



# EDGE NEWS



@EdgeGrove



Edge Grove

Monday 11th March 2019

Dear Parents

There's a saying that very much struck me recently; "A goldfish will only grow to the size of the bowl it is confined to, whereas a fish in the ocean surrounded by space, freedom and the wonders of the natural world can grow to its full capacity." In a few words it sums up our rationale and aspirations for Forest School and the Edge Grove environment perfectly. We want our pupils to be able to explore, be creative, question, wonder and grow surrounded by open spaces and nature. Who doesn't?

However, research has identified that less than half of parents and grandparents take their children out for a regular walk with fewer still stopping to look at wildflowers or insects. We all know that studies have shown that an innate connection with the natural environment and green spaces can boost a child's concentration, calm them down, lessen aggression and irritability and improve academic performance. But there is a worrying catch; children under 11 will make a connection with nature which will stay with them for the rest of their lives. If they are not exposed by the age of 12, they will never make that link. For them, a walk through the countryside will mean nothing which is potentially disastrous for the future of the countryside. They will be the environmental policy makers of tomorrow and if green spaces have no value, they will do nothing to protect them.

Since the inclusion of Forest School in the curriculum at Edge Grove in 2013, we have been amazed at its impact; in children scientific knowledge, ability to explore and work collaboratively, willingness to take risks as well as in their general resilience and ecological understanding. Above all, the children love their time outdoors and in the 'forest', and for many, it's their favourite part of the day. See next page for evidence!

It is clear, however, that whilst schools have an important part to play in raising children's awareness of the natural world, it must also start at home. We may all struggle to get our children off their screens but a recent survey suggested that 86% of youngsters actually said they preferred getting muddy and making dens to computer games! As parents we have certainly become much more risk averse with our children than our parents were with us but there are things we can do. Instead of just walking, try to stop and look at things such as fungus on a tree, the fruit in the hedgerows or burrow in a pile of leaves. We want to celebrate and share in these walks with you at school and would welcome any manner of finds for our newly established nature tables - you may remember those from your school days?!

Rush hour concerts, Pre Prep parents' consultations, Baccalaureate E-Cube workshops, a visiting author, table tennis, archery and fixtures galore – this week has it all. My best wishes for an enjoyable one.

Ben Evans

## CALENDAR

### Tuesday 12th March

Governors Finance Committee, HM Study, 5-8.00pm  
Woodwind and Brass Showcase, Theatre, 6-7.00pm  
Pre Prep Parent Consultations, Pre Prep Hall, 5-8.00pm

### Wednesday 13th March

Years 3 and 4 Yoga and Dance Workshop, Sports Hall, 9.00am-3.30pm  
Rugby v Haileybury and Orley Farm at Haileybury, U13A, U12A, U13/12B (A)  
Rugby v St Columba's College, U11A, U11B, U11C, U11D (A) U10A, U10B, U10C, U10D (H)  
Netball U10A Haileybury Tournament (A)  
Netball v Aldenham U13, U11A (A)  
Netball v Broughton Manor, U11B, U11C (H)

### Thursday 14th March

Middle School Coffee Morning, North Dorm, 8.30am—  
cancelled  
Rugby v St Columba's College and Aldwickbury at St Columba's, U9 (A)  
Rugby v Orley Farm, U8 (A)  
Netball triangular v Beechwood Park and Belmont, U9 at Beechwood Park, U8 at Belmont (A)  
Table Tennis v Lockers Park, (H), 6.00pm  
Pre Prep Parent Consultations, Pre Prep Hall, 5-8.00pm

### Friday 15th March

3+ Assessment for prospective pupils (Pre-School closed all day)  
Year 8 E-Cube Workshop, Chapel, 8.30am  
Visiting Author, Anthony Wootten, Creative Writing Workshops, Middle School, Jubilee, 12.00-12.45pm  
Beechwood Park 7s, U11A, 1.00pm  
Orchestral Afternoon at Merchant Taylors' School, by invitation  
Exeat begins at 6.00pm, school closed

### Saturday 16th March

Exeat (school closed)  
Abbey bowmen/ Edge Grove Archery Tournament, Sandringham School, St Albans

### Sunday 17th March

Exeat (school closed) - Boarders return, 6.30pm

## The Great Outdoors at Edge Grove...



# “Friday Friends” Coffee Morning

We invite **ALL** parents from the school to come for a **FREE** cuppa and biscuit:

15<sup>th</sup> March, 3<sup>rd</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> June  
The Pavillion

(Park your car as usual and walk down the main driveway to the building off the main pitch)

It's a great way to meet other parents or catch up with friends.  
We are former members of FoEG trying to encourage  
community spirit amongst parents and families.



