

Newsletter

END OF YEAR EDITION | JULY 2021

"I can do all things with the help of God who strengthens me."



**St Edmund's
Catholic School**



They arrived in sports cars, vans and wheelbarrows and would have put any Hollywood A-lister to shame. Our Year 11 Leavers celebrated their Prom in style. It was an amazing event and Miss Hammond and staff worked so hard setting up the Hall and arranging food, refreshments and entertainment. It was certainly the send off they deserved. We wish our Year 11s all the best as they start a new chapter in their life.



HEADTEACHER'S ADDRESS

This final half term has flown by but we have managed to squeeze in a number of events/activities.

As a result of starting the year early and other additional days through the year, we now reap the rewards by finishing much earlier than the majority of other secondary schools. We have been extremely fortunate to have had very few covid cases this term (unlike just prior to Christmas) and therefore much of our learning has taken place as normal.

It has been a challenging year for all of us and has felt rather disjointed at times. At the end of most years our reflections are filled with pride, achievement, success, new skills and memories. This year is definitely filled with these but in a different way. It has been a real rollercoaster ride which we have experienced together, both the **highs and lows. Without the support of the whole of the St Edmund's family, students, parents/carers, staff, governors and the wider community, we could not have come through it.**

I am constantly amazed at just how resilient and fantastic our children are. This was highlighted in the final reward assemblies over the last week. Such wonderful achievements and so many students nominated for awards. It was particularly pleasing to see so many students gain their wider contribution badges ie: Attendance, Canteenian, Community, Spiritual, Sports Colours etc combined with our Sports Days, this has been a really positive end to the year.

You will also see in the newsletter that we have a few staff leaving us. Mr Sankar, who is retiring after 31 years of **dedication to teaching students at St Edmund's, Mr Wilkinson who is taking a year's secondment as Headteacher** at Chamberlayne College for the Arts, Mrs Turner who will be working with students at the Mary Rose School, Miss Butler and Mr Olive who (although are leaving their current posts), are returning in September to start their teacher training, Miss Arnold who joined our family for a year covering maternity and Miss Joy who worked in the SEN **department. I would like to thank them for all they have given to the St Edmund's family and wish them all well.**

As we look towards next year, please read the latest changes to the start of the year. As in previous years, guidance/information/direction from the Government can change or be given at short notice. Whilst we will do **our utmost to minimise the impact on our children's learning, this is not always possible when applying** Government guidance.

I would be grateful if parents/carers could also please ensure that uniform/haircuts etc are suitable for next year. **We have had an issue with 'skinny' trousers, incorrect KS4 skirts, shoes with logos on (often trainers) and too many piercings.** Please can you support us and help reduce the chances of your child being sent home on the first day for these issues. Hair cuts below grade 2 are not permitted.

I am already looking forward to next year and welcoming our new Year 7 students into the St Edmund's family. It was great to be able to meet so many parents at our socially distanced induction meetings. Although sad to see our Year 11 students leave, we had an amazing Prom here for them in school and a wonderful Leavers Assembly (broadcast live). They have grown up into beautiful young people and we wish them every success.

Finally, thank you for your incredible support and continued faith in all that we do. Our faith continues to be a **central part of St Edmund's. Our final spiritual reflections at the end of term help us to focus on the continued nourishment of our spiritual journey and finish the year on the right 'note'.**

"Educating isn't a profession but an attitude, a way of being. In order to educate you must go out of yourselves and be amidst the young, accompanying them in the stages of their growth, standing beside them."
Pope Francis

I hope you all have a restful summer and let's hope that the weather stays sunny and bright.

God bless,



Mr S Graham
Headteacher





Well done to all students in Years 7, 8 & 9 who took part in our recent Spelling Bee and CONGRATULATIONS to our winners: Isabel, Christ, Jairo, Konstancja, Veronika & Hudson.



Goodbye and Good luck!

Like so many staff and pupils, Mr Poxton and I are incredibly sad to see Mr Wilkinson go - his array of short sleeve shirts and Dad jokes will be sorely missed.



We presented him with this canvas of him with his colleagues from our staff football to show that he will forever be in the hearts of the St Edmund's community for all his hard work and dedication over the last 12 years. We also didn't want him to forget how beautiful we all are.

Mr Were & Mr Poxton

Mr Sankar is retiring this summer after 31 years of dedication to St Edmund's Catholic School Maths department and students.

Mr Sankar is truly a St Edmund's legend and we will all miss you incredibly. Enjoy your retirement!

Interview with Mr Sankar

How long have you been teaching for?

I had been teaching mathematics in Guyana, South America, before I began my teacher training in the UK in 1974.

How long have you been at St Edmund's?

I joined St Edmund's in 1990.

What made you decide to be a maths teacher?

My love of mathematics!

