

EDGE NEWS

Monday 20th January 2020

Spring Term - Week 3



Headmaster's Introduction

We know that an Edge Grove education is not just about preparing pupils for examinations at 11+ or 13+...

Dear Parents

We know that an Edge Grove education is not just about preparing pupils for examinations at 11+ or 13+ even though academic rigour through creative and innovative teaching and learning is high on our agenda. Most importantly, we aim, in partnership with parents, to develop children's characters to enable them to flourish, to know and do what is good, to allow the acquisition and strengthening of virtues and ensure that they have the skills and traits to allow for successful and rewarding lives. High claims indeed but surely the responsibility of any good prep school.

Character education is not new but has, in this ever-increasing world of competitiveness and general race to be first at all costs, been forgotten and considered of little importance. Thankfully, the tide is turning and the value of good character in ensuring healthy and successful lives, together with one's contribution to the community, is now seen as pivotal in children's growth and development. At Edge Grove, our Guiding Principles which are well known and understood by all and illustrated at the heart of the school, provide a clear structure and sense of purpose. Character education should be explicitly taught as well as 'caught' by careful modelling to help children develop personal strengths or virtues and to understand how to act for the right reasons. No child is born with these skills so the process is one which starts at the earliest age in school and continues until they leave.

Our overall aim, through character education, is the development of good sense, kindness, moral fibre, discernment, empathy and an ethos of cooperation and goodwill - all ensuring that an Edge Grove pupil will flourish as an individual and make a positive contribution to society and their immediate communities.



As we move forward into week 3, thank you to all the parents who have written to say how useful they have found the curriculum workshops. Alex and I have certainly taken much away from the year 1 and 4 meetings to help Thomas and Edward at home. If you were unable to attend, please remember all the information can be found on The Source. Please see below for important information from Mrs Sharp regarding a new initiative - [Flourish Family Focus](#) - bitesize coaching sessions for Pre Prep parents initially which will be held in the Wellbeing Centre and are free of charge. The first one will focus on the use of effective praise and will further help the implicit teaching of character education.

I hope many of you will be able to pop in and say hello to Lisa McDonald (Headmistress Elect) over the next two days and having arrived on Friday afternoon, I know that Miss McDonald is now very much looking forward to meeting the children and getting to know the Edge Grove community.

My best wishes for an enjoyable week ahead.

Ben Evans





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CALENDAR

What's on this week



CALENDAR

For fixture information see the Information Letter

Tuesday 21st January

Lisa McDonald (Headmistress Elect) meet Pre Prep parents at drop off,
Pre Prep Hall, 8.15am