## Pre Prep Eco-Committee

Pre Prep held their first Eco-Committee meeting this week and undertook an audit of our current eco status. Our dedicated Pre Prep reps are:

Jasmine Peters  
Freddie Lloyd  
Thomas Evans  
Eva Viner  
Finlay Mehta  
Logan Cooper  
Ethan Trup  
Daniel Galliers  
Avi Shah

They told us all about why they wanted to become Eco-reps and the impressive things that they are already doing to help the environment.



## Family Fun Run

23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2.30pm  
Edge Grove Park

Come and help us support the Edge Grove Marathon runners. Join us for a family friendly 800m, 1.5km and 2km run, walk or hop. All abilities welcome (you can run the course several times if it's not enough for you!). There will also be a fun obstacle course for parents and tots.

All entries £5 and there's a medal for everyone. To register and pay visit <https://www.foeg.co.uk/events/family-fun-run/>. Please note, it is not necessary to tell us which race you wish to run in, you can decide on the day.

If you don't want to run come and cheer everyone on, have a coffee or an ice cream and just enjoy the atmosphere.

For enquiries email [friends@edgegrove.com](mailto:friends@edgegrove.com).

## Recycling News



Our Eco-Committee and chefs from Holroyd Howe sent off their first consignment of latex gloves for recycling this week.

We have also kicked off our crisp and toothpaste tube collections.

See below for details of the crisp scheme. We'll reveal details of other recycling schemes next week.



### THE CRISP PACKET RECYCLING SCHEME

#### ACCEPTED WASTE



Any brand of crisp packets

#### Waste that is NOT accepted:

- Popcorn bags
- Crisp tubes
- Pretzel bags
- Meat snack bags

#### Waste that is accepted:

- Any brand of crisp packets

Every year countless pieces of crisp packets end up in landfill sites across the UK. We are working with Terracycle and Walkers to put an end to this enormous loss of resources. The Crisp Packet Recycling Scheme means that your crisp packets are collected, then separated by plastic type, cleaned, and extruded into plastic pellets to make new recycled products. For more details go to [http://www.terracycle.co.uk/en-UK/about-terracycle/how\\_we\\_solve](http://www.terracycle.co.uk/en-UK/about-terracycle/how_we_solve)

So start your collection at home from friends and family. Bring them in and let us take the next steps of sending them off for recycling. The more we recycle the more money we raise for Edge Grove charities.

# Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson

Head of Pre Prep

What an exciting week! On Shrove Tuesday, frying pans at the ready, every pupil took part in a pancake race and after much dashing and flipping Sarnesfield were triumphant. World Book Day on Friday had a real focus on reading for pleasure. Pre Prep began their day by welcoming friends from the Prep school to share a much loved story and this was followed by a costume parade judged by Mr Evans and other members of the senior leadership team. We were also delighted to welcome parents in to school to share their childhood favourite stories. I particularly enjoyed receiving your photographs from the Extreme Reading Challenge and would like to thank you for entering in to the spirit of the theme and taking part with such enthusiasm. On Friday afternoon Year 1 delighted their audience with a performance of songs and poems centred around the theme of Spring; they had worked so hard and deserved the applause and appreciation they received. The Pre Prep hens, known affectionately as 'the girls' celebrated their first birthday and Mother Hen Mrs Doughty was very proud; I would like to take this opportunity to thank both staff, parents and pupils who give their time to care for them on a daily basis.



# Lower School News

Samantha Robinson

Head of Lower School

## Year 3

Year 3 have had another week filled with the excitement of dragons! In English, the children have been continuing to look for evidence and clues of the enigmatic Edge Grove dragon, following the discovery of the large bronze egg last week. They are beginning to become true dragonologists and have been collecting facts all about creatures such as the *Korean Yong*, the *Hydra* and, of course, the infamous *Radlett Ridgeback*!

