

THE EAGLE

BY THE PUPILS. FOR THE PUPILS.

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Saffron Sorts It

Welcome to our Y6s that are visiting us for transition days! If any of you would like to write about your experience during the transition days, please speak to your Y6 teacher and ask them to email it to pchapman@saintedmunds.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming you in September!

St Edmund's
info:

- Tutor Groups
- School Trips
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Mind the Gap

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

In April 2018, 47-year-old, Paul Crossley, shoved a 91-year-old Sir Robert Malpas in Marble Arch into the tube rail. High court judge deemed him with full accountability and delivered a life sentence.

The former Eurotunnel boss was scouted out whilst standing on the train platform, the judge ruled that Sir Malpas was chosen due to his age and frail appearance. A second attack was attempted on Mr French; however, the professional sportsman was able to keep his balance. During the trial, Crossley stated that his intent was to "scare" Mr French as "he looked at me a bit funny".

Despite Mr Crossley's circumstances of having paranoid schizophrenia, the judge ruled in him having accountability for his actions. His medicine was not taken the day of and £600 of hard drugs were in his system during the acts. His lack of self-control and willingness to endanger others allowed the judge to rule that the actions occurred in "terrifying circumstances". The judge described him as being a "grave and enduring risk to the public".



Consequently, Sir Malpas suffered a fractured pelvis and a head wound, spending more than a week in hospital. The judge ruled that he had "consciously and deliberately sought out a more vulnerable victim" for his crime. Riyadh El Hussani jumped onto the platform and saved Malpas' life. Judge Hillard stated that he had acted with "great bravery and no regard at all for his safety".

The Judge ruled that the "driving force" for the attacks was "drug abuse and its consequence" rather than his mental illness. Crossley will now spend a recovery period in hospital before spending a life sentence to answer for his crimes.

Barcelona Trip 2019

Two Y8 students, Sam Foord and Albie Topliss, share their experiences of their school trip to Barcelona.

During May I went on a school trip to Barcelona, Spain. When we were there we participated in a football tournament and went on an excursion to Camp Nou, the FC Barcelona stadium. We also went to a water park which Sam Foord will tell you all about.

First of all, on Monday our first full day in Barcelona we participated in our first day of the football tournament. The team played very well but we had a day of unfortunate results. However, on our second day we managed to get the win we had all been waiting for. The tournament was a great experience for everyone and I am sure it is something everyone will remember for a long time.

That night we took a trip to a local nightclub. I think it is safe to say that St Edmund's took charge of the nightclub and me and Sam were part of it. We were on tables and chairs and we took full charge of the nightclub.

After we returned back to the hotel ready for the next day which was our trip to the Camp Nou. After taking part in the tournament, on the third day we took a visit to the Camp Nou, home to the mighty FC Barcelona. We started with the coach journey for about 45 minutes to the stadium. We got into our small groups and we were taken to the entrance of the stadium. We followed a path inside to all the places to see in and around the stadium. We saw the dressing rooms, the press station, the tunnel and the pitch. We also saw the trophy cabinet holding all of FC Barcelona trophies throughout the club's history. This was one of the most amazing things I have ever seen and this day was absolutely incredible.

Finally, we took a trip to Las Ramblas, a very busy market in the heart of Barcelona. We chilled at the hotel by checking out the pool. Then were preparing for the next day at the waterpark which Sam will tell you all about.

By Albie Topliss



As I left the coach to step onto boiling hot stone, I gazed in front of me and could see a sign shining into my face in big bold letters: "Lloret De Mar". Inside our hotel was a cafeteria which served some nice food such as chips, bacon, eggs and many more but I didn't forget the fruit don't worry.

The bedrooms involved three beds, TV – if you were lucky - and a balcony. Out the back of the hotel was a nice ice-cold pool with a Jacuzzi alongside it.

On the Sunday that we had got there we made a decision to go to the beach. The sand in between your toes and the water splashing your face was so much fun. The views were amazing. We had to reapply sun cream every minute because the heat was boiling.

