



EDGE NEWS



@EdgeGrove



Edge Grove

Monday 4th February 2019

Dear Parents

For an Exeat weekend, it was certainly a busy one, especially for our very hardworking FoEG Committee. The quiz on Friday night, written and presented by Mr Wooding was another triumph. From the erudite quizmaster, to the delicious fish and chips and professionally run bar, the whole evening was great fun, despite yet another year when the teachers were unable to raise the trophy. My congratulations to the winning team and I suppose third place wasn't too bad? On Saturday, the FoEG team were still working their magic with our inaugural Chinese New Year celebrations. The event kicked off with a traditional Lion Dance which enthralled us all and other activities included a treasure hunt, craft tables, a presentation on the story of Chinese New Year and some delicious refreshments. My thanks to the parents who gave so much of their time in organising both these great social occasions and to everyone who supported them. We are extremely lucky at Edge Grove to have such a strong and cohesive community and it should not be taken for granted.

My abiding memories of last week are all music related and in particular, centred around the three informal pupil concerts which involved children from Reception to Upper School. Sitting in the audience and watching both the musical talent and confidence on all three occasions was something quite special. We had it all. The Reception pupils who were performing after just two lessons on their recorders, Lower School children with one or two years' practice, boys and girls singing solos with fantastic poise and some more accomplished musicians working at the higher grades. However, with every performance one could see the determination, hard work and dedication that is necessary when learning an instrument. I am particularly pleased that all children are given the opportunity to perform, in a relaxed and informal environment and in front of a friendly and understanding audience, which undoubtedly boosts their confidence, self-esteem and desire to practice and make progress. This, after all, is what education should be about. All too often in schools it is just the best and most proficient who are made the priority and given the opportunities. We will continue to ensure at Edge Grove, as with sport, drama and everything else, inclusive involvement is paramount and that experiences and opportunities are what make the school special and our pupils such confident and accomplished young people.

A busy week ahead with further parents' focus groups to discuss how we report pupil progress to you, Lower School parents' consultations, Year 5 pathways presentation, Flourish parents' workshop and on Sunday, we bid bon voyage to the Sri Lanka cricket and music tourists.

Best wishes

Ben Evans

CALENDAR

Tuesday 5th February

Pre Prep Concert and Coffee, pianists, Pre Prep Hall, 8.45-9.30am

Badminton and Squash v Lockers Park, U13 (A), 3.30pm

Lower School Parents' Evening, Theatre, from 4.45pm

Peripatetic Music Teachers Parents Evening, Chapel, from 4.00pm

Wednesday 6th February

Rugby v Kingshott, U13A, U11A, U11B (A), U12A, U10A, U10B, U10C (H)

Netball triangular v St Albans Prep and Orley Farm, U11, U10 (H)

Thursday 7th February

Rugby v Heath Mount, U9, U8 (H)

Netball v Heath Mount, U8, U9 (A)

2 Cedar Form assembly, parents invited to attend, Pre Prep Hall, 8.45am

Upper School Pathways Evening, year 5 parents by invitation, 6.00pm

Intermediate Maths Challenge, by invitation - formal uniform

Friday 8th February

Flourish parent workshop, Chapel, 8.45-11.00am

Badminton and Squash v Lockers Park, U11 (A), 3.30pm

11+ Assessment for external applicants for Year 7 entry in September 2019

Boarding Activity Evening (Years 5 to 8 Girls)

Saturday 9th February

Sri Lanka Cricket Touring Tem training, Sports Hall, 10.00am-12.00pm

Sunday 10th February

Sri Lanka Cricket and Music Tour departs

PUDDY PRATT

1915-2019

Last week we very sadly lost Puddy Pratt at the incredible age of 103. 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 embodied our culture of community and was adored by all. Details of Puddy's funeral service will be confirmed soon for those that would like to pay their respects.



Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson

Head of Pre Prep

As winter makes its presence felt we continue to explore associated themes. The Pre-School have created cold colour paintings and are learning all about light and dark; I was intrigued to hear Joshua tell his mummy all about sources of light as he made a Chinese paper lantern on Open Day. Year 1 have been learning about push and pull forces in Science and perhaps they had the opportunity to test their knowledge whilst sledging!? Our Action for Happiness Calendar is focusing on friendship this month. Each day we are inspired by a challenge and Friendship February will provide a focus for us all to be kind to each other; from just smiling at a stranger who helps us in a shop to paying a good friend or colleague a compliment, I hope that this will help to keep us warm whatever the weather.



