

# EDGE NEWS

*Monday 2nd March 2020*

*Spring Term - Week 8*



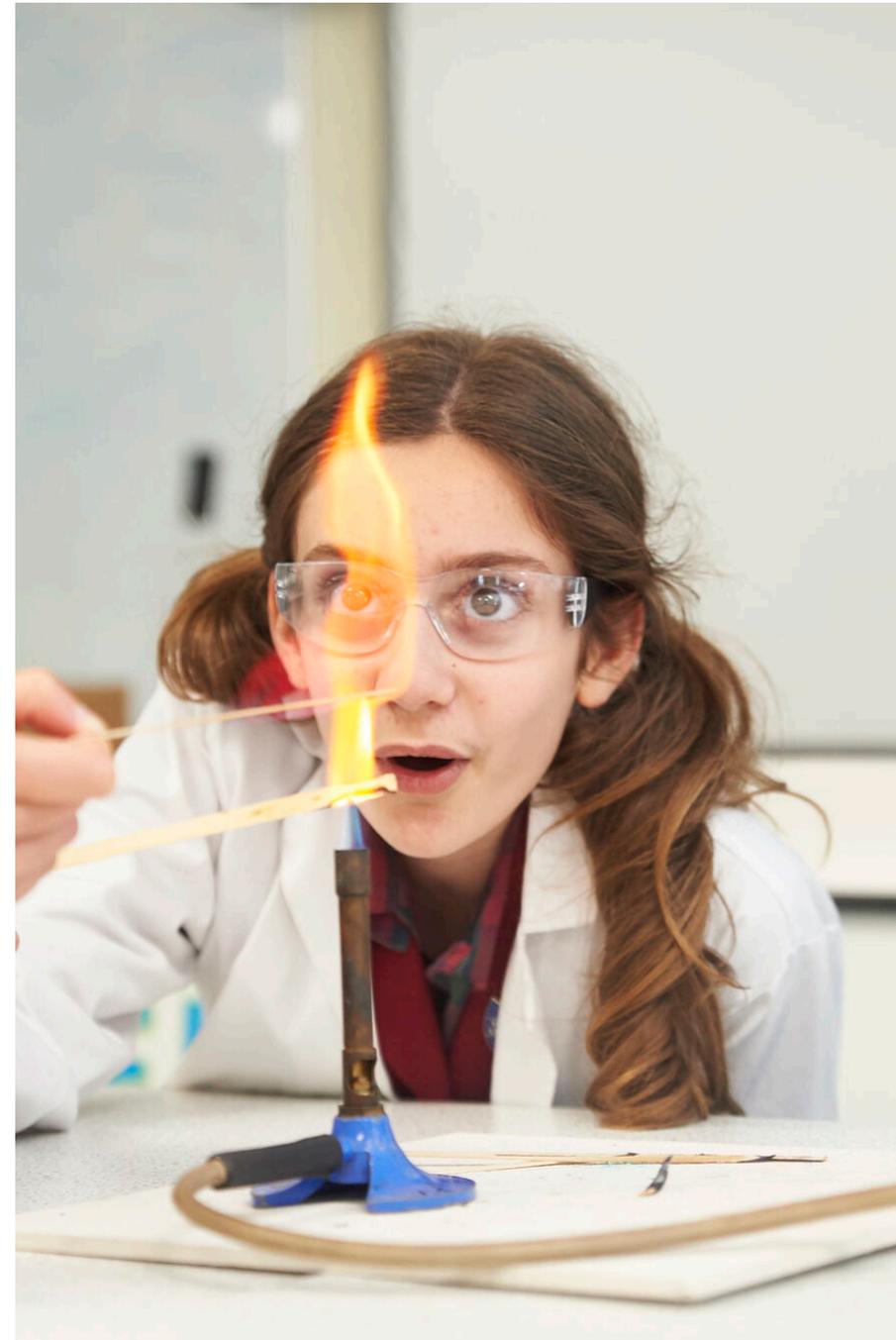
# Headmaster's Introduction

*We have made it through one of the wettest Februarys on record...*

## Dear Parents

We have made it through one of the wettest Februarys on record with the odd storm or two – well done to everyone and particularly the pupils, for remaining cheerful and for their continued determination to be involved in everything that happens at school. I think the roaring fire in the staff room which greets the teachers each morning has helped too!

