



# EDGE NEWS



@EdgeGrove



Edge Grove

Monday 11th February 2019

Dear Parents

With only a week left until half term, increasingly longer hours of daylight and an amazing display of snowdrops around the lake, it does feel like we have broken the back of winter. I hope I don't live to regret writing that! Winter has certainly finished temporarily for our Sri Lanka tourists who flew off to much hotter climes on Sunday afternoon. They will now be basking under brilliant blue skies in temperatures of 30+ degrees. In case you are wondering what this looks like, keep a close eye on our Twitter feed for regular updates.



One quick glance at the calendar shows that we have another busy and full week ahead. Nothing unusual there and, as I wrote a few weeks ago following my shadowing of Year 5 and 6 pupils through their day, our children are kept incredibly busy with days full of learning and opportunity. I am always fascinated to hear from some pupils how they then may spend their evenings and weekends with their 'tutor' (heaven forbid) and generally being fully occupied by external activities. As parents, we can often think that our children should never be bored and if they are, this then reflects poorly on our parenting skills and general care. However, I firmly believe that we must be brave (as our parents were) and allow our children to be bored and to not manage every minute of their free time. Boredom encourages independence and creativity in children, it allows them to explore and be curious and it ensures that they become confident and resourceful. Whether it is making dens in the garden from whatever they can find, losing themselves in a box of Lego, dressing up and being imaginative or just reading, colouring or doing a puzzle. It is important to let children fill their own time occasionally and not expect to be entertained, and for you to sit back, relax and watch from a distance. Just remember to remove the iPads though!

Please remember that school finishes at 3.00pm (PP), 3.30pm (LS) and 4.15pm (years 5-8) on Friday as we break up for half term and there will be no after-school activities. I hope you all have a very much needed break and enjoy the week.

Best wishes

Ben Evans

## CALENDAR

### Tuesday 12th February

Pre Prep Vision Screening, Pre Prep Hall  
 Berkamsted Preparatory School French Verse competition, by invitation, 10.00am-12.00pm  
 Year 5 Parents' Evening, Theatre, 4.30-7.30pm

### Wednesday 13th February

Rugby Triangular v Lochinver House and St Martin's, U13A, U12A at Lochinver House, U11A, U11B at St. Martin's, U10A, U10B (H)  
 Netball v Westbrook Hay, U10 (A)  
 Netball v Royal Masonic School, U13 (A), 4.00pm  
 Governing Body Finance Committee Meeting, 3.30pm

### Thursday 14th February

Rugby v Kingshott, U9A to U9D, U8A to U8D (H)  
 Netball v Orley Farm, U8 (A)  
 Netball v Duncombe, U9 (A), 3.00pm  
 Year 2 Perform Workshop, The Fire of London, Pre Prep Hall

### Friday 15th February

No after school activities  
 Half Term. Please collect your children at the following times:  
 Pre Prep: 3.00pm  
 Lower School: 3.30pm  
 Years 5 to 8: 4.15pm  
 (Older siblings may be collected at the time of their younger brothers and sisters. Details will be published in the Information Letter)

### Saturday 16th February

Half Term

### Sunday 17th February

Half Term

# Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson

Head of Pre Prep

I very much enjoy sharing the homework projects that Reception complete at home. Their houses for three little pigs are proudly displayed in our library and the creative maths games they designed were shared in class with interest and fascination. We are very fortunate that parents are so involved in the children's learning and we do see the impact this has on their progress. Cedar were real trail blazers as they presented the first Form assembly to their parents. They spoke confidently about The Great Fire of London, sharing facts and singing songs especially written for the occasion. Science in Year 1 saw toy penguins being fired across the classroom as they explored forces and in Pre-School the early morning frost was photographed by the children as they chart the changing of the seasons across the year.



# Middle School News

Kate McManus

Head of Middle School

In English, Year 5 have been using characterisation to develop their sentences. They have been focussing on using relative clauses in order to add detail to their writing. This literacy skill adds interest and maturity to their writing.

In Geography, Year 5 have been learning about how height is shown on maps. They have learnt to identify contour lines and spot heights, and to understand layered colouring. They have drawn some of their own contours and coloured them to show height. Year 6 have continued with their work on rivers. They have learnt that the river has three main sections: the upper, middle and lower courses, and how characteristics such as the width and speed of the river change as the river goes from source to mouth.

In Drama, Year 6 have been busy in rehearsals and this was the first week that no scripts were allowed on stage. All the children have done well remembering their lines and cues; they have been focussing on their characterisations and were very excited when some props were introduced. Year 5 have also been looking at scripts; in particular duologues (a script for two people).