On Wednesday night we managed to get up the Chelsea v Arsenal game on the TV, even though it was in Spanish we still loved it. On Thursday we all went to the water park called "water world". The best slide was kamikaces: it was a slide where you would push yourself off and it was a sheer drop down and the speed that you would pick up was insane. The other slides were really fun and the people that worked there were really friendly.

By Sam Foord



Saffron Sorts It!

Our friendly neighbourhood agony aunt Saffron Stedall is here to help with all of your worries and woes. This week, it is a starting secondary school special...



What if I do not know anybody?

Then now is your own individual golden ticket to find yourself some friends!! Try and talk about something you love and that is very important to you, see if this is the same as somebody else.

Listen to everybody around you, see if there is a conversation happening where you can easily slip in and give an input. Don't be afraid to be bold; be brave. The worst that can happen is that you don't like that person and subsequently do not befriend them. Honestly, don't make anything up, be brave and be you. You'll get to know people.

What if I am scared?

I can honestly promise you that there is not one person who does not feel any fear at all. It's okay to be scared, of course it is. You're going into a brand new building, a brand new world and you're about to meet over one hundred new people. Scared is rational.

If, however, your scared becomes petrified or scared to the point that your brain becomes a snowstorm, talk to someone. Talk to a friend, a teacher, or a prefect!

Everyone is here to make you feel comfortable so communicate with those around you. It's more than okay to be scared, just make sure it's a good level of scared. You know your limits.

What happens if I get lost?

If you get lost, do not panic. The room numbers in our school are quite confusing, take a lot of time to get used to and don't actually make that much sense. Look around you, see if you can see a teacher or a prefect or just another student and ask them where the classroom you're going to is.

If there is a rare occasion where you cannot see a teacher or a student anywhere, try and head over to student services and ask an adult there. I got lost when I was in year 10 so getting lost now is no worry at all. The key thing is, do not panic. As soon as you panic, you've lost focus. Stay calm and look for somebody you can trust.

The Accountability of Politicians

By Philip Collins White, Y10

On 12th June 2019, the press were attacked. During an event that aimed to launch Boris Johnson's campaign to become the Tory's new leader, Beth Rigby was jeered after asking the politician about his previous comments that described Muslim women as 'letterboxes'.

The crowd around Johnson audibly groaned after Sky's political editor correctly stated 'you described veiled Muslim women as letterboxes and bank robbers'. Afterwards, Johnson then condoned this behaviour saying 'I'm delighted many of my former colleagues seem to dissent against that view'.

Rather than shaming his fellow politicians for hindering a reasonable question from being asked, instead he encouraged this sort of behaviour, and this is extremely worrying considering the fact that it seems ever more likely that Boris Johnson will become the new Prime Minister.

In United Nations' 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it states that 'Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to... seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers.'

This means that it is a basic human right for everyone to be able to ask, learn and share information; otherwise known as the freedom of the press. However, it is getting extremely worrying that people in power are criticizing media who are doing their jobs.



Donald Trump first used the phrase 'fake news' in January 2017, in response to CNN's reporter Jim Acosta questions. Acosta was asking about the fact that while Donald Trump was saying that there was a national emergency at the border wall, others were reporting illegal immigrant crossings were at an all-time low.

Now whether or not Donald Trump was right or not is irrelevant, the fact is that Acosta was presenting contrasting facts to the President, and rather than having a reasonable debate, instead Trump swiftly progressed to insults.

The role of the media is to hold people accountable, and it is worrying that people in power, people who it is more important to hold accountable, are ruining the media's image to lose their accountability.

Rather than insult the people who attempt to present facts and information, I believe that people should hold open discussions and address their criticisms.



Tutor Groups

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

Since the start of year seven, your tutor group and teacher will be with you for your whole time at the school. Over the three years in KS3, these students will be in your class throughout various subjects including history, languages, drama, music and dance. The school continues to offer a range of subjects, to enable you to develop new skills and hopefully find a passion in a new experience. All of these subjects are for you, to focus on your education and find something that you may not have liked before.

