



EDGE NEWS



@EdgeGrove



Edge Grove

Monday 7th October 2019

Autumn Term - Week 6

Dear Parents

An Edge Grove education is so much more than exam preparation for senior schools as we strive, each day, to ensure that our pupils develop the skills necessary for happy and successful lives. These skills come in all shapes and sizes but all require an environment that provides a breadth of opportunity, a variety of different experiences and an atmosphere where risk taking is encouraged, children feel valued and supported, there is no fear of failure and success at all levels is cherished, shared and enjoyed.

I am sure you will have seen and heard that our focus in Flourish this term is to be active and eat well and this has had a kick start with the October swimming challenge being undertaken by pupils and staff. This challenge is not about sponsorship or medals but rather self-motivation and achievement within the whole school community. I wish everyone good luck in achieving the targets they have set themselves.

It is important to remember that good health is about more than just the absence of sickness and being physically fit. Focussing on wellbeing and building grit and determination is important in establishing a holistic approach to health, addressing both physical and psychological states. Resilience, which is directly related to wellbeing, is about having the ability to cope with and adapt to new situations be it a tricky maths problem in the classroom or falling over in the mud at Forest School - evidence shows that having a sense of resilience and positive wellbeing enables children to perform at their best, personally and academically.

Whilst all children are capable of working through challenges and coping with stress, the ability to bounce back from challenge and failure is not something that children either have or do not. It is a skill that they can be taught and develop as they grow and therefore essential that its development is integral to every school's teaching and learning.

Resilient children are more likely to take healthy risks because they do not fear falling short of expectations. They are curious, brave and trusting of their instincts. They know their limits and they push themselves to step outside of their comfort zones, helping them to achieve their goals and solve problems independently. It therefore comes as no surprise that there is a link between children with healthy levels of resilience and improved learning and achievement.

CALENDAR

For fixture information see the Information Letter

Tuesday 8th October

U13 Basketball v Aldwickbury
Governors' Estates Committee, 5.00pm

Wednesday 9th October

Football v Kingshott, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Colts A-G
Football v Aldwickbury and St Columba's, Colts H-J
Hockey v Orley Farm, U10
Hockey v Aldenham, U13, U11
Art Class for parents and staff, 6.00pm-8.00pm

Thursday 10th October

NSPCC Assemblies, Years 1 to 6
Football v Beechwood Park, U8 & U9
Downe House Orchestra Day, by invitation
Year 2 CREW workshop

Friday 11th October

4+ Assessment (for Reception entry in September 2020)
Year 8 Bushcraft Skills, Berkamsted School
Year 6 Paris Trip departs
Flourish Parent Workshop, Chapel, 9.00am-11.00am

Saturday 12th October

Year 6 Paris trip

Sunday 13th October

Year 6 Paris trip

Monday 14th October

Year 6 Paris trip returns
Year 1 CREW workshop
Year 7 poetry competition, Theatre, 2.00pm-4.00pm

If, as a parent you would like to find out more and be able to help develop your own children's resilience, this week's Flourish workshop explores the topic in depth. Recognition of the link between resilience and wellbeing, what impacts resilience and how to foster independence are all explored taking a solution focussed approach. Please contact Mrs Sharp, ssharp@edgegrove.com if you would like to attend the workshop and learn more.

We now hurtle into week 6 of term and the calendar is bursting with events including our inaugural Art Class for Parents on Wednesday evening. I am looking forward to accompanying the year 6 trip to Paris on Friday which should be an exciting adventure for us all!

Best wishes

Ben Evans

Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson

Head of Pre Prep

Apple and honey was shared all over the Pre Prep as we learned about the Jewish festival of Rosh Hashanah. In the Reception religious studies assembly, Miss Booth introduced Grandma Sadie and she shared lots of details with the children about the religious teaching and traditions at the heart of this celebration. In Pre-School, the children were learning to sequence numbers 0-10 by parking cars in the correct parking space. This concrete or 'doing' phase of mathematical learning involves the modelling of maths with resources which help to bring the problems to life. Linked to the story 'Peace at Last' by Jill Murphy, Reception went on a listening walk around the school; it is surprising what you can hear when you really listen on a large site like ours, including the happy chatter of children and the clucking of hens. We were all excited to attend the first official House meeting at the Pre Prep and the House Captains were in fine voice rallying their groups and getting everyone inspired for the whole school Christmas competition. I was interested to see lots of science experiments being carried out in years 1 and 2 where the properties of different materials were being tested. It was also pleasing for me to note learning progression in evidence, as year 2 structured the write up of their experiments to include whether the experiment had been a fair test and what their prediction had been.