What is your favourite part of being a teacher?

Chatting to the students and the banter. I enjoy having fun with the students as they learn maths.

What is your most memorable moment at St Edmund's?

Someone doubting my teaching of a Year 11 class! 6 months later 9 of those students achieved a grade A and 13 achieved an A*!

What is your greatest teaching achievement?

My A-Level maths results.

What will you miss the most about teaching?

Waking up and looking forward to coming to work.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Work on my allotment, play cricket and complete DIY tasks around my house (there are always things which need to be done!).

What advice would you give to anyone wanting to do well in maths?

Practise, practise, practise.

A couple of interesting facts about Mr Sankar you may not know:

He has 2 ties for work which he calls his Week A and Week B ties.

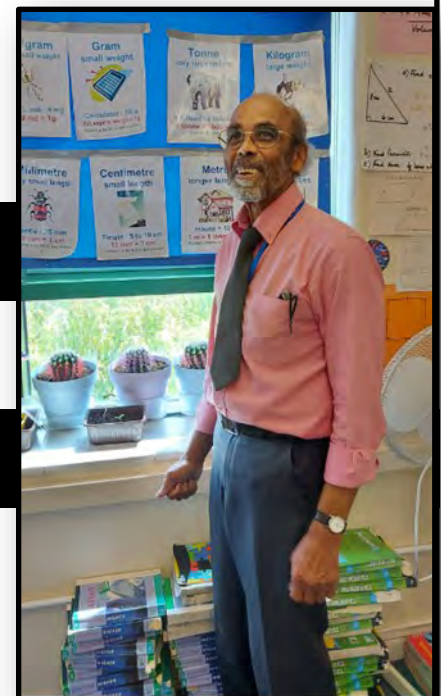
He encourages others to participate in some form of exercise as it is good for your mind and managing stress.

His 3 aspirations for life are:

Ensure he is very approachable (when Mr Sankar first began to teach he did not wear a tie as he felt this made him less approachable, he even attended his job interview at St Edmund's without a tie!).

Be very qualified to do what he does (teach mathematics).

To be the best. All of these aspirations he feels he has achieved!



CHAPLAINCY

'A journey of faith', is what springs to mind when I think of the past school year. We have not always known what is around the corner but we have trusted and walked together in that spirit of faith.

Our journey has not taken its usual route but has meandered around lockdowns, bubbles, masks, joys and sorrows. We have continued our journey together in faith in different creative ways.

Retreats for Year 7 and Year 9 took place in tutor bubbles with the theme of 'Pilgrimage and Journey'.

Students experienced various ways of praying e.g., The Rosary, The Angelus, Lectio Divina, Consciousness Examen, and meditation. Year 10 had a Retreat morning. Our guest speaker was Chris Lubbe (former bodyguard to Nelson Mandela); the students found his talk inspirational and appreciated the theme of reconciliation and forgiveness.

Year 7 and Year 8 had their Tutor Masses. Preparation for the Mass included reflecting on the daily Gospel. (Lectio Divina)

Tutor Prayer continued during Tutor time through the booklets prepared by each Year Group and weekly power points. In the last term, various assemblies enabled Year Groups to come together to pray and reflect.

Our Christmas, Emmanuel Services took place in Tutor Groups via power point; which included videos, prayers and reflections. The theme centred on:

'Do your little bit of good where you are. It's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.' (Desmond Tutu)

For Holy Week, the whole school had a Holy Week Retreat entitled 'HOPE'; which was held over four mornings. Every Tutor Group in the school; from Year 7 to Year 11, enjoyed a program of prayers, reflections, homemade videos, and activities. A wonderful experience for the whole school as we journeyed together in prayer and joyful activities.

Our Chaplaincy Team, St Vincent De Paul and the whole school were involved in raising money and collecting food items for a number of charities throughout the year.

What a joy it was to see so many of our Year 11 students who attended their Leavers Mass, in the **Cathedral, which celebrated the culmination of their 5 years education at St Edmund's. Thank you to Fr Elijah for his inspirational homily.**

During our last week of term, not only did we have time for Staff to spend an extended time in prayer and reflection but each Year Group had a Spiritual Reflection time; we reflected on the past year and looked to the future with hope.

The image of a lighthouse comes to mind; the waves and rough seas, symbols of our challenges in this past year. The many kindnesses, smiles, prayers and support given; our guiding light.

I wish you all a restful, peaceful and hope filled Summer break. Looking forward to working together in the next academic year. Asking the Lord to bless us on our journey. Amen Chaplain, Fiona



'A journey of faith'



DRAMA

In year 7 drama, we have been studying Mask and Mime. Students have created their own masks and are bringing them to life through their use of mime, drama techniques and performance skills. Kalea from 7 Kolbe noted "We have been looking at mask and mime. We made masks that we have been learning to use in performances and the rules of them. I have been enjoying the lessons a lot.". Angel also in 7 Kolbe wrote "In general, I have enjoyed all lessons we have attended in drama. In lessons we learn about drama techniques and skills, I find this interesting and can link it to the terms used in other subjects."

