

EDGE



GROVE

Newsletter

30th April 2018



Pre Prep made dresses from recycled materials

Dear Parents

I think we may all have got a little overexcited with the hot sunny weather at the start of term, easily done after such a long winter but reality has now set in. Please remember that winter or summer uniform can still be worn and our priority is for the children to be warm and comfortable. Always wishing to look for the positives, the rain does help to ensure the Edge Grove grounds are verdant and rich in wildlife. Eco-Day last week was the perfect opportunity for pupils to consider the impact we all have on the environment, especially with our reliance on plastics and other harmful materials together with learning about what positive action we can all take. It was wonderful to see the grounds alive with children exploring the eco-systems, investigating the benefits of various plants and even sowing wildlife attracting seeds with Mrs Dawson in Forest School. Our greenhouses are now full with recycled plant pots and germinating seeds which will fill our school garden and may also be available to buy at the summer fete - fingers crossed! The Lower School pupils also did their bit and learnt that every little helps by picking dandelion flowers in The Park before they go to seed to avoid us having to use harmful herbicides. The school is now well on the way to achieving the much coveted Green Flag Status and ensuring that environmental

Calendar

Monday 30th April

Tennis v Beechwood Park, Years 5 to 8 (A), 4.30pm

Tuesday 1st May

Magical Maths Workshops for Lower and Middle School

Year 8 Theatre trip to *The Woman in Black* ▲

Wednesday 2nd

House Music competition

Boys' Cricket v Kingshott, 2nd, Colts A, Colts D, Colts E (H), 1st, 3rd, Colts B, Colts C (A)

Girls' Cricket v Beechwood Park, U11 (A), U10 (H)

IAPS Area 1N Science meeting at Edge Grove

Thursday 3rd

Year 7 Geography River Day

Boys' Cricket v Kingshott, U9 (A)

Girls' Cricket v St Albans, U9, U8 (A), 3.00pm start

Year 5, Upper School Pathways Evening, by invitation

Friday 4th

Cricket for girls with Lydia Greenway games afternoon, 1.30pm - 4.00pm

The Northwood 500 at St John's School, 1.30pm - 6.30pm

Merchant Taylors' School Science Challenge, Middle School

Exeat starts at 6.00pm

Saturday 5th

Exeat, School closed

Sunday 6th

Exeat, School closed

Monday 7th

Bank Holiday

Exeat, School closed

Boarders return from 6.00pm

Music lesson timetables will be updated on FireFly on Friday afternoons.

<https://firefly.edgegrove.com/communication/music-timetable>

awareness and a deep rooted understanding of ecology is very much a way of life at Edge Grove.

Table tennis continues to be a very popular pastime at the school and for the third consecutive year, it was a great pleasure to host the U11 and U13 IAPS National Championships with 130 competitors from 22 different schools across the country. Quite a feat of logistics with 9 tables in operation all day but this caused few problems for Mr Craxton and his mathematical brain. Together with Mr McManus and exacting organisational skills, the day ran extremely smoothly with many positive comments from visiting parents and coaches. My thanks to those parents and staff who helped throughout the day and many congratulations to pupils who participated - always with great determination and skill. Our pupils, once again, demonstrated excellent behaviour and in stark contrast to another of the attending schools. I am delighted to announce that Ishaan (year 8) came third in the U13 competition as did Darcey (year 6) in the U11 category - well done!

