



# EDGE NEWS



@EdgeGrove



Edge Grove

Monday 1st April 2019

Dear Parents

A different view from my usual one this week as I write to you from the fast train to Shanghai - the very fast train in fact, as we are currently travelling at 350 km per hour! It has been a very brief but fascinating trip to China and I will be back at school tomorrow morning having barely noticed the jet lag. I was invited to speak, as a prep school head, at two large events explaining the intricacies and enormous benefits of the UK independent school system which is admired and in much demand by the Chinese. It was also very gratifying to be able to share the Edge Grove approach with a wider audience and to know that some of those present had already heard of us! We are particularly fortunate to have a full pupil roll and do not need to recruit from overseas, but many prep and senior schools rely on international boarding pupils from around the world to remain solvent. However, having worked overseas myself, I also understand the tremendous benefit of having an international outlook and global perspective which comes with a diverse pupil body; particularly relevant in the rapidly changing world of the 21st century.

As an educationalist, visiting schools is almost a hobby (much to Alex's bemusement) so today's trip to the Walton International School in XuZhou was an absolute pleasure. A young school only five years old, bi-lingual and also offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma, it has grown rapidly and currently has 1,700 pupils of whom 90% are boarders. During my visit, despite the obvious differences between them and Edge Grove, I was also able to spot a number of similarities in our approaches to teaching and learning. They are keen to move away from the traditional didactic methods (in classes of 50 or 60 pupils!) and aim for more collaborative learning, critical thinking and independence of thought. They were, of course, very interested in our own unique Behaviours for Learning and the Edge Grove Baccalaureate. I hope very much that we will be able to establish a cultural exchange in the future and I know that the Principal is keen to visit us soon and see for himself the benefits of our distinctive philosophy.

The spring term is nearly at an end and very soon the rugby and netball posts will be replaced with carefully manicured cricket wickets. I would like to wish everyone performing in the Ensembles Concert tonight good luck and apologies for my absence. I am, however, looking forward to

## CALENDAR

### Tuesday 2nd April

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

Governors Board Meeting, W1, 5.00-8.00pm

Middle School Play, 6CD & 5CE, Theatre, 6.30pm

### Wednesday 3rd April

Athletics team time trials at Westminster Lodge, Years 5 to 8, 2.00pm

Middle School Play, 6LM & 5DN, Theatre, 6.30pm

### Thursday 4th April

Swimming team time trials at Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls, Years 5-8, 9.00am

Swimming team time trials at Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls, Years 3 and 4, 2.00pm

Middle School Play, 6CT & 5EM, Theatre, 6.30pm

### Friday 5th April

#### End of Term:

Pre Prep and Lower School: 12.00pm

Middle and Upper School: 12.30pm

(Older siblings may be collected at the time of their younger brothers and sisters, details will be published in the Information Letter)

### Saturday 6th April

Ski trip to La Thuile departs (returns Sunday 14th April)

### Sunday 7th April

#### Holiday Time

Keen Bean Holiday Camp 8th-12th & 15th-18th April

watching the performances of Rock Bottom this week, which I have no doubt will be great fun and a huge success. Alex and I would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter and send our best wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable holiday.

Best wishes

Ben Evans

# Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson

Head of Pre Prep

Sometimes it's the simple things that bring the most joy and this was certainly the case when Year 2 visited the Dunstable Downs. Together we flew kites, sketched and painted the wonderful views, spotted birds and watched gliders searching for thermals. We also rolled oranges down hills which is an Easter tradition unique to this area; the oranges replacing eggs which is perhaps a more common practice but just as much fun! The spring sunshine certainly helped as did the wonderful company of the children who were in their element. It was a testimony to the ethos of Edge Grove that they know how to be purposeful outdoors without constant intervention from an adult. Back at school Rowan performed for their parents in a Roald Dahl inspired Form assembly which entertained and informed us all.



# Lower School News

Samantha Robinson

Head of Lower School

## Year 3

Another fantastic week for Year 3, who were treated to a visit from Joseph Coelho to help inspire them with their poetry - why not ask your child which poem they enjoyed the most. This followed on nicely from English where they were exploring the effective language used in poetry and how the same poem can have different meanings depending on who reads it. In Maths, children continued to use their knowledge of the four operations to solve Easter problems. Children expanded on their skills for using Google Slides in Science, and created presentations about different materials and their uses in everyday life.

## Year 4

A fun and exciting penultimate week before the Easter holiday for Year 4. Thursday began with a wonderful assembly from 3C. The children then had a workshop with Joseph Coelho, which was exceptional and the children thoroughly enjoyed his poetry, ideas and clever ways to remember words like onomatopoeia - ask your child! Science this week explored the use of switches and the different types that the children may find. The children then investigated how to make their own switches using paper clips and split pins. In Topic, the areas of Bentota in Sri Lanka and Brighton have been compared and contrasted, with focus on the varying physical and human geography.



# Middle School News

Kate McManus

Head of Middle School

In English, Year 6 have spent this week debating in preparation for a piece of discursive writing. The topic of the debate was on the book studied this term, Phillip Pullmans' *Clockwork*, and whether or not (spoiler alert!) Karl deserved to die. The classes combined for this debate and this gave the pupils a chance to work with others from different sets and share ideas. The debates themselves were extremely interesting and some very good points were raised, all of which the children can discuss in their writing later this week.

In Science, Year 5 have been learning about satellites this week and finding out how multiple satellites work together to give your position for GPS. They have also been reviewing the topic. Year 6 have been finding out about antagonistic muscles and their pairs.

