

# St Edward's School Hampshire

AUTUMN 2 2018

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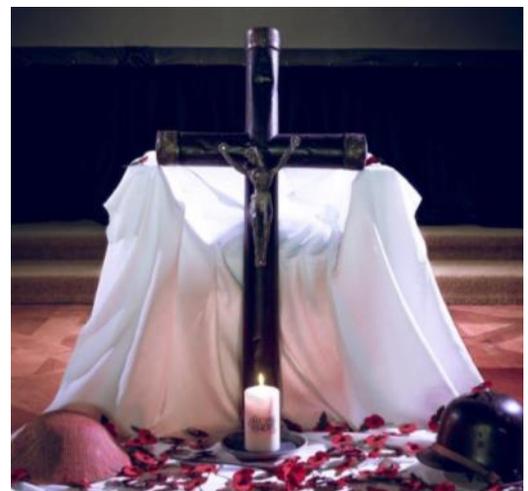
St Edward's School is a charitable trust providing day and residential placements for boys aged 9 – 18 years who experience behavioural difficulties associated with their social, emotional and mental health. These may be complicated by additional learning difficulties.



### Remembrance

On Sunday 11th November 1918, at 11.00 in the morning, the guns on the Western Front fell silent. 947,000 soldiers from Britain and her Empire had been killed and millions more had been wounded, many of them with life-changing injuries. The same was true of servicemen and women in all those countries that had taken part in the Great War.

At St Edward's we stopped to remember the sacrifice made by these men at a special Thought for the Day on Tuesday 13th November 2018. Staff and pupils filed forward in total silence to lay a poppy on a specially constructed memorial. The memorial was made up of some powerful symbols of that awful war. A British helmet from the Somme battlefield, a German helmet taken from a German soldier at Le Cateau in 1918 and a crucifix that was discovered by pupils from St Edward's in the mud of Death Valley. This was a place on the Somme battlefield where countless thousands of men are still posted as Missing in Action after the battles that took place there between July 14th and September 15th 1916.



The Memorial was illuminated by a Candle of Hope given to our school by Bishop Declan Lang from the Clifton Diocese.



### Rainbow Day

St Edward's recently hosted its annual Christmas Rainbow Day. 120 visitors from different schools were in attendance to enjoy a huge array of activities, kindly organised by both the staff and pupils of St Edward's School.

Rainbow Days provide our pupils with fantastic opportunities to put aside their own difficulties for a while, and devote time and effort for the benefit of other young people. It also gives them the chance to learn how to develop good relationships, which are based upon trust and kindness.

This year's Rainbow Day was a great success. Special thanks to everyone who helped to make it so.



# St Edward's Anti-Bullying Week: 'Choose Respect'

Every week is anti-bullying week at St Edward's, but the Anti Bullying Alliance were the official organisers of National Anti-Bullying Week 2018 and it was a great success, here at school and across the UK.

In amongst our cross-curricular activities was Odd Socks Day; designed to be a fun opportunity for children and staff alike to express themselves and appreciate individuality and uniqueness!



This was just one example of the creative ways that our staff approached the week, including a whole school 'fist bump' art project. Across the school, activities were designed to engage pupils in a dialogue about bullying and the manner in which we choose to treat those around us. The message abroad was simple: treat everybody with the degree of respect that you would hope for yourself.

In The Garden Rooms classes, our pupils were tasked with working collaboratively to write and perform an acrostic poem with 'Respect' as the theme and they did a marvellous job! This tied in nicely with their literacy targets, helped them to work together, but also challenged them to recite their lines in front of each other to realise how important mutual respect was to developing confidence and self-esteem.

The Coach House Team, who provide our therapeutic support, focussed their sessions with pupils around this year's Anti-bullying Week theme of 'Choose Respect'. They talked about the 'fist bump' as being an action that symbolises respect, originating in the boxing ring. Many pupils contributed towards creating the fist bump model below, representing respect, which is now proudly displayed in The Coach House.



Also within sessions, the team used their own question cards to prompt discussions around what respect is and how it holds many different qualities. For example, talking about the importance of self-respect and showing respect for all, as being different to people whom you respect or 'aspire to be more like'. The pupils engaged exceptionally well in these discussions and there were some brilliant sessions going on throughout the week.

The team also supplied each pupil with a wrist band to remind them of the week's theme.



Our K4 class also worked on acrostic poems, all entitled 'Respect', whereas our year 11s used their Functional English lessons to design anti-bullying newsletters and posters; using their understanding of presentational devices to really engage the reader!

In ICT, pupils naturally focused on the 10 forms of Cyber-Bullying and the effect that this has on both victim and victimiser. This led onto broader topics, where they focussed on E-Safety, the ways and means of bullying in the modern world and how to keep themselves safe online. Pupils designed simple yet effective pieces of ICT work to demonstrate their understanding.

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By Kieran

**Why do bullies bully?  
Should we feel sorry for them?**

The real reason why bullies bully!

Bullies bully because they are powerless and they take out their anger on the more vulnerable kids because the bully gets bullied themselves. Another reason why they bully is because they aren't so good at school work or don't have certain possessions so they try to make other people feel low. The reason bullies bully is because they usually have loads of violence behind closed doors and they want to make them self powerful.

Bullies also bully because they may come from broken homes. We also found out that bullies were at high risk of alcohol and substance abuse. Fifty-nine percent of bullies have been offered alcohol or drugs in the last seven days compared with just twenty eight point five percent of non-bullies.

**STAND UP!  
SPEAK OUT!**

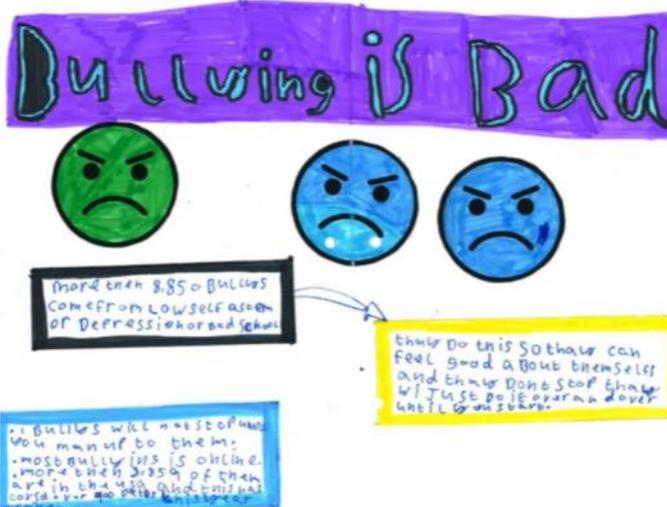
St Edward's  
voice

13th November 2018



Stop the bullies!

We as a team need to stop the bullies because twenty two percent of the victims are either self harming or trying to commit suicide.



St Edward's has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying and our pupils enjoy being part of a safe and tolerant community, where everybody, without exception is afforded respect. This year's Anti-Bullying Week just served to strengthen the message further and was the perfect vehicle for our pupils to participate in a national initiative. We're already looking forward to next year's theme!

### Cross Curricular: Go Karting

As part of our science curriculum we were tasked with understanding the products from combusting fuel. We decided we may have to 'race' down to our favourite Go Karting centre and have the lesson there. Our pupils 'lapped' up this proposal!

To get us warmed up we needed to combust our fuel, so a few warm up laps were required. Upon our return we identified that combining petrol with oxygen created an exothermic reaction. We also noticed that other evidence of our chemical reaction were the fumes that were given off. Later we discussed the products of complete combustion and realised that they were CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O.

As a teacher, there were many options in respect of how to run a lesson on fuel combustion. However this lesson was very much a result of the efforts put in by the pupils in the months leading up to this event.

In addition to explaining the science of Go Karting, the opportunity was used to generate the boys' own data on lap times, thus presenting a cross-curricular opportunity with the maths department.

It coincided with their work on data analysis, where they were able to find three different types of average (mean, median and mode) and the range of their quickest seven laps. Some of the excitement of the race day spilled over into the lesson which increased the pupils' enthusiasm to complete the work. The booklets they all produced were excellent and contained the successful use of mathematical skills, which they normally find difficult to apply.

All in all, a highly productive cross-curricular experience. Well done boys, you deserved this.



## Sowley Expedition

An exciting opportunity for our pupils to take part in adventure activities took place this half term.

Pupils from The Garden Rooms attended a two day expedition in Beaulieu - an extremely beautiful location accentuated by the Autumn colours. The boys had a hearty lunch at Sowley Gate House before their activities commenced. They all enjoyed exploring the environment that was to host their residential stay.

Liquid Logistics, a local outdoor education specialist provided activities for our pupils. On Monday the younger boys were tasked with den building and without exception the dens were very impressive, especially considering they were only using materials salvaged from the woodland. Hide and seek games in the wood provided much excitement once the dens were complete and served as a nice end to the day.

On Tuesday the boys took aim and shot arrow after arrow during the archery session. That afternoon a large group game of Battlefield Live, an outdoor laser tag game where teamwork was very much necessary, closed our younger pupils' outdoor experience. All who took part stepped out of their comfort zones and as a result are excited for further outdoor opportunities.

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday pupils from the wider school took up the challenge to explore the New Forest on kayak, bike and by foot.

We set out early on Wednesday where we met with the instructors from Liquid Logistics. As a group we kayaked a stretch of the river Stour. The boys enjoyed taking up the challenge of negotiating their way along the river. The degree of challenge increased when the boys were confronted with a section of moving water - tackling a small rapid head on. The residential stay at Sowley Gate House provided a comfortable refuge to recuperate at the end of a very wet, but fun filled day.

On Thursday we headed off from Beaulieu on a mountain bike tour of the forest, led by our Head of Science, Shaun Nicholson. The boys worked as a team to overcome the demand for cycling the thirty five mile off road route.

Friday's activity was a high rope challenge and required pupils and staff to scale a totem pole. The task was for four people to balance on a very small platform at the top. The team work displayed by the group was outstanding. Frankie, Ben, Freddie and Martyn overcame their fears and conquered the pole and the team celebrated their victory.

The expedition was a memorable experience for all of those who took part. The boys were inspired by the week and are now looking forward to the expeditions in the New Year!



## Cross curricular: The Ancient Technology Centre

Earlier this term, we organised a cross-curricular History and English Department field visit to the Ancient Technology Centre in Cranborne, Dorset. This a well-established venue for the History Department and students and staff alike have enjoyed many such days living in the Viking longhouse, recreating life in the Dark Ages. Pupils and staff ate food prepared in the fire-pit and were able to take part in a number of activities which were typical of day to day living in Autumn in Viking communities. The day was hugely enjoyable for all concerned, particularly Amy our English teacher who had spent a lot of time putting together a challenging worksheet for use on the day and to whom goes a great deal of the credit for such an enjoyable day.



This particular visit this term marked, however, a significant development in the Department's organisation of off-site visits. The target this year will be to engage in a cross-curricular academic field-visit with other departmental areas. In the Spring Term, we are working with the Art Department to produce a portfolio of written work and photography in relation to a topic long favoured by the History Department: the dramatic story of Alfred the Great's fight back against the Danes in 878AD. Utilising ancient historical records the two departments will trace Alfred's journey across Wiltshire to face his nemesis, the Danish war leader Guthrum.