Lower School News

Samantha Robinson
Head of Lower School

Year 3

What another busy week Year 3 have had this week! In Maths, the children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring fractions. They have learnt how to recognise fractions, compare fractions and find fractions of amounts. Why don't you ask your child if they would prefer one fifth of a pizza or $\frac{1}{4}$ of a pizza?

In English, Year 3 have continued to explore the work of Roald Dahl through *Fantastic Mr Fox*. They have written their own versions of the story such as 'Wonderful Mr Wolf' and 'Tremendous Mr Turtle', and had so much fun creating their own villainous farmers.

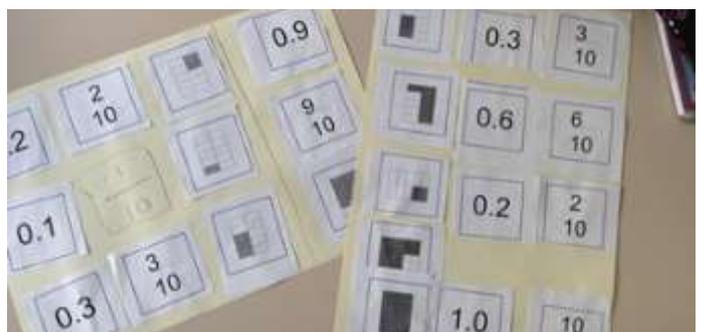
On Wednesday, we were delighted to welcome Mrs Shah (Tara's mum) who gave us a wonderful presentation about China and the Chinese New Year. The children were enthralled to learn so much about this exciting culture and showed off their new knowledge through a nail biting quiz during which most children managed to score full marks!

Year 4

Year 4's highlight of the week was the art trip to Tring Natural History Museum where the focus was to view 3D models of birds and draw several sketches from different angles. The children will be able to use their observations to make lifelike models over the next few weeks in art. Part of the visit had a science focus and each child attended a skeleton workshop which required them to use their knowledge of animals, plus an amount of curiosity, to work out which animal skeleton belonged to which animal. The hardest, and the one no one worked out, belonged to a hedgehog!

Fractions of quantities and equivalent fractions have been staple diet in Maths classes this week and in English, dialogue and description were the focus of the children's fantasy stories.

Thank you to 4T for a wonderful form assembly this week covering history as we know it. From the end of the Romans in Britain all the way through the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, it had lots of variety - acting, singing and a formidable quiz that tested everyone's English skills.



THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM AT TRING

Year 4 Trip

The Year 4 trip to the Natural History Museum at Tring was a resounding success! The children looked closely at the structure of birds and created pencil sketches of their favourite one which will be used for their next Art project. They looked at small British mammal skeletons and a very wide variety of animals that had been preserved by taxidermists. Thank you Walter Rothschild!



Middle School News

Kate McManus

Head of Middle School

In Maths, the children have been peer learning from one another using feedback from their 11+ assessments. This useful skill allows children to explore teaching and learning from each other and has been proven to aid retention of facts.

In Year 5 Blue with Mrs Nichols, pupils were applying their learning on rounding numbers including decimals to solve test-style questions. They worked independently to race to finish each question one at a time, all to the tune of Mission Impossible!

In French, Year 5 pupils have started a new exciting topic in French talking about which activities they enjoy in their free time. This week we focussed on some vocabulary about computers and mobiles in order to be able to describe what they do when they use the internet. We have also continued our work with French poems for our French Verse Festival. Year 6 will spend a few weeks enhancing their knowledge and understanding of adjectival agreement, possessive adjectives and the present tense of regular verbs in order to be able to talk about themselves and friendships.

This week in History, Year 5 have been looking at the key battle of the Civil War at Naseby where Cromwell's New Model Army, although outnumbered, defeated the King. His execution that followed allowed for some lively debates about whether it should have happened or not. Year 6 have been following Scott to the South Pole and back and have now found his diary and are recalling the events that lead to his, and the others, deaths.

In Art, the next phase of the Year 6 Angie Lewin project is to transfer their design onto acetate. The children are discovering that there is still quite a lot of freedom in the kinds of lines you can make with a sharpie.

In Computing, Year 5 have been looking at how spreadsheets work, and how to use functions to get information from them. They have also been looking at web-based artificial intelligence programs, whereby a system tries to guess what you are trying to draw!