Over your five years at the school, your tutor group builds a community that will remain with you at all times. These friendships within the group stay for your time at the school as you rely upon their help in groups across various lessons. KS3 is a chance for you to learn new lessons and be challenged in new subjects.

Secondary school is a change from the smaller school environments, but it is okay, you will learn to adapt. Remember that in your class, there is a group of 29 other students going through the same experience. Your tutor teacher is there for you, they will know the school and understand how lessons work around the school, ask questions. Any concerns, voice them!

KS4 may seem a long way away, but it does go quickly. Do not worry as everything will be okay, you have a group of 200 other students feeling just as you are. Enjoy your lessons and trips, the school offers many opportunities that you may never get again.

Now, I am going into year eleven, around five years ago, I was exactly in the same place as you are. It can be nerve-wracking (especially as an older sibling!) But it is also exciting, here, you will grow as a person and have amazing memories to stay with you for the rest of your life. Enjoy your time here as it does go quickly. I wish you good luck for your entrance into the school, you'll be great!

Chaplaincy at Saint Edmund's

By Jeslin Thomas, Y8



Our Chapel is a place for all to come worship and share, to care and grow; emotionally and spiritually. Our Chaplain Fiona is enthusiastic and understanding; she gives time to everyone who needs it and is very supportive. In my opinion, it is a gift for us students to be able to have a chapel in the heart of the school as it strengthens our school community spirit.

Our school has a spiritual badge system, which is a criterion drawn up for each year group. This criteria ranges from being involved in tutor masses, fundraising for charities and so much more.

We have a range of events that happen all throughout the week:

- Monday: our schools St Vincent De Paul team meet up on Monday lunchtimes to discuss about fundraising for charities and we work together to produce ideas on how we can live up to our spiritual themes of the term.
- Tuesday: we have a lunchtime rosary in the Chapel to reflect on the passion of Jesus on Calvary.
- Wednesday: this day is a time for prayer. You can pop into the Chapel at break and lunchtimes to have some quiet time or you can talk to Fiona about anything that is troubling you.
- Thursday: on this day, the Angelus is said. It is traditionally said at midday and we reflect on how Mary obeyed accordingly to God's will.
- Friday: at lunchtime, you have the opportunity to attend a mass which is said by our school priest; Fr Ansel.

Prayer is an important part of our daily life at school. When we first start in year 7, we have a chance to come up with our own tutor prayer. This is an excellent experience, as you bond more with your tutor group in sharing your thoughts on life and religion.



Reward Trips at Saint Edmund's

By Georgia Love, Y9

At the end of each year you have the invitation to go to a theme park on a rewards trip, these feature at the end of each year and are dependent on your personal quality scores (PQs).

Displaying good behaviour, as well as effort and handing in homework throughout the school year would allow you to go on this trip.

The best factor about these trips is how as a pupil you are trusted enough by the school to roam around the park and going on whatever rides you want.

Additionally, you are allowed to choose your friends to go in a group to go around the theme park, and let's not forget about the rampant coach road which is filled with pupils giggling. But do not worry as it will only be your year group going to this theme park away from the older groups.



Meet the Teacher: Mrs Brand

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

What inspired you to be a head of year?

I love working with children and wanted to be able to help them in all aspects of their school life. Academically as well as in their personal life and within their families and wider community.

What is the most important thing that you have learnt since starting at this school?

Having now been here a year, in a new role to the one I was in before, I feel I have learnt something everyday! The most important thing I have learnt is to always ask if you are unsure as there is always someone to help.

What advice would you give to new year seven pupils starting in September?

I would tell them to not stress or panic about anything, as there is always someone to help in all situations. I would also let them know how well and quickly my year 7's settled into the Saint Edmunds family, and that they will be the same.

What three words would you use to describe the school?

Family, Respectful, Encouraging

What's your favourite thing about the school?

I love the family ethos, we really do all work together to achieve the same goals.

What's your favourite after school club?

From speaking to my year 7's, they love Football, Dodgeball and Swimming.

What do you do in your spare time?

I love spending time with my husband and two daughters. We love camping, bike rides and playing games. I also try and stay fit by running when I can.