I talk a lot about academic rigour and the need for the highest standards of teaching and learning – everywhere and always. This is, of course, only one aspect, however important, of a school such as Edge Grove. We are committed to ensuring that the children develop into rounded, successful and accomplished young people. My congratulations to the U13 Basketball team who were victorious, for the second year in a row, at the Orley Farm inter-schools tournament held at Harrow School on Saturday. We had discussed with them at breakfast in the morning that they were going in as favourites and that we had every faith they would bring home the silver – they didn't let us down. Whilst a win is always pleasing, it was their effort, team spirit and excellent sportsmanship which really counts and makes us so proud. At Edge Grove, sport is important but unlike so many other schools, it is certainly not a 'win at all costs' philosophy in which only the most talented are encouraged. We believe in inclusive opportunities and sport for all – everyone should enjoy their games and PE, learn important team skills and leadership, develop confidence and be proud to represent the school. These are invaluable life skills and ones which are not only transferable to academic learning but also prepare children superbly for their senior schools and life beyond. Pupils are able to participate in 25 different sports and we are fortunate to have well-qualified and experienced teachers and coaches, many of them playing, or having played, at a high level themselves, who can teach and inspire our children to achieve great success. It is



often the so-called 'minor' or more individual sports which are sometimes ignored at school level in favour of the major team games but I am pleased to say that at Edge Grove, we embrace and champion all of these. Table tennis, trampolining, archery, squash, golf, tennis, cross country and swimming are all thriving and we have squads training hard and regularly representing the school both locally and nationally. A prep school assembly wouldn't be the same without hearing about our regional and county successes from Mr Craxton in table tennis, archery and squash – they are all very accomplished! Our extensive after-school programme also allows pupils to experience even further opportunities such as modern dance, ballet, Taekwondo, fencing and badminton. If you are interested in your child exploring any of these sporting opportunities, please contact our Director of Sport, Mr McManus [bmcmanus@edgegrove.com](mailto:bmcmanus@edgegrove.com) who will be happy to help. Good luck to our swimming squad who compete today in the IAPS swimming regionals and to our table tennis, badminton and basketball squads who all have competitive matches this week!

As I am sure you have seen, our Flourish Focus for this half term is: Keep Learning. Please ask your children about it and what it means to them. The next Family Flourish Focus informal session for parents is Positive Discipline (18th March) and the Flourish Parent Workshop on the 6th March is Effective Communication. Both these sessions are led by Mrs Sharp (Head of Wellbeing) – [ssharp@edgegrove.com](mailto:ssharp@edgegrove.com) and are free of charge.

Have a great week.

Best wishes  
Ben Evans



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Whilst a win is always pleasing, it was their effort, team spirit and excellent sportsmanship which really counts and makes us so proud



# CALENDAR

*What's on this week*



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# CALENDAR

For fixture information see the Information Letter

## Tuesday 3rd March

Health & Safety Committee, 7.45am

Pre Prep Piano Showcase, Pre Prep Hall, 8.45am

Year 7 Parents' Consultations, Theatre, 4.30pm

Governors' Finance Committee, 5.00pm

## Wednesday 4th March

Rugby 7s festival at St John's Northwood, U13A, 1.30pm-5.00pm

Rugby v Westbrook Hay, U10, U11, U12 & U13

Rugby v Merchant Taylors' School, U12

Table Tennis and Badminton v Westbrook Hay, U13

Netball v Heath Mount, U10, U11 & U13

ABRSM Theory Examinations, by invitation 5.00pm

## Thursday 5th March

World Book Day

Rugby v Beechwood Park, U8 & U9

Netball v Heath Mount, U8 & U9

Basketball v Lochinver House, U13, 4.45pm

Ignite Briefing, Library, 4.15pm-4.30pm

Year 7 Parents' Consultations, Theatre, 6.00pm

## Friday 6th March

2 Willow Form Assembly for parents, pre Prep Hall, 8.45am

Flourish parent workshop, Wellbeing Centre, 8.45am-11.00am

Boarding Activity Evening (Years 4 to 8) to Rock Up, 4.30pm

## Saturday 7th March

Spring Term Opening Morning, 9.00am-12.30pm, Years 5-8 required

IAPS U11 and U13 National Basketball Finals at Sevenoaks School

## Sunday 8th March

## Monday 9th March

Year 6 Parents' Evening, Theatre, 4.30pm-7.15pm



Pre Prep News

# Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson  
Head of Pre Prep

Weather of every variety it seems has played a part in our daily lives in school recently. Daffodils and snowdrops drew us to the lake with a promise that Spring was on its way but then cold, rain and wind tried its best to drive us back indoors. That of course takes some doing at Edge Grove and muddy talent shows still went ahead in Forest School last week, proving that we definitely have 'The X Factor' when it comes to resilience!