Lower School News

Samantha Robinson

Head of Lower School

Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic week with an exciting visit to Chiltern Open Air Museum as part of their Stone Age to Iron Age topic. The children imagined what it would be like to travel back 12,000 years and immersed themselves in activities such as grinding wheat, making fresh bread and using their own paint made from charcoal. They even had the chance to peek inside an Iron Age house and were amazed to discover it even had a fridge! Maybe they can tell you where it was...

In English, year 3 have been continuing to learn about the adventures of Wallace and Gromit. They have used all their senses to write some superb setting descriptions and if you close your eyes it really feels like you are with the plasticine duo.

In maths, the children are using their place value knowledge to mentally add and subtract numbers up to 3 digits. They have been taking risks this week, as this is our behaviour for learning, and trying out a variety of methods even if this means moving away from their comfort zone!

Year 4

Year 4 experienced a very successful trip to Paradise Wildlife Park this week. The day included a talk on 'The Circle of Life' in which the children learnt about food chains and how animals adapt to their habitats. The staff taking the talk were very impressed with the level of the children's knowledge; so much so that they had to uplevel their questioning to accommodate the understanding shown by year 4. The positive impression doesn't stop there, they were also impressed by the behaviour, grace and good manners shown by each and every one of the Edge Grove children. Well done to our year 4 ambassadors!

In maths the children have been deepening and consolidating their understanding of addition and subtraction, including one and two step problems and using the use of the inverse operation to check if a solution is correct.

In English the children had the opportunity to read and share the Fables they had written with year 3. A wonderful exchange of ideas and learning followed across the whole of Lower School.



Middle School News

Kate McManus

Head of Middle School

In science, year 5 have been reviewing the heart and the blood vessels by creating a journey around the body of a blood cell. They were able to explain the differences between the different blood vessels. Year 6 have been exploring seed dispersal and the adaptation that different seed have for their method of transport. They are off to Kew Gardens in week 6 to identify this in real life.

In Food Technology, year 5 have been using their skills learnt over the past couple of weeks to slice vegetables thinly to go into their vegetarian Vietnamese spring rolls. The children were using different grips to hold food, including the bridge grip and the claw grip to slice vegetables thinly, accurately and evenly. These were then rolled in rice paper to create a healthy and tasty dish that could be dipped in sweet chilli sauce to eat.

In computing, year 5 have been learning about gathering information, open and closed questions and fake news! They have been making their own questionnaires using Google Forms and have been experimenting with 'branching' forms that offer different questions based on previous answers. Year 6 are learning how to automate presentations using both Google Slides and PowerPoint. They are working on a project to make their own interactive quiz games.

In Maths, year 5 worked hard to demonstrate great multiplicative reasoning skills. They enjoyed using multiplication and division plus previous learnt additive reasoning skills to interpret graphs, finish tally charts and draw bar graphs. There were some colourful entries into their class books.

Year 6 focused on multiplicative reasoning skills using problem solving questions. It has been great to see the children challenged by answering multiplication and division questions in a variety of contexts. The week culminated in a Friday special - using algebra to solve balancing problems. Well done year 6!

In PE, year 5 and 6 have now started with gymnastics in PE lessons. They have all enjoyed their first lesson to do with balances and are looking forward to performing lots of different types of travel this week. This will culminate in a routine at the end of the 4 weeks.

In Drama, year 6 have been continuing with their Superhero unit, specifically looking at alter egos. They have been creating freeze frames and though tracking to show the different opinions people with an alter ego and a superhero. Next week they will be working on a script where their super hero meets their arch nemesis.

Year 5 have been focussing on duologues and working carefully on staging and expression. There have been some great performances and it has been wonderful to see all the children carefully thinking about their characters.