In Geography, Year 5 are designing their branding for their Map Snap game, and will get the opportunity to play their games in class, to practise their map skills. The games can also be used to play a matching pairs memory game. They have done really well to learn about grid references, map symbols, and contour lines, and it would be great if they could practise these skills if you are travelling anywhere in the holidays! Year 6 are continuing with their research on a major world river, and using all the vocabulary they have learnt this term whilst doing this (source, mouth, drainage basin, erosion, waterfalls, meanders...).

In RS, Year 5 pupils are continuing their exploration of the Jewish faith this week looking at the significance of a Jewish Wedding. This involves learning new keywords and highlighting the differences between weddings in other religions. Year 6 have been investigating the meaning of miracles, in particular Jesus and the feeding of the 5000, in order to also establish the concept of sharing in order to benefit others.

In Drama, the time has nearly come for the most eagerly anticipated show of the year! We have been busy in rehearsals and on Thursday the children performed in their costumes which

was a great boost for them. On Friday we had the technical rehearsal in which we worked on lighting and prop movement with the Year 8 Ignite Drama pupils. Today is the dress rehearsal where they will perform to each other and their siblings. I have been very proud of all the children and cannot wait for their performances and perhaps soon I will stop waking up singing the songs!

In PE, Year 5 and 6 have now moved on to Orienteering. We are lucky to be able to use Edge Grove park for our lessons and have been having fun learning new skills and techniques used when orienteering.

And finally in PHSE, within the Going for Goals unit, the children have been learning about planning goals. In this exercise they had to teach a skill to one another. They had to break down their chosen skill into small steps and then



# Upper School News

Anna Warren

Head of Upper School

## Discernment

Do you have a keen eye and a discerning mind? In this age of fake news, the ability to think in a discerning way has never been so important. My thanks to 8K for hosting a very well prepared assembly on this week's guiding principle, focusing on the news stories that we often see on social media platforms. In addition, Mr Kay provided a number of visual challenges throughout the assembly which really did test our skills of discernment!

## Edge Grove Baccalaureate

Year 7 made the most of Monday's beautiful sunshine on site at Phasel's Wood Scout Camp, where in teams the pupils enjoyed a host of team building challenges. As part of the outdoor learning module of the Edge Grove Baccalaureate, this was another excellent opportunity for the children to employ their skills of leadership, creative thinking and collaboration. Some of the tasks really did test their tolerance and levels of patience too! The children then embarked on an hour's abseiling activities. For some of our pupils, this was a challenging task requiring them to be confident and take a few risks outside their comfort zone. Well done to everyone for participating, and motivating and encouraging each other so positively.



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# SARACENS COACHING SESSION

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Years 3-6 girls and Year 7 boys were treated to a world class training session with Saracens Rugby Club on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March. The coaching squad, including England Rugby players Sarah McKenna, Hannah Botterman and Poppy Cleall, put our young players through their paces with sessions on agility, tackling, passing and team work. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were able to show off their skills. It was great to see so much enthusiasm and smiles all round! Thank you to Miss Evans for organising the session.



**SARACENS**





# 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



### 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 22nd-28th March

[Click for more details](#)



### MUSIC

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

[Click for music lesson timetables](#)

## Warhammer World Semi Finals

Well done to Etienne, Aman, Syon and Felix who competed in the Semi Finals of the Warhammer World competition on Wednesday 27th March. The boys lost each game, but the points from winning only account for a third of the total amount. The first third comes from modelling and painting, whereas the final third comes from sportsmanship, team work and best game votes. We must have had quite a few points from both as our final position for the day was 10<sup>th</sup>! So out of the 17 schools that attended the day, and just over 90 people, our Edge Grove team did very well to come 10<sup>th</sup>. There are two more Semi Final days left, and it's the top 20 or so teams that go through so it's a slim chance of making it to the finals, but it's still a chance...we will hear back from the school league organizers on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April if we make it through so we all have our fingers crossed! Mr Crowther, who took the boys to the competition, commented on how it was such a pleasure to take the boys; they were all excellently well behaved all day and represented the school extremely well. One of the organizers even relayed to him that she was very impressed by how polite they were! It was a good day overall, with lots of games, models, rulers and of course dice! Well done boys!



## Flourish Parent Workshop

# Supporting personal growth and development

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 0845 – 1100  
£25 per person

Just as children grow physically, they grow emotionally and intellectually, developing a deeper understanding of themselves and their interaction with the wider world. They can improve their ability to understand, analyse and think for themselves at every stage of their individual growth and development.

The life long process of cognitive and emotional growth is underpinned by:

- Emotional development
- Intellectual development
- Social development
- Moral development

Join us to explore these key developmental areas and how you can positively contribute to your child's passage from child to teen, teen to adult...

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

# “Friday Friends” Coffee Morning

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

3<sup>rd</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> June  
The Pavilion

(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.

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

We are running two new and exciting cookery experiences for young people this Easter, based in Gino's Kitchen.

### IT'S ALL ABOUT CHOCOLATE!

TUESDAY 9th April

- Recipes to make and take home will be **Meringue Nests**, **Chocolate and Mini Egg Mousse**, **Chocolate Coconut Pyramids**
- Fun holiday activity from 9.30am - 3.30pm (extended hours option available)
- **Cookery Day for children from 7 - 13yrs** £65 per child

### THE GREAT BAKING DAY!

WEDNESDAY 10th April

- **Make and bake different cakes and cupcakes, choosing different ingredients to flavour them.**
- Whip up **frosting and pipe swirls**, rosettes and patterns of your choice
- **Learn how to make fondant flowers and bunnies and create your own little showstoppers**
- Fun holiday activity from 9.30am - 3.30pm (extended hours option available)
- **Cookery Day for children from 7 - 13yrs** £65 per child

To book a place, go to our website [www.how2boilwater.com](http://www.how2boilwater.com) or

email [bookings@how2boilwater.com](mailto:bookings@how2boilwater.com) or call 01442 876259





# 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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