Year 2 Curriculum Workshop, Pre Prep Hall, 8.45am

Lisa McDonald visit to Pre-School, 10.00am

Table Tennis v Beechwood Park - cancelled

Lisa McDonald meet Middle and Upper School parents at pick up,
Theatre, 4.00pm

Wednesday 22nd January

Rugby v Orley Farm, U10, U11, U12, U13

Inter-house Netball Competition, Years 5-8

Thursday 23rd January

Rugby Festival at Edge Grove, U9

Rugby Festival at Heath Mount, U8

Netball v Duncombe House, U9

Netball and Hockey v Heath Mount, U8

Friday 24th January

Beechwood Park Cross Country, Years 3 to 8

Rush Hour Concert (Upper School), Theatre, 4.30pm

Saturday 25th January

Sunday 26th January

Monday 27th January

Year 8 Common Entrance Exam Week

Transition Coffee Morning for Year 2 parents, Apthorp Hall, 8.45am



Pre Prep News

Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson
Head of Pre Prep

I hope that parents have found the Curriculum Workshops useful. Of all the advice shared about how parents can support their children at home, there was one very enlightening personal anecdote from Mrs Amankwah. Following a struggle to get her daughter to read every night, suddenly she discovered a series of books by the same author that just sparked a love of reading and now she has her head in a book regularly; a happy outcome indeed. This struggle is familiar to many of us, but do please keep on facilitating visits to the library and reading stories before bed to ignite that spark. Mrs Smith presented her workshop from the eyes of the child. We spent a virtual day in Pre-School and I hope that parents were able to appreciate that it is the enabling environment which is so key to learning progress for children under 5. The creative ways in which the children are drawn in to exploring provide real stimulus and I am constantly in awe of the Pre-School team and their energy and passion when preparing for each new day of discovery. Year 1 and 2 are exploring forces in science. Our first week's lessons are known as the knowledge harvest, as we find out what the children already know about this topic. As with flipped learning challenges, your influence at home is in evidence. A year 1 pupil shared his knowledge about gravity as a force and I see many examples such as this, where rich and varied talk at home supports learning.



One outcome from this particular topic is to encourage a love of engineering and mechanics in all of our pupils, and handmade ramps with varied surfaces to shoot cars down followed. Reflective evaluation

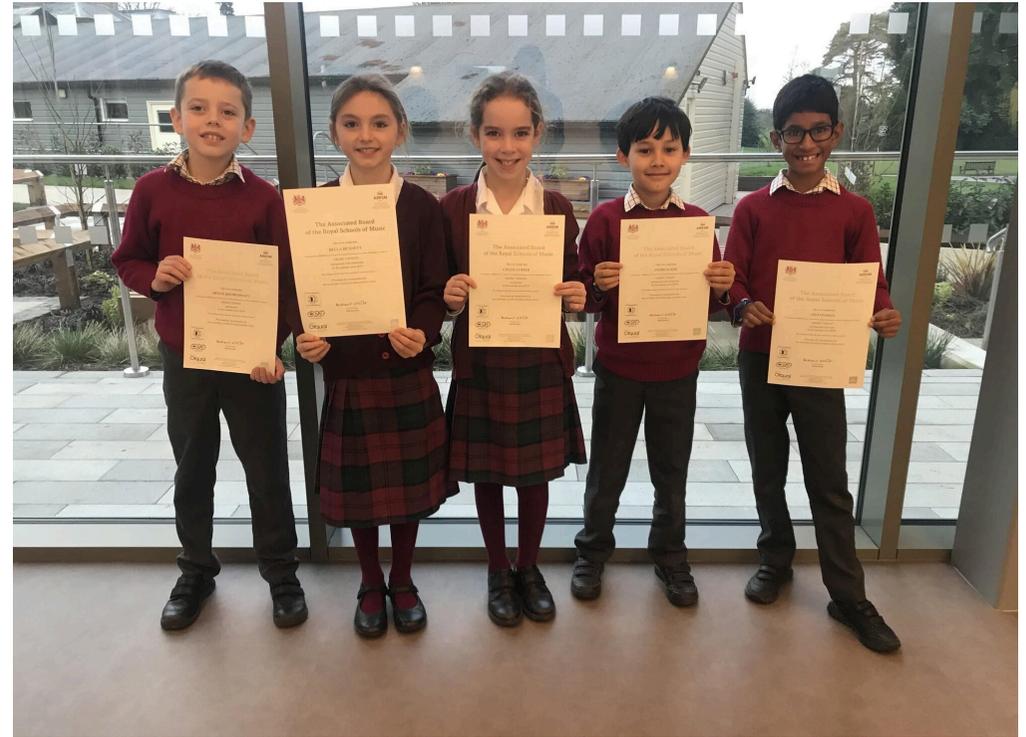
is the way we do it here, no work sheets in sight!



Lower School
News



Eco Reps



Music exams certificates

Middle School News



Middle School News

Kate McManus
Head of Middle School

A busy week for the Middle School last week! In science, year 5 have been looking at how the Earth's rotation causes day and night, as well as how the angle of the Earth's tilt causes the seasons. They have been able to practically explore how and why shadows change across the day. Year 6 started to identify the differences between atoms, elements, compounds, mixtures and molecules. They have identified common elements on the periodic table, and used the element names and symbols to write in code.

