



EDGE NEWS

Monday 1st October 2018

Dear Parents

It's week 5 already, our focus is *Be a Risk Taker* and as we hurtle towards half term, the enthusiasm of your children and their enjoyment of school is fantastic to see. I have just survived my lunch with 5D. I say survived because I was inundated with lots of loud and 'funny stories' on a variety of topics, there was much hilarity, great food and the whole occasion was huge fun. My pupil lunches are always a highlight of the week although I am now appreciating the comparative peace of my study.

Continuing professional development is essential for us all at Edge Grove so that we can reflect on our practice and pedagogy and ensure that we are always moving forward, innovating and at the forefront of prep school education. For me, this meant attending the IAPS Heads Conference last week in a very sunny Wales. The theme of the three days was 'Tomorrow's World; Global Citizens' and the speakers explored what the future holds for prep schools and how best we can prepare our pupils for a world that will, undoubtedly, be very different from today. I am pleased to report that we are ahead of the game; our state school partnerships are strong and flourishing, we have a curriculum that carefully balances the teaching of knowledge and skills and our children are encouraged to be 'intellectually curious adventurers' in the way they think and approach their learning - and this will most certainly continue to be the case.

You may have noticed that we have been shortlisted for Prep School of the Year 2018 in the Independent School Parent awards recently. A great accolade, and whatever happens, I am extremely proud of the whole school community!

Best wishes

Ben Evans

CALENDAR

Tuesday 2nd October

Prep Schools' Music Day, Oakham, by invitation, all day (formal uniform)

Governing Body Education Committee Meeting, SB5, 5.00pm

U13 Basketball v Lockers Park (A), 5.15pm

Wednesday 3rd October

House Meetings

Year 4 Tesco Farm to Fork, 9.00am-12.00pm (formal uniform)

Football v Heath Mount, 1st, 4th (A), 2nd, 3rd (H)

Football v Heath Mount and St Columba's, Colts A, B, C, D at Heath Mount; Colts E, F, G, H, I, J at Edge Grove

Hockey v Chesham Prep, U13 (A)

Hockey v Orley Farm, U11 (A), U10 (H)

Thursday 4th October

Football Festival at Heath Mount, U9A, U9B

Football Festival at Edge Grove, U9C, U9D, U9E, U9F

Friday 5th October

Flourish Parent Workshop, Chapel, 8.45am-11.00am

Year 1 'History Off the Page' Workshop, Pre Prep Hall

Ignite Challenge meeting, 4.30pm (formal uniform)

Saturday 6th October

1st Team National Soccer 6-a-side Regional Finals, Chigwell, 9.00am-1.00pm

Open Morning at Edge Grove, 10.00am-12.00pm (not Pre-School), Years 7 & 8 required (formal uniform)

Sunday 7th October

No activity

Monday 8th October

Barbados netball tour team training, Sports Hall, 6.30pm-7.30pm

Rush hour concert, Theatre, 5.30pm



Star Talent

Year 7 pupils, Kush and Riley, have been busy making headlines this week. Well done to you both!



Well done to Kush who won the Batsman of the Year award at Stanmore Cricket Club for the under 11A's by successfully helping them win the North Middlesex League title. Impressive stuff!

Elstree & Borehamwood Town Crier—Issue 31—Autumn 2018

Local talent is a secret singing sensation

A treasure trove of talent in our glorious town of Elstree and Borehamwood and you may have already met our latest potential superstar.

His name is Riley Levene. A local who, at the antique age of just 10, leads by ice cool confident example and is already busy propelling his way to melodic success.

Riley is laid back and precocious -but not in the annoyingly saccharine kind of way like the average American child star-and an aviation enthusiast, who after years of researching planes, genuinely aims to establish his own airline business.

It's his singing in vibrato though that's really getting him noticed.

Winner of Elstree and Borehamwood's Got Talent 2017, Riley's journey to the top slot was all plain sailing with a hauntingly powerful version of Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah. You may just have seen him on the TV juggernaut that is the Voice Kids, filmed in our own backyard at Elstree Studios, with a fearless rendition of Edith Piaf's Non, Je Ne Regrette Rien. It's usually enough for entrants to sing popular hits on TV shows like this, let alone attempt to use music to cross over the boundaries of culture and language.