During maths, Year 3 have been getting to grips with time; they have been making estimates and using stopwatches to time how long certain tasks take, as well as finding out the difference between am and pm and the 24-hour clock!

During topic this week, Year 3 became real historians, examining ancient Egyptian artefacts and asking interesting and pertinent historical questions. In science, they continued to investigate properties of materials, designing their own ways to test hardness, fragility, absorbency and many more!

The busy week culminated on Friday with some lovely World Book Day celebrations. The children were all so keen to share their stories with both the younger and older pupils! Later that afternoon, they were surprised by the announcement of Cross Country, and once the nerves and excitement and calmed down, all the children took part with real enthusiasm.

## Year 4

Another super week in Year 4 filled with enthusiasm and independent thinking. Tuesday's excitement was the inter-house Pancake race and Friday's highlights were World Book Day and the increasingly popular Inter-house Cross Country event in the afternoon. The children enjoyed being read to and sharing their stories in the morning and once they were told about the Cross Country, excitement (and a few nerves!) were rife. Well done to everyone for taking part with such enthusiasm! Maths this week focused on finding fractions of amounts and inequalities and English was full of limericks! They all enjoyed writing their own limericks and thought carefully about the patterns involved. In science, electrical appliances were investigated and sorted according to their source of electricity - battery or mains. During topic lessons, the seven continents of the world were explored in more detail and geographical knowledge was developed by looking at their locations in relation to the equator, and Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.



# Middle School News

Kate McManus

Head of Middle School

In Maths, 5 Red have been looking at pattern sequences and have been identifying the expressions used to answer each example. They have then been writing an expression that can be used to find the  $n$ th term. This valuable learning really puts the use of algebra into a context and gives it purpose. They practised what they had learnt with some really well matched activities on Mangahigh.

In French, Year 5 pupils have written beautiful replies to their French pen friends and are hoping to receive a reply before the Easter holidays. In class we are learning how to talk about sports and other free time activities and are busy learning how to conjugate the verb 'faire' in the present tense! Year 6 are learning how to name and describe clothes in French. Vive la mode!

In History, Year 5 have been looking at why accusations of witchcraft were so prominent during the civil war period and how 'guilty until proven innocent' caused the deaths of many unfortunate women! Year 6 on the other hand have been studying the Titanic disaster and then recording the series of errors that allowed so many people to drown!

In music this week pupils have been perfecting their songs and rehearsing choreography ready for the show. On Monday we had the Rush Hour Concert featuring several Middle School pupils and the Piano Showcase on Tuesday. All musicians played brilliantly.

In Art, Year 5s have their tiles which are now being biscuit fired. After this they will be starting on the glazing section of the project. I have been incredibly impressed by the standard of their work - both in the creativity of their designs and their skills.

In Technology, having finished the felting part of their project, Year 6 are now designing their pattern templates for the upper part of their shoes. They are cutting out their felt fabric with careful precision and are making their soles out of faux leather.



# Upper School News

Anna Warren

Head of Upper School

This week's guiding principle, Independent Thinking, was perfectly summed up by 7O in the Upper School assembly this week. In small groups, the children devised a number of scenarios, including peer pressure and career choices, depicting the importance of being an independent thinker. I was so impressed to see every pupil communicate their ideas so brilliantly. I look forward to 8J and 8M's assembly on *Be Prepared* next week.



In celebration of World Book Day 2019 and the theme of *Share a Story*, it was a joy to see our Upper School pupils read extracts of their favourite novels to children in the Middle School. It was a wonderful change from the usual dress up parade, and made me think that this is a worthwhile and enjoyable activity we should definitely consider holding on a more regular basis.



Well done to all our Cross Country runners who braved the wind and rain to race around our new track. I always enjoy seeing how much energy, enthusiasm and perseverance our children demonstrate!

And in the classrooms this week.....

Year 8 have been challenged in their French lessons this week to research and prepare a presentation about 'Le foot en France'. The pupils already had an impressive knowledge base on which they have built upon, and have concluded that the French premier league, 'Ligue 1' is dominated by Paris Saint Germain, and that the best French footballer of all time is Zinedine Zidane.