In English, year 5 have been exploring how Victorian children lived. They have acted out the jobs Victorian children would have to perform in a Poorhouse, and have spent time diligently reflecting on how they would feel if in their position.

In DT, year 5 have finished their cultural masks. These masks were created in the Venetian style, made from silk and painted using fabric paints and they look fantastic! In art, the Middle School have been doing their annual self-portrait assessments this week. The year 5s are taken step by step through the process of creating a grid and building their features, while the year 6s work as independently as possible with guidance where necessary. I have been very pleased with both year groups!

A big well done to the year 6 who sat the art scholarship assessment this week. I was very pleased with their focus and effort.



Upper School News



Upper School News

Anna Warren
Head of Upper School

It was a fairly dramatic week in the English department following the disappearance and murder of Mr Craxton! Was it Mrs Evans with the poisoned tea, Mr Smith with the vase or Mr Dicks with the skipping rope? Don't worry...Mr Craxton is perfectly unharmed (well, aside from the trauma of year 7 examining him closely for clues that is!). This was the immersive drama activity staged by Mrs Oldfield to launch this term's crime fiction drama unit. We look forward to seeing how the pupils' own stories develop; written in the style of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and featuring the one and only Sherlock Holmes, the children will create their own short crime novellas!



Congratulations to Alfie in year 8 who has been selected to represent the Hertfordshire & Essex U13 Football team. We wish him luck for his tournament in April.

Boarding News



The week started with a gentle pace for the boarders as they cooked dinner with Miss Millie and Miss Antonia and then finished by watching a movie.



Monday saw the return of Netball and Basketball in the Sports Hall. After a lot of running around the children then all went upstairs for pancakes.

Tuesday was the grand unveiling of the brand new Play Station 4, which everyone was very excited

for. Whilst the boys played Fifa, the girls were catching up on each other's news in their dorm.

On Wednesday night half of the children played football in the sports hall and half went upstairs to finish off homework and we then finished off with Tuck and a movie.

Thursday night saw the return on the boarding Dodgeball Tournament. There were some great tactics going on and it was great to see a mixture of years in both teams.

On Friday we held our first activity night of the term. We all packed into the minibuses and went



off to Go Jump for some spectacular trampolining and then finished off the evening with a treat dinner at McDonalds which went down very well with all of the children!!!

We look forward to yet another productive week in boarding.

See the next page for all our Upcoming Boarding Activities.

Upcoming Boarding Activities

Week 3

Tuesday 21st January

Pancakes

Wednesday 22nd January

Football Tournament

Thursday 23rd January

Year 7&8 Girls Outing/ Dodgeball

Friday 24th January

Chinese Takeaway

Week 4

Sunday 26th January

Pizza Night

Monday 27th January

Waffle Making

Tuesday 28th January

Sports Hall Activities

Wednesday 29th January

Basketball and Netball

Thursday 30th January

Warhammer

Friday 31st January

Exeat

Week 5

Sunday 2nd February

Movie Night

Monday 3rd February

Cupcake Decorating

Tuesday 4th February

Multi Sports

Wednesday 5th February

Valentine's Day Cards

Thursday 6th February

Boarders' Choice

Friday 7th February

Top Golf Activity Night

Week 6

Sunday 9th February

Let's Cook!

Monday 10th February

Tuck Shopping Trip

Tuesday 11th February

Tuck and Movie Night

Wednesday 12th February

Multi Sports Tournament

Thursday 13th February

Year 7&8 Boys Outing/Dodgeball

Friday 14th February

Half Term



For all Match Reports click [here](#) and don't forget to follow Edge Grove Sport on Twitter @EdgeGroveSport



U9 Cross Country Champions

Well done to our U9 boys who were overall winners at the York House Cross Country Competition last week and to Iris Roberts who came 4th in the girls' race! The Daily Mile seems to have produced some excellent cross country runners!