Every day, from around 8.00am onwards, we are tempted and slightly tortured by the delicious aromas that come from our school kitchens. I am constantly amazed by the quality, variety and consistency of food which is produced daily. However, I am well aware that traditionally, food in schools comes under fire which in recent years is mostly unjustified. Whilst we have a great deal of variety with homemade soup and bread, full salad bar, two main options and a vegetarian alternative plus a range of hot and cold puddings, it is not possible for each child to choose their own daily menu. And therein lies the problem. Our menus are nutritionally balanced, with steamed vegetables, varied sources of carbohydrates, proteins and vitamins, all in place to ensure that our pupils understand the importance of a healthy diet and to encourage good eating habits that will stay with them for life. However, as with instilling kindness and social skills, we do need your help too. Please review our three-weekly menus (changed termly and according to the seasons) which can be found on Firefly and discuss choices with your children, especially those who may be a little fussy or keen to avoid vegetables. We also ask that you encourage them to try different foods at home; to be adventurous and to be risk takers with their eating! We are always happy to host small groups of parents for lunch so you can see for yourselves the high quality of our food. In the past this has elicited comments such as, 'the broccoli is actually green' and 'I had no idea there

was so much choice - my son often tells me there is nothing to eat!'

The Summer Ball tickets are selling fast and if you would like to secure your table at another spectacular event, please contact Sue Maughan at ball@edgegrove.com. A busy week ahead with much anticipated magical maths workshops for the lower and middle schools, a theatre trip for year 8 to see *The Woman in Black*, the House music competition, the first of our information evenings for year 5 parents about the upper school pathways and the MTS middle school science challenge in amongst everything else.

Best wishes

Ben Evans



[More photos from the IAPS Table Tennis Championships](#)

Pre Prep News

Gill Emmerson,
Head of Pre Prep

The change in weather has not dampened our enthusiasm for all things outdoors. I am extremely proud of both staff and pupils for their hard work in developing the Wildlife Garden. A lunchtime Gardening Club run by Mrs Doughty and Mrs Aldridge has proved very popular and as pupils beaver away closely watched by our chickens, we see signs of life literally blooming before our eyes. *Cloud Girl* gracefully landed in Mrs McLuster's linen basket in Pre-School this week, much to the delight of the children. She will help them to discover the treasures of the earth in group enquiry this term and I am confident that their discoveries will be magical.

Please click below to see more from Pre Prep:



[Pre Prep News Page](#)

Middle School News

Kate McManus
Head of Middle School

It has been a busy week and all the children in the middle school have been getting back into the swing of things and enjoying using the outdoor environment to enhance their learning. We were very lucky on Thursday to have a talk from Sarah Roberts, a scientist and eco journalist who focuses on nature and the impact that humans have on the world.

Please click below to see more from Middle School this week:



[Middle School News Page](#)

Lower School News

Yvonne Rogers,
Acting Head of Lower School

Year 3

What an exciting and varied week year 3 have had! On Wednesday, the children were treated to a visit from Mexicolore to help bring their topic on the Maya to life. They all had a fabulous time, learning through the use of traditional music, chanting to the ancient Maya gods and finding out about the uses of the rainforest.

Year 4

Another busy week for year 4! In English, the children used iPads and a conveniently placed hill to recreate the key scenes from the Battle of Hastings. This allowed them to use roleplaying and drama to try to understand how the untrained Saxons felt after a route march back from battle with Harald Hardrada only to face a Norman army with superior arms and training.

Please click below to see more from Lower School:

[Lower School News Page](#)

Upper School News

Anna Warren,
Head of Upper School

Despite the cold breezes and intermittent sunshine this week, the Upper School pupils have impressed me with their enjoyment of cricket on the paddock at break times! It was also lovely to see the first team play so well against Beechwood Park; their camaraderie and teamwork was evident. Eco Day was a huge success, and the Upper School are certainly very well informed when it comes to understanding the true impact of plastic pollution in the natural world.

Click below to see more of the Upper School.



[Upper School News Page](#)

Sports News

Click here for all this week's match reports

Follow Edge Grove Sport [@EdgeGroveSport](#)

Academic Commendations, Commendations and Golden Moments
20th April to 26th April

Please click for details of the academic commendations, commendations and golden moments given out so far.



The **Edge Grove Society** is trying to locate any current parents that have had a previous connection at the school. Perhaps you have family members or friends that were old boys or girls who may have contributed to your reasons for coming, maybe a cousin, grandfather, neighbour, friend of the family?