In Geography, Year 7 have been working on a case study of a new urban development. They have been looking at the Queen Elizabeth Park in East London, which is an interesting example of regeneration following the London Olympics. We have made good links to the recent assemblies Mr Evans did on carbon footprints, as the houses have a low carbon footprint and there are very few cars. We have also been linking our work to the Guiding Principle for this week, with pupils both researching independently, and thinking independently in their evaluation of the area's success economically, socially and environmentally.



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# LONDON MARATHON 2019

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## Runner of the week....

### Miss Bonnick...

Exactly 48 days today until the big day...I suppose if I was counting down for a holiday to a hot beach in Barbados I'd be complaining 48 days was too far away! But counting down to run 26.2 miles... I hope these 48 days take ages because that doesn't seem like long at all!!

It feels like a while ago since I've updated you all on my training programme. Things are going well and, touch wood, I haven't picked up another injury! I'm feeling a lot fitter and I am really enjoying my runs still.

The half term was spent running with different friends and around different parks, covering some like Woburn, Ashbourne, Hampstead and Whippendale Woods. The picture is of Hampstead Park - it was so beautiful and filled with deers, loads of greenery and the sun was shining! This was definitely one of my favourite runs in my training programme so far. I really enjoyed being able to run on grass and

around a wooded area instead of the same old dark dual carriage ways at 6pm after work. The change in scenery really does help. I covered runs between 13-15 miles over the half term and am very happy that I have now dropped one minute of my average mile pace, meaning I am getting just that bit quicker!

My Sunday run this week blew me away (literally)!! I decided to wake up a bit earlier so I could set off and get a feel for what race day morning will be like. I could hear the wind from the minute I woke up and had visions of me falling in the canal at Kings Langley or my hat blowing away, but I survived. I covered 17.5 miles of Kings Langley, Hemel, Apsley and Watford and all weather conditions were thrown at me. I ran through the wind, rain and then sunshine so I certainly hope I am ready for whatever the British weather may throw at me on race day! I was really impressed with this run. Once I found my momentum after the first dreaded 3 miles I enjoyed picking up the miles, feeling comfortable in my stride. I spent the rest of my Sunday aching and feeling rather tired, but reminding myself I just need to cover four more miles to hit my goal, and that doesn't seem much at all!

I have also nearly hit my fundraising target of £2000, which is incredible, with just under £1700! A massive thank you once again for all the families who have donated to me. I am now looking forward to our Edge Grove fun run on Saturday 23rd March which will further support the amazing charities that we are running for. Hopefully we will see a lot of you there!

Any more support is appreciated my donation link is below: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/NatalieBonnick/1>

## Family Fun Run

**Saturday 23rd March at 2pm**



Come and help us support the Edge Grove Marathon runners. Join us for a family friendly 800m, 1.5km and 2km run, walk or hop. All abilities welcome (you can run the course several times if it's not enough for you!). There will also be a fun obstacle course for parents and tots.

All entries £5 and there's a medal for everyone.

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# LONDON MARATHON 2019

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Welcome to the London Marathon team...

## Miss Thompson...

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Miss Thompson and I am the new Reception teacher in Beech class. I've recently started here at Edge Grove and I already feel like I've been here decades! Everyone – staff, parents and children - have been so welcoming and supportive. So supportive that I have been encouraged into writing this article!

So I too, along with Mr. Evans, Mr. Eglington and Miss Bonnick, have decided to run the London Marathon this April – crazy or not I'm just going to have a go. Despite beginning to get a little nervous about running 26.2 miles in just over 7 weeks' time, I am really excited for the challenge ahead and as my Father has always said, I will just do my best. Yes the training has been tough (my 'Gremlins' begin creeping up on my shoulders at around mile 15), yes I might have had a tiny tear once or twice. But I just keep saying to myself 'Come on girl, keep going'. A few, little words go a long way.

In addition to (hopefully!) achieving my own goal, I have chosen to run the London Marathon to raise money for a small charity called Waves. Waves support children in Kenya to achieve their own educational goals. It was set up by Malcolm and Margaret Savage as a memorial to their son Kerrigan, who lost his life whilst working in Kenya.