Rugby success against Lockers Park

Our U10, U11, U12 and U13 teams all played some tough matches against Lockers Park last week with some excellent performances throughout.

Read all the Match Reports for Rugby and Netball [here](#).



Turnford crowned winners of the Regional U12 Cup

Well done to Daisy and her Turnford Netball Team for becoming the Regional U12 Cup winners. They played seven matches and were undefeated all day. As a result, they go through to the National Competition Final seeded number 1. A fantastic achievement!

London Marathon 2020



Mr McManus at our charity Fun Run last year

I am delighted to be running in the London Marathon this year having been chosen by the Hertfordshire Community Foundation to run in aid of them. They are one of the school's charities and one which does such fantastic work supporting so many groups and individuals across the county. My target is £1,500 which will make such a difference to the charity's work. I am very hopeful to get the support of the Edge Grove community to help me to reach my target. If you feel that you would be happy to sponsor me I would really appreciate any donation, no matter how small. My fundraising page can be found here: [Virgin Money Giving - Brian McManus](#)

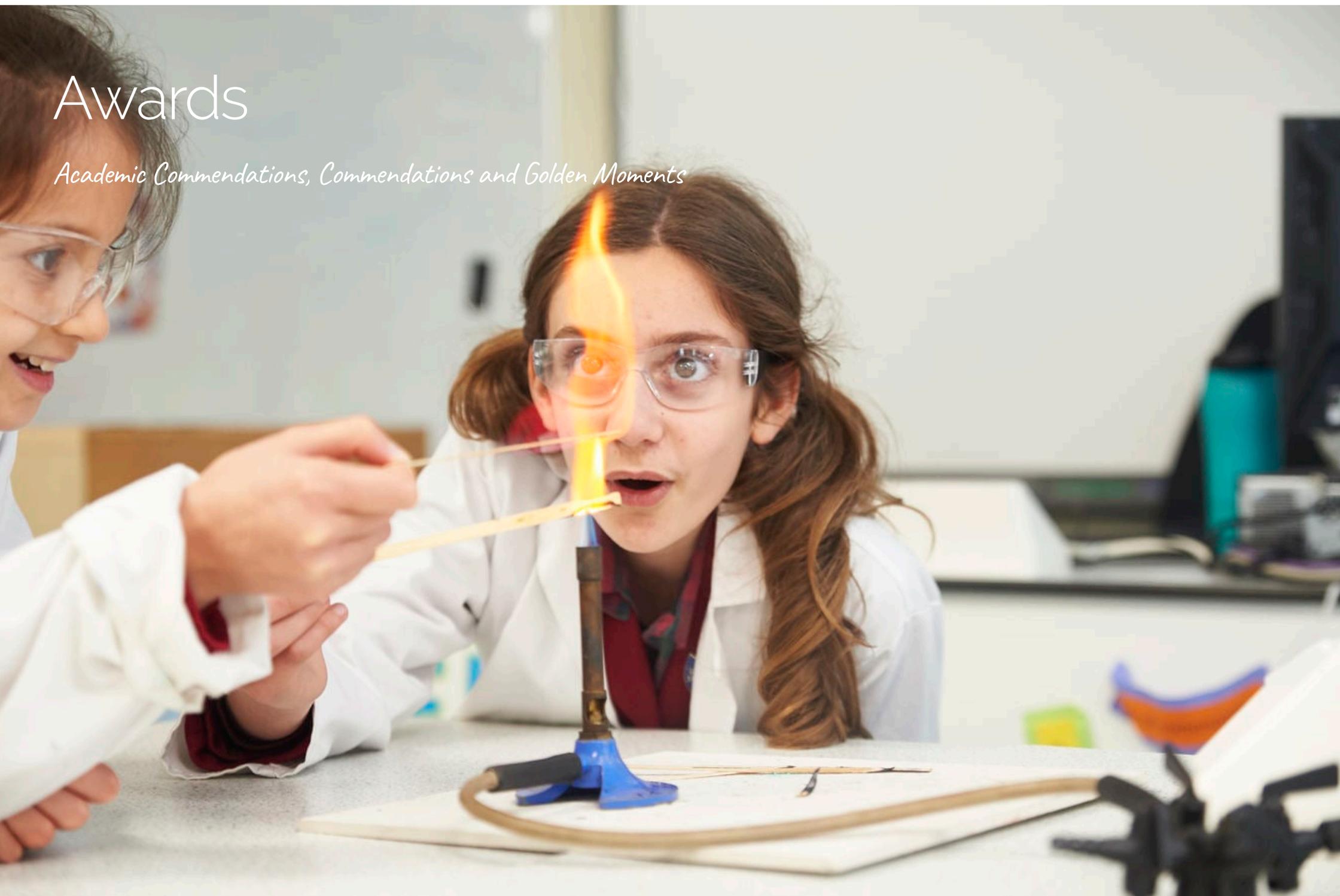
Hertfordshire Community Foundation (HCF) is a county wide charity which seeks to tackle need and deprivation by providing grants to vital small charities, community organisations and to families and children living in crisis in Hertfordshire. The county is perceived to be affluent and yet there are pockets of deprivation in every district. HCF encourages local charitable giving to help make Hertfordshire a better place to live, for everyone. Every penny raised stays within Hertfordshire.

