MUSICAL COMEDY

**BACK TO SCHOOL**

**Tuesday**

**23rd April**

**Week B**