Mrs Doughty sets a marvellous example to the children in this regard; her infectious enthusiasm helps to build a sense that anything can be achieved and there are no problems only solutions to any conundrum we find ourselves in. Socially and physically the pupils continue to thrive in the woods, where literally and metaphorically the sky is the limit, whether it be bright blue or cloudy and grey. The Edge Grove hens also continue to thrive in her care, although she does have a little clutch of super helpers who are rewarded with freshly laid eggs.

Indoors, the Pre-School are nurturing an array of hyacinths, watching them bloom from bulbs. It was truly impressive to hear such young children immerse themselves in the science of growing and planting, using expressive language and asking insightful questions to satisfy their curiosity.





Lower School  
News

# Lower School News

Samantha Robinson  
Head of Lower School

With a Flourish focus of *Keep Learning*, the children have been thinking about the new things they are learning such as musical instruments and Italian. In year 3, the children have been sharing their half term prep on Egyptian gods and goddesses. The quality of the work and variety of presentations has been amazing and the children are excited to be continuing with their learning about the Egyptians.



In science, the children have been looking at the different types of human teeth and trying to identify animals from pictures of their teeth. In English, the focus has been the book *Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl. The children have role-played parts of the story to become more familiar with it and have used an app called Morpho to tell the story so far from Mr Fox's point of view. In maths, the focus has been on measurements of length.

Sparks have been flying this week in year 4 as the children enjoyed a Mr G electricity workshop. The children had fun testing out lots of different science equipment and even discovered how to create an electrical current with a vegetable! Year 4 then tried their hand at TV presenting, where they discussed electricity and the benefits of renewable energy. Ask your child to discuss the pros and cons of an electric car.





In English lessons this week the children have let their imaginations run wild creating their own fantasy stories inspired by the book *How to Train*



*Your Dragon*. Year 4 used their understanding of coordinates in maths lessons this week to translate shapes. They were then put to the test creating their own grids and translating a shape of



their choice. The children discovered where biomes are located across the globe and were then able to discuss their individual climates.

# Middle School News



# Middle School News

Kate McManus  
Head of Middle School

Year 5 have been doing basic 'taster lessons' in Hebrew to experience the challenges and joys of being Jewish. They learned to write their own names in Hebrew phonetically. They also learned some basic greetings and responses. Using a card of the Hebrew alphabet, they wrote their

names and messages to each other. A fun experience which seemed to bring a lot of pleasure.

Year 5 Green Maths have been looking at converting between fractions and decimals. Along with times tables, knowing common equivalents off by heart will really help your children with their maths. If you can encourage your child to convert between fractions, decimals and percentages whilst out and about, it will help cement what we do in class and boost their confidence when tackling harder topics. Knowledge of common equivalents will be tested on every form of



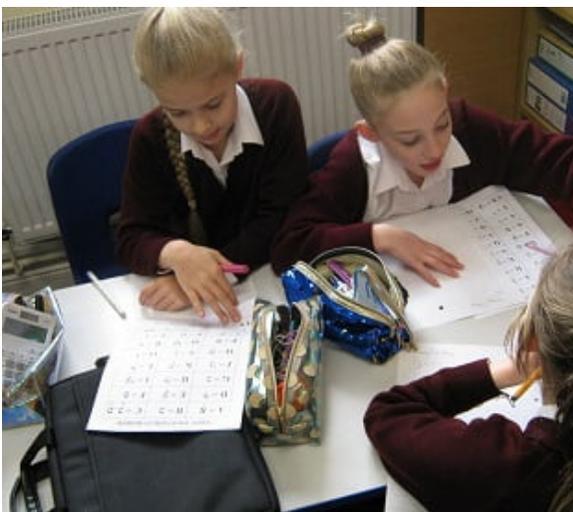
assessment so it is vital that we practice these skills and they become ingrained in long term memory.

Year 6 Blue maths are investigating prime numbers and looking at divisibility rules. The first step has been to identify prime numbers between 1 and 200. Knowing these off by heart can help children tackle higher level questions as it frees up capacity to focus on the high level maths. By the end of the week, we

hope to be able to quickly identify whether 7237 has any factors? How quickly can they do any three, four or five digit number?

