



EDGE NEWS



@EdgeGrove



Edge Grove

Monday 9th September 2019

Autumn Term - Week 2

Dear Parents

What a great start to the term it has been. After five days of staff training, the staff were certainly ready for the return of the children and they didn't disappoint us with their customary excitement and enthusiasm on Wednesday. It is always quite incredible how quickly everyone settles back to school, even our youngest pupils in Pre-School and Reception. By mid-morning of the first day, it was as though we were half way through the term with the whole school busy, purposeful and enjoying each other's company. With the imminent opening of the new Lower School building, the launch of our innovative World Languages Programme from Reception, the establishment of the Wellbeing Centre and so much more happening in all areas of school life, I have no doubt this will be another exciting and fulfilling year for the whole school community.

My question in my start of term assembly to the Prep School was simple; "What is your superpower?" However, I wasn't thinking of the ability to fly, teleport or as I explained to the pupils, Mrs Evans's extraordinary sense of smell, I was thinking of something far more powerful. At Edge Grove I see evidence every day that confirms our pupils are talented, committed to their learning and high achieving. But I did stress to the children that in addition to these accomplishments, sometimes we all make mistakes – this is normal and perfectly acceptable as long as we pause, reflect, learn and grow. The superpower I was referring to was the power to have both a positive and negative impact on people's lives. It is an extraordinary power and one that we must harness for good. As ever, my overriding message to the school was to *Work Hard and Be Kind* and to remember that you don't have to be superhuman to have a superpower. You just need to be human. We are fortunate that the community at Edge Grove is a kind and caring one which is what makes our school so special.

One quick look through our termly calendar is enough to illustrate what a busy few weeks we have ahead. On Tuesday it is the Friends of Edge Grove AGM and social evening in the Library at 7.00pm. Please come along for a drink, meet other parents and find out about the invaluable work of the FoEG. Alex and I promise that no one will be pressganged onto the committee and we look forward to seeing you there!

I have received a great deal of positive feedback following the pre-term tutor meetings and am pleased that you found them so useful. This week sees curriculum and coffee mornings for years 5 to 8 which will cover the academic side of school life, our expectations for pupil progress throughout the year and tips on how you can help your children at home, plus the opportunity to ask lots of questions. For those unable to attend, we will be filming the presentations and posting them on The Source.

My best wishes for a great week ahead. Ben Evans

CALENDAR

For fixture information see the Information Letter

Tuesday 10th September

Year 5 curriculum meeting and coffee morning, Theatre, 8.45-9.30am
FoEG AGM and Social Evening, Library, 7.00pm

Wednesday 11th September

Year 6 curriculum meeting and coffee morning, Theatre, 8.45-9.30am
Boys' Football U11 6-a-side tournament at Haileybury
Boys' Football Beechwood Park Festival
Boys' Football v Westbrook Hay
Girls' U13 Hockey Festival at Haileybury
Girls' U11 Swimming Gala at Westbrook Hay
Girls' Hockey v Beechwood Park

Thursday 12th September

Year 7 curriculum meeting and coffee morning, Theatre, 8.45-9.30am
Year 7 overnight bushcraft and team building trip, Berkhamsted School

Friday 13th September

Year 8 curriculum meeting and coffee morning, Theatre, 8.45-9.30am
Year 5 visit to Hampton Court
Year 7 bushcraft and team building trip, Berkhamsted School
Boarding 'Laser Tag' activity evening

Saturday 14th September

Pre School Open Morning for prospective parents, 9.00am-12.00pm
Squash, U9 & U11 County Championships