In year 8 drama, we have been studying Commedia Dell'Arte and analysing the individual stock characters such as Pantalone, Arlecchino and Columbina. The students have to master the character's coupe de mask and show comedy through their use of mime and script.

Eleanor from 8 Newman added "In drama we have been studying many topics and at the moment we are looking at 'Commedia Dell'Arte'. We are focus on getting that element of humour into our performances by our body language and facial expressions. It's something I haven't done before and I like the fact that we are trying something new."

Fiona from 8 Newman noted "I have liked drama this past year because we have learnt about many types of drama styles. I have especially liked doing mime, off and on text improvisation and comedy". Ingrid from 8 Newman wrote "For the past few lessons we have been learning about Commedia Dell'Arte. It has been really fun because I get to be someone other than myself and put on an accent."



In year 9 drama, we are preparing for GCSE Drama topic: devising. The pupils are using their group collaboration skills to work together to create original and inventive group performances based on a given stimulus.

In KS4 drama we have been looking at Component 1 of the GCSE and preparing the students for their GCSE exam. We are analysing 'The Crucible by Arthur Miller' and the National Theatre version of 'Frankenstein'.

Year 7 Drama Club have been rehearsing every week to re-enact a Revolting Rhymes by Roald Dahl. They have used a range of range of drama techniques, everything from split-screen to body props, as well as excellent performance skills in order to bring the performance to life at Celebration Assembly!

Year 8 Drama club are working on a performance from The Brothers Grimm called Little Red Cap. The pupils are rehearsing this scene every week and are working so hard to prepare this for Celebration Assembly performance. Melody Leslie from Year 8 drama club said "Drama club is very good as we are doing a play. Everyone is so kind". Hannah Tompkins from Year 8 drama club added "In drama club, we are doing a play called 'Little Red Cap' and I play her. I am looking forward to performing the play and I am having so much fun practising the play with everyone".



Year 7 Mrs Feliks-Matthews



So, this is it. I am very happy to confirm that Year 7 came to a very peaceful end of year, after a seriously unsettled and disrupted year. Yes, whilst we have been unable to attend school in person for a very long time, we eventually managed to come back to enjoy quite a few months together in Year 7.

As I am writing this newsletter article, I have just glimpsed at my **calendar full of wisdom quotes, which for today says.....** *'Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns; I am thankful that thorns have roses.'* Yes indeed, however difficult last year has been for us all, I am really thankful for the past year with you, as it made me realise how very lucky I am to have such a beautiful year group.

As the time went on, you have grown Year 7 in so many different ways. I am not only talking about your height, which of course, is the case for so many of you, but also your spirituality that shines through you all at all times. Despite of your academic abilities, many gifts and talents, you radiate with kindness and beautiful personalities, the traits I value the most, that make me so incredibly proud of you all.

I think we all agree, we have been quite busy over the last term, especially over the past few weeks, but I hope you all managed to not only learn, but also enjoy yourselves.

We had a few changes introduced to our school day: different break and lunch times, as well as sharing the space with Year 9s. You embraced and adapted very quickly, which yet again shows your resilience and maturity.

We have had 2 PSHE days within the space of a week, where you were completely taken off the usual Friday timetable, to cover an array of topics, all related to safety in different aspects of our daily lives. Your enthusiasm and participation were outstanding, and it was lovely to see you engage in all of the activities delivered during both days.

Sports Day definitely exceeded my expectation, as it made me realise I was totally unaware of how many sport talents I have in my Year Group! So competitive, yet still humble and supportive. PERFECT! A huge well done to winners, runners up, and all participants for your get up and have a go attitude!

On the 12 July, with the usual St Edmund's tradition, I had the privilege of delivering our Celebration Assembly, where so many of you got awarded for your effort, behaviour, being prepared for learning, **homework, as well as your participation in the school's spirituality. The** first one I believe went well, but I am so glad we got to hold our summer celebration assembly face to face, and see each other being rewarded and applauded. Please do remember, that we have only just started our **St Edmund's journey, lots of Celebration Assemblies to come, so if you** have not won /not been nominated in Year 7, please do try harder, there will be plenty more time and opportunities. At the end of the day, it is not all about your academic ability, but the effort you put into your lessons and school life in general.

This just leaves me with the last few words..... saying a huge thank you to you all for everything really, to your fabulous parents/carers for looking after you, sending you to school every single day and on time, and for being very supportive and cooperative.