In engineering, the children have been using techcard and syringes to create their own simple pneumatic systems. This topic has been allowing the children to learn how process work and to experiment with real life science in action.

In computing, pupils are working on



their theme park projects, and this week saw them creating 3D renderings of some of the rides, including roller coasters! The project spans several weeks and includes creating the theme park map, working out the costings using a spreadsheet and advertising by creating a web page.

In English, year 5 read a poem based on 'Iron Man' with expression and feeling. Afterwards, they picked out effective onomatopoeia and other imagery from the poem, and used these to inspire some super freeze frames!



# Upper School News



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# Upper School News

Anna Warren  
Head of Upper School

It has been another busy week for the Upper School...Our year 7 geographers are carrying out their own investigation around the school grounds

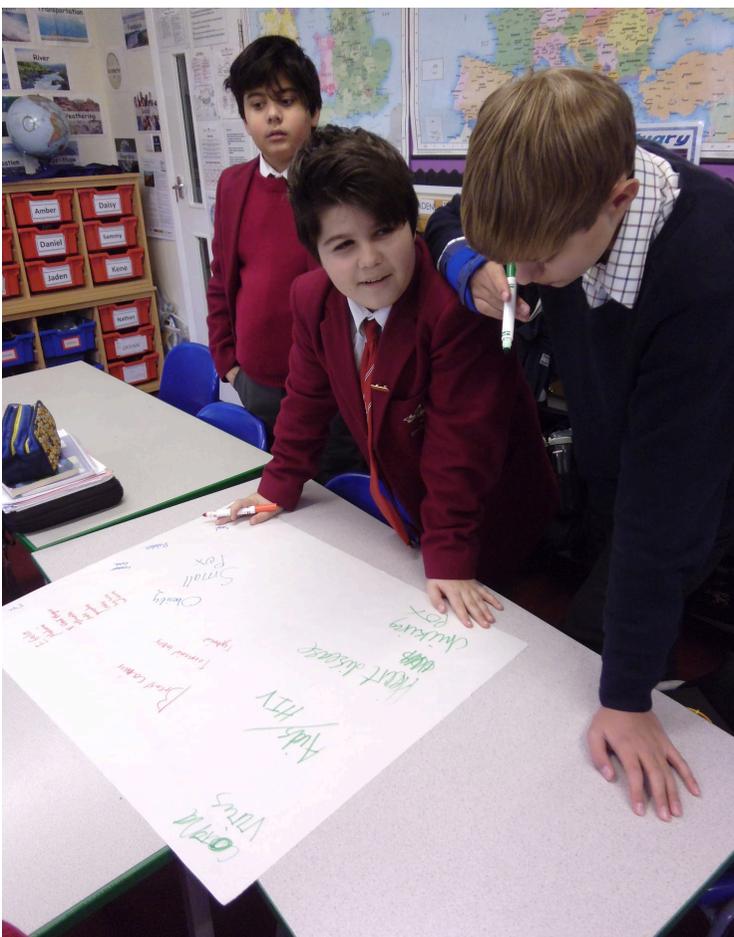


to discover the various microclimates in our school. They have carefully selected five sites within which to carry out fieldwork and later analyse back in the classroom. The pupils learnt how to use the various fieldwork equipment and took ownership of the equipment and their learning.

Year 8 have started the geography component of the geography Baccalaureate curriculum - groups of pupils have been discussing different types of disease they have heard of in order for us to explore the geographical spread of disease.

Year 7 Red Maths have been working with metric conversions. They have used their skills of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 to convert between one measurement and another. It is vital that children are able to estimate measurements using key starting points such as a bag of sugar is 1kg, a doorway is approximately 2





The ultimate aim is to extend the children's mathematical knowledge beyond 13+ level and prepare them for critical thinking tasks required at GCSE and A Level. The first unit of work has been entitled Cars Galore; pupils have had to use their data handling, research and analysis skills to interpret information and research answers. Work has to be presented as a Portfolio of Evidence using referencing skills which will be assessed and will form the basis of their next larger piece of coursework. It has been great to see the children so involved and keen to analyse information and draw their own conclusions.



metres and the length of a football pitch is approximately 100m. This has helped them to understand appropriate units of measure and to reinforce skills used in daily life.

Year 8 Baccalaureate Maths is off to a fine start!



In Textiles, children are developing their weaving skills and have learnt how to prepare their own looms for weaving. They have designed and are making a piece of weaving using different coloured yarns.

