



SBy/esk
July 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

It is hard to believe that we have now arrived at the end of another academic year; this term has flown by.

Trips and Visits

Year 7 enjoyed a visit from **author Christopher Edge**, who gave a presentation, answered many questions about creative writing and conducted a book signing. We have been lucky enough to be visited by several ex-students this term too: Yasmin, Olivia and Sophie (Head Girl and Deputies) came back into school to lead a training session for our new Student Leadership Team headed up next year by Oni and Lauren.



The Mama Kerry Feeding Project

Students have enjoyed a variety of trips this term including a Geography field trip to Southampton, a Year 7 trip to Winchester Science museum, numerous Year 10 trips to sixth form colleges, a Sports Prefect trip to Calshot and, of course, the Kenya expedition.

As we write, twenty senior students, accompanied by Mrs Hayakawa and Mrs Newman, are on an African adventure and have spent the day helping in a school near Nakuru helping the Mama Kerry feeding project. It really is proving to be a life-changing experience and you can follow their progress on the school Twitter account [@stedmundswilts](https://twitter.com/stedmundswilts)

Events

The **Year 11 Prom** held at Salisbury Arts Centre was a roaring success. It is wonderful to see our students and the boys at Wyvern looking fantastic and enjoying a celebration of their time at secondary school.

The **Summer Concert "All That Jazz"** was another fantastic event enjoyed by many. Talented students performed many jazz classics either by singing or sharing their instrumental skills. The event was concluded by an amazing finale in which 150 students, all of whom receive music lessons at St Edmund's, performed together!



The Year 7 “Dance Off” last Friday is now an annual event that we all look forward to, although judging it is always tricky!

Many congratulations to 7 Keller (see right) who won the Dance Off with a brilliantly choreographed Bollywood-style dance piece that was in perfect unison.



We very much enjoyed meeting our new **Year 7 and their families** who joined us for both an information evening and an induction day two weeks ago. We welcome them to our school community and we know that they are excited about starting at St Edmund's in September.

Building Works

The Magill Building is almost ready for us! Over the past few weeks we have seen the scaffolding come off the building, the windows open, the inside painting completed and rooms carpeted. Groups of staff and students have visited and been impressed with what they have seen. The building will be handed over to us by the end of August and staff will be moving in at the beginning of September. We will look forward to introducing you to our new building, dedicated to the memory of Mr Bobby Magill, in the new school year. We will be scheduling an official opening event in late September and will provide you with more details nearer the time.

Staff Leaving

Also prompting change at this time of year is the fact that a number of staff are leaving, some of whom have been with us for many years. It is always difficult to say goodbye to highly valued staff who have made a huge contribution to the school, but equally I am delighted when teachers and non-teaching staff are able to progress their careers through what they have achieved with us.

Thank you to **Mr Tim Valjak and Mrs Rebecca Inglis** who have been with us this year on a temporary basis and also to **Mrs Jayne Wade** who returned to teach English again this year. **Mrs Kat Langmead** leaves us to move to the north of the county, to teach at Bradon Forest School. Three members of staff leave after much longer periods of time at St Edmund. **Mrs Natalie Medcalf**, who is moving to Australia with her family, began her career here as a Teaching Assistant before qualifying as a Teacher of Maths. Also with us as a Teaching Assistant (for 4 years), **Mrs Emma Fraser-Hayes** is leaving to start teacher training. **Mrs Vicky Townsend** is retiring after 11 years; having chosen to go part time she is now taking the step into retirement having taught Biology and led many successful environmental projects and activities over the years. **Mr Len Passmore** is also retiring after 17 years at St Edmunds; as Head of Nightingale House and Head of ICT he has seen many changes in the school. His contribution to wider school life has included attendance at virtually every evening event and participation in shows, pantomimes and charity events.

We say goodbye to staff members here who truly embody the spirit of St Edmund's, all of them putting the growth and development of our students at the heart of everything they do. To all these members of staff, as well as the students leaving St Edmund's this summer, we wish you health, happiness and fulfilment in all that you do in your future lives.

New School Skirts



The new skirts modelled by our new Key Stage 3 leaders: Fleur, Hannah and Katy

Although the vast majority of students have now purchased their new skirts, we know that some are still waiting for their skirts. Scholars, our suppliers, did their utmost to estimate the numbers of skirts required in each size but a few skirt sizes have been far more popular than anticipated. This has meant that extra stock has had to be manufactured in these sizes.

The logistics of kitting out 800 girls at one time have certainly been challenging but I am pleased to say that we have been assured by Scholars that all sizes will definitely be ready for collection on **Scholars' next pop up shop dates**, which are:

Thursday 24th August	1200 to 1400	Dining Hall
Monday 4th September	1200 to 1400	Dance Studio

Could we also point out that the skirt length, whether it is the new skirt or the old one, should be no more than a couple of inches above the knee. Those girls wearing too short a skirt at the start of the term will be expected to get their skirt replaced with one of an appropriate length. Please note that skirts should not be rolled up, not only because this makes them too short, but also because it will cause damage to the zip. Scholars will not accept any returns of skirts where damage has been caused by rolling up the skirt. Thank you for your support as parents.

Return to School Dates

Friday 1 st , Monday 4 th & Tuesday 5 th September	Teacher Training days
Wednesday 6 th September 2017	New Year 7 and invited Prefects only
Thursday 7 th September 2017	Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 return to school.

For other Teacher Training days and early finish dates, see the calendar for 2017 - 18:
<http://st-edmunds.eu/wp-content/uploads/Term-Dates-2017-18-St-Edmunds-TDDs-1.pdf>

Finally, after a busy but very successful school year, we would like to wish you all a very restful summer break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Busby".

Sarah Busby
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicola Bull".

Nicola Bull
Head of School