We have many lost Alumni on our system and we are trying to locate and engage with as many people as possible so any help with connections would be greatly appreciated.

Please email egs@edgegrove.com.

Edge Grove Online shoppers! We need you!

You can help us to raise money for free!

Shop at over **4,200 leading stores** via our site and you'll raise free funds for your chosen charity.

Use the link to **Sign up for free NOW** and the school will get **additional funds for the referral**.

£100 weekly shop will raise £100 annually for the School

SIGN UP FOR FREE NOW

<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/signup>



Please click on the Stevensons logo below to see information on booking appointments and ordering uniform online.

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SCHOOL UNIFORM OUTFITTERS

Aldwickbury Year 4 Maths Challenge April 2018

Dylan, Lucas, Nicolas and Vihaan competed for Edge Grove on Tuesday afternoon at the prestigious annual Aldwickbury Maths Challenge, involving 30 schools which meant 60 pairs competing. Douglas Buchanan was, as always, the quiz master and the event kicked off with a game of "Dicey Dicey" which involves quick mental arithmetic.

"What is next?" came next, which not surprisingly, was selecting the correct next number in a sequence. Try this one - 23,18,11,2, ? or this one D, G, J, M, ? Then Make 24; an Edge Grove Year 4 favourite but here the numbers were up to and including 10 and making 24 really was a challenge - so Mrs Thomas thought! Using a code, sudoku and tangrams featured in the next round which for those who love maths provided a delightful feast. An hour and a half later the top three results were announced. Edge Grove, we found out after, came 6th out of 32 teams which was fabulous news.

This challenge afternoon stretched young minds, encouraged perseverance, rewarded effort and was great fun. In June, Edge Grove will be aiming to encourage all of the above by hosting a slightly lower key but nonetheless challenging maths morning for year 3 pupils from a range of local schools.



Geography Photography Competition

Well done to all those who took part.



Lower School winner: Fynn



Upper School Winner: Oliver



Middle school winner: Alex

Are you considering an Independent Senior School for your child?

Are there just too many Open Days to go to?

Are you finding it difficult to make an informed choice?

Why not let over 30 Independent Senior Schools come to you...

Join us at our

Senior Schools' Fair

Thursday 17th May 2018

6pm – 8pm

Attended by over 30 Independent Senior Schools including:

Abbot's Hill, Bedford Girls' School, Bedford School, Bradfield College, Charterhouse, Cheltenham College, Clifton College, Downe House, Felsted School, Haileybury, Harrow School, King's Ely, Merchant Taylors' School, Millfield, North London Collegiate School, Oakham, Oundle School, Pangbourne College, Princess Helena College, Queenswood, Repton, Royal Masonic School for Girls, Rugby, Shiplake College, St Albans High School, St Albans School, St Columba's College, St Edward's Oxford, St Helen's School, St Margaret's School, Stowe, Taunton School, Winchester College, Wycombe Abbey.

Seminars running during the evening include:

	THEATRE	CHAPEL
6PM – 6.30PM	Felsted - Character Education	Bedford Girls - The International Baccalaureate Diploma as an alternative to A Levels
6.45PM – 7.15PM	Shiplake - Boarding in the 21st Century	Bedford - Making the most of Senior School
7.30PM – 8PM	Princess Helena College - Children's emotional/mental wellness	St Edward's Oxford - The differing benefits of IB and A levels



EDGE GROVE

SUMMER BALL

JUNE 30

7PM SPARKLING RECEPTION
3 COURSE DINNER WITH WINE

LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING WITH THE LED GREEN EXPERIENCE

£100 PER TICKET

TO BOOK TICKETS & FOR FURTHER INFO: BALL@EDGEGROVE.COM

COCKTAIL BAR - CASINO - LIVE AUCTION



EDGE GROVE GOLF DAY

Open to all parents, staff and Alumni

Friday 18th May 2018
Porters Park Golf Club, Radlett

Breakfast rolls, tea/coffee on arrival
18 holes of golf
2 Course Lunch
Prizes and awards

To book your place or secure your four ball team please email smaughan@edgegrove.com

£80 per person
£30 for Porters Park members

EDGE GROVE SOCIETY

Golf Day Booking Form



South Herts breast cancer **now**

FAMILY RUN FOR FUN

11 AM SUNDAY 10TH JUNE 2018

@EDGE GROVE

RUN, WALK OR SKIP OUR 5KM OR 1KM COURSE FOR CHARITY

BUY TICKETS @ FULLONSPORT.COM

SEARCH: SOUTH HERTS BREAST CANCER NOW RUN FOR FUN

GREAT DAY FOR ALL THE FAMILY!
ACTIVITY VILLAGE & FOOD COURT

JUST SEVENTY Right at Home SOUTHHERTSBREASTCANCERNOW SOUTHHERTSBCHNG@GMAIL.COM OPTIMONS GROUP



Spire Bushey Hospital

SPIRE BUSHEY 10K, 5K & JUNIOR RACES
SUNDAY 1ST JULY

House News!

Please check out the House News on FireFly at

<https://firefly.edgegrove.com/interhouse>



Camping with Dad weekend

9th and 10th June

It's time for another camping weekend! For those who have never been before it's a brilliant half day of activities and free play when children and fathers (or other male family members) get to spend quality time with the children in the wonderful grounds of Edge Grove.

For further details and to see how you can book your pitch click here: [Camping-weekend-2018](#)



Flourish Parent Workshop Developing the 'Inner Coach'

Friday 18th May, 2018, 8.45am – 11.00am
£25 per person

Encouraging children to recognise they have the ability to take control of their thoughts, feelings and actions can be transformational – supporting them to do this by developing their 'inner coach' is a valuable life skill.

Recognition that the focus and frequency of thoughts shifts perceptions is key. The 'inner coach' focusses on the positive, it observes, evaluates and thinks through options and positive solutions rather than catastrophizing and self-blaming. With practice the inner coach becomes stronger, the preferred thought pattern, allowing children to cope better with challenges and maintain a 'can do' approach to life. This activity based workshop explores:

- 'Inner mind chatter' - how we talk to ourselves and the effect
- Recognising how thought patterns influence feelings and behaviour
- Developing evaluation skills
- Taking ownership of 'mindset'
- How to set and achieve goals



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

Hot Topic!

The Young Enterprise Tenner Challenge closed shortly before the Easter holidays and we have now tallied the results. I am pleased to announce that the Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow were the winning team with a massive profit of £85.21. As a group, the Ignite fellows decided that all profits would be donated to the Rainbow Centre, Sri Lanka and I had the pleasure of assisting winning captain Ebunlola in presenting Mr. Evans a cheque during Monday's assembly.

The challenge itself is an interesting endeavour; it has a low threshold for participation but at the same time is almost limitless in application. We had teams selling biscuits and cakes, smoothies and milkshakes and even keyrings and other small trinkets. Nationally, there were teams selling ethically sourced jute products, personalised clothing and even washing cars.

The Fellows used many skills to create their businesses - from ICT for presentations to their first steps in diplomatic negotiation, critical thinking to creative planning - Young Enterprise drives home the need for a range of abilities alongside academic prowess. Above all else, the challenge encourages independent thinking and independence of action which are two characteristics that will benefit the Fellows throughout their lives.

Well done to all involved.