In Creative Arts, year 7 and 8 have been learning about how costumes communicate vital information about characters and performance style to an audience. During the next couple of weeks children will be designing costumes for Mary Poppins.

In English, year 8 have been busy analysing

satirical cartoons and how they can be used to mock politics and attitudes. They have investigated the idea of satire and how it links in with 'Animal Farm'. They've also been exploring

how the story is allegorical. They had a mature and insightful Harkness discussion where they shared their ideas using excellent behaviours for learning.

Our pupils have also been very busy outside of school...Last week Harry was presented with his EHRs Everyday Heroes As Stars Award for the Young Persons Outstanding Contribution To Charity Work for his fundraising and work in Sri Lanka . Well done Harry!

In half term, Riley had the pleasure of performing for his local community. Here is a photo of him with the Mayor as well as a copy of a certificate the Mayor presented to Riley. Well done Riley!



# Boarding News



Sunday evening saw the return of the boarders after a fun-packed Half Term. On Monday we had a choice of activities in the Sports Hall or upstairs in the Boarding House. We had a great time playing football and netball.

On Tuesday the children decided to go back to the Sports Hall and play Table Tennis after a great time flipping pancakes in the Dining Hall. On Wednesday we held a Table Tennis and Badminton Tournament with the majority of the children and then a few went upstairs and learnt how to knit with Miss Dolly which they really enjoyed.

Thursday saw the return of Dodgeball which is a great hit with the children and on Friday night we had a great activity night. After a lovely KFC style dinner we all went up to the boarding floor and watched Sing and had some popcorn. It was a lovely evening and was enjoyed by both children and staff.

We look forward to another busy week in boarding which will include waffles and multi sports just to name a few.



## Upcoming Boarding Activities

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### Week 8

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Monday 2nd March

Waffle Night

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Tuesday 3rd March

Multi Sports

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Wednesday 4th March

Badminton and Table Tennis

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Thursday 5th March

Warhammer

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Friday 6th March

Activity Evening - Rock Up

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### Week 9

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Monday 9th March

Boarders' Choice

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Tuesday 10th March

Boarders' Choice

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Wednesday 11th March

Football Tournament

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Thursday 12th March

Cupcake Decorating

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Friday 13th March

Exeat

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



## U13 boys retain Basketball trophy

Our U13 boys took part in the annual basketball tournament hosted at Harrow School on Saturday. We have a proud tradition in this tournament and were the defending champions. They played with skill and flare and retained their title with decisive wins throughout the tournament.

Click [here](#) to read the full report.



## U10As victorious against Beechwood Park

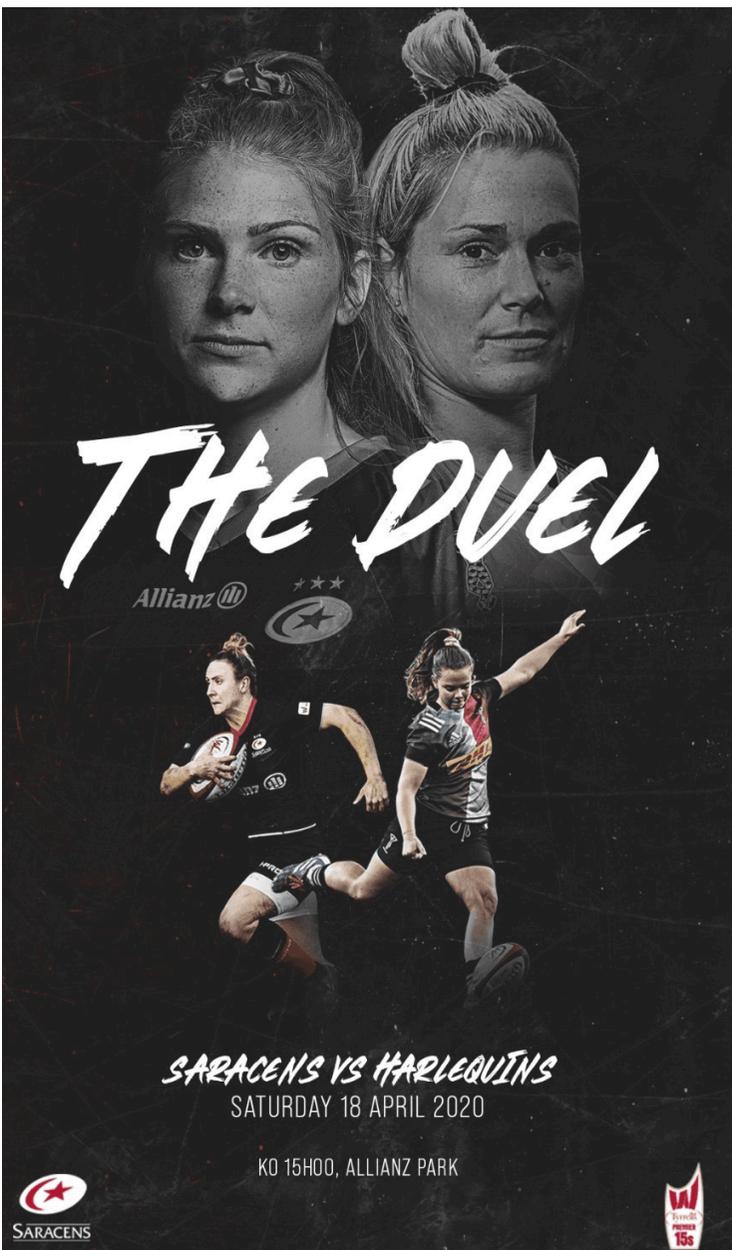
The boys played an excellent game of rugby, focusing on our key targets of putting the opposition under pressure, moving the ball quickly into space and playing as a team and sealed a well-deserved win.