Drama Stars of the Month:

5ES Millie, 5DN Zara, 5CC Francesca, 6AC Stephen S, 6LT Fynn, 6ET Dinil

In History, year 5 have been looking at Mary Tudor this week and how she tried to undo all the changes made to the church by her brother and father. We also discussed why she was called Bloody Mary when her father killed far more people!

Year 6 meanwhile have been searching for Captain Scott and his team after their failure to return from the South Pole. Many have found their tent and have begun looking through Scott's diary to answer many of the mysteries of their doomed return.



Upper School News

Anna Warren

Head of Upper School

It's been a very busy week in the Upper School!...

Geography, Fieldwork at the River Chess

On Tuesday 1st October year 8 set off to the river Chess to complete the fieldwork element of their coursework. Despite the ominous grey skies, the pupils were in great humour as we departed for the river equipped with our waterproofs and various new equipment. The pupils worked in small groups, led by their team leader, and carried out a series of different methods to collect data. Every pupil was involved, whether it be recording the results from the sidelines or getting in to the river to take the measurements. There were a lot of soggy socks and that was before we had even stopped for lunch! Following lunch we visited a second site to take more readings to enable us to compare and contrast the river at two different locations. Unfortunately it was at the second site when the heavens opened and if we weren't already wet, we were by the time we escaped back to the mini buses! Despite the adverse weather, the groups worked exceptionally well and gathered accurate data by using the new methods efficiently. Once back in the warmth of the classroom we had a debrief led by Jenny from the Amersham Field Study Centre.

Now comes the biggest task of all, the write up. Please keep your eye on your child's Google classroom in order to monitor their progress with the coursework completion.

Humanities Day, Merchant Taylors' School

On Wednesday 2nd October I took a small group of pupils to Merchant Taylors' School to participate in a Humanities taster day. The students participated in three different sessions, one focused on Latin/classics, another on history and the final session was a geography lesson. The boys approached the day with enthusiasm and their participation in each class outshone the other schools present. We all learnt the story behind the word 'goose' thanks to the classics teacher and will certainly consider the concept of history in a new light following a very mind boggling session on revolutions Vs evolutions. I can confidently say the highlight for all the boys was the geography 'lesson' in which they got to experience teaching global locations whilst wearing virtual reality glasses and creating their own landscapes using a very sophisticated sandbox!

Katy Miller, Head of Humanities



Upper School News

Anna Warren

Head of Upper School

History

The year 7s have finally reached the Battle of Culloden as we work our way through the Jacobite Rebellion of 1745, their destiny soon to be sealed!

Meanwhile, year 8 have completed their work on how William the Conqueror controlled England and whilst the majority will now look at the conflict between Henry II and Thomas Becket, those with exams approaching will be working on their individual school papers.

Paul Wickens, Head of History

Baccalaureate

Year 8 workshop on Time Management

How do you manage your time? Are you prioritising your goals, as well as your passions? Can you manage distractions? What is multi-tasking, and is it possible? These were just a few of the questions that year 8 explored in their Baccalaureate workshop with E-Cube this week. Reflecting on their own study habits, personal targets, leisure time and individual daily tasks, the children thought about how they can manage all aspects of work and free-time in their daily lives, in alignment with their own sense of purpose.

Computing

Year 7 and 8 have been working on creating E-Safety quizzes using Google Forms. The pupils were tasked with researching topics relevant to their age groups and providing advice for building digital resilience.

National Poetry Day

On Thursday 3rd October, National Poetry Day, Pupils in year 7 started their form time reciting a selected piece from Joseph Coelho's anthology *Overheard in a Tower Block*. Rehearsals are now in full swing in preparation for the Year 7 poetry competition on Monday 14th October - parents, we look forward to seeing you there!



FLOURISH CHALLENGE

BE ACTIVE

This year we will be focussing on the six different elements of wellbeing, one per half term. These are: be active, eat well feel well, give, connect, keep learning and take notice.

The aim is to get the children to look at different aspects of their own lives and make changes that will have a positive impact on their mental wellbeing. It is the intention that the staff will inspire the children to recognise how to do this.

For this half term, the focus is *be active*. I have delivered assemblies to all of the children to educate them as to why exercise makes us feel better – not just physically but mentally too. I have asked them all to think about how exercise makes them feel and how they can use exercise to improve their mental wellbeing.