Singing will always be subjective, so too are the musical fads of the public, but what stands out during this foray into show business is the endearingly modest behaviour of our Riley. Nailing the final high note with enthusiasm and fortitude he seemed as happy as if he'd just been

offered a thousand record deals. Humble and resolutely positive, even under pressure when Will Lam kindly came down from his seemingly god-like throne to talk to him, it's his undeniable skill and role-model like behaviour that puts Riley light years ahead of anyone of almost any age.

Confidently gracious, with just the right amount of endearing cheek, he is anything but conventional and for us disillusioned folk-confused by the seemingly vacuous morality set by today's superstars and influentials- Riley just might be able to restore our faith in celebrities yet.

You can see some of Riley's performances on his YouTube channel and make sure to look out for future holiday travel via RileyAir.



Joanna Mansfield

Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson,
Head of Pre Prep

Pre-School were inspired by our guiding principle *Creativity* and set to work making a healthy selection of open sandwiches. They were each given a selection of fruit and vegetables and after spreading a slice of bread with butter showing growing fine motor skills, they each presented a masterpiece. Lettuce became hair, banana slices served as perfect noses and raisins added a smile; each sandwich was totally individual and delicious! Reception very much enjoyed their CREW workshop which took them on a journey of discovery as Cornelius the puppet started school. The workshop is very sensory and encouraged the children to describe the familiar sounds, smells, sights and emotions experienced in the first weeks of a new school year. I am delighted to note that parents have already volunteered their time to speak to pupils about their own experiences of growing up in other cultures; year 2 especially now have a rich source of information to support their topic work.



Lower School News

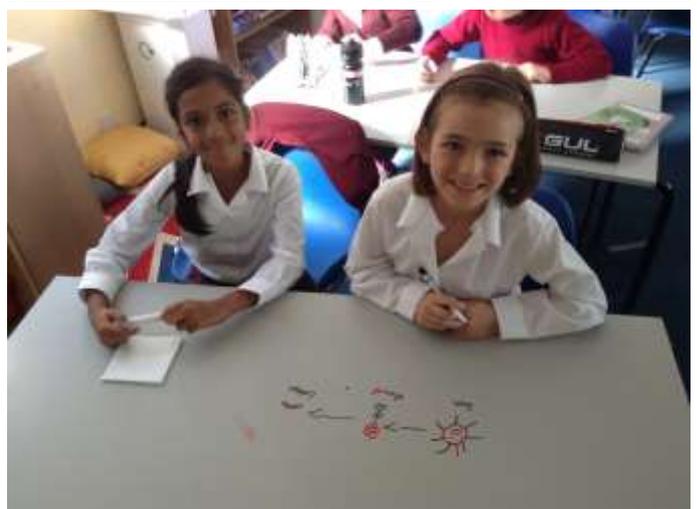
Samantha Robinson,
Head of Lower School

Year 3

An exciting week for year 3 in science as they ventured out on a shadow hunt around school and investigated how they are created - ask them what sort of objects allow shadows to form; opaque, transparent or translucent? Maths was quite musical this week when times tables were recited to a popular piece of instrumental music, we witnessed great enthusiasm and bopping heads as numbers were belted out accurately! As poetry came to an end this week we welcomed a new and creative way of describing a scene. Children grasped how to inject powerful words into their writing, using their senses to describe a setting. At the end of the week the year 3s were invited to a Fable Festival where they had the privilege to listen to the year 4 children read their work to them, which they very much enjoyed. In topic, we continued to explore how Stone Age people survived and how they were once regarded in history as people who never mastered any real skills. Children were wowed to learn that in fact the Stone Age community were very talented and drew up fascinating ways to survive in their time.