For further information on the marathon and if you would like to donate to my chosen charity, click on this link: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AoifeThompson>

## Waves' plans with the money raised:

This year, the sponsorship I raise will go towards the costs of the Kerrigan Cup Football Competition, the £2000 grant for environmental projects at poor schools throughout Kenya and the costs of ecology trips for over 1,000 children from the slums of Nairobi. It will cover the costs of sponsoring those Waves students who are without sponsors through secondary and further education and will cover full costs for those at University whose sponsors make a contribution towards the costs. The money I raise will really help to make a difference to disadvantaged Kenyan children.

Every child regardless of their background should be given the opportunity to have an education. It is an honour to be running this event for such a worthy cause. I appreciate anything you can give in order for Waves to carry on their fantastic work.

For more information about Waves you can visit their website: <https://www.wavetrust.org.uk/home.html>

Thank you so much in advance for your donations to Waves and also with your continuing support to me since I have begun working at Edge Grove – the positive vibes I feel as I (carefully) whizz around school every day will be with me on Race Day (Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April!!) too – I just know it.





### 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 28th February—7th March

[Click for more details](#)



### MUSIC

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

[Click for music lesson timetables](#)

### Sporting Success

Congratulations to Nathan T in Year 4 who has been selected to train with the Tottenham Hotspur Football Club U9 Elite Development Squad. Well done Nathan!



### Chiltern Open Air Museum

#### Launch Event:

On Saturday 30th March 10am-5pm, the Chiltern Open Air Museum (COAM) opens for the 2019 season. On this day in celebration of English Tourism Week they will be officially opening their completed WWI Nissen hut to the public! They are inviting you to join them for a special WWI living history event. See costumed re-enactors showing how the Tommies would relax on the home front and what weapons and kit they used when fighting. Nurse and chaplain re-enactors will also demonstrate how they supported the troops on the front line and back home.

We were delighted to collaborate with COAM last November on a WW1 centenary anniversary Partner Day. Following on from the day and the lovely art work the children created in school, we are excited to be able to display the commemorative poppies they produced at this special launch event.