Please do enjoy your summer holidays, have an AMAZING time.





Year 8 Miss Tudor



It is amazing to think we only have a few days left of the Summer term **and as of Year 8's!! Since the children returned to school in March time** has just flown.

Every day I think to myself how impressive the year group is to have coped so well amongst all the disruption and changes to their lives. They have shown such resilience and maturity every single day.



Earlier in the month we completed two full days of PHSE in topics ranging from Alcohol & Smoking to Emotional Wellbeing and Online Safety. We had such great feedback from the students with the variety of subjects and the thought-provoking activities. It was great for me to visit the classes and see the group discussions that continued to display such maturity throughout the year group.



Their many skills, gifts and talents are visible in everything they do here in **St Edmund's on a daily basis. I am so looking forward to presenting our** Effort and Achievement subject awards at Celebration Assembly on the 13th July alongside Personal Qualities, Tutor Awards, and many others. I also looked very much forward to not one but three performances in Music, Dance, and Drama. I know all our students have been working extremely hard in rehearsals and I am just so proud. Then, later in the week hopefully Year 8 will bring home the crown on Sports Day on the 15th, I know just how extremely competitive we are as a year group, it will be a fantastic day!

As we start to prepare for life as Year 9's I really hope everyone has a fantastic summer break, a well-deserved rest and is ready to start our third year of St Edmunds.



I appreciate all of your ongoing support and look forward to continuing to work together with you in achieving remarkable results for our future Year 9's!

Have a Great summer!



Year 9 Mrs Brand



I am so excited and proud that our Year 9 Pupils will be going into Year 10 next year. They have shown amazing resilience coming back after lockdown, and what has been a very difficult year for many reasons.

I was fortunate to deliver the Celebration Assembly before the end of term and the children deserved their rewards. We had some performances during the assembly so I would like to thank Jamil and Klara for their music performance; it was amazing. I would also like to thank our Dance club group, which was Gracie, Elen, Isabella, Blossom, Katie and Megan, again they were amazing. It takes a lot to get up on stage in front of your peers, I am super proud of all of them.

We have Sports Day next week, which is another way we can celebrate our children. On this note, I would like to make a special mention about a child leaving us. JayJay has been awarded a full scholarship at Reading football club so will be being taught and coached there permanently, look out for him in a future Premier League game!

We have been busy organising options for next year and we have had to make some changes and I just wanted to say thank you as the children and parents/carers have been so good about this. I really am looking forward to coming back in September as Head of Learning for year 10, how time flies, as I remember all of them starting in year 7 and can see how they have **grown in character and also in height (lots of them are now taller than me!)**

Unfortunately we haven't been able to run reward trips this year but be assured we will make up for this next year. As Head of Year I would like to reward the children more as they deserve it, especially after the year they have had.

Loving God, each day as I step further into my future, give me the courage, knowledge and patience that I need. Remind me that you always journey with me and that you will never lead me into anything that you won't lead me through. Thank you for the gift of my life. May the way I live be my gift back to you.
with your love and guidance In Jesus' name
Amen





Year 10 Mrs Were



Year 10 – Completed it! Not quite the Year 10 that we could have **predicted, but it has been incredible getting back used to “normal”** lessons, learning, routines, expectations and being around groups of people outside of our household bubble again! Long may it continue!

This half term has continued to see some alterations in our normal protocols with the cancellation of our College Taster Days which was such a shame. We have been lucky enough to have guest speakers in or virtual sessions delivered by Havant & Southdowns College and Portsmouth College. These have hopefully given Year

10 pupils some initial crucial insight, however these sessions obviously do not replace the experiences that are gained through College Taster Days and I would highly recommend over summer for pupils to do some specific research on local colleges and to visit them for their Open Evenings and Open Events in the Autumn Term of Year 11.

We have also had the opportunity to return to PSHE days with additional topics covered as a year group including sessions on Careers, Body Shaming, Consent, Gaslighting as well as Sexually Transmitted Infections! These were two full on days where pupils caught up on any gaps in their learning from the PSHE curriculum from last year while we were in lockdown as well as this year. Pupils excelled themselves through both their interaction and engagement of some of the challenging and sensitive topics, as well as their behaviour throughout both days.

A reminder of Year 10 Results Day which is on Thursday 12th August between 11-12pm. Pupils are able to attend to collect their early entry English Literature exam results, plus if entered for Triple Science and/or Astronomy. If pupils are unable to attend on this day, results will be posted home to the address details we hold on the school system.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you all that I will be taking maternity leave from Monday 19th July. Mrs Tuffnell will be taking over Head of Learning role for the year group during my maternity leave and I know she is extremely excited to oversee you all as our year group (who I rave about on a day to day basis!). For any queries relating to the year group during my maternity leave please contact Mrs Tuffnell on the school number 02392 823766 Ext 246 or email address: Jovana.Tuffnell@saintedmunds.org.uk, or Mrs Howorth who is our Senior Management Team. I will return from my maternity leave during the academic year to see the year group through to the end of their

St Edmund's journey, and will be so excited

to see the start they have all made to what will be the most important step in their journey so far.