## Upper School Pathways Evening

Thank you to everyone who attended the Upper School Pathways meeting on Thursday. We hope you found it useful. You can find the presentation slides here:

<https://firefly.edgegrove.com/communication/year-5-pathways>

## Year 6 Leaders

After lots of voting from both Year 5 and 6 our Year 6 leaders for the Spring term have been elected. We hope to see them setting the example expected of all Middle School pupils and being excellent role models to younger pupils. Unfortunately Emilio was away when the photo was taken!



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# MEET THE TEAM

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Mr Wooding, Year 4 form teacher & Head of Ignite

## Tell us a bit about yourself...

I started at Edge Grove three years ago, moving from a little school in the country just outside Brighton. I grew up in a tiny village in rural Oxfordshire and I loved school, I think I always knew I was going to teach! Before I became a teacher I worked in PR at BBC Worldwide for a couple of years but I wanted something more fulfilling! Whilst I decided what to do with the rest of my life, I went home to help run the family hotel. It was during this time that I remembered that I once had the bright idea to become a teacher and I haven't looked back since. The best thing about my job is that every day is different; there is no way of knowing which light bulbs you will turn on each day and it is genuinely thrilling to be involved in learning at every step.

## What do you do in your spare time?

In my spare time I enjoy cooking and have recently learnt to bake sourdough bread. I take great pleasure in feeding people and have won the Edge Grove Bake Off three times. I have taken up signwriting and many an afternoon has been spent painting signage for a friend's wedding, a supper club and even a bar in the Bahamas. If I'm not painting or cooking then I am usually reading; either Science Fiction or Fantasy with Terry Pratchett and Ian M. Banks being high up on my regular reads.

## If you had to be stuck in the Estates Yard with two colleagues who would you choose and why?

If I were to be stuck in the Estates Yard with two colleagues it would probably be Mr. Eglington (he could teach me how to keep a straight bat) and Chef John (we could muse on food!) but that is highly unlikely because I consider myself to be something of a Houdini and could most definitely find a way out.

## Who is your greatest inspiration?

Inspiration comes from Bertie Wooster, whose ability to view everything that happens around him with subtle humour, good grace and relentless positivity has been a guiding principle of mine.



**FRIENDS**  
OF EDGE GROVE

## QUIZ NIGHT

We enjoyed another fantastic Quiz Night on Friday 1st February. Thanks to Mr Wooding as quiz master, to the Friends of Edge Grove for organizing the whole event and the Dunsters for manning the bar. The hall was packed and everyone had a good laugh. Unfortunately a few people took a poor gambling decision on the final question and one team forgot to add in the dingbats (or so

they said!). Anyway, we have no doubt that the best team won. We're already looking forward to next year's!



# Upper School News

Anna Warren

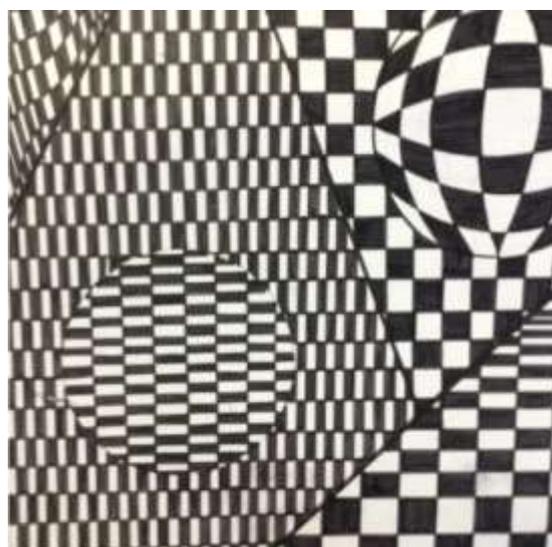
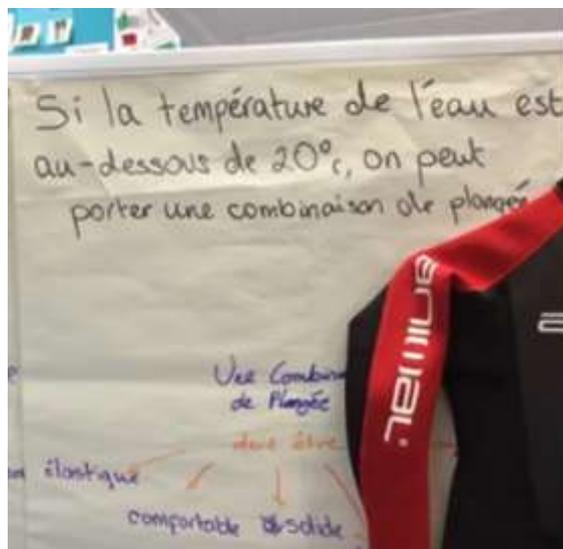
Head of Upper School