For more information visit: <https://www.coam.org.uk/events/2019-opening-day/>





# ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

5 hour workshop

Nutrition

Movement pattern

S&C

Team work

Snack provided

Mon 8th Tues 9th April

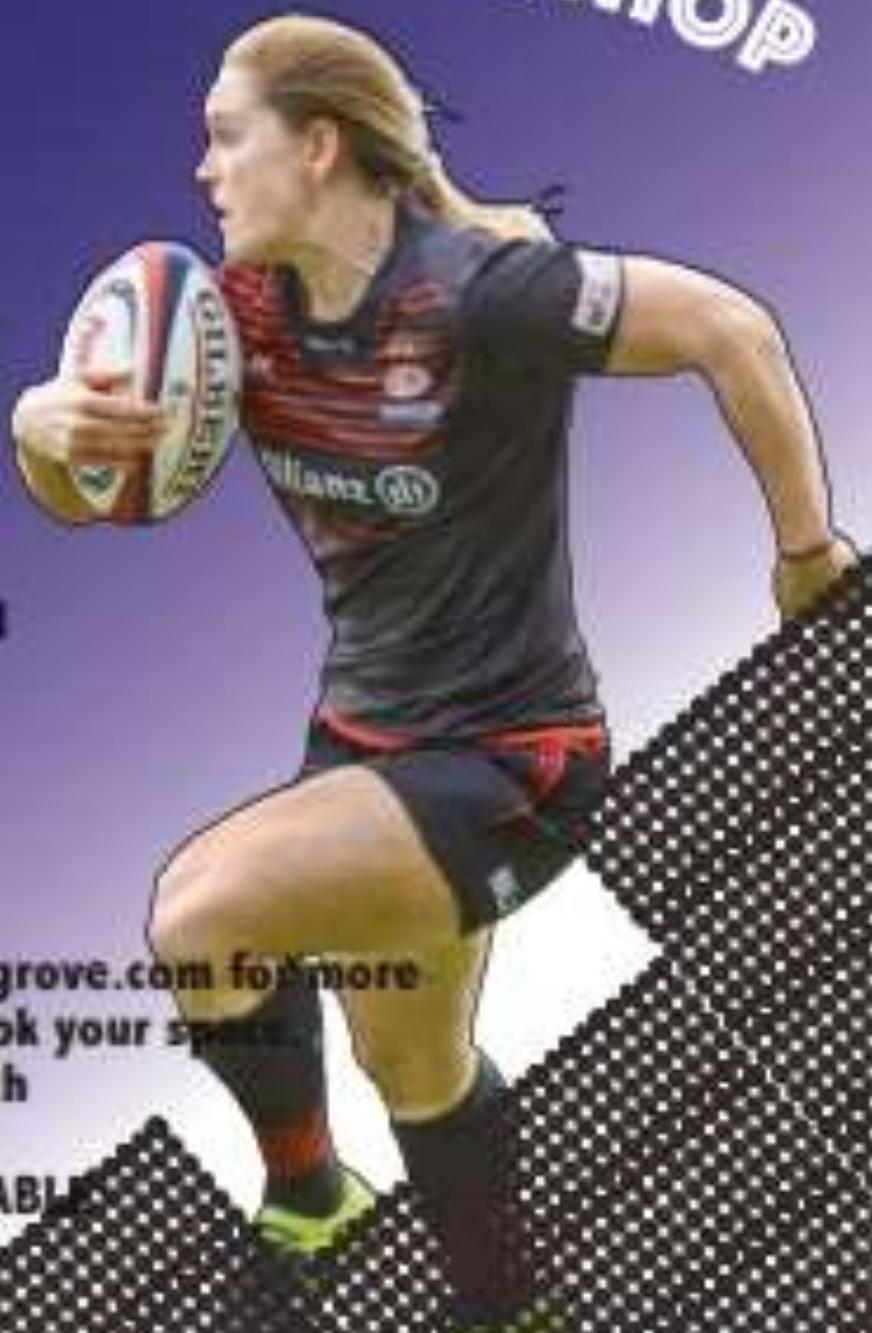
9am- 12:00

Years 4-8

£65

Contact [kevans@edgegrove.com](mailto:kevans@edgegrove.com) for more  
information and to book your space.  
Deadline Fri 15th March

**LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE**



EDGE  GROVE

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

**Keen Bean**  
Coaching . Camps . Parties

# EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP

AT  
**EDGE GROVE**

with  
**JOSH ROSE**

**8th - 12th April**  
&  
**15th - 18th April**

**OPENING HOURS**  
**9.30 am to 3.30 pm**  
(extended hours available)

**PHONE** **07798792590**  
**EMAIL** [egholidaycamp@yahoo.com](mailto:egholidaycamp@yahoo.com)

Open to Edge Grove children and their siblings

## PRICES AND TIMES

1 DAY	2 DAYS	3 DAYS	4 DAYS	5 DAYS
£32	£64	£89	£113	£129
Early Drop off		£4	(from 8:30am)	
Late Stay Pickup		£8	(till 5:30pm)	
Both		£10		

## CONTACT US AT

**PHONE** **07798792590**  
**EMAIL** [egholidaycamp@yahoo.com](mailto:egholidaycamp@yahoo.com)

Terms and conditions can be made available by request and are provided on booking

Come and let your children have some fun at Edge Grove this holiday with Josh Rose and his Keen Bean team!

This is a great opportunity for your children to take part in a safe and fun environment, with activities changing every hour and the chance to win prizes during the day.

## Multi Sports

ASSAULT COURSE  
DODGEBALL ARCHERY **CRICKET**  
BASKETBALL King Pin FOOTBALL  
Bungee Run Parachute Games  
GLADIATOR "BOUNCY CASTLE"  
Bowling Sumo Wrestling  
...and much more!

**Ages - Reception to Year 6**

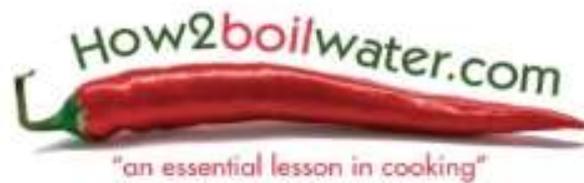
## Creative Workshop

Papercraft and Design  
Model Making Lego® Robotics  
Problem solving challenges

This is a chance for your child to engage in different creative, technical activities and challenges that are suited to their skill level.

Create wacky machines, solve physics puzzles and create papercraft models to take home.

**Ages - Year 2 to Year 6**



## 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 – 13 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 you 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**

WOODHALL ESTATE, WATTON-AT-STONE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SG14 3NW