

# St Edward's School Hampshire

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St Edward's School is a charitable trust providing day and residential placements for boys aged 9 – 18 years who experience behavioural difficulties associated with their social, emotional and mental health. These may be complicated by additional learning difficulties.

### P4C - Philosophy for Children

At St Edward's, each half term begins with a P4C lesson (We often refer to them as P4T out of deference to the teenagers!). The English department introduced these lessons due to their effects on emotional awareness, thinking skills and even academic progress.

Philosophy calls on imagination and reasoning and puts these capacities to work exploring values, assumptions and vital concepts like justice, truth, knowledge and beauty. It creates a learning environment where adults and children can search for meaning together; where our pupils can learn to become adept at reasoning and become open to the reasoning of others.



**Is there a reality? (Josh)**  
**How do you control people?**

**Does money make the world go round? (Harvey)**  
**Is terrorism a bad thing?**

**Should we have protests from people who want change? (Ezra)**

It is so important for adults and children to talk together in situations where differences can be welcomed and explored. Typically, we don't talk together in this way enough.

Philosophy for Children follows a specific structure, as illustrated by the accompanying images. Stimuli – usually powerful pictures, film clips or even a piece of music offer opportunities for classes to create a community of enquiry and ask questions of it to better their understanding.

From these questions, we extract themes and then develop philosophical questions from these themes. The process concludes with a forum for open dialogue in which we sift arguments, explore alternatives, but above all try to understand each other.

These lessons are driven by a need to encourage intellectual curiosity, open the door to topics that children won't usually engage in naturally, but ultimately to enable our pupils not only to question, but to form opinions, see value in them and also instil the confidence to have those opinions questioned and respond appropriately.

This half term's stimulus was a clip from the film, 'Children of Men'.



## Exciting New Developments at Melchet Court

During last Summer and into the Autumn term our maintenance grounds staff did a major overhaul of the glasshouse in the Walled Garden at school.

It had become sadly neglected over a number of years as unforgiving weather and winds did significant damage to the structure. Glass fully replaced and, as a result of all of the hard work, the building now looks splendid.

The boys had sown seeds during March and the germination was good. From this we now have tomatoes, aubergines, chillies and peppers growing in the glasshouse beds again all flowering beautifully.

The outside vegetable beds have onions, garlic, carrots, potatoes, beetroot, parsnips, salads as well as the permanent rhubarb bed. The pupils have worked hard and we are hopeful for a bumper harvest in the Autumn!



## Portsmouth Historic Dockyard

The History Department led a large group of pupils on a visit to the Historic Dockyard in Portsmouth. HMS Victory was the flagship of the British fleet which defeated the combined fleets of France and Spain off Cape Trafalgar in October 1805. The group started their tour on the quarter-deck of the Victory at the spot where Admiral Lord Nelson was fatally injured one afternoon in 1805, just hours before his flag-captain learned they had won a famous victory.

From there we went through the Upper, Middle and Lower gun decks where we learned about how the ship functioned in action, in particular how the 32 pounder cannons on the Lower gun deck were loaded and fired. The pupils were also able to see, at first-hand, how naval ratings in 1805 lived, ate and slept in their various divisions below decks. The tour finished with a visit to the orlop deck where Nelson died and where injured men received crude medical treatment. We exited the ship via the huge hold of this famous warship.

In the afternoon, we were able to spend a very brief time looking at the remains of the Mary Rose, Henry VIII's warship which sank in the Solent. The day finished with a Harbour Tour of the famous Naval Base, looking at the various warships of the Royal Navy which were in harbour at that time. The pupils were full of questions and enjoyed this chance to see such a historic part of British history!



## Meet our new Occupational Therapist

We are so lucky to have the services of an Occupational Therapist each week. Ellie comes to us from Speaking Space in Romsey and is a very experienced professional. Her background in Advanced Sensory Integration means that we can offer pupils bespoke support for any identified difficulties they may be having with receiving and processing sensory information from their own body and environment. These may relate to difficulties at school or using their own body to engage in everyday life.

This is how one of the pupils described Ellie, "She is amazing and well fun, our sessions help me to feel chilled out."

Ellie lives in Southampton with her partner, they have rabbits and chickens to care for and she enjoys horse riding in her spare time. Welcome to St Edward's Ellie, we hope you enjoy being here!