Year 4

A great week in year 4 full of success and progress! 4W enjoyed the Farm to Fork trip on Wednesday with 4T and 4R's visits coming up in future weeks. This week ended in an exciting Fable Festival in English, where the children invited the year 3s to come and read, listen to and enjoy their created fables on Friday - have you heard the fable of the Wolf and the Mouse or the Tiger and the Llama? In maths the children have explored the concept of multiplying by 10, 100, 1000 and more and also multiples of 10. It has been wonderful to see that the children are able to make this connection to their prior learning in year 3, showing developing signs of becoming more able mathematicians. Science this week continued with the children exploring animal adaptations and their habitats and in topic, the idea of why certain locations are used as a holiday destination was explored. This links into our next English unit on persuasive writing from next week - looking forward to the Rogers Thomas Wooding Travel Agency come to life!



Middle School News

Kate McManus

Head of Middle School

English:

Year 5 pupils have been using their senses to describe a setting, focussing on our focus text of the lion the witch and the wardrobe. There have been some exciting descriptions!

Year 6 have been preparing to write a first person narrative from the view of Oliver Twist as he prepares to break into Mr. Brownlow's house for the terrible Bill Sykes. We have used acting skills, watched a video, read through different passages from the book and used a timeline activity to prepare ourselves for the writing.

Science:

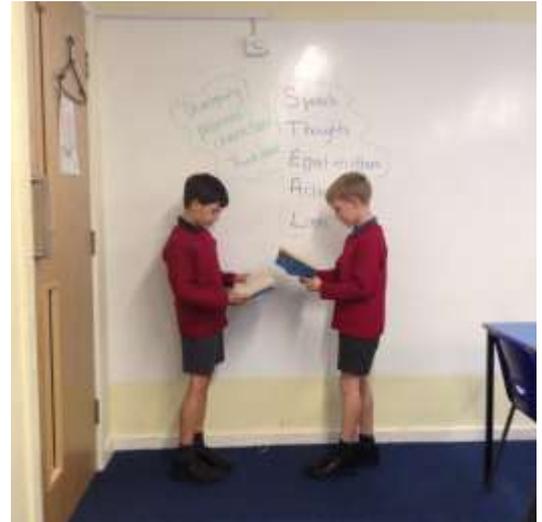
This week year 5 have been exploring the double circulation system of the heart. They have found out that while most arteries carry oxygenated blood away from the heart, the exception is the artery to the lung that carry deoxygenated blood so it can collect oxygen.

Year 6 pupils have been finding out about the conditions needed for seed germination. They have had the realisation that while mature plants need light to live, seeds do not need light to germinate as most are underground.

Geography:

Year 5 have been testing their memories this week, using a fun, team activity to locate places in Great Britain. We have been discussing the difference between the British Isles, Great Britain and the UK to ensure students have a firm sense of their place in the world

Year 6 are exploring why so many people go on holidays now compared to in the past. We have been discussing improvements in transport, changes in cost and of course an increase in the amount of holiday time adults are given during the working year. We have linked to maths, drawing up bar graphs to show the top 10 global tourist destinations which I am sure they will be happy to share with you.



Middle School News

Kate McManus

Head of Middle School

RS:

This week in RS Year 6 were using their chromebooks to research the six main beliefs of Islam. We explored the concept of the belief in Angels in Islam and amongst many interesting facts, we learnt that they can have up to 600 wings.

The Year 5 pupils have been continuing their study of Abraham and discussing the promises, or covenants, that he made to God. We have analysed his characteristics to discover how he kept his incredible promises and the effect this had on his life and his relationship with God.

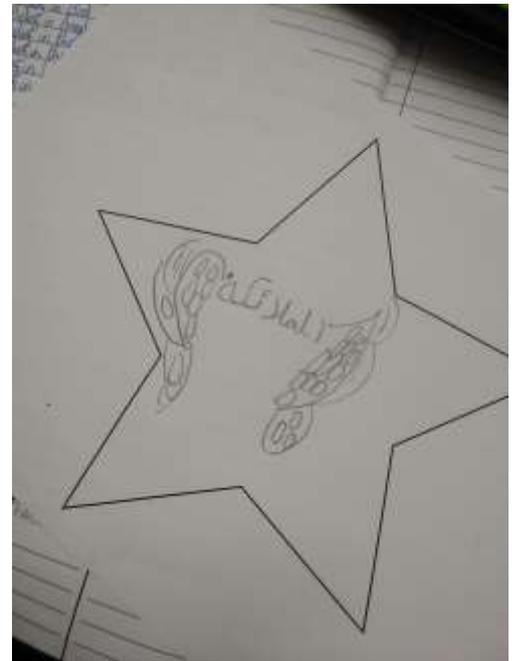
PE:

This week in PE year 5 and 6 have been finishing off their swimming unit. Year 5 have been working on their breaststroke, especially the leg kick with 'frog, star, pencil' legs.

