



EDGE NEWS



@EdgeGrove



Edge Grove

Monday 23rd September 2019

Autumn Term - Week 4



Dear Parents

Term is most definitely in full swing and I think this must have been one of the busiest and most purposeful starts to the school year that I can remember. The children of all ages have settled quickly and my visits to classrooms show high quality learning and excellent levels of determination and endeavour. I have been extremely impressed with our sports teams too and it was great to see how excited Lower School pupils were this week with the start of their competitive fixture season. At all levels children have represented the school superbly; behaving impeccably and being polite and respectful. This is all I can ask but I am also pleased to report that they have been very successful too against some strong opposition. It was great to see that the year 4 boys also took it upon themselves to collect and recycle the crisp packets from their match tea at Lochinver – independent and eco-aware! Another great pupil-led initiative from our eco-committee worth mentioning is the break time fruit stall which was launched this week. All fruit costs 50 pence and profits will go to environmental projects around the school.

One of the great joys of my job is being able to walk around the school site and see the learning which is happening everywhere, be it in the classroom, sports hall, swimming pool or Forest School. I was slightly concerned on Tuesday morning with the swirls of smoke coming from just off the Colts' Lawn and thought I should investigate. It was, of course, a Forest School session in full swing and a year 4 class were busily making natural dyes from sage, turmeric and beetroot and boiling their mixtures up along with vinegar and nails with excellent results. Investigative and creative science at its best! At Edge Grove we work hard to provide a distinctive and innovative curriculum and ensure that our children are provided with exciting and stimulating learning opportunities. Our recently introduced world languages programme, the Edge Grove Baccalaureate, engineering and Flourish are all examples of our forward thinking approach based on sound education research.

We introduced Forest School onto the curriculum seven years ago, ahead of many schools, as we could easily see the tremendous benefits it would bring to our pupils. It is now well recognized, and recently endorsed in a study by Loughborough University, that Forest School

CALENDAR

For fixture information see the Information Letter

Tuesday 24th September

U13 Squash and Badminton v Lockers Park
 Future Schools Pathways Evening for current Year 6 parents, Theatre, 6.00pm

Wednesday 25th September

Reception CREW workshop, Pre Prep Hall, 9.00am
 Football Festival at Haileybury
 Football v St. Martin's
 Hockey v Orley Farm School
 U12 Girls' Swimming Gala v Westbrook Hay
 U11 IAPS Hockey Tournament, St. Edwards, Oxford

Thursday 26th September

Pre-School individual and sibling photos AM - *formal winter uniform*
 U9 Football v St. Martin's
 U9 Girls' Swimming Gala v Westbrook Hay

Friday 27th September

Macmillan Coffee Morning
 Upper School Rush Hour Concert, Theatre, 4.30pm

Saturday 28th September

Open Morning for prospective parents, 9.30am-1.00pm,
 Years 6-8 - *formal winter uniform*

Sunday 29th September

Monday 30th September

Years 4-8 Swimming Gala v Beechwood Park

gives children the opportunity to learn important skills such as resilience and independence. We see this all the time along with children working closely with their peers to achieve common goals helping them to strengthen friendships and learn to apply social skills like negotiation, conflict resolution and diplomacy. It goes without saying that children flourish in the outdoors and are so well placed to develop their understanding of science, nature and the environment. Our forest school 'classrooms' have grown over the years and now in addition to the woodland areas also encompass the Pre Prep wildlife garden and Edge Grove Park – the site for our future wildflower meadow.



As a school we will continue to be innovative, forward-thinking and leaders in prep school education to ensure Edge Grove pupils are provided with the best possible opportunities and advantages.

My best wishes to everyone for a great week ahead.

Ben Evans



WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU

Friday
27th Sept

Families & Friends of Edge Grove
You are warmly INVITED
To our **MACMILLAN**
coffee afternoon & cake sale!



Friday 27th September 2019
In the Dining Room
3:00 – 5:30 pm

All baked (or bought) **donations**
will be very **gratefully received!**
There will be **PRIZES** for the **BEST!**



Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson

Head of Pre Prep

They say that home is where the heart is and that is one of the reasons that we start the year with an 'All About Me' topic in Reception and Pre School. Enabling environments encourage the children to create and build homes of all different shapes and sizes and role play familiar routines. Whether building a cave for the Gruffalo or a house for their own family, being side by side the children as they engage in their learning also gives us the opportunity to tune in to the language being used which tells us so much when planning next steps. Being able to sequence a story is essential for the development of both reading and writing. The Might Writer board in the Pre Prep hall is an exciting and stimulating teaching tool which encourages pupils to build stories using picture clues and prompts; these include stars to indicate that we need an adjective, whirls to introduce a verb and emojis to indicate how a character might be feeling. Without the expectation to read or write, pupils are free to use their imagination, extend vocabulary and review and evaluate their ideas as the story develops. Pirates, mermaids and treasure seem to be a popular theme but we can also make prompt cards linked to familiar texts and those being studied in class and this enables pupils of all ages and stages to benefit from this valuable resource.