Click [here](#) to read the full report.



## Swimming success for Tara

Tara won the trophy for the U10 fastest swimmer of 2019 at Bushey Amateur Swimming Club. This trophy has been awarded every year since 1926. We are very proud of her achievement. Well done Tara!



Why not go and support Miss Evans and her Saracens team play Harlequins in a top-of-the-table clash at Allianz Park on Saturday 18th April at 3pm. There will be live music, dance displays, Saracens Mavericks Netball and Middlesex cricket masterclasses. There is also the opportunity to have a hospitality table in the Fez or Tulip club. Visit [saracens.com/the-duel/](http://saracens.com/the-duel/) or speak to Miss Evans for tickets and more information.

It promises to be a fantastic family day out!

St Albans High School for Girls

# Year 5 Netball Coaching Masterclass

Are you in year 5?  
Are you a keen netballer?  
Are you thinking of applying to STAHS Senior School?

Fun coaching sessions and match play opportunities led by STAHS Senior Netball Coaches

**STAHS Playing Fields and Courts**  
Saturday 21 March 2020  
8:45am-12:15pm

To sign up, please email [admissions@stahs.org.uk](mailto:admissions@stahs.org.uk) with your contact email address, daughter's name, current school and year group.



Creative Arts  
News

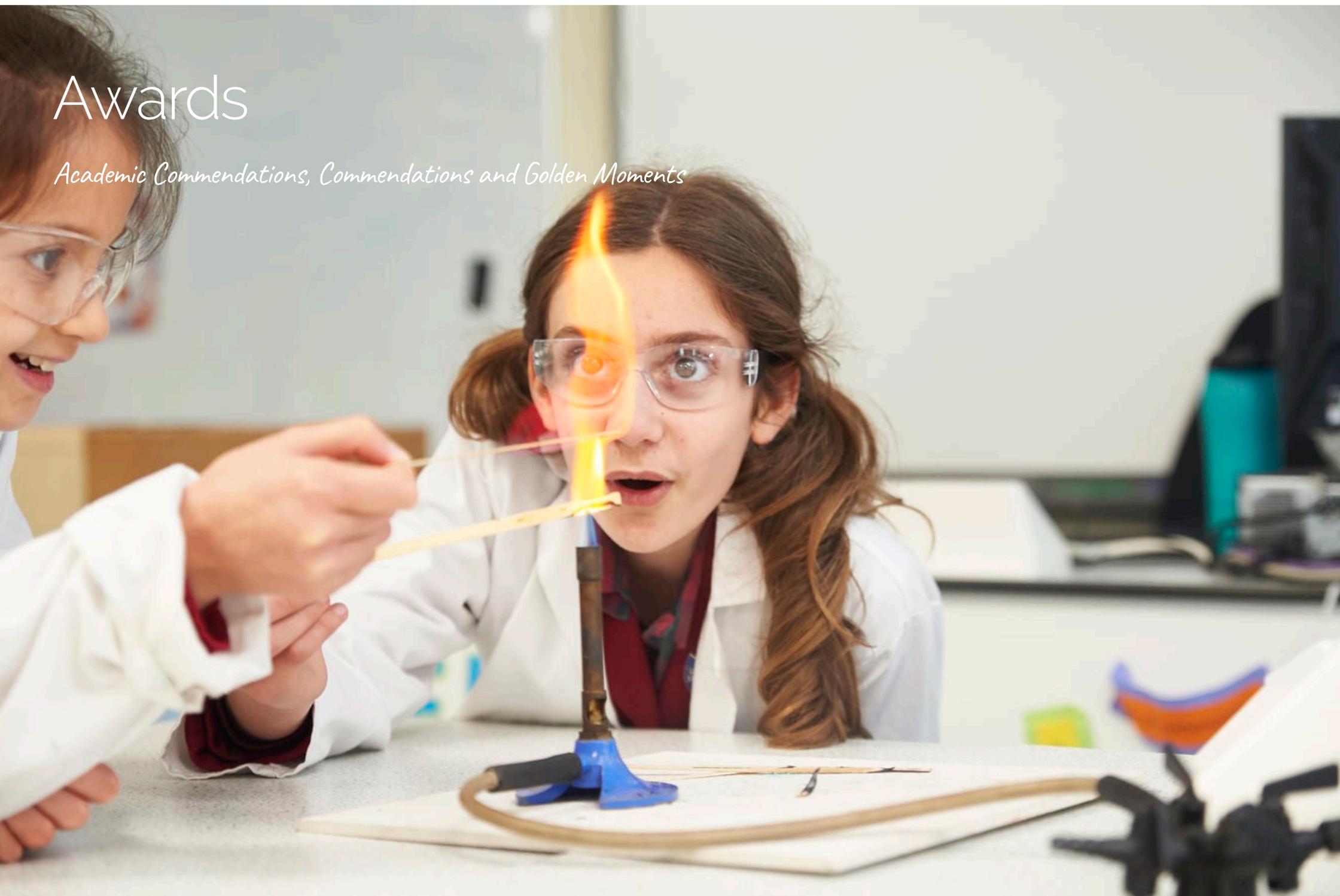