Although I have run a marathon before in Durban, South Africa it was 15 years ago! I took up running again 2 and a half years ago and at that stage a 20 minute run was all I could manage. Having completed the Hampton Court Half Marathon last year the thought of doing another "lap" was so daunting that I really thought my marathon days were over. However, nothing comes to those without a lot of hard work and I fully intend to enjoy my day on Sunday 26th April. As such I have not set a target for myself in terms of finishing time so that I can enjoy it and soak up the atmosphere.

I must remember that this is a marathon, not a sprint and I need to follow my 17 week training plan and not over-do it. I have already had smiles and waves of support and encouragement when parents have passed me on some of my initial training runs and I look forward to this continuing.

Awards

Academic Commendations, Commendations and Golden Moments



10th - 16th January 2020

Click [here](#) for this week's Academic Commendations, Commendations and Golden Moments or see the full list below:

Academic Commendations

Rosen, Henry (Harry) 3D
Lieberman, Ella 5E
Samra, Arjan 3D
Santer-Gould, Benjamin 5M
Aheer, Yuvraaj 4M
Gubler, Oliver (Ollie) 5N
Coffer, Chloe 4M
Kapadia, Kimaya (Kimmy) 5N
Zaidi, Ayaan 4M
Mistry, Keya (Shona) 5N
Cadbury, Joanna 4T
Okoye, Chizara (Zara) 5N
Magbagbeola, Oluwafunwa (Funwa) 4TC
Shaw, Mark 6A
Martin, Mia 4TC
Shaw, Stephen 6A
Shah, Rohan 4TC
Ali, Mehdi 6C
Tilbury, Rory 4TC

Pearson, Lottie 6C
Waters, Oliver 4TC
Steven-Jennings, Emily 6C
Fabian, Ethan 5D
Harris, Sophie 6L
Tyson, Lydie-Mae 5D
Christofis, Emilio 7D
Vincent, Demi 5D

Commendations

Shah, Amaya 3D Kuti, Nifemi 4T
Harris-Eze, Kasiemobi (Koby) 3R
Murphy, James 4T
Aheer, Yuvraaj 4M
Zeiderman, Georgina 4T
Cox, Oliver 4M
Hughes, Ridley 4TC
John, Rahul 4M
Lloyd, Sophia 4TC
Khoroshaev, Artem 4M
Malyon, William (Billy) 4TC
Kumarappan, Krishna (Krish) 4M
Phillips Bhan, Louis 6C
Presto, Ren 4M
Salunke, Vihaan 6L
Ellis-Scarfe, Marcy 4T

Golden Moments

Ella Lieberman 5E - A lovely act of kindness, giving up the class mascot to another child even though she had earned it.