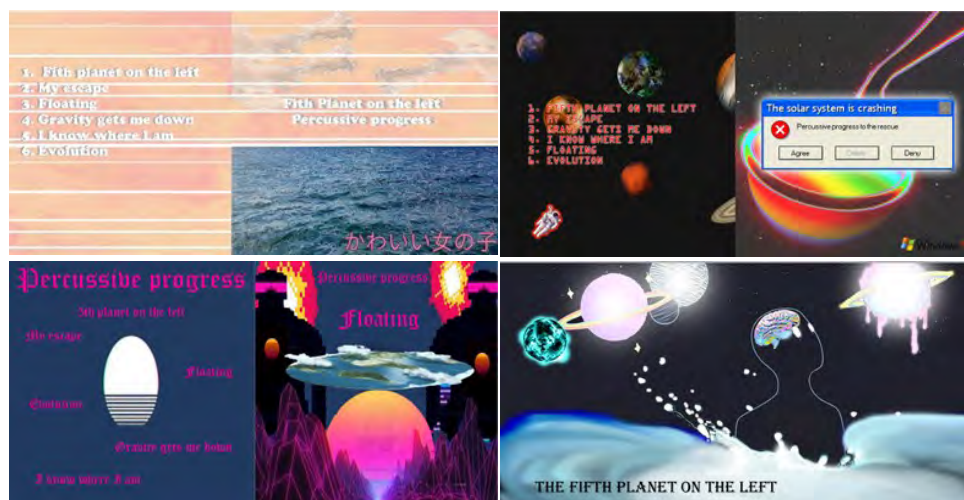
Thank you to all parents, carers and guardians for all the support you have given your child and the school. This year has once again been a real challenge for all, but I have been absolutely blown away by the resilience that the pupils have shown, specifically with so many opportunities not available to them last year and this

academic year. Here's hoping for a

continuation of normality to return in September, whilst drawing upon everything we have learnt about what is important in our lives over the past year or so. I wish the year group the very best for their start to Year 11, and hopefully I will see as many of you as possible on Results Day!



Getting Creative - Do you enjoy doing IT? **Wondering if you can take IT as an option in year 10 and what's involved?** Well, wonder no more. In Year 10 you can take a subject called Creative iMedia. What does Creative iMedia involve? You will be researching how images are used in promoting and advertising and informing people about products. Then you will design a digital product, for example, an album cover. After that you will design a game idea and then create your own game using software tools. There is also an exam to test your knowledge about Creative iMedia. Here are some examples of album covers created by Year 10 students using Photoshop.



Well done to all students this year!

Mr R Hughes and Miss S Newell



ICT & COMPUTER STUDIES



Here is an example of a game that was created by a Year 11 student using Click Team Fusion 2.5. The hungry lion is trying to collect food and drink and travel to work in a big city.

Game designed by Callum



← → ↺ https://trinket.io/python

trinket

Put Interactive Python Anywhere

Customize the code below and ↵ Share!

main.py

```
1 #A joke about sheep!
2 import time
3 print("What's green and woolly?")
4 time.sleep(5)
5 print("A vegetarian sheep!")
6
```

Writing the Python code. Watch your SPAG. Make sure the word print is lower case and you include all the brackets and speech marks and full stops!

Powered by **trinket**

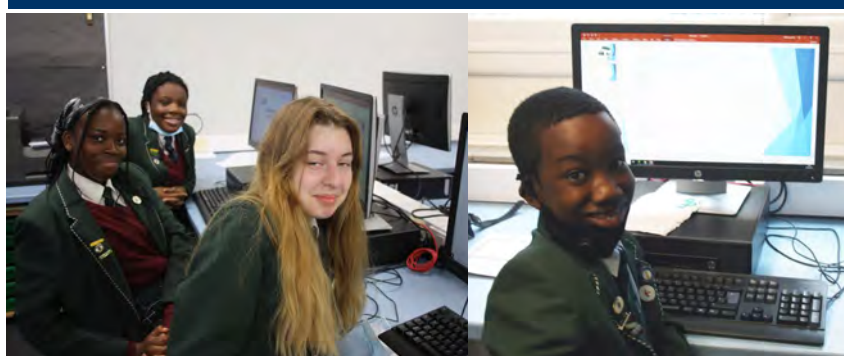
What's green and woolly?
A vegetarian sheep!

Click on play button and this happens! There is a 5 second time delay before the answer appears. Can you work out how to change the delay?