## Downe House Musical Theatre Day Thursday 27th February 2020

Our year 5 girls had a fantastic day at the Downe House Musical Theatre Day. They rehearsed in groups for dancing, singing and acting and then put on a final performance at the end of the day. All the girls did brilliantly and Zara even opened the show with Dara, Gabby and Caitlin singing some of the first song. Well done all!



# Awards

*Academic Commendations, Commendations and Golden Moments*



## 14th - 27th February 2020

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

### Academic Commendations

Adeniyi, Anjolaoluwa (Anjola) 3M  
Pearson, Chase 4TC  
Oladuji, Zuriela 3M  
Shah, Rohan 4TC  
John, Rahul 4M  
Murphy, Dillon 5D  
Khoroshaev, Artem 4M (2)  
Padayachy, Hugh 5E  
Kumarappan, Krishna (Krish) 4M  
Liu, Zhenghan 6GT  
Shah, Tara 4M  
Maragh, Gabriel 6GT  
Tailor, Rishi 4M  
Harris, Sophie 6L  
Usmani, Yousuf 4M  
Balogun, Araoluwakitan (Kitan) 7D  
Bennett, Bella 4T  
Lake, Sophia 7D

Ellis-Scarfe, Marcy 4T  
Xu, Qianxun (Chihiro) 7D  
Goodman, Lilyrose 4T  
French, Gray 7M  
Kruis Boukerboub, Noah 4T  
Stein, Sam 7M  
Kuti, Nifemi 4T  
Bakare, Olujimi 7W  
Pal, Vihaan 4T  
Caplan, Zack 7W  
Pullen, Emily 4T  
Onuiri, Onyekachi (Kachi) 7W  
Bulmer, India 4TC  
Hathaway, Etienne 8K  
Dada, Ayomide 4TC  
Baxendale, Leopold 8O  
Hughes, Ridley 4TC  
Oyetunde, Daniel 8T  
Lloyd, Sophia 4TC (2)

### Commendations

Baxendale, Felix 5D  
Kyte-Ogunnubi, Temi 7D  
McManus, Connor Ray 5D

Patel, Nikhil 7D  
Ashley, Rex 5E  
Orriss, Declan 7KM  
Burov, Nikolay (Niky) 5N  
Samuel-Napier, Ethan 7W

### Golden Moments

Alexander (Alex) Pinkerton 3D - Alex was extremely kind and extra polite in boarding last night.

Evie Hopkins 3R - Evie had paid a lot of attention



to something that I had said to her at breakfast this week. I was very impressed.

Rex Ashley 5E - For helping to clean up the art room after a very busy and messy day for Creative Arts Day. Thank you so much!

Max Colton 5E - For helping to clean up the art room after a very busy and messy day for Creative Arts Day. Thank you so much!

Henry Murray 5E - For helping to clean up the art room after a very busy and messy day for Creative Arts Day. Thank you so much!

Henry Murray 5E - For holding the door open while hoards of children flowed through. Henry was there for a long time and waited so patiently until the traffic passed.

Kian Dalwood 7D - Kian was very kind to another boy who was in distress.

Daisy Beer 7KM - Thank you for cleaning my white board for me without being asked and keeping the weather station up to date.

Kenechukwu (Kene) Harris-Eze 7KM - Thank you for taking the chairs down this morning, it was a great help.

Niyam Patel 7KM - Thank you for taking all my chairs down for me this morning without being asked.





# Upcoming Events

*Flourish Parent Workshop, FoEG events and more...*

Flourish Parent Workshop  
(Interactive, strategy-focused sessions)

Effective Communication  
Friday 6th March, 8.45am-11.00am

Focus:

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

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.

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



Flourish Family Focus  
(Bitesize coaching sessions)

Positive Discipline  
Wednesday 18th March, 8.45am-9.45am

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 and is constantly evolving. Flourish Family Focus is part of Edge Grove's Flourish programme - a series half-termly bitesize coaching sessions for Pre Prep parents which offer regular opportunities to gain insight into, and explore common parent 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.

Following on from Effective Praise, the first in the series of bitesize coaching sessions, we are pleased

to invite Pre Prep parents to join the next discussion where we will explore the topic of positive discipline. This will take place at 8.45am in the Wellbeing Centre. If you would like to attend please email [KMcGowan@edgegrove.com](mailto:KMcGowan@edgegrove.com) to reserve your place.

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2020, 2-5pm**  
FREE Lego Minifigure with every ticket

EDGE GROVE

# Brick Fair

Build competition  
Treasure hunt  
Brick builds  
Exhibits  
Games  
Prizes  
Raffle  
Snacks  
Drinks

Buy tickets online, £6/child:  
[www.FOEG.co.uk](http://www.FOEG.co.uk)

FRIENDS OF EDGE GROVE

Come along for a day of Lego fun!

The FoEG is excited to be hosting the first Lego brick building and games event at Edge Grove. Don't miss out on this new fun event for kids of all ages!

Event tickets are now available from [www.foeg.co.uk](http://www.foeg.co.uk)

FREE Lego minifigure included with each ticket (to be collected at the treasure hunt).

Deadline for tickets sales: Monday 2nd March 2020.

# JUNIOR BAKE OFF

...IS LOOKING FOR THE UK'S  
BEST YOUNG BAKERS  
AGED 9 - 15

[WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK)

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE  
SUNDAY 5th APRIL 2020**

Enquiries:  
[applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk](mailto:applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk)



Hertfordshire  
**2020**  
Year of Culture



## SAVE THE DATES

**FESTIVAL OF CULTURE IN RADLETT 2020  
THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**



### THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

EXCLUSIVE LAUNCH NIGHT  
SCHOOLS COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCED  
RADLETT ART SOCIETY EXHIBITION OPENS



### FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

THE UPBEAT BEATLES  
ART EXHIBITIONS

### SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

BOOK AND POETRY READINGS, ART EXHIBITIONS,  
MUSICAL RECITALS, CHOIRS, STREET ENTERTAINERS,  
BRING & SING, COMEDY NIGHT  
RADLETT & DISTRICT MUSEUM VILLAGE TRAIL  
THE RADLETT FESTIVAL OF MUSIC



### SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

MOVIES IN THE PARK, ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD STALLS

THIS IS AN ALDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL EVENT TO PROMOTE  
'HERTFORDSHIRE'S YEAR OF CULTURE 2020'



**WE INVITE YOU TO BE A PART OF THIS  
VERY SPECIAL WEEKEND**

For more information email [community@aldenham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:community@aldenham-pc.gov.uk)

FOLLOW US

Twitter @AldenhamPC and  
Facebook 'APC Aldenham Parish Council'

*Thank you for reading*

# EDGE NEWS

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