In our Upper School assembly this week, it was 7T's turn to present this week's guiding principle 'be a risk taker'. Each member of the form group had researched an example of a well known historical figure who had taken great risks in their careers and personal lives. This was linked to the idea of inspiration and creating small, personal goals.

A very daring example of risk taking I observed this week happened to be from three Year 8 pupils, Ritwik, Scarlett and Jensen who threw themselves into a rather unusual cross curricular project. Challenged to devise their very own wetsuit brand, this creative trio showcased their skills across a range of subject areas. In Science, they studied the chemical properties of neoprene; in Maths they developed and calculated a successful business model; in French they translated and composed an eloquent description of their design; and in Geography they investigated global sea temperatures. This culminated in an excellent Dragon's Den style presentation where their English and communication skills came to the fore: well done!

To address Safer Internet Day 2019, Mr Kay spoke to the Upper School about how to share information safely online. This is probably a good example of where taking risks should be moderated somewhat!

Thank you to the Upper School elective art group who showed me the intricate and hypnotic optical illusion designs they are currently working on!



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# LONDON MARATHON 2019

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## Runner of the week....

Mr Eglinton...

Welcome to my first training update, Oh what fun it has been!

Firstly many thanks to those people who have sponsored me so far. My target of £1000 is a way off yet but I am sure that I will get there, my two charities are very special indeed and I urge you to have a look at their pages which are accessible through my Virgin Money Giving homepage:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AlistairEglinton>



After a week spent mostly in bed suffering from Flu, I decided that yesterday I would attempt to get back on the training merry-go-round and went for a run. The 5:55am start was rather fresh but at least it was not too wet. I only managed to cover a short 6 miles before my coughing put an early end to my run. However, my short run on Sunday pushed my overall miles ran since I started training past 100 miles. The odd thing is that I am actually starting to enjoy it. For those of you who know me you will find this very strange - exercise and myself are not the best of friends and the most I normally run is the 22-yards from one end of the cricket wicket to the other and even that has slowed over the past few years. I fully intend to enjoy my day on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April and as such have set a time to finish at under 5:30 hours. For you seasoned marathoners out there (which there are many and thanks for the advice) this may seem slow but the most common piece of advice I have received is just to enjoy it and soak up the atmosphere. I hope to see as many of you as possible on race day and if anybody happens to be driving the streets of Bushey and Harrow at 6:00am on a Sunday morning feel free to give me a wave.

Again thank you so much to those people who have sponsored me, every penny makes a real difference to both the RNLI and the amazing people at Headlines.



## EDGE GROVE FUN RUN - SAVE THE DATE!

We will be holding a Fun Run on the afternoon of **Saturday 23rd March** (time tbc) to support our runners and raise money to help them reach their fundraising targets. Come along for a non-competitive run around the school grounds and to show your support!

If any parents are running the London Marathon this year please do let us know so we can grow this fantastic community of runners! Email [office@edgegrove.com](mailto:office@edgegrove.com)



## IN OTHER NEWS...

### Boarders Evening

The girls had a fab happy hour party at Lush on Friday making potions, being shown around the store and choosing a few items to take home at the end. We then all enjoyed dinner at Pizza Express and had ice cream on the way back to school.

We hope you see more of you at the next boarding activity night.





### Sports News

Follow Edge Grove Sport on Twitter  
[@EdgeGroveSport](https://twitter.com/EdgeGroveSport)

[Click for Match Reports](#)



Academic Commendations,  
Commendations and Golden Moments  
for the 1st-7th February

[Click for more details](#)



### MUSIC

Music lesson timetables will be updated on FireFly on Friday afternoons.

[Click for music lesson timetables](#)



### HOODIES

Once again the Friends of Edge Grove will be taking orders for you to buy hoodies for your child. There are lots of different styles and colours available so the FOEG team will be holding a Pop Up for you to view samples on **Wednesday 13th February** at the following times:

Pre Prep - 3.30pm

Headmaster's Courtyard - 4.00pm

Visit [Firefly](#) to see images of the various options and for an order form.