Lower School News

Samantha Robinson

Head of Lower School

Year 3

Another busy week in year 3 and the children are enjoying the new routines and timetable in the Lower School. Narrative poetry has been explored in English and the children have enjoyed creating their own versions of *A Sea Creature Ate Our Teacher*. Maths this week has focused on comparing numbers and of course, the excitement of the times tables tests has begun with the children practising a more rapid recall of their tables knowledge. In science, the vocabulary of transparent, translucent and opaque were discussed, looking at different object examples and in topic, the children created a Diamond 9 of the major prehistoric achievements, ordering them from most to least important.

Year 4

Year 4 have hardly had a moment to rest this week; not only have they been deepening their understanding of place value but they have also been extending their learning of the Roman numerical system. In English the children began to explore Fables by evaluating the characters and common features that run throughout this form of narrative. Our year 4 scientists have been digging deeper into classification of animals touching briefly on Linnaean classification and working towards creating their own classification keys. In Geography the children created balloon globes upon which they placed and plotted key geographical parallels as well as the Prime Meridian that runs through Greenwich.



Middle School News

Kate McManus

Head of Middle School

In Geography, year 5 have just started to explore their locality with regards to recognising the countries of the United Kingdom on a map. We will be exploring the physical geography of the British Isles next week and we will start familiarising ourselves with the atlas so if you have one at home it is never too early to start looking. There has been a lot of discussion about the three realms of geography and I am sure they are keen to tell you all what they are.

Understanding geography is essentially understanding our world.

Year 6 are now delving into their first topic, raging rivers. They have produced excellent diagrams showing the hydrological cycle and all the different ways water flows through earth (including through ourselves). Some were a little alarmed to discover tap water is recycled water through our sewage network rather than fresh from the mountains!

In History, year 5 continue to work on the wives of Henry VIII and thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Hampton Court where they met Queen Elizabeth I! Year 6 meanwhile have been finalising their opening pages to the 20th century with pictures being wide ranging and spanning the entire period.

Year Blue maths are continuing to focus on place value. Pupils had fun rolling dice to make their own decimals numbers, and then ordering them from biggest to smallest. In year 5 Red maths we have been continuing with place value skills practising converting fractions to decimals and vice versa. We have also practiced converting metric measurements. Children enjoyed thinking and discussing which units would be used to measure various objects. Continuing on the theme of place value, year 6 started the week creating their own conversion diagrams to transfer from one metric unit to another. They then used these skills in problem solving scenarios involving adding measurements given in different units. Towards the end of the week, we have looked at time, converting to and from 24hr clock and we discussed why we can't use

base 10 to calculate time differences.

In English, Mrs Nichols' class showed excellent teamwork skills when racing to sequence the main events in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*! It was trickier than we thought to place some of the events on the timeline, but we managed it!

In Science, year 5 have already completed their first topic of the criteria of living things. They learned the 7 characteristics that all living things show and have had the opportunity to touch and explore real fossils. They are now starting to explore the heart and circulation.

Year 6 have been learning about flowing plants and how they reproduce. They have looked at the parts and functions of the flowers and have started to make google slides explaining the pollination and fertilisation process.

Upper School News

Anna Warren

Head of Upper School

Upper School Enrichment Lecture

With thousands of people on the streets in the UK today protesting against global climate change, Friday's enrichment lecture was very timely. Wildlife conservationist and documentary film-maker Fergus Beeley returned to Edge Grove to share with the Upper School his wide-ranging global experiences, including working with David Attenborough on Planet Earth and The Life of Birds. His message was very clear: every small action we can take to protect even the smallest and most vulnerable wild creatures and insects, from mosquitoes to hedgehogs, has a direct influence upon ecosystems and in turn upon the climate.



Creative Arts

Year 7 and 8 have been completing their baseline assessment for this term. They have revisited the skills of observation, line drawing and tonal shading. I have been very impressed indeed by the progress they have made since their last assessment. They are all very excited about starting our Mexican Day of the Dead project next week. As am I!