What made you choose Saint Edmunds?

I chose Saint Edmunds because it was an outstanding school which puts the wellbeing of its family as top priority.

What was your favourite subject at school?

My favourite subject at school was English as I love to read. I also enjoyed Geography.

What department do you most like at this school and why?

That's a tricky question, I think all departments work so hard for our children. I will have to say Psychology as a favourite subject, rather than department, as I teach some of the lessons.

Clubs at Saint Edmund's

We have an array of clubs to attend – there was so much to cover that we have two articles about them!

The clubs that St Edmund's offer are amazing, there are a variety of clubs from sports to general activities. You are able to do them at lunch time or after school, the range is wild! If you are a Harry Potter fan, there is a quidditch club or if you prefer sports there are clubs for them as well. Do note that the clubs change depending on the season, if you really like hockey I am afraid it may not stay there all year round, but go explore.

You must do at least 2 clubs for your P.E. homework. You may think that it will be really embarrassing to do a club that people don't like but relax. If you are passionate about videogames and want to go to the club, go! There is nothing stopping you. Besides, if you did not like that club then next week you can go to a different one. For example, one week you can do rounders on Wednesday and then the next water polo. Furthermore, just doing those two clubs get you your homework done.

I myself have done a range of clubs that were all really interesting, I expanded my skills and knowledge on basketball at that club and later in the week learnt how to play a whole different sport! You may not know how to play dodgeball for example but still go, the "professionals" there will teach all the cool tips and tricks to improve. And in no time will you be the professional. I know that I did not know how to sneak in a foul in basketball but by doing the club I learnt and from that my game has gotten better.

These clubs can show you that you are really interested in that sport you never played and love it. I am sure many people in St Edmund's sport teams in Year 7 never knew that sport but now, look at them. Playing with the best in their age group. I never knew how to play Handball but that didn't stop me and now I have played Handball for St Ed's.

By Hudson Jones, Y7

Saint Edmund's has a wide range of clubs to enjoy, whether they be at lunch, before school, or after school. Our clubs are about anything and everything; from History and debate club, to swimming and frisbee, and PE, extra-curricular clubs change every term to offer new experiences. Clubs are not mandatory but can offer a wide range of opportunities such as school trips or competitions.

St. Edmund's has sports clubs after school almost every weekday and pupils can attend and join anytime, whether they are serious about attending weekly, or just want to try something new. Girl's fitness is an example of one of Saint Edmund's PE clubs and provides a welcoming environment for newcomers. It is a great club for people who like variation as there are different activities and focuses each week. For those that like a more structured routine, circuits is the perfect club to try. It gives pupils a chance to exercise properly, without being lost, trying to figure out what to do. Sports clubs do change each term, so just keep in mind, you might not be able to do only one club forever, and it's always a good idea to try something new.

There are various swimming clubs at St. Edmunds, something for everyone, not all schools have a pool so why not go for a swim one day with your friends. These include year 7 recreational swimming club after school where you get to swim, jump/dive off the blocks, play games. It's a great way to not only have fun with your friends but make more. Not that keen on being left free to do things? Then why not try out water polo on a Wednesday, you are in groups and if you are new then get your first try in the shallow end so no need to be nervous. But if you can't swim or aren't that confident then don't worry, there is a learn to swim club on a Wednesday as well (there is a different rota each term so check on the sports hall timetable to keep up to date). Here you can get more confident and progress.

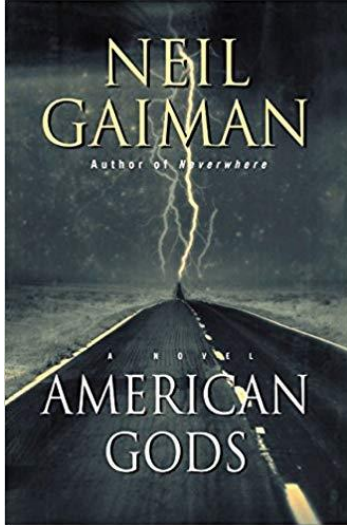
The library is a great place to get some quiet time, do homework or help out, it has clubs after school too. There is homework club on a Wednesday, where you can have access to computers and non-fiction books as you do at break and lunch but where you won't get distracted and have Mrs Edwards the librarian to help you. There is also a book club on a Monday where you do quizzes, etc and then it is sometimes open after school if you just want to go and read.