If you have any questions please email [friends@edgegrove.com](mailto:friends@edgegrove.com)

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# MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR PUDDY PRATT

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Tuesday 26th February



A memorial service for Puddy Pratt is being held on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm** should you wish to pay your respects.

Location: **St John the Baptist Church, Church Lane, Watford WD25 8BE**

Following the service, a reception with afternoon tea will be held at **Edge Grove School at 4pm.**

All are welcome. Please email [smaughan@edgegrove.com](mailto:smaughan@edgegrove.com) if you wish to attend so we can cater accordingly.

For those of you who don't know Puddy, she arrived at Edge Grove in 1946 as wife to the French master and later married the Headmaster, Jimmy Pratt. Puddy always lived in school accommodation at Gardener's Cottage (High Cross entrance to the school) and as school secretary and Headmaster's wife, was very involved at Edge Grove for many years. She will be missed.

THE EDGE GROVE SOCIETY  
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS YEAR'S

# EDGE GROVE GOLF DAY

FRIDAY, 24 MAY  
**2019**

**PORTERS PARK GOLF CLUB**  
SHENLEY HILL, RADLETT WD7 7AZ

**TEE OFF TIME**  
SHOTGUN START @ 9AM

**FORMAT**  
TEAM STABLEFORD

**COST PER PERSON**  
£85 OR (£35 FOR CURRENT PORTERS PARK MEMBERS)

**BOOKINGS, CALL**  
SUE - 07816 829223 OR LISA - 07502 044679

EDGE  GROVE  
SOCIETY

**This includes:** Green Fees · Welcome Breakfast roll and coffee on arrival · Complimentary gift pack at registration · Snack bar & bottle of water · Delicious 2- Course Carvery Lunch, with your first drink included · Entry to Putting competition & Prize giving · Prizes for overall team winners, trophy for highest individual score, longest drive, nearest the pin, longest day · Spot prizes

**Additional competitions and activities on the Day:** Raffle and Auction

**Keep  
Bean**

Coaching . Camps . Parties

**FEBRUARY**  
*Half Term*  
*camp*

AT

**EDGE GROVE**

with

**JOSH ROSE**

**Feb 18th - 22nd**

**OPENING HOURS**

**9.30 am to 3.30 pm**

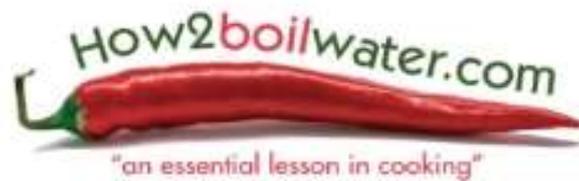
**(extended hours available)**

**PHONE**

**07798792590**

**EMAIL**

**egholidaycamp@yahoo.com**



## EASTER COOKERY CAMP

**Edge Grove School 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> April 9.30am – 3.30pm**

**Easter and chocolate go hand in hand so our Easter cookery camp involves decorating eggs, making chocolate lollipops, baking cakes and lots of chocolate tasting too!**

- Our camps include all ingredients and equipment, as well as a free recipe booklet.
- We have lots of tasting, snacks and drinks, foodie fun and games.
- Each child will have a 'hands on' cookery experience and go home with lots of treats to impress family and friends.
- The camps are structured to allow children of all abilities learn new skills and make new friends.

**Cookery Camps are open to children aged 7 – 14 yrs**

**Courses run from 9.30am – 3.30pm and costs £65 per child per day.**

**Extended hours option available from 8.30am – 5.00pm for small additional charge.**

**Bookings now open for the Summer holidays.**

**To book your place call us on 01442 876259**

**Email: [bookings@how2boilwater.com](mailto:bookings@how2boilwater.com)**



# WAR

**27TH APRIL 2019!**

WE ARE TAKING ON AN EPIC OBSTACLE COURSE RACE!

OVER 50 DIFFERENT OBSTACLES INCLUDING A ZIP LINE!

AN EXCITING EVENT VILLAGE WHICH INCLUDES, FOOD, DRINKS & GAMES.

RECEIVE A MEAN MEDAL AND LEAVE WITH AMAZING MEMORIES!

TACKLE THE RACE AS A TEAM, EXPERIENCE THE FUN TOGETHER.

**BOOK ONLINE USING DISCOUNT CODE**

**EDGE GROVE FOR 20% OFF**

5K EDGE GROVE WAVE AT 1PM

**WWW.THE-WAR.CO.UK**

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