Year 6 have focused on backstroke and maximising the effectiveness of their underwater arm pull. There was lots of good technique on display!

Art:

While the clay poppies are being transformed into ceramics in the kiln, the year 5 children have been embarking on a new WW1 themed project. Here they are considering silhouette images depicting a variety of WW1 icons.



Upper School News

Anna Warren,
Head of Upper School

Be Creative

Year 8 Geography

Year 8 enjoyed a brilliant day at Cadbury World in Birmingham this week. The day started with a fascinating look at the history of the cocoa bean. Pupils then went on a tour of the building, and tried their hand at some chocolate-based decorative handwriting! Then followed a fascinating workshop delivered by the education team. This enabled the children to take an in depth look at the marketing and branding of chocolate, how raw goods are grown and imported as well as global trends.



Upper School Baccalaureate: we went to visit the Chiltern Open Air Museum (COAM) this week to see the reconstruction of a World War 1 Nissen hut underway. We will be welcoming members of the museum's education team into Edge Grove soon to discuss a partnership project commemorating the centenary anniversary of the first world war. Pupils will have the opportunity to see the hut, and other heritage buildings, at COAM on Monday 12th November when we visit for a day of exciting commemorative enrichment activities.



Year 8 Science: investigating reactivity series and displacement reactions.

“Friday Friends” Coffee Morning

Date: Friday 12th October

Time: 8:30am – 10:00am

Location: The Pavilion

(Please park your car as normal and walk down the main drive using the new Edge Grove Park and find us in the building on the main pitch to the right.)



We invite all parents from the school to come for a cuppa and a biscuit. It's a great way to meet other parents or catch up with friends.



Flourish Parent Workshop

Exploring your child's developing brain

Friday 5th October, 2018, 8.45am – 11.00am

£25 per person

Research into neuro science continues to evidence that childhood is a time of tremendous brain development and that this process continues until the age of 25. The young brain literally changes shape and size in response to everything encountered: the environment, experiences, parenting and relationships.

Familiarity with the stages of brain development, the changes they bring, the influence they have on thoughts, feelings and behaviour will, without doubt, assist the navigation of the challenges each stage presents and help in preparing for the changes ahead.

The role of a parent evolves constantly. This workshop offers the opportunity to explore topics that will assist you to support your child's development, physically and emotionally:

- Ages and stages – physical and neurological brain development
- Nature versus nurture
- Keeping up with the ever changing 'job description' for parenting
- Supporting the developing brain – building blocks for success
- Communication – are you speaking the same language?
- The power of subliminal learning

For further information and to book your place please contact Sally Sharp, Head of Wellbeing:
ssharp@edgegrove.com

SPOOKY RECIPES & Halloween Fun !
OCTOBER HALF TERM Edge Grove School



Recipes include.....Toffee Apple Cake, Treacle Tarts, Chocolate Pumpkins, Giant Shortbread Spider Cookie, Bonfire Chilli, Spooky Sausage Mummies plus lots more!

Vegetarian option available

30th & 31st October 9.30am – 3.30pm (extended hours option available)

- Open to children from **7 – 13yrs.**
- Small groups so that everyone receives individual attention.
- **Each day will be different** with lots of foodie fun and games.
- Our camps **include lunch**, all ingredients and equipment, as well as a free recipe booklet.
- The course runs from 9.30am – 3.30pm and the daily rate is £65 per child.
- There is an extended hours option available for a small additional daily charge.
- **CHRISTMAS BOOKINGS** also being taken now for the **18th, 19th & 20th December.**

To book you place call us on 01442 876259 or email bookings@how2boilwater.com