By Marci Steger-Lewis & Darcy Hester

What's your favourite...?

with Mr Brown

By Philip Collins Wight, Y10

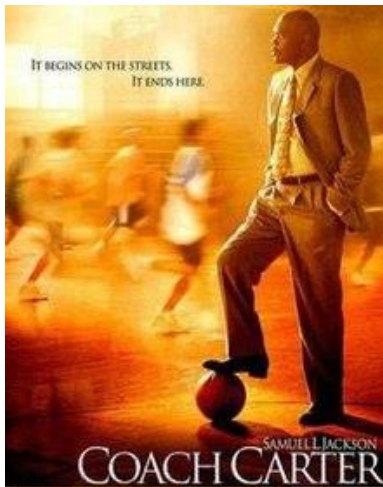


What's your favourite book?

I've read too many to pick a single favourite, but the Stephen King Dark Tower series is my all-time favourite series, however for a single book, I would probably have to say Neil Gaiman's American Gods.

What's your favourite song?

Find the Colour by Feeder because it is about seeing past all the difficulties to find something worth having.



What's your favourite film?

Coach Carter, I must have watched this about 27 times and his speeches are legendary.

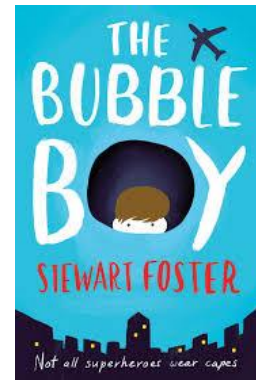
What's your favourite game?

My favourite video game has to be Final Fantasy 7, I have too many good childhood memories. My favourite board game would be One Night Ultimate Werewolf, and my favourite sport is American Football.



Book Review

By By Neha Baiju, Tania Rahman and Hannah Pacino



This novel focuses on the story of a boy called Joe who has a rare medical condition which means he has to stay in the hospital and cannot leave. As an 11-year-old boy, Joe just wants the chance to live a normal life and be like everybody else.

As if things weren't bad enough, Joe is also an orphan and only has his older sister, Beth, for a family.

Together with his friends Henry (an American boy with the same condition as Joe) and Amir (his rather unusual nurse), and his love for superheroes, Joe manages to add excitement and adventure to his otherwise boring day to day life. However, the three face problems, issues and losses on the way.

We would recommend this book to people who like adventure and don't mind some tears and sadness. All of the characters are so well written and you really feel as if you know them. Anyone from year 7 up would find the book enjoyable to read because there are lots of different characters, adventures and you learn lots about the condition Joe has to live with. This might not be the book for people who are too sensitive or easily upset as sometimes Joe has some real difficulties.

One of our favourite bits is when Henry sends a heart-warming video to Joe that shows that he will always be there for him, even if their friendship isn't always easy.



Top 10

By Lily Robson

For this issue Top 10, we will be counting down the Top 10 Great Things at St. Edmunds, in celebration of the new Year 7's, which will be transitioning from primary school. Making the list is:

1. School Trips- there are a wide variety of day and residential trips to look forward to at St. Edmunds, like skiing and going to Rome, but the best and most exciting ones are the trips to resources and the toilet. Memories you'll have forever and absolutely free!
2. Inset days.
3. The Swimming Pool- learn new skills, gala techniques and how many underwater forward rolls you can do before you're caught.
4. Food Tech- the joys of watching someone burn an egg.
5. Sports Day- only because of the ice lollies.
6. Maths- just joking.
7. The Canteen- the food is really good, trust me.
8. DT's- because why go to a theme park to feel the adrenaline when you can just be threatened with a detention?
9. The Pond- watching the fish is actually quite therapeutic
10. Science- you get to blow stuff up and set Wotsits on fire. It's cool.