Diana Evans, Head of Art



FLOURISH PARENT WORKSHOP

An interactive, strategy-focused approach

Building resilience, boosting wellbeing

Friday 11th October
8.45am-11.00am
£25 per person

The World Health organisation defines wellbeing as “the state in which an individual realises his or her own abilities, can cope with normal stresses of life, can work productively, and is able to make a contribution to his or her own community”.

We all want children to be happy and able to cope with the ups and downs of life and whilst we cannot always protect them from pressures and troubles we are able to help them develop skills and strategies to support them. Resilience can be built and developed and is closely wellbeing; children with a sense of resilience are more able to approach situations and relationships with confidence and optimism and tend to have a positive self-image and good self-esteem.

The passage from child to adult brings constant change. Assisting children to understand what resilience is and how they are able to develop this life skill will underpin their wellbeing now and for life. Join us at this workshop to explore:

- The link between resilience and wellbeing
- Emotional resilience
- What impacts resilience
- Fostering independence
- The link between wellbeing and improved learning and achievement



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



Sports News and Match Reports

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

[Click here for match reports](#)



Academic Commendations, Commendations and Golden Moments

[Click here for this week's awards](#)



MUSIC

Music lesson timetables will be updated on The Source on Friday afternoons.

[Click for music lesson timetables](#)

LAMDA EXAMS

Well done to our pupils who achieved their highest ever set of results at the recent LAMDA exams, with many of them achieving distinction, the highest possible grade!



MUSIC

During the summer holidays, Felix (one of our Chamber choir members) attended the outstanding National Youth Choir of Great Britain residential course at Tudor Hall School. He performed in a very prestigious concert at Birmingham University on the theme of Discovery. *'It was an outstanding concert with a huge amount of talent all round.'* Quote from National Youth choir website. It was a great experience for him, and the concert at the end of the week was superb. What a fantastic way to spend your summer Felix!



BOARDING NEWS

The adventures of Boarding at Edge Grove

The boarders have had a number of fun-filled evenings this week. We started off with cupcake making on Monday. Huge congratulations to the year 7 & 8 boys who managed to almost back the icing instead of the cake! On Tuesday the boarders enjoyed a Pool Party in the evening sunshine. On Wednesday we had a very intense Table Tennis Tournament with a large variety of boarders taking part. Congratulations to Declan who won! On Thursday we had Miss Bonnick and Miss Strike visit us for the evening from Nursery, they were lucky enough to witness a great Football Fantasy evening with Miss Bonnick even scoring a goal! Due to a number of team changes it was impossible to keep score as everyone was having too much fun. We look forward to another busy week next week!



BOARDING ACTIVITIES

Autumn 2019

Week 3

Mon 16 Sept Cupcake Making
Tue 17 Sept Pool Party
Wed 18 Sept Table Tennis Tournament
Thu 19 Sept Football Festival
Fri 20 Sept Exeat

Week 5

Sun 22 Sept Pizza Night
Mon 23 Sept Adventure Playground
Tue 24 Sept Top Golf
Wed 25 Sept Fifa in SH
Thu 26 Sept Dodgeball Tournament
Fri 27 Sept Chill with a film

Week 7

Sun 13 Oct Cookie Night
Mon 14 Oct Chill Out Night
Tue 15 Oct Halloween Shopping
Wed 16 Oct Pumpkin Carving
Thu 17 Oct Halloween Party
Fri 17 Oct Half Term

For further information regarding the evening activities, please contact

Miss Hughes on
nhughes@edgegrove.com

Week 4

Sun 29 Sept Film & popcorn
Mon 30 Sept Monopoly
Tue 1 Oct Film Night
Wed 2 Oct Badminton Tournament
Thu 3 Oct Shaketastic
Fri 4 Oct Bushcraft

Week 6

Sun 6 Oct Chinese Takeaway
Mon 7 Oct Fifa/ Wii Tournament
Tue 8 Oct Tuck Shopping Trip
Wed 9 Oct Tuck and Chill
Thu 10 Oct Treasure Hunt
Fri 11 Oct Card Games/ Comics

Friday Activity Nights:

Friday 4th October- Bushcraft
Friday 15th November- Inflatables
Friday 6th December- Christmas Party



A WORLD LANGUAGES EXPERIENCE AT EDGE GROVE

“Our vision is to nourish and foster children's natural curiosity for languages.”

Edge Grove delivers excellent French and Latin provision and this has been confirmed by the outstanding results over the years. We are now going to enhance language learning and promote cross-curricular links by introducing a carousel of languages. This will develop children's linguistic skills with particular attention to their auditory skills and their vocal system. Pupils will also learn to value and respect other cultures as well as develop a greater appreciation of their own traditions.