Year 8 IT spotlight - Python

In Year 8 we have been programming the computers to tell jokes using a programming language called **Python**. FYI...in Year 10 GCSE Computer Science we also use Python. It's much easier than you might think to program a computer. Well, OK, that's easy for me to say being a teacher of IT!

Here is an example of the Python code to tell a joke and what the joke looks like when you run the program. There is even a little pause between the joke and the punchline. You can try this at home by using a program called **Trinket**. Type "trinket python" into Google. It should come up as <https://trinket.io/python>. Remove the code that appears then copy the code below into Trinket and click on play! I'm sure you can think of a better joke than my one!



MATHEMATICS

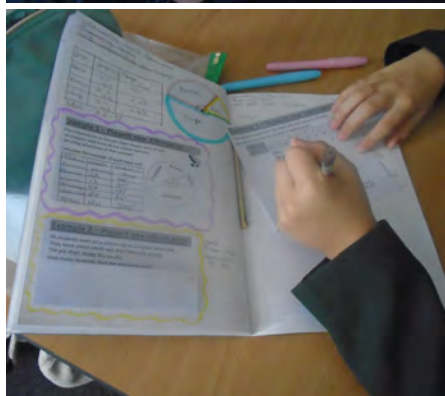
To aid with the online learning this year, we have begun to use Hegarty Maths across all classes. This website provides helpful videos and practice questions for students to use and is still being used for many classes for homework. A survey of 542 students using Hegarty at the school found that 82% of you like using it and 78% of you believe it makes you better at Mathematics. In total, students at the school have answered a whopping 225 980 questions correctly and spent 7107 hours learning on Hegarty!

Top Tips for using Hegarty Maths!

1. Use a notebook for all of your work, copying down examples and to show your working when answering questions – this will be great for you to revise from! It also helps improve your memory and ensure you are getting method marks!
2. Always watch the video! This helps you be more successful.
3. If you get stuck when completing questions, use the "Get Help" button to open up the video at a point where the teacher is talking through a really similar example.
4. Leave comments or feedback for your teacher on questions you are not sure about, so we can answer your questions on know where we need to follow up with you.
5. Use Hegarty for your independent revision – you can search for topics you are stuck on or need to revise further.
6. Use MemRi to help with this – you get a new one each day and you will be randomly given 10 questions from previously completed tasks.
7. Use Fix Up 5 to practice topics that you are weaker on – you will be given 5 questions you got wrong before to repeat and improve on.
8. Redo quizzes you scored amber or red on and see if you can make it green! Click the relevant colour on your skill donut to see which tasks are amber or green.
9. Use the building blocks if you are struggling on a topic. These are other skills that you need to be confident in first, to help you do your best on the new topic.
10. Remember, little and often is best!

Logging in!

Go to <https://hegartymaths.com> and click student log in
Type in the school postcode – PO1 1RX to find the school
Enter your name, date of birth and password. If you have forgotten your password – ask your teacher to reset it.



Top Classes:

KS3: 9m1 (13,281 questions correct)
KS4: 10t1 (10,085 questions correct)

Top performing students:

Year 7: Raya (7t1)
Year 8: Patricija (8m3)
Year 9: Aleena (9m4)
Year 10: Ethan (10t1)
Year 11: Adel (11t3)

Amazing work all of you!

A short survey was done to find out how students feel about their maths lessons **at St Edmund's. These are just a few of the comments written by those who completed the survey.**

'Maths lessons are enjoyable and since moving from my primary school my Maths knowledge has improved massively.' Yr 8 student, set 2

'Maths lessons are creative and interesting.' Yr 8 student, set 4

'The lessons are fun.'
Yr 9 student, set 5

'I enjoy mini-whiteboards.'
Yr 9 student, set 3

'My teacher (Mrs Harding) and how she makes the lessons fun and helps individual students if need be.'
Yr 9 student, set 1





The school choir took part in a virtual musical this term called 'The Twelve Tasks of Hercules' organised by Portsmouth Music Hub. Pupils learnt a variety of songs about 'Those Terrible Greeks' the 'Stymphalian Birds' and the tale of Hercules task to kill a mighty lion. Pupils recorded their songs on 15th June and the videos will be compiled with videos from other schools around the city. The premier of the musical will be shown on YouTube on Wednesday 14th July at 6:30pm. Well done everyone!

Mrs C Toogood



CHICKS

On the 1st of July most of our feathered friends returned to the rare breed conservation farm they came from in Kent but two were rehomed locally.

As rare breeds they have all gone to become part of the breeding stock to continue the work being done to save their populations. We said goodbye to Augustus, Benedict, Caesar, Deirdre, Egg Sheeran, Frida, Goldie and Hercules. They had lots of fun with us and loads of visitors during their stay!