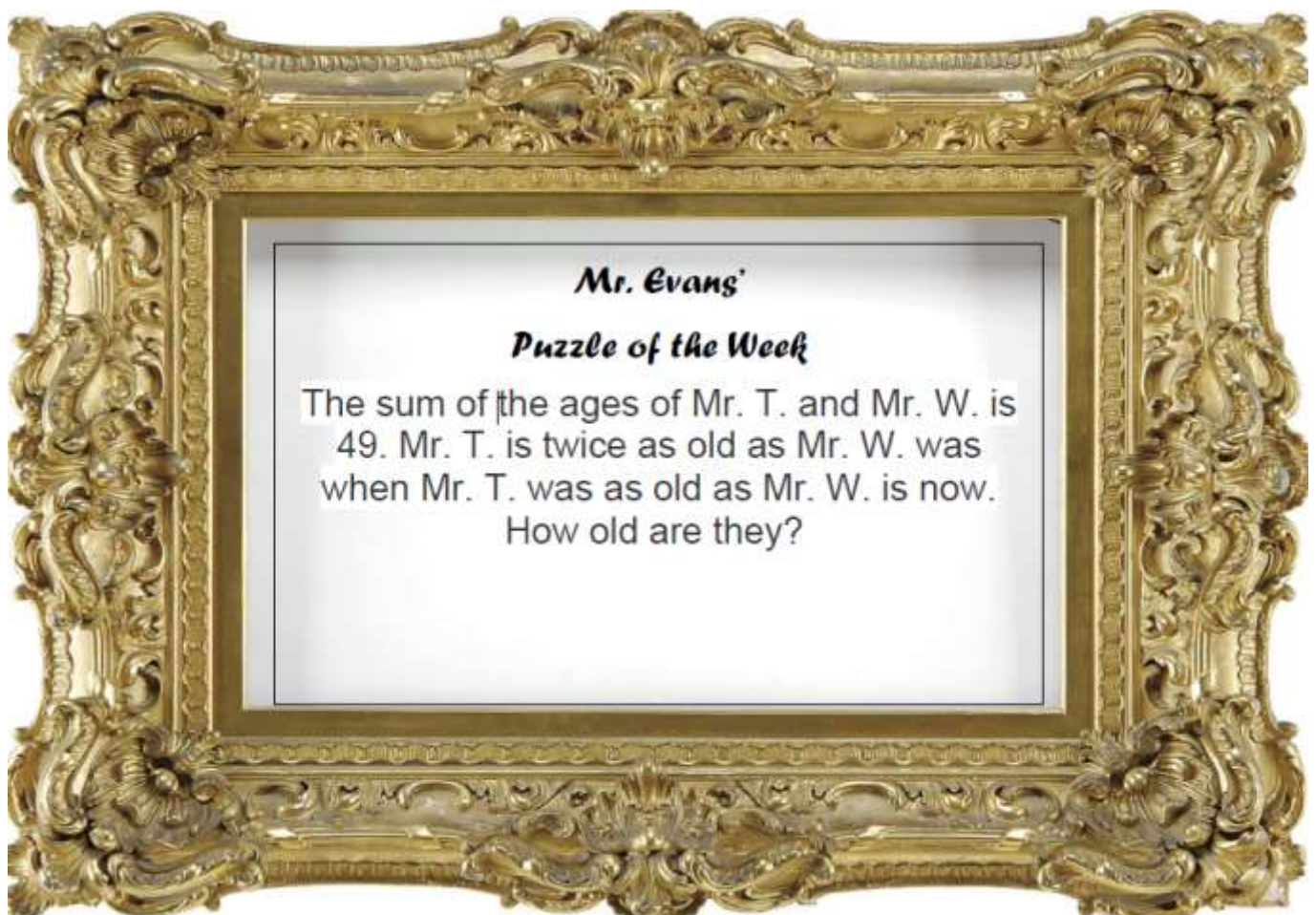
Mr. Wooding

Ignite Dates:

Ignite Full Meeting - Friday 4th May- any Fellow can share their success. Email Mr. Wooding nwooding@edgegrove.com to book your slot.

Felsted MUN - Monday 18th June - Year 6 and 7

Tenner 2018	Profit
The Money Makers	£52
Young Entrepreneurs	£35.85
Tenner Triumph inc.	£56.90
Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow	£85.21
The Finance Kings	£22.20
	£252



Answer to the last puzzle: It was still Mount Everest. Discovery did not change its altitude.
(Answers to this week's puzzle should be sent to Mr Wooding's email: nwooding@edgegrove.com)