As a part of this, I will be issuing challenges to the children in each of the three terms. They seemed very excited by these – and at the prospect of being able to beat the teachers! This term, during the month of October, a group of staff will be aiming to swim the equivalent of the English Channel – 21 miles. This will be done both in open water and local pools. I have asked all of the children to pledge how far they think that they will be able to swim during the month of October in order that, as a collective, they swim further than the staff. It doesn't matter if it is 10 meters or 1000m, with or without armbands, we just want the children to set themselves a challenge. There will not be merits or medals for this, the reward is a feeling of accomplishment and pride. After half term I will add up the total distances and present them back to the children.

In the spring term there will be a walking challenge and the summer will focus on cycling. More information to follow.

Thank you in advance for your support in helping your children to beat the staff!





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](#)

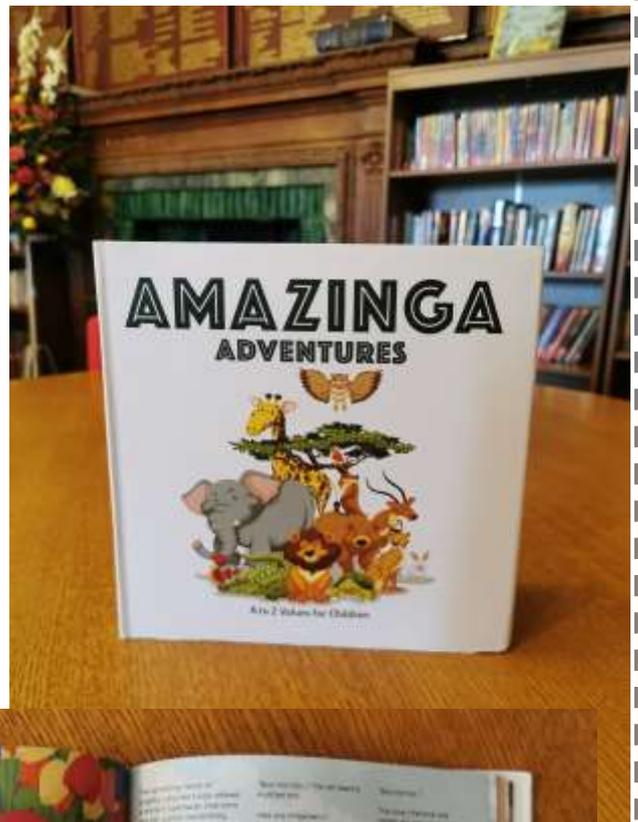
BOOK NEWS

Komal Mehta, who runs our Ecube workshops and is a past parent, would like parents to know about the book she is promoting, *Amazing Adventures*.

“Ecube has been delivering skills workshops to the Upper School since 2016 as part of the Bacculaureate programme. We are delighted to announce a new book launch in celebration of the 15th anniversary of our umbrella organisation Shrimad Rajchandra Divinetouch. **Amazing Adventures** contains 26 short stories based on 26 values starting from 26 letters of the alphabet. The book is an attempt at honouring the ancient storytelling tradition of fables with a contemporary twist. In the pages of this book, you will meet a variety of characters. Some are wise and some are silly; some are lazy and some are industrious; some are solemn and some are funny. Children will see themselves and their friends reflected in many of them. Each of the 26 tales illuminates one distinct value. It is a book that will hopefully inspire children to reflect upon values and make them their own whilst also offering the opportunity for conversations between adults and children about shared values. The book is aimed at 4-8 year olds and the school library has copies of the book should you like to see before you buy.”

Copies can be ordered from Mrs Komal Mehta by email to london@divinetouch.srmd.org

Each book is priced at £5



BOARDING NEWS

The adventures of Boarding at Edge Grove

Monday felt like the first proper day of Autumn for us so we all decided to have a very much needed chilled evening up on the Boarding floor. There were card games, Fifa playing, TV watching and of course some playing of Bay Blades after dinner. This was rounded off with a couple of biscuits and a glass of milk before bed time.

On Tuesday the children all went over to the cookery room and made pancakes, they really enjoyed being able to flip them and then of course eat them afterwards.