Some students said "I found holding the chicks interesting as I've never held a chick... they were so warm! A great experience learning about them and farming." - Josh, Year 10

"So cute and fluffy! really interesting learning about them as rare breeds and being able to help them as a school." - Skye, Year 10.

It wasn't only students who loved them, staff were also won over by the chicks Miss Cormican said "EGGSHELLENT! Having our fluffy little arrivals in school created such a buzz of excitement amongst staff and students. The chirpy little chicks brought joy across the school and I loved hearing stories about them each day from different pupils. What a great educational experience, from watching them hatch to seeing them all in their feathery glory."

Miss Hooker said "It was an incredible experience having the chicks in the department. I loved being able to teach my classes not only about them, but also about agriculture and my experiences of a rural upbringing. Coming in to see the chicks each morning was lovely, but my favourite part was the look on students faces when they held a chick for the very first time. A special moment that I'm sure they will never forget."

Augustus

Benedict

Egg Sheeran

Hercules

Caesar

Deirdre





Year 11 Miss Hammond

My final write up as Head of Year 11! Students were only back fully for a week but this has felt like one of the busiest half terms we have had!

I would like to start by saying how pleased I am so many students returned after half term and enjoyed their final full week with us. It was a very busy week with assemblies, sporting activities and our **leavers' Mass. Leavers' Mass was a beautiful event and I want to say a big thankyou to Chaplain Fiona for organising such an amazing event and all the students who took part in readings and supporting our special service. It was a shame we couldn't sing in the Cathedral but we all had a good clap!**

We then had the Leavers BBQ and Quiz to enjoy. Seeing the students come back to have their knowledge tested was delightful but I am sure they were there really for the burgers and sweets! A **HUGE well done to Macka Pacca's for lifting the crown with Mr Poxton against some tough competition... even if we argue that some teams may have cheated!**

Our next event was the Leavers' Assembly where the worry of rain was constant all day but by some miracle the sun shone just in time. Students arrived in their best dresses and suits and looked AMAZING! It was an amazing assembly with lots of parents joining on our live stream, hopefully able to shed a tear in private without students telling them off for embarrassing them. Hopefully a memory lots of students will have and judging by the number of photos taken, one that will live on forever.

Finally, our last event for Year 11 the PROM. We had all hoped for some normality but alas with two weeks notice it was all changed. I would like to now say I am able to be hired as an official party planner but I think I need a **good break before tackling an event like this again. I hope the Year 11's loved it, I know I did. Music, Lights, Cake and Sumo suits... what more could a group of Year 11s want? They danced the night away in amazing dresses and suits with the teachers left wondering when did they all of a sudden grow up!**

I would like to take this opportunity to say a HUGE thankyou to all the parents and carers who over the years have supported myself and the school. We have got through it all together and the students have left as mature, hard-working and kind young people. I am very proud to call them my first year group and look forward to seeing what they all move on to! Have a lovely summer break everyone and enjoy the rest!



BBQ
&
QUIZ



MODERN FOREIGN

French Cookery class

I have really enjoyed having the chance to do something different and have fun cooking. Due to the fact we were doing the food topic it had fit in really well and had helped expand vocabulary when using French instructions. Cooking crêpes was an easy and fun idea which ended up being a really exciting experience! - Milly



Chef Pâtissier Charlie



Gâteau Nuage aux framboises



As we've been learning about food in French lessons for our homework we were allowed to make a French dessert or dish. Many people made puddings like crêpes, lemon cake, croissants and éclairs it was our choice whether to make a video, bring in food or write a recipe either way this was a very fun homework to do. I chose to make a video with Ruby. - Antonella



8 Romero and 8 Damien were given a great opportunity this year where we joined with another school in Alicante in Spain to become pen pals. We started off with different PowerPoints; the first fun project we did with the Spanish pen pals was a Christmas project where we shared different Christmas traditions including Boxing Day, Christmas dinner and Christmas Day. We moved onto videoing a tour of our school adding Spanish text and speech and they sent us a tour of their school in English.



We formed group chats with them and talked to them in Spanish and they spoke to us in English, this helped us all practice our new language. We then exchanged Instagram and Snapchat names; as you can imagine having about 30 people within a group chat speaking English and Spanish was very exciting, yet at times very confusing. After a while we spoke more closely on a one to one basis and this helped us learn the language more and show off our Spanish talents.



We have made a wonderful friend called Alberto who we found we had a lot in common with. We still talk to him every week and found out a lot about his likes and dislikes his school, family and hobbies. We asked him what he has thought about this experience and he said "Communicating with the English has seemed very interesting to me because the customs there are different. It has also helped us learn English and improve our vocabulary." Sophia and Rebeca.



Having this experience has helped improve our Spanish a lot and we have thoroughly enjoyed learning more about the country through friendships with others our age, we are very excited to hopefully meet when they come over in Year 11.

Spanish Homework

'For our Spanish homework we had to translate the things we have in Portsmouth to Spanish. We also had to describe if we liked it or not. I thoroughly enjoyed this and hope we can do a fun activity like this again. It has helped me to get used to write in Spanish and it was very informative.' Deborah

'For our Spanish homework we needed to label the map of Portsmouth and things we do. I really enjoyed doing this piece of homework as it gave us a chance to be creative as there were many ways to produce it. I described key places on the map saying what I do and when I do it.' Jess

'For our Spanish homework we were asked to design a map of Portsmouth and label it with places we visit. I described each place on my map with opinions and connectives, my work even got put on display!! I really benefited from the task as it was an opportunity to familiarize/get used to writing in Spanish.' Marianna

'We had to be creative about how we present our work. I would say it was a fun thing to do because of how many choices we had.' Julia



'For our Spanish homework, we had to create a piece of work that showed places in the town we live in with pictures. I liked doing it because it was really fun to do and it took the 2-3 hours expected. It was really creative, and I added some drawings to make it my own.' Maria

'For the homework we had to label a map of Portsmouth in Spanish and say our opinions about it. I quite enjoyed this task because I could make it look nice and be creative.' Julia

'For this homework, I had to locate some key areas in Portsmouth and write a short description in Spanish on what I thought of it. I enjoyed doing this because I was able to be as creative as I wanted with it and give opinions linked to the place.' Elissa



There's an old Chinese proverb that says: "Tell me, and I'll forget. Show me, and I may remember. Involve me, and I'll understand" and today we would like to encourage you to spend some time during your Summer holidays revising the vocabulary we have learnt so far in Spanish and French... but don't panic... let's do this through GAMES!!!!

Games help us refine every single one of our skills: pronunciation, spelling, grammar, syntax, listening and written comprehension, oral and written production, among other things.

What's more, games get rid of the pressure or anxiety of making mistakes in front of our peers (which we've all felt at a certain point), and this makes the learning process run a lot smoother.

That's why when it comes to teaching and learning a foreign language, games are an essential tool for the process. They offer a break from all the hard work.

It's not a secret that this year one of our biggest discovery has been Blooket, but here you have other choices/suggestions that will keep you up to date with Languages at the same time you have fun... plus, you'll come back in September super confident and ready for the challenge or learning better and more! Mrs Couselo-Feans - Head of MFL



LANGUAGES



HAF Fun Pompey - priority spaces for vulnerable children

Portsmouth's HAF Fun Pompey programme allowing children and families to access funded holiday activities and food this summer. Running from Monday 26 July to Monday 30

August across the city, children aged 5-16 eligible for benefits related free school meals can attend provision free of charge. More information and how to apply and can be viewed on our webpage: www.pycportsmouth.co.uk/haffunpompey

If your child is interested in learning a musical instrument the following lessons are offered weekly by the Music department:

Woodwind

Brass

Strings

Drum Kit

Piano

Guitar (Electric/Acoustic/Bass)

Voice (singing)

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

For more information please contact Mrs Toogood on:

cstevenson@saintedmunds.org.uk

Hampshire Farmers Market

The next Hampshire Farmers Market will take place on Sunday 18th July, 10.00 am - 2.00 pm in Palmerston Road.

For every purchase made from the following producers, 10% will be paid to the School, all you have to do is let the stallholder know the name of the school.

Participating stalls are:

Ambrose Farm - sausages, bacon, Eggs, burgers etc,
Beres Bakes - sourdough bread, Butler Country Estates - smoked trout pate, Dampney's Remarkable Drinks - fruit infused gin & vodka, Flavours of South Africa - dried meats including Biltong & Stokkies, FNK - home made pies & sausage rolls, Lyburn Cheese - variety of handmade cheeses, Newhouse Game - wild venison and game from the New Forest and T&V - fresh seasonal fruit & vegetables.

Help raise funds for St Edmund's and support our local farmers!



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IMPORTANT DATES

BACK TO SCHOOL

Wednesday 1st September
INSET DAY

Thursday 2nd September
YEAR 7 TRANSITION DAY
Year 7 only

Friday 3rd September
YEAR 7 & YEAR 11

Year 7 arrive at 8.25 am and go straight to tutor.

Year 11 arrive at 8.30 am and line up for assembly.

Monday 6th September

Year 7, 8 & 9 arrive at 8.20 am
(Yr 7 & 9 attend registration)

Year 8 - 8.25 am line up for Assembly

Year 9 - 8.50 am line up for Assembly

Year 10 arrive at 8.45 am go to tutor - Assembly at 9.20 am

Year 11 arrive at 9.50 am go to tutor