Children naturally develop their knowledge of languages through listening and speaking; by exposing our pupils to a variety of languages we will improve their natural ability to reproduce new sounds and master new languages.

From year 3 onwards we will focus on Romance (Latin based) languages which will provide a good foundation for pupils' further learning of English, French and Latin at Edge Grove and other foreign languages in the longer term.

In the Middle and Upper School we will narrow our focus to French and Latin to ensure pupils are well prepared for Common Entrance and other senior school entrance exams. Pupils will take French from year 5 to year 8 and Latin from year 6 to year 8.

Carousel of Languages:

	Autumn Term	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term
Nursery	Mandarin	Mandarin	Arabic	Arabic
Reception	Portuguese	Portuguese	Russian	Russian
Year 1	Welsh	Welsh	Korean	Korean
Year 2	German	German	Japanese	Japanese
Year 3	Italian	Italian	Italian	Italian
Year 4	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish	Spanish



We want our pupils to become language detectives and investigators!

We will be encouraging pupils to:

- Look for patterns in pronunciation, intonation, verbal and non-verbal communication, and grammar
- Take an educated guess at the meaning of words
- Be risk-takers and have a go at using new words and new structures
- Investigate the connection between language and culture



SUMMER PHOTO CHALLENGE

Last call for photos!

Did you have an HISTORICAL summer? If so, I would like to create a photo board of where you visited with a caption of what you did or learned. Photos can be emailed or brought in to school.

Deadline: Friday 27th September.

I look forward to the results!

E-mail to: pwickens@edgegrove.com

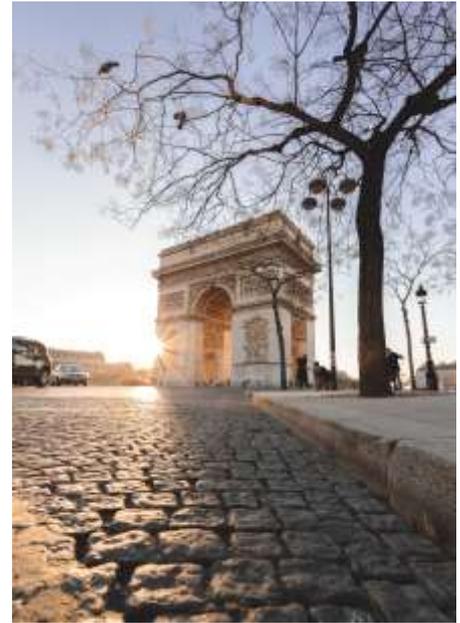


Photo by [cyril mazarin](#) on [Unsplash](#)

After much demand it's back...

The Friends of Edge Grove Comedy Evening!



Come and join us for an evening of lots of laughter provided by a professional team of comedians.

Friday 4th October 2019

7:00pm - 10:00pm

Please email Sarah Meier: sarah@meier@gmail.com to book your place/table.

Tickets are sold on a first come first served basis. Don't miss out. Sign up now!

Tickets: £20 for cold platters at your table and entertainment.

There will be a pay bar (please bring cash)

SPOOKY Cookery Camp



- Edge Grove School
- Fun Cookery Day for children from 7 – 12 yrs
 - 30th October
- Fun with Food holiday activity from 9.30am - 3.30pm
 - Extended hours option available
- £65 per child, per day – child care vouchers accepted

To book a place, go to our website www.how2boilwater.com or email bookings@how2boilwater.com



Teen Cuisine 12yrs plus - Tuesday 29th October



Edge Grove School

- **Get beyond beans on toast!**
- **Understand why cooking for yourself is so important.**
 - **Cook your own nutritious and delicious dishes.**
 - **Learn how to use different herbs and spices.**
 - **Discover how much fun cooking can be.**

9.30am - 3.30pm (extended hours option available)

£75 per child – includes refreshments and all course materials.

Child Care Vouchers accepted

To book a place email bookings@how2boilwater.com





Calling all budding artists

Aldenham Parish Council are holding a drawing competition for all local schools. The winning entry will have the opportunity to switch on the Radlett Winter Lights on Sunday 24th November with Father Christmas and see their drawing in large print on all the promotion material.

How to enter:

It's simple – the children draw their designs on the paper provided (please email office@edgegrove.com and we will send you the template) adding their name, school and class details on the back.

Aldenham Parish Council will collect all entries from the school reception.

Deadline:

Tuesday 1st October 2019.

Announcement:

Winners will be announced the week beginning 4th November by the school and on the Aldenham Parish Council website.

Any questions can be directed to Aldenham Parish Council

community@aldenham-pc.gov.uk or call 01923 856433