Wednesday evening we had a Badminton tournament. Well done to everyone who took part. Huge congratulations to Wesley and Mr McManus for winning!

Thursday evening we had our Boarding Council meeting. This is a time for the children to give us productive feedback on boarding. This is a really useful meeting and gives everyone a voice. After this the children enjoyed an evening chatting and playing.

Friday evening we had our Bushcraft activity night. It was great to see some new faces and I am glad that all children had a fab time having conker wars and building their own fires!

We look forward to another busy week next week.



UPCOMING BOARDING ACTIVITIES

Autumn 2019

Week 6

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

Week 7

Sun 13 Oct Cookie Nights
Mon 14 Oct Film Night
Tue 15 Oct Halloween Shopping
Wed 16 Oct Pumpkin Carving
Thu 17 Oct Halloween Party

Friday Activity Nights:

Friday 13th September- Laser Tag
Friday 4th October- Bushcraft
Friday 15th November- Inflatables
Friday 6th December- Christmas Party



For further information regarding the evening activities, please contact

Miss Hughes on
nhughes@edgegrove.com

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

Keen Bean
Coaching, Camps, Parties

OCTOBER Half Term Camp

AT

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL

Week 1 **October 21st - 25th**
Week 2 **October 28th - November 1st**

OPENING HOURS

9.30 am to 3.30 pm
(extended hours available)

PHONE 07798792590
EMAIL hello@keenbeansport.co.uk
keenbeancamps.co.uk

PRICES AND TIMES

SPORTING BEANS, CREATIVE BEANS, PERFORMING BEANS

1 DAY	2 DAYS	3 DAYS	4 DAYS	5 DAYS
£32	£64	£89	£113	£129

NURSERY CAMP

£34	£68	£95	£120	£139
-----	-----	-----	------	------

Early Drop off	£4	(From 8:30am)
Late Stay Pickup	£8	(till 5:30pm)
Both	£10	

CONTACT US AT

PHONE 07798792590
EMAIL hello@keenbeansport.co.uk

For further details, as well as terms and conditions, please visit our website
keenbeancamps.co.uk

Mini Beans

This is a chance for your children to take part in a safe and fun environment with exciting play-based activities. These are kept short and energetic to keep the interest of all children. Activities include: **bouncy castles, Inflatable slides, football, multi-sport and dance sessions** as well as many other great fun activities.

Ages - 3-4

Creative Beans

Bring out your creative side in a series of crafting and building activities! Take part in **Lego Challenges** that test your skills, from building the tallest, strongest tower to making working mechanisms that create marble runs and machines. Become a robot master with our **Lego Mindstorm** workshop, making everything from racing robots to working mechanical arms.

Many more creative activities are offered such as **Papercraft Modelling** (to take home!), **3D graphics art** and **Cardboard Crafting** for costumes and props.

Ages - Year 2 to Year 6

Sporting Beans

Bring lots of energy to our fun and exciting activities which change every hour. Can you hit the bull's eye in **Archery** or be the fastest through our **Inflatable Assault Course**? Will Iron Man or Hulk win in our padded **Sumo Wrestling**? Can you score the basket that wins the game for your team?

Other activities include: **Basketball Dodgeball, Baseball, Tub Golf, Bouncy castle, Bean Bag Curling**, and many more!

There is so much to do that you will not want to go home!

Ages - Reception to Year 6



Performing Beans

Become the next **Dancing Queen**, or **King of the Stage!** Learn how to work the room and keep the crowd in awe of your presence. Perform in mini-shows, become fun characters, bust some moves in dance routines and project your voice for all to hear. Become an inspiration!

Ages - Reception to Year 6

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



**BOREHAMWOOD & ELSTREE
SYNAGOGUE INVITE YOU & YOUR
PUPILS TO VISIT THE BOARD OF
DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS'**



JEWISH LIVING EXPERIENCE EXHIBITION

**Back for a third year!
Celebrating Interfaith Month &
designed to tie in with the Religious
Education and Citizenship Curriculum.**

4-15 NOV 2019

**Visit our beautiful synagogue and
learn about Judaism in an
exciting, educational and
interactive way.**

**To book a session
or for more information
contact**

jlex.bes@gmail.com