Monty Bennett 6GT - Holding the door open for a member of staff and being polite.

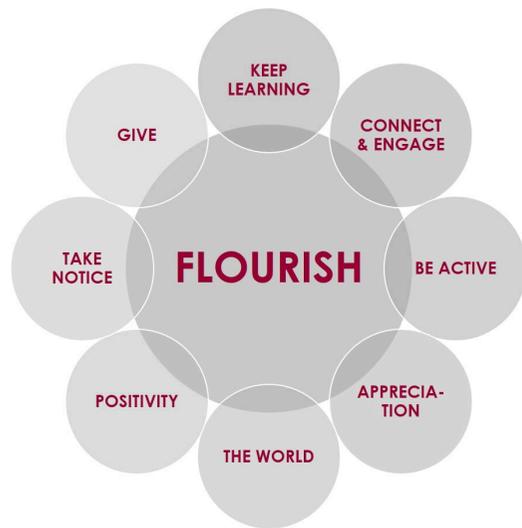
Ethan Samuel-Napier 7W - For being extremely kind and offering to help me transport my things from my car to the classroom. Thank you - I really appreciated it!





Upcoming Events

*Flourish Parent Workshop, FoEG Coffee
Morning, Quiz Night and more...*



Flourish Family Focus

Effective Praise

Wednesday 12th February, 8.45am

Each stage of child development brings challenges that influence the way children think, feel and behave as every child develops in different ways: physically, intellectually, socially and emotionally.

A parent's role is to prepare their child to move forward in life confidently and independently, it is a role which requires myriad skills, is constantly evolving and for which there is no manual. As part

of Edge Grove's Flourish programme we are pleased to introduce Flourish Family Focus, half-termly bitesize coaching sessions for Pre Prep parents which offer regular opportunities to gain insight into, and explore common parenting challenges. These empowering sessions focus on raising awareness, self-awareness and, most importantly, provide solution-focused strategies, tips and techniques to assist confident forward movement.

The first session, Effective Praise, led by Mrs Sharp, Head of Wellbeing, will be held on **Wednesday 12th February at 8.45am** in the Wellbeing Centre.

If you would like to attend please email KMcGowan@edgegrove.com to reserve your place.



Flourish Parent Workshop

Effective Communication

Friday 6th March, 8.45am

£25 per person

Communication is about more than just exchanging information. It is about understanding the emotion and intentions behind the information. As well as being able to convey a message we need to also listen in a way that gains the full meaning of what is being said and makes the others feel heard and understood. Encouraging communication that develops expression of thoughts, feelings and ideas can

positively influence a child's relationships and behaviours throughout life. As well as benefiting self-esteem, problem solving abilities and behaviour, good communication skills are key to building and sustaining successful relationships, achieving goals and supporting wellbeing.

This workshop provides an opportunity to explore how we can talk to children so that they will listen, listen to children so that they will talk and to experiment with tips and techniques that may encourage clear, confident, effective communication now and for life.

Focus:

- What is effective communication?
- Listening skills
- Communication styles: passive, assertive, aggressive
- Communicating clearly: 'I' statements
- Building and supporting good communication habits

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



FRIENDS

OF EDGE  GROVE

Upcoming Friends of Edge Grove Events

Friday 31st January

Quiz Night

Friday 7th February

Friday Friends Coffee Morning

Saturday 21st March

Lego Model Building Festival



FEBRUARY * Half term CAMP

AT
EDGE GROVE SCHOOL

with **Josh Rose**
and his team

February 17th - 21st

OPENING HOURS

9.30 am to 3.30 pm

(extended hours available)

PHONE 07798792590

EMAIL hello@keenbeansport.co.uk

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

Thank you for reading

EDGE NEWS

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