Sunday 15th September

Monday 16th September



Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson

Head of Pre Prep

The first day of the Autumn Term is particularly special in the Pre Prep, especially for our youngest pupils in Reception and Pre School. This is the day that memories are made and most parents (including me!) will have a photograph tucked away of our children wearing shiny shoes and big smiles as they head to their new classroom. Feedback from our pre term welcome tea parties and pastoral meetings in year 1 and 2 has been extremely positive and the children have enjoyed a very enjoyable and purposeful first week. We are looking forward to sharing information about the curriculum in forthcoming workshops and hope that some of you will join us in school over the course of the year to share information about your job, hobbies and perhaps reflections on your own childhood growing up in another country. In Reception and Pre School our topic is 'All About Me' and we hope that this will help the children to feel very much at home in their new surroundings. Years 1 and 2 will principally be exploring London past and present in their topic 'Life in the City' and will also compare and contrast city life with living in the countryside. We look forward to sharing our learning journey with you on the pages of this newsletter each week.



Lower School News

Samantha Robinson

Head of Lower School

Year 3

The new year 3 children have settled into life in the Lower School really well and the teachers have been so impressed by their maturity when adapting to the new routines. The children have already got stuck in to the new subjects of the Stone Age to the Iron Age in topic and Light and Shadow in science. The children have been so engaged during class discussion, both sharing their own knowledge as well as posing their own research questions, such as "Did the Stone Age people have a language?" and "Why was it called the Stone Age". In maths, the children have been remembering their number and place value knowledge, including a fun visit to the outdoor hundred square. A wonderful start to the year, the teachers know that they need a good rest over the weekend, ready for week 2!

Year 4

All three year 4 form tutors have been enormously impressed by the way the children have settled back at school and risen to the challenge of being such shining examples to the new Lower School year 3s. So straight to the learning!

We really are measuring trees! The year 4s have been engaged and having great fun with maths and English, science and topic. In these pictures the children are using the girth size of the tree trunks to estimate the age of the tree - don't be surprised if they are estimating the age of trees they see this weekend. All this maths ties in nicely with science, investigating what and where there are different habitats and why animals live there was our discussion. Many children had questions to go on the Wonder Walls and it seems that there are always more questions than answers when you're curious.

Some of the year 4 children started cookery this week, looking at the importance of good hygiene in the cookery room and how to stay safe. They used a special gel to simulate germs on their hands so they could see if their hand washing technique was correct.



Middle School News

Kate McManus

Head of Middle School

Miss Darnborough brought some hula-hoops to school for her year 5 maths lesson. However, when the year 6 pupils laid eyes on them, they were so excited and decided to try them out...not for maths!

Mrs Evans has been very busy chatting to her form discussing how to 'Be Involved' which is this week's Behaviour for Learning. They certainly were all involved in putting their ideas across as a form!

In year 5 maths, Mrs Nichols' class have been revisiting Roman Numerals and using their knowledge to complete a jigsaw puzzle matching the symbols to the correct numbers. It took lots of perseverance to work out the numbers and to get them all in the right place!

In geography, year 6 have been evaluating how much they have achieved in the past year in terms of their understanding of all things geography related. We have started a new, exciting topic called 'Raging Rivers' and today some of 6GLT were treated to some horror stories involving adrenaline seekers and waterfalls, I am sure they will expand if you ask them. All students were able to recall some famous rivers and waterfalls and several class members shared personal stories of their adventures with us.



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@bmeier@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)

Upper School News

Anna Warren

Head of Upper School

A wonderful welcome back to school to all our Upper School pupils, and an extra special welcome to our new starters in year 7. I am so impressed to see everyone so enthusiastic and excited about the term ahead.

Congratulations again to the Head Boy, Head Girl and the team of senior prefects who received their prefects' ties in this week's first assembly. They have already started making plans to expand the content of our weekly podcast!

In PE, some of the year 7 pupils braved their first swimming lesson of the term. Although the outside temperature was cool, the pool water was lovely and warm and the children thoroughly enjoyed developing their stroke technique in our sparkling swimming pool.

In geography, year 7 have been exploring the structure of the earth this week. We used an apple to help identify the different layers of the earth and discussed how the fragile crust cracks, effectively creating earthquakes and volcanoes. We demonstrated how fragile the crust is by using an egg: a messy but fun way to make the point. The pupils then wrote a description in their own words describing each of the earth's layers.

Year 8 have been identifying the features of rivers and thinking back to their lessons in year 6! We have looked at the long profile of a river and the landforms that are created therein. Our next steps are to explore how these landforms have been created, explaining waterfalls, meanders and ox-bow lakes. This is all vital preparation for the rivers fieldwork on Tuesday 1st October (please see the information letter for more details).





Sports News and Match Reports will be displayed here in the following weeks

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

Check back here next week



Academic Commendations, Commendations and Golden Moments will be displayed here in the following weeks

Check back here next week



MUSIC

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

[Click for music lesson timetables](#)

CRICKET

Well done to James and Emily who had a busy summer of cricket! James played cricket all through the summer and had some fantastic games for Radlett CC and the Hertfordshire U12 County Team. With Radlett CC, his team won the Lancot Trophy for the 2nd year in a row and his county team won the Hertfordshire County Cup Championships for the 4th successive year. The team has now qualified to play in the Nationals next year. Meanwhile, James' sister Emily played in the U12 Hertfordshire County Cup Championships with Radlett CC and qualified as one of the top 2 girls teams (out of 7). After a very tough final they lost to the Harpenden Huskies which meant they finished 2nd in the league. A fantastic achievement! Emily's love for cricket continues and she has signed up for the Herts Girls Charlie Cricket Winter training. Well done both!



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

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



ARCHERY UPDATE

Mr Craxton

Hertford Shoot

The new archery season opened with the senior (composite bow) team of nine travelling to Haileybury on Saturday for this year's popular HCA Fun shoot. In the morning they shot at six animal target faces at different distances; after lunch arrows were aimed at the castle with points scored for landing in the moat or inside the castle as well as hitting the castle walls, shields and knights. Edge Grove pupils were well represented at the awards ceremony with Anderson (Most Knights), Myles (Most Walls), Everett (Most Moats), Ashley (Most in the castle grass) and Fatemah (top 9 year old score) winning trophies. The afternoon ended with all 24 juniors shooting 3 arrows each at the dragon and congratulations to Evan who shot closest to the dragon's heart, winning the coveted Samurai Trophy.



August Holiday Archery

The six archery mornings in August were well attended with a total of 45 pupils taking part in one or more sessions. On the final session of each week there was a mini-tournament. Congratulations to the following who won trophies:

Winners' trophies: Hayden, Declan, Evan, Kellan, Darcey H, Kiersten, Harry B, Freddie B

Runners-up trophies: Ashley, Khushi, Fynn, Daniel G, Panav, Essie, Esme and Benjamin W



July County Championships

Congratulations to Hayden (U12) and former pupil Balerki (U14) who both came 2nd in their age groups

Archery Club

The Archery club meets on Saturday mornings. For further details please contact Mr Craxton on 07711 748557





EDGE  GROVE

FLOURISH PARENT WORKSHOP

BUILDING RESILIENCE, BOOSTING WELLBEING

An interactive, strategy-focussed approach.

FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER

8.45-11.00AM

£25 PER PERSON

See Page 7 of the Newsletter for more information

EMAIL [SSHARP@EDGEGROVE.COM](mailto:ssharp@edgegrove.com) TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

Queenswood



7pm
THURSDAY
19 SEPTEMBER

Queenswood Chapel,
Shepherds Way,
Brookmans Park, Hatfield,
AL9 6NS



Join us for an evening of wonderful music provided by the world renowned choir of St John's College in Cambridge

 **THE GENTLEMEN
OF ST JOHN'S**

All in aid of the...



To book your place just visit the link below:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/mandalay-school-for-the-deaf-charity

Tickets are £20 for adults and £10 for students.

Wine, canapés, and soft drinks will be served from 6pm and are included in the ticket price.



Friends of Edge Grove AGM & Social Evening

Tuesday 10th September | 7.00pm