In Technology, Year 6 are learning how to transform their fleece fibres into felt. It is rather a soapy process and the children's hands have never been cleaner! Their felts are coming along very well and when the felting process is over they will have some very good quality fabric with which to make their slippers.



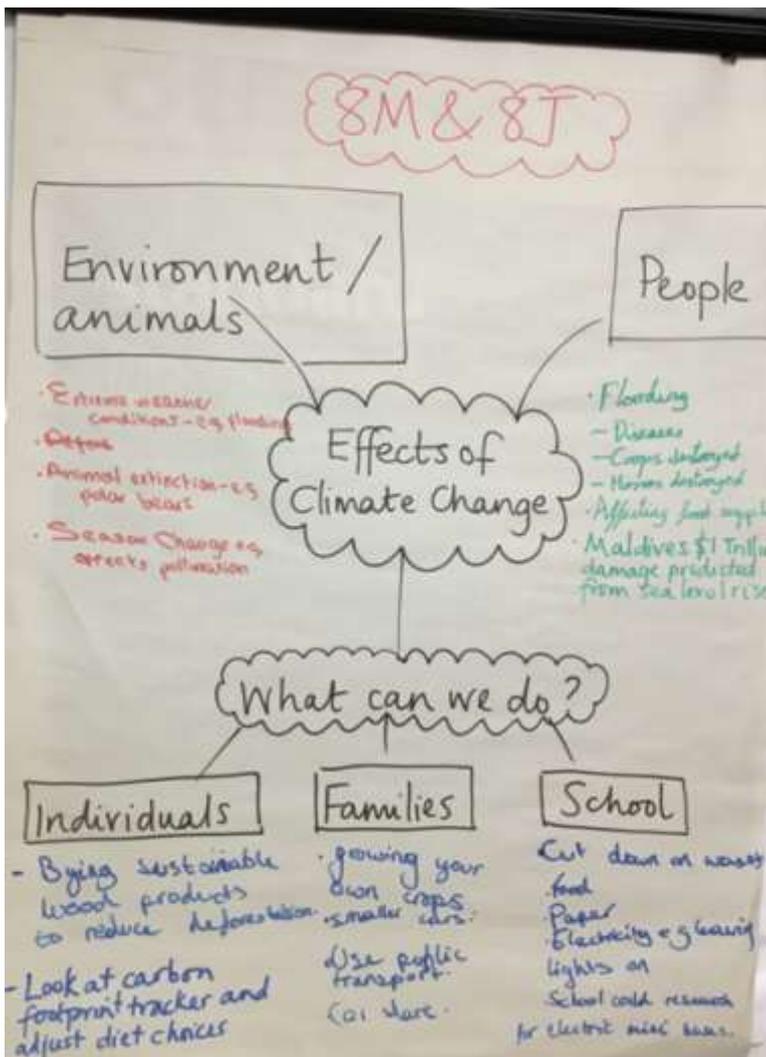
Upper School News

Anna Warren

Head of Upper School

This week started with an interesting discussion about listening in Year 7's 'Life Skills' current module of the Edge Grove Baccalaureate. Pupils started with thinking about the differences between hearing and listening. In pairs, they then role-played a range of scenarios, demonstrating variety and levels of listening, and reflected on how it felt to be on the receiving end of positive, active listening.

In their forms, pupils have been extending their debate on this and last week's guiding principle, focusing on the specific effects of climate change on the planet. 8J and 8M thought carefully about what as individuals, families and as a school we can practically do to make as many positive changes as possible. See their solutions below!



Flourish Parent Workshop

Pathways to independence

Friday 8th February 2019, 08.45 – 11.00am

£25 per person

Being able to think, act and learn independently are three of the most important skills children can learn.

Establishing habits that once imbedded help them to respond to life proactively and positively assists the development of young people who are able to take responsibility for their thoughts, feelings and actions. Encouraging them to be independent physically and emotionally builds confidence, resilience, self-esteem and the ability to form collaborative relationships.

Achieving independence needs to be managed, growing by degrees and this workshop offers the opportunity to explore topics that will assist you to support your child's pathway to independence:

- Executive function, the mental skills that help get things done
- Influences on the developing mind
- Perspective
- Beliefs: ages and stages
- Language of independence
- Emotional independence

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



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





Sports News

Follow Edge Grove Sport on Twitter
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[Click for Match Reports](#)



Academic Commendations,
Commendations and Golden Moments
for the 25th-31st January

[Click for more details](#)



MUSIC

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

[Click for music lesson timetables](#)

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.

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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