## Share the Journey

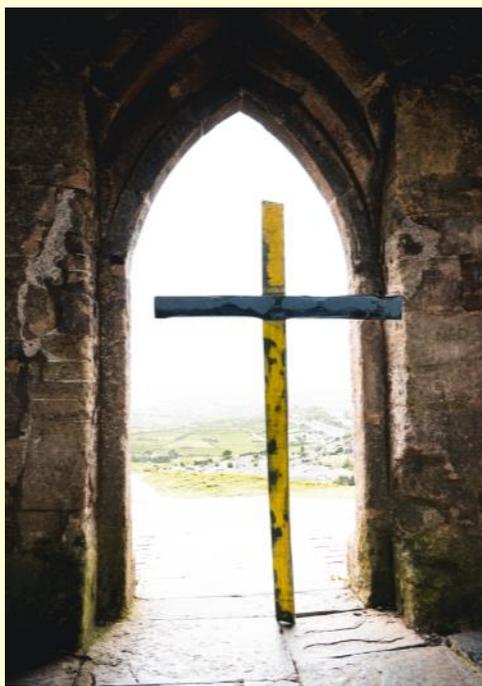
On 3 October 2013, a boat carrying migrants from Libya to Italy sank off the Italian island of Lampedusa, killing over 360 Somali and Eritrean refugees. This awful tragedy brought to the world's attention the plight of countless thousands of refugees and migrants. With over 20 people being made homeless every minute of every day, it is one of the worst problems our planet is facing.

We believe every human being is created in God's image and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. Yet, in the current global crisis, we are seeing the highest numbers of displaced people on record.

Every 60 seconds, 20 people are forced to flee war, persecution, natural disaster or poverty. Often, they leave home with nothing, endure terrible conditions on their journey and are denied the protection and support they need in their chosen place of refuge.

By joining the Share the Journey, campaign launched by Pope Francis, our school community is standing out in solidarity with our global neighbours. With countless thousands of partners in schools, colleges, parishes and youth groups across the world we're aiming to collectively walk 24,900 miles, the whole distance around the world. It's a massive challenge but this commitment to 'walk the world' will show world leaders meeting for crucial discussions in September how much it matters to all of us that refugees and migrants are treated with dignity and respect.

It is also a unique opportunity for our pupils, indeed all of us, to take part in a global initiative seeking to challenge one of the greatest problems our society has ever seen. I want our boys to look back at 2018 and be able to say that they took part in something that conceivably made the world a better place to live in. Ten boys from St Edward's School started our school's 'Share the Journey' campaign by walking to the top of Glastonbury Tor on Wednesday 9th June. We carried with us a copy of the Lampedusa Cross, a cross made from the wreckage of the boat that sank in 2013. It stands as a powerful symbol of our commitment to stand beside our brothers and sisters across the globe who are marginalised by poverty, persecution and war.



### New Independent Living Skills Area

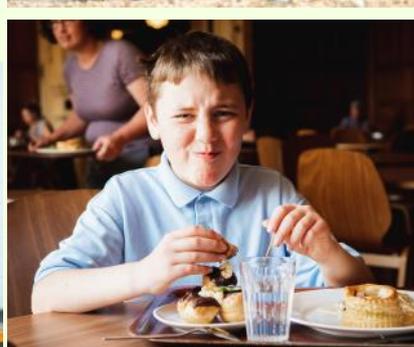
Recently, one of the disused stables at Melchet Court has been given a second life. The stable has been refurbished and redesigned. The end result? A fantastic new Independent Living Skills Area. The whole area has been designed specifically for our pupils to develop their skills for the future. It features a brand new kitchen, lounge area and a computer station for them to work at. It is important for our pupils to develop their confidence and understanding of cooking, washing and ironing so that they can be confident, independent individuals.

## Modern Foreign Languages Day

Our first MFL day took place on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. We chose France and the French language to explore throughout the morning. The pupils took part in a Sentier des Trésors (treasure hunt) around school that had all the instructions written in French (they did have a French dictionary to hand if needed). They began with matching the French word to the picture of the animal in the vieille sale de gymnase and then moved outside where pupils answered questions in a quiz about France and the language. If a question was answered correctly pupils then threw a ring onto a Hookie board to try and score points. They then had to search for 'sur le pont au-dessus de l'eau' (bridge over water) to have a go at the French game of Boules. There was a competitive element to the hunt and the pupils took part with enthusiasm.

Everyone then headed back to their classroom bases and had a go at constructing the Eiffel Tower from spaghetti and marshmallows. Some very technical constructions were developed successfully, with some ambitious designs failing as they grew too large and the marshmallows collapsed. One design even had the curved supports at the base of the tower reproduced by pouring hot water over the spaghetti to enable them to be curved into shape.

There was a French menu devised by Ross in the kitchen that included snails, profiteroles and a delicious dish that included Reblochon cheese. All sorts of facial contortions emerged as pupils tried the snails but overall the lunch time French theme was a great success.



## Key Stage 2/3 - Pop Art

Pupils were tasked with designing a t-shirt, cap or a pair of trainers, following the theme; **the brighter the better**.

Pupils began producing very colourful and vibrant ideas. Once pupils had designed their masterpiece, next was the tricky task of copying their idea onto their chosen item, with trainers being the most popular choice.

Using fabric pens and a steady hand, the creations took shape. Pupils worked hard to colour in their creations with strong attention to detail.

These are some of the masterpieces:

